

Photography Club of Greater Cincinnati 2024 Topics List

- 1. January 10, 2024 - Print - Open – Color:** The image can be of any subject. The photo must be a color image – not black and white or sepia.
- 2. January 24, 2024 – Digital - Lights At Night:** Shooting at night means low light. Whether you're capturing the stars, fireworks, neon signs, tail lights on cars, street lights, the lights of the city, Christmas lights, etc. You'll need to make sure there's enough light on the subject for your camera to register that something's there. The subject of your image should be the lights in their environment or lighting up an object, such as a Ferris wheel, Christmas tree, etc.
- 3. February 14, 2024 – Print – Juxtaposition/Point-Counterpoint:** Juxtaposition photography involves combining two or more elements in the same picture, highlight the interesting contrast between them, to create an eye-catching and thought-provoking image. To create a point of juxtaposition, the picture must contain at least two elements with strong visual weight. Contrasts can be big/small, old/young, light/dark, different textures, color contrast (use the color wheel), etc. Juxtaposition can also involve a subject in a scene that is out of place where you wouldn't expect to see it.
- 4. February 28, 2024 – Digital - Conveying Emotions:** It can be a person showing emotions of surprise, fear, happiness, etc. or the overall image can convey a feeling or emotion. A blue tone in a winter scene conveys the feeling of cold. Fog creates a moodiness or mystery to an image. To evoke emotion in photography simply means your photos *say* something. They tell a story—rather than merely creating a record of a place or moment.
- 5. March 13, 2024 – Print - Light and Shadow:** Light makes an image seem brighter while shadow can add drama to a certain part of an image's composition. For great photos, a careful balance is needed. The right balance of light and shadow can help your image by providing dimension or pulling focus. Make sure the contrast of light and shadow is the primary focus of your image. The actual subject is secondary to the light and shadow interplay.
- 6. March 27, 2024 – Digital – Open – Centered Subject:** One of the most powerful ways to draw attention to your main subject. In centered composition, the main subject is placed smack in the middle of the image frame. Centered composition is often good for portraits, wildlife, and single flowers. The image can be of any subject you choose. The subject can be centered in the middle of the image frame with equal distance on four sides out to the image frame, or it can be centered vertically or horizontally. Examples would be a flower centered right in the middle with close to equal distance around all sides. A vase with a flower in it would have equal space on the two sides, and typically equal space on the top and bottom of the subject. The subject would not be placed on the rule of thirds lines. The photo must have taken in the last 24 months (since March, 2022).
- 7. April 10, 2024 – Print – Top-Down Perspective:** Capture a scene where your perspective looks down from the top – from above the subject. Be creative by getting higher for your

shot – up on a ladder, from the top of a parking garage, from the top of a stairway or bridge, etc. It means that your camera is above the subject and you're taking the photograph downwards from above. This can include a still life composition called flat lays which involves shooting straight down at the scene.

- 8. April 24, 2024 – Digital – Animals – Domestic or Wildlife:** The subject of the image must be either pets (e.g., fish, birds, dogs, cats, etc.), domestic (farm) animals (cows, goats pigs, horses, chickens etc.) or wildlife. Wildlife can include mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles or fish - in the wild. The images may include people in addition to the pets, domestics, or wildlife. The images must be taken between February 28th and the submission deadline on April 10th. Captive zoo animals (except for petting farm domestics) and insects are excluded from this topic.
- 9. May 8, 2024 – Print – Open – Monochrome/One Color:** The image can be of any subject. The image must be all one color. It CANNOT be a black and white or sepia image – it must be one color of various tones! An example of a one-color image would be blueberries, in a blue bowl, with a blue napkin, on a blue background.
- 10. May 22, 2024 – Digital - Architectural Elements:** When doing architectural photography, it's easy to get lost in the grandeur of buildings – yet the details matter, too. When photographing buildings, the best approach is to make use of architecture design elements such as shape, line, color, pattern, texture, and space. This image should be of the elements or details within the design of the building and can be inside or outside of the building or structure. It just cannot be the whole building or structure. Examples would include staircases, doorknobs, patterns in floor tiles, windows, doors, etc.
- 11. June 12, 2024 – Print - Long Exposures:** Long exposure photography is a technique that involves capturing a single image over an extended period of time. It's all about controlling the amount of time the camera sensor "sees" the world. While stationary subjects remain unchanged regardless of the shutter speed, subjects in motion start to reveal more movement as the exposure time increases. This creates a captivating contrast between sharpness and blur, resulting in images that evoke a sense of fantasy and reality combined. Long exposures can be of anything moving – cars, people, water, clouds, plants blowing in the wind, etc.
- 12. June 26, 2024 – Digital - Signs:** Try to enrich the shot with the surrounding scene whether it's greenery, an interesting background, the hardware for hanging the sign, etc. Angle your lens in a way that makes the lettering or elements in the sign most striking. Look for appealing colors, interesting wording or pictures, and interesting environment around the sign. Showing a connection between the sign and the environment around it will strengthen the image.
- 13. July 10, 2024 – Print - Wabi-sabi:** The Japanese/Zen aesthetic of the beauty of simplicity, imperfection, growth and decay, and impermanence. It is used to describe a philosophy that beauty can be found in the old, the everyday, the imperfect. Wabi connotes rustic simplicity, freshness or quietness, and can be applied to both natural and human-made objects, or understated elegance. It can also refer to quirks and anomalies arising from the process of construction, which add uniqueness and elegance to the object. Sabi is beauty or

serenity that comes with age, when the life of the object and its impermanence are evidenced in its patina and wear, or in any visible repairs. A great example of wabi-sabi is Kintsugi, the practice of fixing broken ceramics with golden lacquer to create beautiful, intricate patterns. While many of us might deem a broken bowl as something to be discarded, Kintsugi celebrates the damage and beautifies the cracks as an important part of the item's history.

- 14. July 24, 2024 – Digital – Open – Photographer's Choice:** The image can be of any subject and can be color, black and white or sepia. The photo must have been taken within the last 12 months (since July 2023).
- 15. August 14, 2024 – Print - Botanical (but not entire trees):** Botanical illustration brings sharp focus and meticulous attention to details regarding form and structure of plants. Think about what you would like to showcase. Texture, color, pattern, curves of the veins of the leaves, mosses, lichens, the way the petals are stacked up against each other, the way the light plays off any of these features? It can be the leaves or bark of a tree, but not the entire tree. Plant photography is more than just taking a picture of pretty flowers. You need to decide what the true subject of the photograph is before you actually click the shutter.
- 16. August 28, 2024 – Digital - Street Photography:** A genre of photography that records everyday life in a public place. The very publicness of the setting enables the photographer to take photos of people, places or situations in a candid state. Street photography is typically not directed or staged, there is no posing of scenes, no control of props, no control over light conditions and most of the time the subject is not aware that he or she is being photographed. Rather, it is unmediated and spontaneous as to capture subjects in their most authentic state. Street photographers do not necessarily have a social purpose in mind, but they are attempting to isolate and capture moments which might otherwise go unnoticed. Generally, if street photographers shoot from a public space, such as a street or a park, they usually have the right to photograph anyone without their consent, even in a private space. If you can see it from a public space, you can take a picture of it. The image must include a person or people.
- 17. September 11, 2024 – Print – Open – Black and White:** The image can be of any subject but it must be black and white. No sepia or toned images. Key elements of black and white photography include light and shadows, contrast, composition, patterns and shapes, and textures.
- 18. September 25, 2024 – Digital - On the Job:** Capture people in action, doing their job. The elements included in the image should give some information about the type of job a person is doing. The image does not have to show the whole person – it could just be their hands engaged in their work. The idea is to not only portray the individual, but to show what a person does with his/her life. Most occupations have distinctive tools, clothing, or settings that can be interesting to photograph.
- 19. October 9, 2024 – Print - Reflections:** Reflections photography is the art or technique of using reflective surfaces to capture beautiful and unique images. Common surfaces used for reflective photography are bodies of water, windows, mirrors or other shiny surfaces. Use a narrow aperture between f/11 and f/16 to create a deep depth of field and capture both

your subject and the reflection in focus at the same time. Using reflective surfaces is also a great way to create abstract images. The image may be of just the reflection itself and does not need to include the actual subject, which often creates a more abstract image.

- 20. October 23, 2024 – Digital – Fascinating Textures:** Texture refers to the visual quality of the surface of an object, revealed through variances in shape, tone and color depth. In photography, depth, good contrast, and patterns are what defines textures. Texture brings life and vibrance to images that would otherwise appear flat and uninspiring. Using a higher f-stop or aperture setting in your texture photography will allow you to capture more detail. Side-lighting will usually reveal textures the best. If the texture fills most of the image frame, having an element in the image that provides some contrast to the texture will make it a stronger photo.
- 21. November 13, 2024 – Print – Ohio Parks:** Capture an image from one of the many parks in Ohio – it can be a state, county, or local park. It just has to be in Ohio. It can be plants, animals, insects, small scenes, larger landscapes, people, man-made objects, etc. – anything found in a park.
- 22. November 13, 2024 – Digital - Decayed/Dilapidated/Decrepit:** The effects of time on objects, buildings, cars, and places can create astounding photographic opportunities. Capture scenes of objects that are not inherently beautiful – peeling paint, rusted metal, crumbling walls, etc. – to tell the stories of the past.
- 23. December 11, 2024 – Print - Something With Wheels:** Capture anything or any part of something that has wheels such as cars, bikes, wagons, tractors, Ferris wheels, etc. The wheel can be shown as part of the object it is attached to, or it can just be the wheel itself, such as an old wagon wheel leaning against a fence. Get creative!
- 24. December 11, 2024 – Digital – Open – Your Favorite for 2024:** The image can be of any subject, but it must be taken within the tri-state area. The image must be taken in 2024.