

2021 Competition Subjects and Definitions

January – OPEN – The Open category allows photographers to submit images of any subject matter. Members are encouraged to explore photographic techniques and subjects outside their usual style.

February – ARTIFICIAL LIGHT – The title of this month’s topic says it all; the primary light source for any image must be artificial, i.e., it cannot be the sun, moon or stars. Examples include use of flash/strobe, LED lights, streetlights, building lights, and light-painted night photographs. For example, a photo of star trails would not qualify, but star trails with a light-painted foreground element would.

March – IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD – This is a “quasi-open” category due to COVID. In the neighborhood means any image captured in your general neighborhood; perhaps within walking distance of your home. The subject could be something you find in your backyard or in the window of your local bakery. Look for something unique with overlooked details; or take an uncommon perspective of something that’s commonplace. Perhaps it’s a subject you walk or drive by everyday—the goal is to get “creative” close to home.

April – NATURE – Nature photography is the depiction of the natural world in such a fashion that a well-informed person is able to identify the subject. Nature photography focuses on landscapes, wildlife, and plant life as they are found in a natural environment.

May – OPEN – The Open category allows photographers to submit images of any subject matter. Members are encouraged to explore photographic techniques and subjects outside their usual style.

June – STILL LIFE – A still life is a work of art depicting mostly inanimate subject matter, typically commonplace objects which may be either natural (food, flowers, dead animals, plants, rocks, or shells) or man-made (drinking glasses, books, vases, jewelry, coins, pipes, and so on). These may be displayed in any combination. Works of art may be included providing that it’s not the sole component of the still life and the maker does something to make the image unique, i.e., to make the image his or her own.

(June - cont’d)

We’re not looking for a photograph of someone else’s creation. There are no restrictions regarding in camera or computer manipulations, as long as it is clear that the image started out as a photograph.

July – ACTION/ADVENTURE – Action photography addresses the quest to capture and convey motion and energy in a photograph. Since photography is a still medium, it’s the photographer’s job to use specific camera techniques to create an image that convinces the viewer he or she has not missed a moment of the action. Techniques may include the use of light, lines, patterns, focal length or freezing /blurring motion in camera to emphasize movement in a scene.

August – MINIMALIST PHOTOGRAPHY – Minimalist photography is a form of photography distinguished by its simplicity, emphasizing lines, shape and form in its composition. A minimalist image tells its story with as few elements as possible capturing only what is absolutely essential.

September – HATS – Images of any type of hat, worn or unworn; from baseball caps to women’s’ fashion to military uniforms to an Indian headdress—anything goes in this fun category; all while keeping in mind that “the hat” must either be the focal point of the image or integral to telling the maker’s intended story.

October – OPEN – The Open category allows photographers to submit images of any subject matter. Members are encouraged to explore photographic techniques and subjects outside their usual style.

November – NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY – Any image of any subject taken outdoors between sunset and sunrise.

December – No competition meeting.