

Photos in this issue are from last month's 'Negative Space' competition.

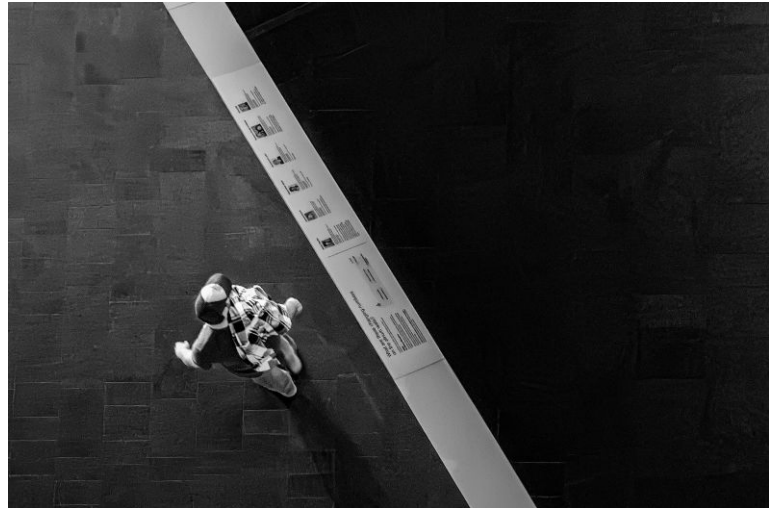
Learn the What, Why, How of B&W

As you can see from our competitions, many members are fans of B&W. Are you? Do you know what to look for in a scene to know if it will make a good B&W image?

Make sure you attend our Program this month and let Rick Hulbert teach you all about Luminance and recognizing good B&W images.

Recognizing Excellence

There were many great images in last month's competition. Had to include a bunch of them in this newsletter. [See more...](#)



Up looking down, going forward by Benjamin Hernandez

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Focus Camera Club Officers and Committee Chairs

Officers

President: Karl Peschel
 Vice President: David Bessen
 Treasurer: Cecilia Zapata
 Secretary: Bill Williams

Committee Chairs

Executive Board: Karl Peschel, David Bessen, Cecilia Zapata, Bill Williams, and the Committee chairs listed below.
 Competitions: Karl Peschel
 Programs: Co-Chairs David Bessen and Kyle Durlam
 Membership: Todd Lytle
 Mentoring: Gwen Paton
 Communications: Karl Peschel

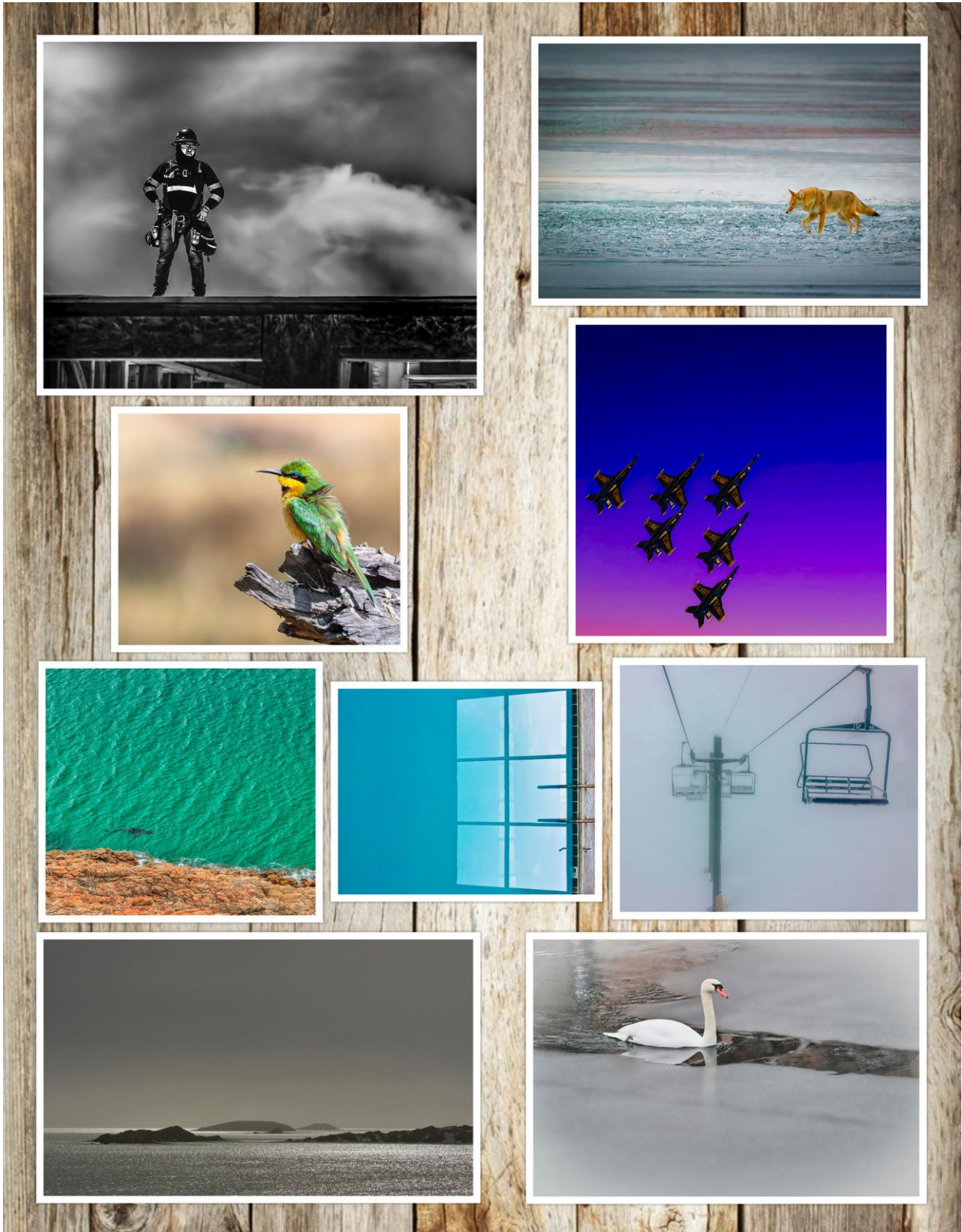
Our Mission

The purpose of the Focus Camera Club is to further its members' enjoyment, knowledge and mastery of photographic skills through cooperative efforts and fellowship.

Focus Camera Club Monthly Meetings

Meetings are held the Second & Fourth Wednesday of each month. Hybrid meetings – locally at Lone Tree Civic Center and via Zoom. Meetings start promptly at 6:30 PM and normally end before 9:00 PM.

More February Winners



Program & Competition Meetings

Program Schedule

- 03/13/24 **Program** – The Lure of Luminance; the Power of B&W Photography by Rick Hulbert
- 04/10/24 **Program** – TBA
- 05/08/24 **Program** – Using Artificial Intelligence Tools in PhotoShop by Brad Polt-Jones
- 05/29/24 **Mentor Session** – Topic / Location TBA

Competition Schedule

- 03/27/24 **Subject** – Shot with a Phone
- 04/24/24 **Subject** – Rule of Odds
- 05/22/24 **Subject** – Long Exposure

March 13 Program with Rick Hulbert

The Lure of Luminance...why B&W Photography can, at times, be so compelling.

Imagine a quick review of 10 traditional artistic reasons for when and why to employ B&W in your photography, and then discovering a reason based on the science of human vision.

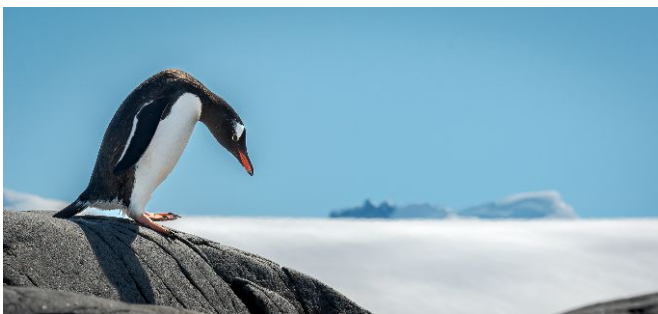
Learn why distinguishing luminance is as important to a photographer as distinguishing higher and lower musical tones is to a musician. Discover why capturing a scene in colour is arguably the best way to create the same scene in Black and White.

This Month's Competition is 'Shot with a Phone'

The official definition - "Nearly everyone has a phone in their pocket or purse all the time. Take it out and use it this month. Built-in camera apps are very capable, and tools like Lightroom Mobile, Snapseed, and many others expand those capabilities if you decide to shoot and edit all on your phone."

Judge will be **Cliff Lawson**.

And remember, we are limiting to 2 images per person for all Competitions judged via Zoom.



Out For a Stroll by Jenna Dockweiler



Lonely Grebe by Matthew Hazelgren

February 'Negative Space' Competition Results

	Media	Artist	Image Title	Score
F5.6	B&W Digital	Cecilia Zapata	First Date	9
F8	B&W Digital	Richard Carter	Bad Moon Rising	9
		Kyle Durlam	And Tigers. And Bears.	10
	Color Digital	Laura Blake	Pool Side	9
		Joy Lindholm	Bus Stop	9
		Laura Blake	Pelican in Portrait	10
		Jenna Dockweiler	Out For a Stroll	10
		William Williams	Where Are We Going	10
F11	B&W Digital	Steve Wilton	Super Carpenter	9
		Matthew Hazelgren	Lonely Grebe	10
		Benjamin Hernandez	Walking on the line between light and shadows	10
		Benjamin Hernandez	Up looking down, going forward	10
		Steve Wilton	Meditate	10
	Color Digital	Lucius Ashby	Eiffel at Night	9
		David Bessen	Pula Tree at Sunset	9
		Terry Hanford	Plotting for the Noble Caws	9
		David Bessen	Little Bee Eater	10
		Terry Hanford	On Thin Ice	10
F16	B&W Digital	Ally Green	A Desert hike	9
		Ronald Schaller	Getting Some Fresh Air	10
		Shawn Slade	Open Skies	10
	Color Digital	Gwen Paton	Elk Visit to Estes Park	9
		Ronald Schaller	Flying the Friendly Skies	9
		Victoria Ashby	Standing Tall	10
		Victoria Ashby	Icy Dip	10
		Ally Green	Shark in the Water	10
		Dan Greenberg	Bird on a Wire	10
		Todd Lytle	Angels Above	10
		Todd Lytle	Into The Wild Blue... Yonder!	10
		Oz Pfenninger	Peaceful	10

Judge for this competition was Trish Sangelo. See all the winning images in [the Online Gallery](#).



Getting Some Fresh Air by Ronald Schaller

Photo Contests

THE SHAPE OF THINGS – Praxis Gallery

Deadline: March 31, 2024

The rhythm of surfaces, lines, and values is for me the essence of photography; composition should be a constant of preoccupation... an organic coordination of visual elements. – Henri Cartier-Bresson

Praxis Gallery seeks the submission of works of art that explore composition as a fundamental aspect of the photographic aesthetic – be it pure visual formalism or in support of thematic objectives. All genres, capture types, black & white and color, traditional and non-traditional photographic and digital post-production processes are welcome for submission.

Visit the [contest page on the Praxis site](#) for complete details and to submit your work.

ND Awards 2024 Annual

Deadline: April 28, 2024

ND Awards aims to promote photography and photographers. Our idea is to create new opportunities to present valuable work to audiences all over the world. We aim to build a place where photographers can show different points of view and thrive through competition. The winners of the Professional and Non-Professional sections will receive the titles: ND Photographer of the Year and ND Discovery of the Year and cash prizes. Our judging panel will comprise highly acclaimed industry professionals, including: gallery owners, publishers, editors and renowned photographers.

[Visit their website](#) for prize info, being featured in the magazine, and to submit your entries.

Local Photo Opps & Events

America's Total Solar Eclipse 2024

Okay, not exactly “local” but it is the last total solar eclipse we’ll be able to see in the US for 20 years. You’ll need to travel to Texas or Alabama (or other states on the SW to NE path) to be directly on the path of totality,

Save the date! On Monday, April 8, 2024, North America will be treated to a spectacular total solar eclipse. Many of you remember the 2017 Great American Solar eclipse that crossed the United States from the northwest to the southeast. This solar eclipse will cross the country from the south and head to the northeast.

<https://www.bhphotovideo.com/explora/photography/features/americas-total-solar-eclipse-2024>

To see the full glory of a total solar eclipse, when daylight suddenly darkens and the beautiful corona of the Sun becomes visible, people must be inside the inner shadow of the Moon (called the umbra). Even if people are in the zone of 99% partial solar eclipse, they will experience 0% total solar eclipse. Being inside the path is essential to view totality. <https://www.greatamericaneclipse.com/>

Exploring the Light - LTAC

A number of Focus club members regularly enter this show, so you can show your support by heading down to the Lone Tree Arts Center between March 29 and June 11. This might be a good outing for a group of club members to get together and attend.

Opening Reception: Friday, March 29, 2024 from 6pm-8pm

Join us to celebrate the opening of the Exploring the Light Lone Tree Photo Show. Enjoy light hors d'oeuvres, beverages, and hear brief remarks!

[Visit the LTAC show page](#) for details and times when they are open for viewing the 22nd Annual event.

DAM - Fazal Sheikh: Thirst | Exposure | In Place

Opens March 10, 2024

Denver Art Museum. *Fazal Sheikh: Thirst | Exposure | In Place* features photographs from three projects Sheikh created on the Colorado Plateau from 2017 to early 2023. Sheikh's portraits and landscapes shed light on the far-reaching consequences of extractive industry and climate change. Through this evocative new work, Sheikh encourages viewers to witness the consequences of the past and imagine the future.

This exhibition will be included in general admission, which is FREE for members.

Members will have the opportunity to see the exhibition first at the Member Preview on March 9. Make a day out of it and join us for a talk by Fazal Sheikh at 11 am in Sharp Auditorium. \$15 for members, free for Museum Friends.

Details here <https://www.denverartmuseum.org/en/exhibitions/fazal-sheikh>

Rule of Odds Tutorials

Our April competition is Rule of Odds – a fairly simple compositional idea to understand, but creating an effective and impactful image (as we all know) will take more than simply having 3 or 5 of something in the shot. Use these tutorials to better understand the rule and to get inspiration for the competition.

Whether you create a still life where you control everything or venture out in the world looking for odd numbers, this will give you the basic knowledge to get a good shot. <https://digital-photography-school.com/the-rule-of-odds-in-photography-an-easy-trick-for-better-compositions/>

More inspiration and examples of techniques to use to isolate or emphasize your odd subjects. <https://fixthephoto.com/rule-of-odds-in-photography.html>

Photography Composition:: Rule of Odds The Art of Photography– Excellent info from Ted Forbes from his series on composition techniques. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n-1tqOFEBV4>

A good video that talks not only about the technique, but also about the reason our brains find groups of odd numbered things more interesting or pleasing.

Use This COMPOSITION Tool To Make Your Photos Engaging!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ql83sjtLhfM>

Frame #37

A collection of extra tidbits discovered during the past few weeks.

– Luminar/Fujifilm sponsored photo walks. The entire [list of photo walks is here](#). Y'all got an email a few weeks ago about the Denver ones in March. They will likely be adding other events during the next few months, so you can revisit the main page and see if any other opportunities come up for Denver or other places you may be traveling to.

– The Lightroom Virtual Summit 2024 is coming May 20 - 24, 2024! Circle the dates, add it to your calendar app or write it on a post-it note. Dave Cross and Matt Kloskowski are in the process of lining up presenters, but the dates are set. More info in the next newsletter.

– Did you notice the number of bird photos in the February competition? Wanna get in on some great birding action. Pop over to [the Colorado Birding Trail website](#) for info about statewide locations and events, including local favorite spots like Barr Lake and Clement Park/Johnson Lake.

Just because people use Instagram and take cellphone pictures, it doesn't mean the pictures are meaningful, anymore than a text someone sends a friend is great literature. Is it something that's going to remain? Is it going to inspire us?

– Steve McCurry



Bus Stop by Joy Lindholm



And Tigers. And Bears by Kyle Durlam



Bird on a Wire by Dan Greenberg