

May 2021 Digital

NOVICE														
Title	T	A	T B	T C	C A	C B	C C	I A	I B	I C	Total	Award	Judge's Comments	Member
Paragon Prairie Tower	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	5	4	36	2nd	Lovely colors and good composition and placement of the moon. You may want to bring down the highlights a little to get more definition in the white lights.	Bob Young	
Intruder	4	4	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	33		Great perspective of this nest with cowbird egg. It's a hard shot to get. If you use Photoshop or Lightroom you might want to remove the leaves at the top. (Also the two tiny dust spots.)	Randy Edwards	
Heritage	3	4	3	3	4	3	4	4	4	32		I've been to this rest area! Nice job contrasting the scale of the monument with the people surrounding the base. Have you experimented with different crops? Maybe a vertical (portrait) orientation would further emphasize the scale of this monument. The concrete shape at the lower right is distracting so perhaps try a crop that takes this away. Also wonder if the evergreen branches at the left side can be cropped out as well.	Randy Edwards	
Giraffe Tongue	4	5	4	3	4	5	3	5	5	38	1st	Nice close-up with a catch-light in the giraffe's eyes. You may want to leave a bit more space around the head and add some additional contrast to make the image pop.	Bob Young	
ADVANCED														
Title	T	A	T B	T C	C A	C B	C C	I A	I B	I C	Total	Award	Judge's Comments	Member
Milkweed Bugs	4	4	4	3	4	3	3	5	4	34		A fun subject, well executed with a nicely restricted depth of field. To further highlight the subject I would have been interested to see if a subtle reduction of exposure of the background would help	Jack Howells	
Estes Elk	4	3	4	4	4	5	4	4	5	37	3rd	Nice sharp photo. In processing the shadows, it looks too blue and a bit artificial on that side of the elk's face.	Terry Holdren	
1876 Mill Bridge	4	3	4	3	3	3	4	3	4	31		Great depth of field and detail in this image. I would like to see a bit more of the scene, especially on the other side of the bridge. I also wonder what it would look like with the fall colors.	Jack Howells	
Rocky Mountain Moose	4	4	5	4	3	4	4	4	5	37	HM	The negative space of water provides a nice framing element for the subject.	Terry Holdren	
Old Truck	4	4	4	3	3	4	4	4	5	35	HM	Nice coloring and "feel." Cropping is a bit odd--not centered, not thirds. Play with it a bit.	Stephanie Nelson	
Weather in Time	3	4	5	3	4	4	4	4	4	35		Excellent detail in the hands and good use of selective color. I would like a little broader crop, so the hands are not quite so close to the edges.	Jeremia Gardiner	
Shadow	3	3	4	3	3	4	3	3	3	29		The strong graphical element is the star of this image and the off-center placement. The other surface imperfections are distracting.	Stephanie Nelson	
Butterfly	3	3	4	4	4	4	3	3	4	32		Wing is sharp, but not the face. I like showing the flowers. Boca is good, too.	Donitta Gardiner	
Thistled	4	4	3	3	3	4	2	3	4	30		Lovely light, good composition and a nicely blurred background. The front of the thistle has good detail but I find that the lighter strands that are out of focus to be somewhat distracting. You may want to bring down the highlights and/or to increase your depth of field.	Chuck King	
Kin of the Rainforest	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	44	1st	A nice job of emphasizing the eyes and the different tonal values keep the photo from being static.	Jeremia Gardiner	
Prairie Sunrise	3	3	4	3	3	4	4	3	4	31		I love the sunrays and fuzzy textures of this scene. The foreground is kind of blah, though. I would like to see the "subject" more prominent, maybe cropping the bottom 1/3 and maybe both sides off to emphasize where the sun is shining.	Chuck King	
Koala Sleeping	4	5	4	4	5	5	5	4	4	40	2nd	Sweet intimate portrait of the Koala bear. The arm in front has great detail but I feel like the face loses a bit of the sharpness. You may want to increase your depth of field a little, to make it as sharp as arm.	Donitta Gardiner	

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MASTERS																			
Title	T	A	T	B	T	C	C	A	C	B	C	C	IA	IB	IC	Total	Award	Judge's Comments	Member
Fall Impression	4	3	4	4	4	3	4	3	3	4	32							Creative perspective. The foreground is tack sharp. Love the combination of complementary colors, blue and yellow.	Nancy Heather Brown
Sunrise on the Prairie	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	4	39							lovely sunset photo - makes me feel peaceful.	Janie Lawson
Domes	3	3	3	4	3	3	4	3	3	3	29							Nice colors and like that the trees coordinate with the domes. Wondering if a different POV would separate the two domes?	Patty Foster
Vintage Organ Pipes	4	4	3	3	4	4	4	4	3	5	34							Love the leading lines and the nice light, especially in the back where the viewer can really get a peak into the organ.	Patty Foster
Storm Building	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	5	4	4	42	2nd						I love everything about this photo - love the storm clouds and fields remind me of the Palooza and road to house in the middle - excellent photo!!!	Larry Mendenhall
Winter Barn	4	3	5	4	3	5	5	4	5	38								Love the mood and emotion of this image! Nice work capturing the cold weather (I feel like I'm there, and shivering....).	Greg Punelli
North Pierhead Lighthouse	4	5	4	5	5	5	5	4	5	42	HM							I think this shot is perfectly set up. The Lines are great leading to the red building. I might consider trying it with a little less red saturation.	Scot Howe
It's Your Turn to Shovel	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	4	43	1st							Adorable birds, great sharpness, love the expression on the birds face.	Deb Shoning
Milk Weed	4	5	4	4	3	4	4	4	3	35								Nice work capturing the wispieness of the seeds. Nice control of the highlights and balance with the darker end of the histogram.	Larry Mendenhall
Spring Flower Reflection	4	4	3	5	4	3	4	4	4	35								Such a pretty and peaceful image. It would make a nice card or wall image. Nice focus and use of color.	Dwight Tomes
The Rendevouz	5	5	4	4	5	4	5	5	4	41	HM							great shot loving the friends surrounding the flower. All of the pastel coloring blends perfectly.	Deb Shoning
Corny	5	4	5	4	4	5	5	4	5	41	HM							Love the lighting on this image! An interesting view of a subject we see a lot of in Iowa.	Nancy Heather Brown
Yellow River Forest Overlook	4	4	3	3	5	4	4	4	3	34								Beautiful Fall trees with a nice foreground. I don't know if it was possible, but sometimes if you get down on the ground you can eliminate the merging of the tree with the background.	Janie Lawson
Busy Bee	5	4	4	4	4	5	5	4	4	39								love the pollen on the bee and flower tips. I wish the front of flower was in focus - it is a bit distracting.	Greg Punelli
Overboard	5	4	5	5	5	5	4	5	4	42	3rd							Nicely seen, the inclusion of the board adds tension to the image and causes the eyes to ponder it longer. Good use of shutter speed to slow the water.	Scot Howe
Gerbera Daisy	4	5	4	4	5	3	4	5	3	37								Such nice detail in the front center droplets and flower! The use of color is very effective. If you wanted this tack sharp all the way from front to back you could consider focus stacking.	Dwight Tomes
THEME																			
Title	T	A	T	B	T	C	C	A	C	B	C	C	IA	IB	IC	Total	Award	Judge's Comments	Member
Door County Windows	5	4	4	3	3	3	5	3	3	33								Good reflection of clouds in the windows. Exposed properly, good colors. Interesting story of why did people write on the building. Not sure this fits the theme, it seems more about the building and windows are just there by accident.	Scot Howe
Hidden Door and Window into the Past	4	4	5	3	4	4	3	3	5	35								The murel really tells a story and creates a fun trick on the eye! Nice job!	Jack Howells
Embassy Door	5	4	4	4	3	3	4	2	3	32								This elaborate door demands attention! Cropping on the left would highlight the grandeur and allow the greenery on the right to better complement the image.	Donitta Gardiner
Abandoned	5	4	5	5	4	3	5	3	4	38	HM							Love this. Gives me a creepy feeling. Very interesting to look at. Have to really look at it to see the gargoyles. Could be really good as a B&W. Not sure I want to see into the window or not. Try lighting it up a bit or darken it more to see which is better.	Greg Punelli
Green Door	3	3	4	3	3	4	3	2	4	29								Nice job spying the green door. I think a tighter crop of the door could make this a little stronger composition.	Nancy Heather Brown
Window of Faith	5	4	5	4	4	5	4	3	5	39	HM							Great exposure and technique in including both the window and church in the composition. The image draws the viewer in and holds attention. One might consider mild cropping on the left so that the image is not as centered.	Michael Callison
Peeking Out	4	2	4	3	3	5	4	3	4	32								Like the eye looking out, it took me a mintute to figure out it was a cow. I think you should include more of the door so it fits the theme. Highlights are blown out on cows head. If more of the door was included I think the eye of cow could be out of focus. As it is now I would like to see it in focus.	Bob Young
A Room with a View	5	4	4	5	4	5	5	3	5	40	3rd							The subtlety and softness of the sheers makes me dream of what is beyond. Tiny note... my eye is drawn to the white square on the right... perhaps clone it out.	Deb Shoning
World of Windows	5	5	5	5	5	3	5	4	4	41	2nd							Exposure is very good in a 'complex' image. There are windows, many windows, but the viewer searches for which window is more deserving of attention.	Jeremia Gardiner
Retail Empathy	4	4	4	4	3	4	4	3	3	33								This is a funny circumstance. You are only allowed to shelter if you are an associate? Don't know if you couldn't include the door frame, but it seems missing something because its not there.	Chuck King
Windows	5	3	5	5	4	5	5	4	5	41	1st							Composition is good. I think it could be stronger in true black and white. Also, try moving the fruit around to see if it is stronger in a different location.	Diane Lowry