

# The Lens and Eye



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*Above the Midway © Bill James*

*For more winning images from the November competition, see pages 29 - 33.*

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### December Competition Theme: Minimalist Photography

Create an image using the least amount of visual elements or minimum necessary elements to convey the emotion of a scene. These components may include color, textures, lines, and forms. Compositional elements must be kept to a minimum, and the ones that are left should be essential for conveying the overall idea, or symbolism, of the image. Minimalist photography often uses negative space to create its impact. (Must be taken on or after December 1, 2018, extended due to Covid)

As always, each member may submit no more than two images per month, including Members Showcase.

If you are competing in the **electronic** category or submitting to members showcase, please send your images as email attachments to [nbccmdEcomp@gmail.com](mailto:nbccmdEcomp@gmail.com) **no later than 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 28.**

If you are competing in the **print** category, please send your images as email attachments to [nbccmdPcomp@gmail.com](mailto:nbccmdPcomp@gmail.com) **no later than 7:30 p.m. on Sunday, November 28.**

See examples of David Terao's award-winning minimalist photographs and read his tips on the next page. For those of you last-minute shooters, or if you're weighing which image to submit, the information will be invaluable.

Cherry Wyman, Editor

### Calendar

All events will be held remotely. Zoom links will be sent by GordieGram.

**Events start at 7:30 p.m. unless noted.**

- Nov. 28** Deadline, Competition Submissions  
**Dec. 1** Competition: Minimalist Photography  
**Dec. 1** Submissions open for Strathmore Mansion NBCC Nature Exhibit  
**Dec. 8** Program: SAAM Curated Show - East Baltimore  
**Dec. 15** Board Meeting  
**Dec. 22** No Meeting - Christmas Holidays  
**Dec. 29** No meeting - New Year's Holidays  
**Dec. 31** Deadline, Strathmore Mansion NBCC Nature Exhibit entries

*To me, photography is an art of observation. It's about finding something interesting in an ordinary place...I've found it has little to do with the things you see and everything to do with the way you see them.*

- Elliott Erwitt



David Terao is one of our club's top award winners. Most recently, he was named "Electronic Photographer of the Year" for the highest accumulated points in 2020-2021. (See *Lens and Eye*, Summer 2021, pages 16-17.) His 1st place image for last month's competition is on page 33 of this newsletter; his MPA win is on page 26.

## Five Tips for Making Minimalist Photographs



*Corner Arc*

*Simplicity is the ultimate sophistication.* Leonardo da Vinci

- Simplicity – Keep it simple by having a strong subject and including only what is necessary to support the subject.
- Negative space – Keep plenty of space around your subject to add a sense of scale. It is not always black. It could be smooth, gray, colored or textured, but should never be distracting.
- Strong composition – Use a powerful composition (e.g., rule of thirds).
- Isolation – Move around to isolate your subject from the background (e.g., empty sky in background).
- Color – B&W is often used to avoid distractions from color.



*Chain Link Web*

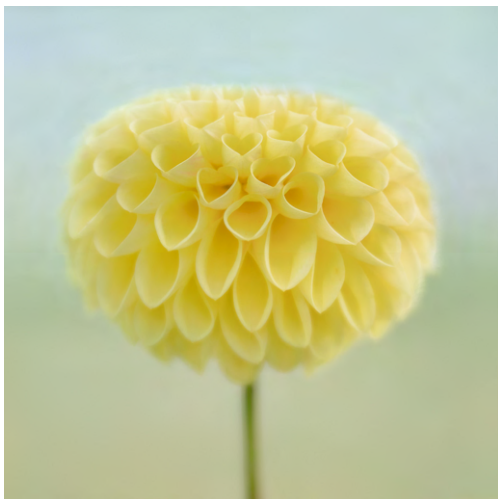




*Milky Way*



*Guitar*



*Dahlia*



*Spiky Leaf*

*- Text and Photos © David Terao*



## December 1 Judge: Ron Peiffer



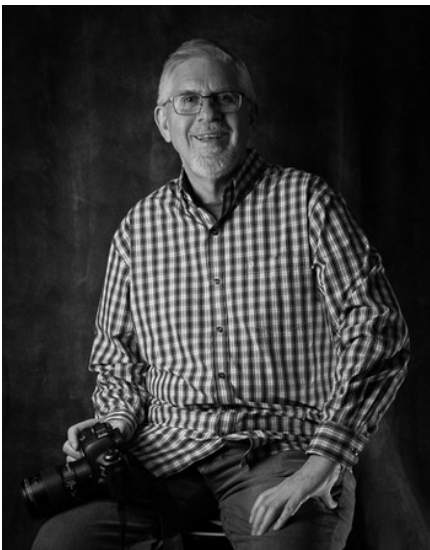
*Waiting for Morning © Ron Peiffer*

Ron Peiffer, a photographer based in Severna Park, retired from the Maryland State Department of Education as a Deputy State Superintendent in 2011. He has been involved in several Maryland photography organizations since then. He is the Vice President for Contests for Arundel Camera Club, the Vice President of the Creative Photography Society of

Baltimore, and Member-at-Large for the Maryland Photography Alliance (MPA).

His work has appeared in MPA gallery shows over the past several years; he received the Frederick R. Kelly Photographer of the Year award four of the last five years from the Arundel Camera Club. Ron achieved a Master's Certificate in Black and White Photography with the Arundel club in 2020. He has been certified as a judge with the MPA since and as a judge for numerous club competitions in the Baltimore-Washington area. Ron serves on several MPA committees, including the contest, judging, and finance committees.

His work can be viewed at his website, [www.ronpeiffer.com](http://www.ronpeiffer.com). His email is [Ron@ronpeiffer.com](mailto:Ron@ronpeiffer.com).



## **December 8 Program: A Virtual Tour by Melissa Clark of SAAM's "Welcome Home - A Portrait of East Baltimore, 1975-1980"**



*Mr. and Mrs. Frency Netherwood 1977*

On exhibit at the Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM) through January 17, 2022, "Welcome Home: A Portrait of East Baltimore, 1975-1980" presents black and white photographs by Elinor Cahn, Joan Clark Netherwood and Linda Rich. Their images were taken as part of a program of photographic surveys sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts to celebrate the bicentennial of the founding of the United States. The photographers (one was a teacher at the Maryland Institute College of Art and the other two were long-term residents of Baltimore) initially approached the community through its church leaders and over time received significant community support and involvement. The result was a project that provides a deep look at a vibrant neighborhood during a time of change and that was highly acclaimed at the national level.

Melissa Clark will give us a virtual tour of this exhibit, providing background on the

photographers' methods and how they gradually came to view the project as one that, in their own words, considered "what constitutes a neighborhood, not as a geographical but as a moral and social concept." We'll look at images that explore faith and community, changing workplaces, and how the residents, many of whose families had immigrated to the area in the late 19th century, identified culturally with those countries of origin while considering themselves fully American.

Melissa Clark is an award-winning photographer and landscape designer; she also is a long-term member of NBCC. After retiring as a landscape designer, Melissa became an in-gallery docent at the Smithsonian American Art Museum (SAAM) in 2017. This program combines her interests in photography and art.

*- Evelyn Jacob, Program Committee*

# Call for Entries:

## "Nature" at the Mansion at Strathmore

An Exhibit by Members of the North Bethesda Camera Club  
Saturday, March 19 to Saturday, April 30, 2022  
The Mansion at Strathmore  
10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda MD 20878

NBCC members are invited to submit images for a group show to be at the Mansion at Strathmore from March 19 - April 30, 2022. The exhibit will feature between 25-35 images from NBCC photographers.

The exhibit will be themed "Nature." It will be defined as photographic observations from all branches of natural history made in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject and agree to its honest presentation. Images including the "hand of man" (such as roads, fences, manicured lawns, etc.) will be excluded. The exhibition judge is Nikhil Bahl.

There are no restrictions on when a photograph was made, but it must have been photographed by the person under whose name it is submitted. Outside printing, matting, and framing are permitted. Each photographer may submit up to 3 JPEGs, but there will be a maximum of 2 images per photographer accepted for the show. Image selection will be made by the exhibition judge and all decisions are final.

Please size the image submissions as follows:

- Image format: electronic file in JPEG format (jpg)
- Image dimensions:
  - width 1920 pixels or less
  - height 1200 pixels or less
- Image resolution: 72 dpi
- File size: unlimited
- Name your images as follows:
  - Last name-First name\_Title\_Approximate framed dimensions (WxH).
  - Example: Doe-John\_My-Nature-Pic\_16x20.jpg

Send jpgs to [nbccmdexhibits@gmail.com](mailto:nbccmdexhibits@gmail.com)

In the subject line of the email, please put "Nature."



## Timeline

- December 1, 2021 – December 31, 2021: Call for Entries
- December 31, 2021, midnight: Entries close
- January 31, 2022: Exhibition entries selection results sent to entrants
- February 13, 2022 – March 12, 2022: Framed work can be deposited with the Exhibitions Chair, Lester LaForce at 3941 Rickover Rd, Silver Spring MD 20902 – 301-929-8610.
- Sunday, March 13, 2022, from 2:00 pm – 6:00 pm: Framed work delivered to the Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, North Bethesda MD 20878.
- Saturday, March 19, 2022: Show opens to public
- Friday, March 25, 2022, at 7:00 pm: Opening reception at the First Floor Galleries at the Mansion at Strathmore.
- Saturday, April 30, 2022: Exhibition closes.
- Sunday, May 1st, 2022, Pickup images from the Mansion at Strathmore between 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

Images not picked up will be secured and available later from the NBCC Exhibitions Committee, details to be determined.

All accepted work is to be framed by the photographer, using black frames with hanging wire on the back. Wire must be attached no lower than 1/4 from the top. No clips or hanging bars are permitted. Please label work with artist name, title, year completed, medium, price, size and condition (i.e. "New"). The Mansion at Strathmore will charge 40% commission, so factor that into your sales price. If your image is selected, but you can't deliver or pick up your photo per the specified dates, you may make arrangements for someone else to do that for you.

Framed images deposited with the Exhibitions Committee for later delivery to the Strathmore must be protected with standard 24x30 inch bubble envelopes. These are available from the committee; the price is about \$2 each.

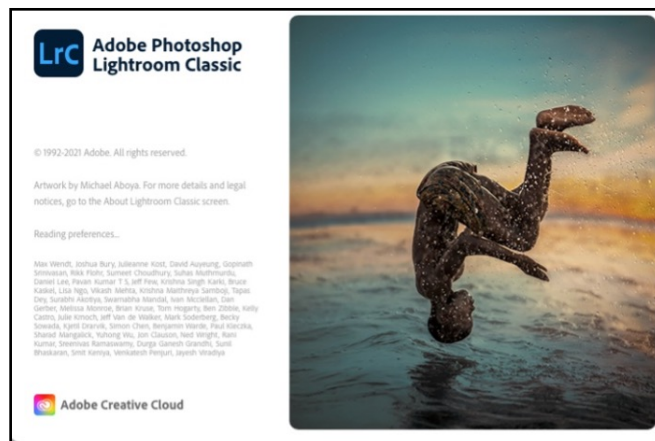
I look forward to seeing your images! Please email me if you have questions at [lesterlaforce@hotmail.com](mailto:lesterlaforce@hotmail.com).

Sincerely,  
Lester LaForce  
Chair, NBCC Exhibitions Committee

NBCC member Alan Sislen is a Washington, DC area photographer who exhibits at Multiple Exposures Gallery in the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria, Virginia. His photographs are in numerous personal and corporate collections. Alan specializes in landscapes and cityscapes and shares his knowledge of photography through classes, workshops and presentations on a wide variety of topics found [here](#). An award winning photographer, Alan has for years freely provided his photo expertise and services to our club.

## Lightroom Classic v11.0 (and Adobe Camera Raw v14.0) Zoom Presentation by Alan Sislen

On October 26, Adobe introduced an update to Lightroom Classic. This new version is v11.0 and is probably the most significant Lightroom update since it was introduced in 2007! On Sunday, October 31, just 4 days after the release of v11.0, longtime NBCC member Alan Sislen did an extensive Zoom presentation exclusively for NBCC members and wait-listers. All of the new changes, features and tools were discussed to help get a head start in using this powerful image editing program.

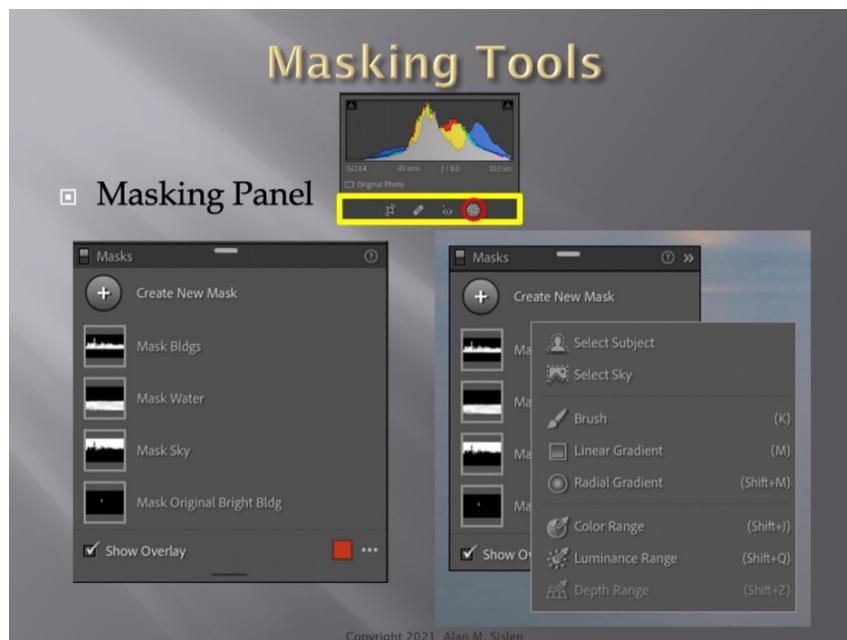


The almost 2-hour presentation is available in the Members Only Info section of NBCC's website, under Select Videos.

During the presentation, Alan discusses the minimum operating system requirements for running LR 11.0, mentions the new features and for much of the presentation, demonstrates

the important new Lightroom masking capabilities using a variety of images. If

you're not a Lightroom user, but use Adobe Camera Raw (ACR), almost everything discussed also applies to ACR! Many questions were asked by the over 70 participants in this special Zoom presentation.



## **Focus on Climate Update**

**by Roy Sewall and Cherry Wyman**

### ***Roy Sewall -***

In February 2021, I announced the creation of an NBCC Community Outreach group subsequently called Focus on Climate (FC), and asked NBCC members to sign up. We currently have 8 members.

Our intent has been to help selected organizations to better tell their climate change story through photography - for their website, presentations, handout materials, and the like. We provide the photographic services at no cost.

Our geographic area of concentration is the National Capital Region, including D.C. and surrounding areas in Maryland and Virginia.

Very early in our startup period we had the great fortune to meet key people from the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection (MC DEP) and they enthusiastically embraced our offer for services. We started by supporting the RainScapes Program, a fascinating climate change mitigation initiative, and have since done thousands of images for them.

A rainscape is a landscape or design technique that helps reduce stormwater runoff from individual properties. Some examples are rain gardens, conservation landscapes, green roofs and permeable pavement.

Success begets further success. We have recently linked up with MC DEP's Tree Program, and they are equally enthusiastic about engaging with us. The program plants shade trees throughout the county at no cost to the property owners. We are off to a running start with this new endeavor in MC DEP.

Montgomery County announced its Climate Action Plan (CAP) in July. It is an aggressive, far-reaching encapsulation of all the county's climate initiatives. A huge stroke of good luck for FC is that MC DEP has major lead and support roles through most of the initiatives in the CAP. So our opportunity to branch out into other CAP programs is strong.

We do hope to get into MC DEP climate solutions as well as climate mitigation. Some examples are conversion of fleets to electric and solar panel installations.

This month Cherry will show you a few highlights from the DEP RainScapes Program. We have also supported other organizations: Potomac RiverKeeper Network, Sunrise, and Anacostia Watershed. But today MC DEP is our primary client.

We very much hope to pick up some new team members - the demand sometimes exceeds our capacity. It's just plain fun and very helpful to our clients. Contact me if you are interested.

### ***Cherry Wyman -***

Our photographers are in frequent communication with MD DEP's RainScapes planners as we document their efforts to harvest water, prevent pollution and erosion, improve air quality, and create wildlife biodiversity through rainscaping projects. Our efforts to tell their story are on the next few pages.

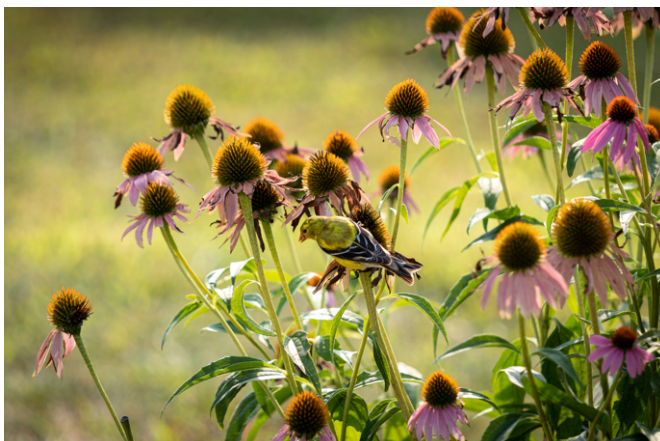


Native plants in local rain gardens provide important habitat for pollinators...



© Evelyn Jacob

...as well as a variety of butterflies, dragonflies, and other insects which are a food source for small animals and birds.



© Craig Carlson

The Interfaith Greenway was designed to reduce runoff from roofs and paved surfaces to hold stormwater until it is absorbed into the soil. At Beth Shalom Temple, extensive indigenous planting

and man-made structures provide a haven for wildlife and people alike.



© Toni Robinson

Carefully designed rain gardens provide a spot of beauty at the Multi-Agency Service Park.



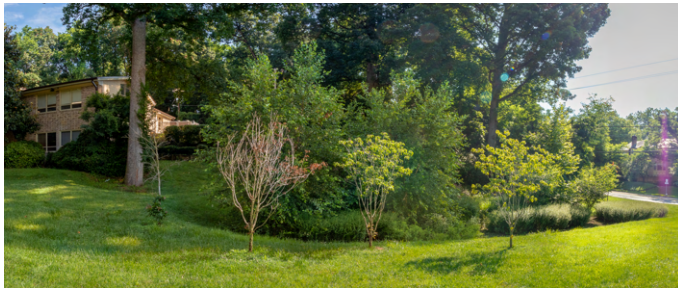
© Bruce Davis



At Little Falls Public Library, bioretention captures and cleans stormwater runoff from the parking lot. Coarse gravel holds water while it is absorbed by plant roots in the subsoil.



© Craig Carlson



© Craig Carlson

Stormwater ponds such as this one at Kemp Mill are shallow marshes that feature year-round habitat.



© Craig Carlson

Permeable pavers at Audubon Naturalist Society absorb rainwater and are measured by a planner during a final inspection for rebate eligibility. RainScapes pavers are often used to replace old pavements that allowed rainwater to bounce off and gush down hills.



© Cherry Wyman



One goal of RainScapes planners is to create beautiful sites that blend into the surroundings. Montgomery Blair High School is one example.



© Evelyn Jacob

A sign at the entrance to the school educates students, teachers, parents, and visitors about rainscapes.



© Evelyn Jacob

The 100-square foot rain garden at Pine Crest Elementary School filters and cleans runoff from the sidewalk. Plants are maintained and repacked as needed.



© Evelyn Jacob

A relatively new design used by RainScapes planners is curbside installations which feature planting around stormwater inlets and stepping areas for residents getting in and out of cars.



© Craig Carlson



*Sarah Hood Salomon has been a professional photographer for over 30 years. Her award-winning work has been exhibited in numerous group and solo shows. She is a photography judge, curator, educator, and author. Sarah is represented by the Waverly Street Gallery in Bethesda, Maryland and Multiple Exposures Gallery in Alexandria, Virginia. Her website is [here](#).*

*She joined NBCC in 2013 and has served as exhibitions chair and as secretary of the board.*

## **Sarah Hood Salomon's "Urban Forestry" Show Opens December 1**

What happens when an acorn is dropped into a tiny patch of dirt with insufficient sunlight and water? Nature is resilient, and given time, roots can crack through cement, but a tree's survival is affected by humans who can be ruthless in their pursuit of progress.

"Urban Forestry" is the title of my upcoming solo show at Multiple Exposures Gallery. I use both traditional digital printing, and conceptual photographic sculpture to examine the complex coexistence of humans and the natural environment. The project explores multiple ways that mankind treats trees, and the adaptations that nature is forced to make.

The images were shot during the pandemic, when cities were less populated, and the plight of urban trees became more obvious. Sometimes trees are brutally hacked to make way for roads or power lines, sometimes they are installed to create privacy or to add a decorative element, and occasionally nature is able to reclaim abandoned developments. This body of work focuses on situations when the balance between humans and nature is in question, and the outcome is uncertain.



*Electrified © Sarah Hood Salomon*



*Poles © Sarah Hood Salomon*

**December 1, 2021 - January 9, 2022 at Multiple Exposures Gallery, The Torpedo Factory, Alexandria, VA. Opening reception on Sunday, December 5, 3-5 pm. Artist talk at 4 pm.**

## Tips on Mounting a Photo Show

Putting together a portfolio of this work required a lot of editing, but when planning a show in a small gallery, every piece must not only be strong, but must also support the main theme. The sequencing is critical, so I had to narrow my range of images. This is where an artist's statement is really helpful, as it forces you to put your thoughts into concise sentences. Writing statements is my least favorite thing to do, but it is essential in putting together a cohesive show. The statement can be adapted to put together a press release, which should be mailed a few weeks before the show, along with a few photos.

Once I have a group of strong possibilities for a show, I organize them in Lightroom and put together a sample layout. Then I make small prints and physically lay them out on a table. This step is very helpful, as you can easily shuffle images around, and substitute things so that there is a beginning, middle and end to the show.

Once I have a strong layout, I choose 1 or 2 prints and make a few different sizes. You'll quickly discover which images need to be larger, and which ones can be smaller. I often vary the size and double hang a few

smaller images to make a more interesting layout. For this show, I am also using a space in the hallway outside the gallery, called Project Gallery. I will be setting up an installation of 3D photographs called "Poles." The poles represent former trees that have been cut, stripped and soaked in preservatives. I have grouped them to represent a future urban forest.

A lead image and a short phrase can be used for a show announcement. People don't print announcements much any more, and it is acceptable to send it out as an email blast. I also suggest posting it to Facebook and Instagram before, during and after the show, I often post images from the show as an enticement for people to go to the gallery. You'll

want to plan an opening and artist's talk, and make sure to invite friends and family. Because of the ongoing pandemic, I will be hosting a reception, but I won't be serving food or beverages.

However, I will have bowls of chocolates for your nibbling pleasure! I hope you can join me on Sunday, December 5, or get down to see the show, December 1 - January 9.



- Sarah Hood Salomon



## Member News

Photographers selected for publication in **LensWork's** "Our Magnificent Planet 2021" include two of our members, **Guillermo Olaizola** and **Carolina Zumaran-Jones**. Carolina's image, "Fireflies," below, will be included in the book, due to be published in December. The book features 300 photographers in the US and overseas.



**Peter Dunner** received an honorable mention for "At the Museum" in



September's **Washington Post Travel Photo Contest**.

In October he was awarded an honorable mention in the **Paper Arts Collective 2021 International Open Print Exhibition** for another image, "Faith."



On display until November 27 is the image above, "Gray Boulder, Waves & Separating Sands at Flo Norway," by **emeritus member Bill Richards**. The image was one of 35 accepted into the "Contemporary Landscapes" exhibit at the **SE Center for Photography gallery in Greenville, South Carolina** by nature photographer William Neill from 1600+ submissions.

Bill and his wife live in Fairview, North Carolina at 2900 feet with a 180-degree view of Black Mountain and the Swannanoa Mountains. He writes, "I've stayed active as a photographer through membership in the Carolinas Nature Photography Association and regularly attend field trips along the Blue Ridge Parkway and in the Smokies. I recently photographed Manitoban elk in rut at the Cataloochee Valley of the Smokies." He is co-leader of the Western North Carolina Photo Group.

"Fifteen years of NBCC meeting competitions and taking advantage of associated presentations, workshops, and friendships provided an amazing foundation for continuing my photographic journey at age 78."



**Al Neyman** won an award for the image below, "Residence Hong Kong," from **Life Framer**, an international photography competition to showcase images from emerging and established photographers. The competition theme was "The Face of the Earth."



**Yuan Liu's** "Double Dragons Playing Ball," taken at the First City near Beijing, was selected for display at the **Chinese Culture and Community Service Center** 2021 Photo Exhibition.



**Mark Leatherman** is one of three local male artists exhibiting images on the theme "**Man(hood)**" at **Capital Workspaces** in Washington, D.C. through January 11. The men explore through their lenses the human condition and its reflection in nature. Below is Mark's "Elakala Falls Swirly."



*Remember to send your achievements as well as jpegs to me at the email address on the masthead page of this newsletter or to my personal address. The deadline is the 15th of the month preceding the publication date. If you have multiple honors, send them all and we'll try to fit them in!*

### **Upcoming NBCC Competitions**

January - 6-Month Open  
February - Quality of Light  
March - Nature  
April - Long Exposure      May - Black & White

## Member Profiles

### Erico Silva by Beth Altman



Erico looks to apply a minimalist, zen quality to street photography. His goal of simplifying his images is a work in progress.

With a primary interest in street photography, Erico enjoys capturing

environmental portraits, particularly involving craft makers, as well as various types of social interaction. He also likes doing intimate landscapes and cityscapes. A good bit of Erico's photography has taken place on his long distance hikes and travels, of which he is quite fond. Travel destinations have included Egypt, Nepal, and Myanmar. During the pandemic, he has experimented with still life, flowers, and some macro work. Light and shade are additional photographic interests.

Erico was born and raised in Brazil. He came to the US in 1980 for graduate studies and has remained in the country since that time. He had a successful career at the Inter-American Development Bank where he worked in information

technology. Having retired 10+ years ago, he now has time to devote to his photography. Erico is married and has two children and two grandchildren.



*India - Varanasi*

Interest in NBCC was encouraged by friends. Erico has submitted an image to electronic competition and found the feedback helpful. He recently joined the Chincoteague workshop where he looked

forward to learning and being challenged through participation in club activities. He welcomes visitors to his website, [ZenVoyager.com](http://ZenVoyager.com) which includes travel logs about his hikes and trips.



*San Miguel de Allende*



## Lorraine Vinci by Al Neyman



Photography has been a story of fits and starts for Lorraine. Early on, she was fascinated by the visual arts, particularly color. Her parents bought her a Kodak Instant camera, which commenced her love for photography. Unfortunately, film was a commodity that she could not easily access as a child, yet her love for photography was not frustrated by this challenge.

It was in college where she rediscovered photography, and this time she had full access to all the photographer's tools. Her first serious camera was a Minolta X370, which she still has. She began work in black and white, spending endless hours in the darkroom and roaming the streets of Miami searching for inspiration and suitable subjects.

Lorraine recalls being initially interested in the technical aspects of photography and took several photography classes during her college years. She recalls "learning pinhole photography with cereal and oatmeal boxes; it was fun and so cool."

As people do, Lorraine drifted away from photography while pursuing her graduate degrees, raising a family, and working long hours. It was not long ago when she was able to once again pursue one of her passions, photography.



*Photos © Lorraine Vinci*



Lorraine was born in Venezuela to an Italian father and a French mother. She grew up between Venezuela and South Florida where she completed her graduate degrees in clinical psychology. She completed postdoctoral training at the University of Virginia and fell in love with Charlottesville, which was a photographic inspiration.

After completing her postdoc in 2004, she and her son moved to Washington, DC, a city she loved from the beginning. Lorraine works as a rehabilitation/pain psychologist for the Medstar National Rehabilitation Hospital. She unabashedly admits that her focus is family. She has had the good fortune of both parents, sister, and niece moving to Maryland in recent years. Lorraine felt her life come to a complete circle once she had loved ones nearby.

Family snapshots were the primary purpose of her photography for years. Then around 2009 “I caught the bug anew,” Lorraine victoriously announces. It was a Canon Rebel that revealed new possibilities and awakened her artistic sensibilities in photography. She explains her feelings: “I was sorry when I finally sold it....but then came a Canon 7D and then the Canon 6D, as well as an Olympus, and many more. I loved doing nature, flowers, going to every park I could find. Living here beats it all, much more so than Miami. For me, everywhere I’ve lived in the city, it has been unbelievably inspiring. I don’t have to go far. Whether it’s Brookside, Great Falls, or being in the city, it’s amazing. I’m motivated to do photography most days. The light can be so inspiring.

“I could take photography more seriously, but I am pulled into responsibilities still,” Lorraine admits and adds, “I want to



learn. Exposure to others’ work, like at our peer group last week - a group I’ve never met before - but got to see what others are seeing. Some of them reminded me of my own pictures, and I found it fascinating to see how other participants, whom I had never met before, had taken pictures of subject matters like those I had taken in different locations and times.

During our group, what really got to me was the idea of ‘what is the story.’ When we take a picture we show a part of us, we reflect who we are, what calls to us. As a psychologist I look for what things mean. When taking a picture, I’m focused on the technical, the composition - I’m not thinking of a story. After taking the picture I can imagine the story behind it. I’ve started giving names to my pictures and had not done that before. Names begin to tell what the stories are about.”

Lorraine loves cameras and the gadgets that go with them and says, “I have everything I want. I don’t need a thing. I carry one camera bag and it’s packed.

I have tripods and an emergency tripod in the car!" She says with circumspect humor, "If I don't bring it all, I may end up the with the wrong...lens." An iPhone 13 Pro accompanies her, too, as well as her Moment lenses.

Lorraine learned photography in manual mode from the get-go, and continues manual with digital. She uses her iPhone with apps and records all images RAW. She recently got the Canon R6, which she describes as "a game changer for me. The autofocus is superb." She admits that during a recent visit to the zoo she took "about eight hundred images with the R6, and all but a few came out. And those were all manual exposures."

She says thoughtfully, "At this stage of my life, for professional and personal reasons, I don't travel much. My parents are aging so I don't want to stray too far."

Lorraine would like to go back to school and study photography again, she says, "If I didn't have to work." Her partner is an avid traveler who has traveled all over the world, and he encourages her to travel, so maybe there is a photo excursion in the future. But like many photographers I know, a likely place to find her will be in Washington, DC, finding more, and better, images of her home town. When I asked Lorraine what subject motivates her the most, she says simply, "The light can be so inspiring. I love the color of the light here."



*(l to r) Jim Turner, Margaret Colaianni, Maude Svensson, and Max Kantzer take sunrise photos during the club's Chincoteague field trip in early November.  
Photo © Toni Robinson*

## Splinters from the Board

In these times of Covid-19, our club has been challenged to maintain our vibrant community and to feed the passion of photography shared by our members. For more than one year now, we have been able to connect remotely via Zoom sessions to participate in competitions and to be inspired by our programs. This has been a good way to keep up the connections within the club, and I am happy to say that we are going beyond that.

As you may know, there are a number of workshops over this year made possible through the generous gift of anonymous donors. Just recently, the first of those workshops led by Nikhil Bahl was held on Chincoteague Island. It was a wonderful weekend of excellent instruction out in the field that stretched many people's vision and capabilities. But the best part was being together in-person at last and sharing the experience together. I want to thank Kathryn Mohrman and her committee for creating such a satisfying event. There are others of these workshops coming up soon so I encourage our members to sign-up when the opportunity arises.

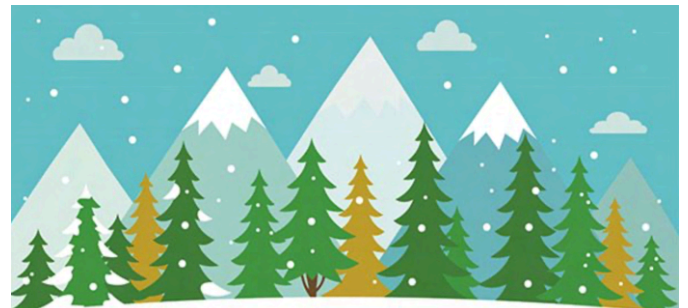
Participating in competitions outside of our club is a fine way to refine and extend our photographic skills and artistry. Many of our members took up that challenge and I am happy to say that there was a very strong showing in the Mid Atlantic Photo Visions (MAPV) and Maryland Photographic Alliance (MPA) competitions. Congratulations to our winners in these competitions and applause to all who provided their images!

Keep up the good work! And a shout out goes to John Norvell for leading the MAPV committee and to Carol Lee for her MPA leadership.

Our club strives to improve the craft of photography for its members and to grow our personal artistry and creativity. We have been able to continue these activities with Zoom but being in person would be better. Our board is continuing its assessment of how and when to resume in-person meetings and hopes to have a decision soon on how that could be done safely. This is of course dependent on Montgomery County and Faith United Methodist Church policies which continue to evolve. Part of our approach will be to provide a basic streaming capability which allows for remote viewing. This is technically complicated and aims to support both competitions and program nights. It is my hope that a decision on returning to in-person meetings can be made soon. In the meantime, there are opportunities all around us to grow our passion and skill for photography. Keep looking for those great images!

Stay well!

*- Rich Chitty, President*







## Photo Festival 2021

- **Larry Mars** received a Recognition of Photographic Achievement for reaching the Masters level in international competitions (MPSA).

- **Judy Burr** and **Nancy Wolejsza** received Photo Travel recognitions for their work for the division. Nancy does Who's Who and Judy runs the travel essays.

## Festival Name Change

PSA changed the name of the annual get-together from Conference to Photo Festival after the 2019 Conference in Spokane. The event was cancelled last year, so this year was the first Photo Festival. Due to the pandemic, many fewer people attended and that alone made it much different. Although Hunt's Photo was represented, they had no gear on display to tempt us; that was good for me! Olympus did have a representative there and he was able to help people order new gear via Hunt's and to answer questions for Olympus owners. That was helpful for me and no doubt others too. Nancy will mention the programs and I don't have much to add except that I think I need to upgrade my iPhone! We did some sightseeing/ photography together rather than take the offered tours. That gave us more freedom and we didn't have to deal with a bus. My husband and I planned to



*Judy Burr (left photo) and Nancy Wolejsza (right photo) hold certificates of recognition for their work.*

spend more time afterwards, but soon a storm was on its way so we headed east after another trip to Custer State Park. We have been there several times and it is well worth a visit.

- *Judy Burr, PSA Representative*

## Lasting Impressions

The venue for this year's PSA Festival was in Rapid City, South Dakota. It is close to the history and attractions of the Black Hills, allowing for exploration of Custer State Park with the bison herd, the beauty of Spearfish Canyon, Mount Rushmore, and the Crazy Horse monument.

This year the emphasis of the presentations was on mirrorless cameras, night photography, and mobile photography. I was impressed by the enhancements in the photographic capabilities of the iPhones 12 and 13 Pro which have enhanced abilities in low light situations with advances in internal stabilization. The presentation by Art Wolfe featured an overview of his many book projects and themes.

It has been two years since the PSA Festival was held in person and as with other conferences, it was a great week to explore new ideas and renew old friendships.

- *Nancy Wolejsza*

## Mid-Atlantic Photo Visions

The MAPV 2021 expo was very successful, with over 1,500 people registering for this annual event. The event was all virtual for the second year due to the pandemic. It included presentations by many outstanding photographers. Members of the participating camera clubs submitted 1,698 images in the nature and photo art competitions, with 508 images from 138 photographers juried into the final competitions. NBCC again was well represented in this group.

During the expo, winning images from the 12 categories, the 2 peoples' choice awards, and the 2 best-of-show awards were announced, with short statements from the photographers of these images. NBCC was again well-represented in these awards, with 2 members receiving awards.



*Crashing Waves © Ruiqing Pamboukian*

Ruiqing Pamboukian's image "Pink Breakfast" was chosen for the Best in Birds award and the Best in Show – Nature award. Her image "Crashing Waves" was chosen for the Best in Landscape award. Melissa Clark's



*Pink Breakfast © Ruiqing Pamboukian*

image "Balloons Over Bagan" was chosen for the Best in Other award and the People's Choice – Photo Arts award. These and other images can be found at the MAPV website:

<https://midatlanticphotovisions.org/>

Congratulations to these photographers and thanks to all NBCC members who submitted entries and attended the virtual expo. Plans are already underway to be on-site next year.

*- John Norvell, MAPV Chair*



*Balloons Over Bagan © Melissa Clark*

The recently held 5th Annual Photography Contest was the biggest in MPA history with 514 image submissions from the 26 MPA clubs, which makes it even more impressive that NBCC did so well with five of our members winning seven awards. The judges of Eileen Rafferty, Mollie Isaacs, and Charles Needle provided commentary on the

winning images at the Awards Ceremony Webinar which will be posted on the MPA website if you missed it.

Top rated images from the contest will be on display at the Maryland State House of Delegates in Annapolis. Thank you so much for all who participated in this contest!



*See more  
winning  
images on the  
next page.*

*The Story of Spring © Ruiqing Pamboukian*

<u>Category</u>	<u>Award</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Image Title</u>
<b>Animal Life</b>	1st Place	Ruiqing Pamboukian	<i>The Story of Spring</i>
	2nd Place	Ruiqing Pamboukian	<i>Pink Breakfast</i>
	HM	David Terao	<i>Jumping Spider on a Dahlia</i>
<b>Maryland Highways and Byways</b>	1st Place	Bill Seelig	<i>Railroad Dreams</i>
<b>People In Action</b>	3rd Place	Bill Seelig	<i>Bubble Action</i>
	HM	Stan Collyer	<i>Stepping Up</i>
	HM	Peter Dunner	<i>Domino Players, Havana</i>



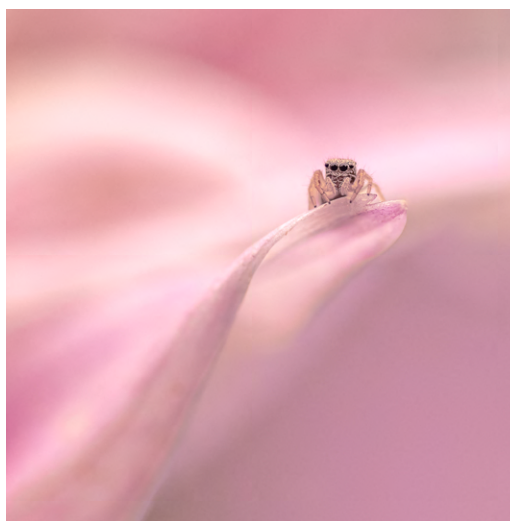


*Railroad Dreams © Bill Seelig*

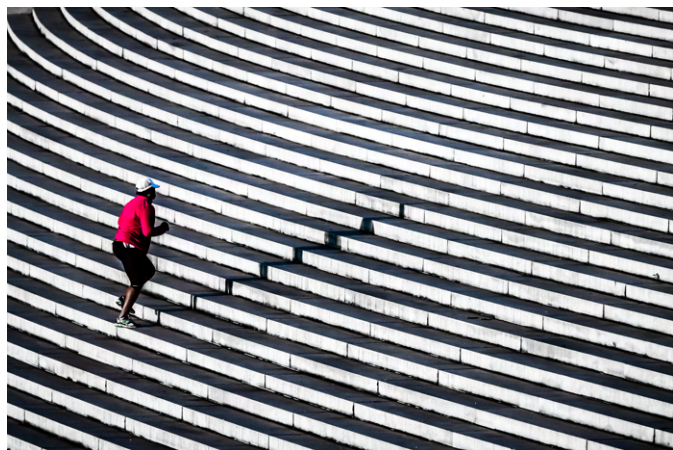


*Bubble Action © Bill Seelig*

Ruiqing Pamboukian's  
"Pink Breakfast" received top  
honors in the MAPV 2021 photo  
expo and can be seen on page 24.



*Jumping Spider on a Dahlia  
© David Terao*



*Stepping Up © Stan Collyer*



*Domino Players, Havana © Peter Dunner*

# Competition Results: November (Street Photography)

## Judge: Robb Hill

### PRINTS

#### *Intermediate (11 entries)*

1st	William James	Above the Midway
2nd	Peter Dunner	NYC Contrasts
3rd	Steven Frahm	Banana Vendor
HM	Tom Marchessault	Churros Vendor in the Subway

#### *Advanced (16 entries)*

1st	Nikos Zacharakis	Assets
2nd	Bill Seelig	Pipes
3rd	Tammy Trocki	Simple Beauty
HM	Stanley Collyer	Schoolgirls
HM	Lester LaForce	Bijoux Au Poids

### ELECTRONIC IMAGES

#### *Novice (14 entries)*

1st	Maude Svennson	Stockholm Metro
2nd	Larry Brauer	If I Had a Hammer
3rd	Janice Solomon	COVID Birthday
HM	Pauline Jaffe	Arab Man
HM	Janice Solomon	Enjoying the View

#### *Intermediate (34 entries)*

1st	Cherry Wyman	Police Pops
2nd	Beth Altman	Looking
3rd	Don Tobin	Sounds of the City
HM	Lorraine Chickering	Oh Happy Day
HM	Sue Guy	A Lasting Love
HM	Sue Guy	Apple Delivery
HM	Max Kantzer	Enjoying H Street Festival
HM	Don Picard	Sax Player
HM	Jill Randell	Oaxaca Musician
HM	Claudia Seelig	Afternoon on the Dock
HM	Peter Winik	Ostuni Solitary

#### *Advanced (25 entries)*

1st	David Terao	Mother and Child
2nd	Chet Stein	Church Support
3rd	David Terao	The Last Puff
HM	Robert Barkin	Picture at an Exhibition
HM	James Corbett	Poms on Parade
HM	Bruce Davis	Bubbles at the Beach
HM	Larry Mars	Center of Attention
HM	Ruiqing Pamboukian	Apollo 11 Projection



# NBCC Competition Results

## Cumulative Scores Through November 2021

### PRINTS

#### *Intermediate*

- 29 Peter Dunner
- 17 Steven Frahm, Kathryn Mohrman
- 14 Kay Norvell
- 6 Richard Chitty, Tom Marchessault

#### *Advanced*

- 33 Bill Seelig
- 22 Stan Collyer
- 18 Nikos Zacharakis
- 15 John Norvell
- 14 Tammy Trocki
- 12 Lester LaForce
- 9 Bruce Cyr

### ELECTRONIC IMAGES

#### *Novice*

- 41 Maude Svensson
- 25 Larry Brauer
- 21 George Kiebusinski
- 14 Janice Solomon
- 10 Jean Solari
- 6 Pauline Jaffe, Jennifer Nguyen

#### *Intermediate*

- 28 Don Tobin
- 22 Claudia Seelig, Cherry Wyman
- 21 Tom Gross, Sue Guy
- 18 Peter Winik
- 14 Audrey Rothstein
- 12 Lorraine Chickering, Max Kantzer,  
Mark Leatherman, Jill Randell
- 10 Christina Papakonstantinou
- 9 Beth Altman
- 6 Michael Blicher, Bill James, Bob Murphy,  
Don Picard, Dawn Sikkema,  
Jeffrey Taksey

#### *Advanced*

- 24 Larry Mars
- 18 James Corbett, Toni Robinson,  
David Terao
- 15 Mark Segal
- 12 Robert Barkin, John Willis
- 10 Melissa Clark
- 9 James Chia, Chet Stein
- 8 Joanne Mars
- 6 Ida Adler, David Clemmer, Bruce Davis,  
Riquing Pamboukian, Jean Yuan

# Intermediate Print Winners

## November (Street Photography) Competition

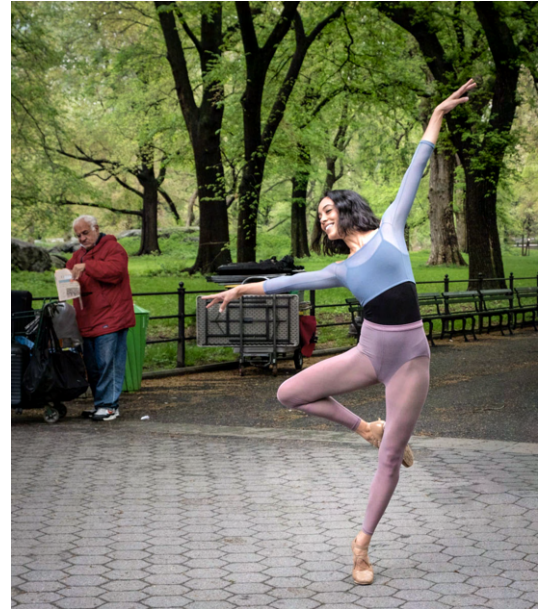


*1st Place*  
*Above the Midway*  
© **William James**

Only in this single image from some thirty shots of the subject, someone 'pops out' to my eye. One young woman clearly swings in her happy space, swiftly through the still summer air. High over the fairground and well above the midway's social space, for a few moments she seems to have re-created a feeling of personal euphoria. A 16mm FX lens warped and wrapped a free space around and behind her, creatively subverting our common linear perspective.

*3rd Place*  
*Banana Vendor*  
© **Steven Frahm**

This image was taken in Kathmandu, Nepal. I was on a non-photocentric tour, and our van had to park several blocks from our destination. In between, our group walked along an extremely busy commercial street, crowded with people and seemingly endless, small outdoor shops. Amid them was this fruit stand with bananas hanging everywhere. It caught my attention, and I only had time to take a single shot. I was able to frame the vendor's face within the bananas and shot wide, so that I could crop later, as needed. The photograph did need cropping and significant other post-processing to raise the shadow on the vendor's face and tame a number of bright hot spots.



*2nd Place*  
*NYC Contrasts*  
© **Peter Dunner**

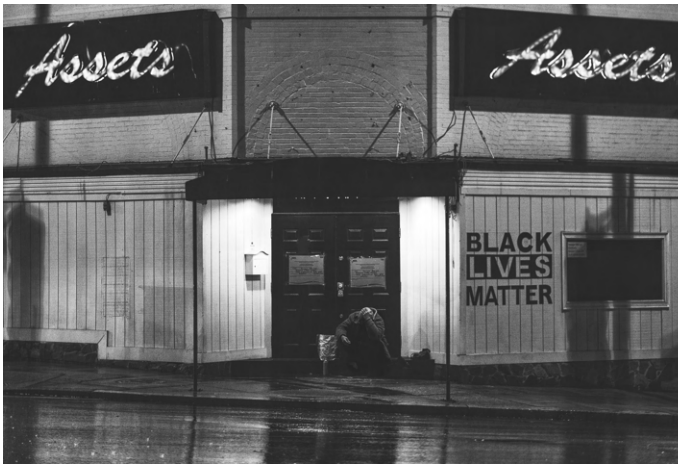
I took this picture in Central Park during a commercial photo shoot. There were many more dancers but I was able to isolate this one in a graceful pose with the guy with a cart full of "stuff" in the background. NY is full of all sorts of contrasts.





# Advanced Print Winners

## November (Street Photography) Competition



*1st Place*  
*Assets*  
© **Nikos Zacharakis**

This image was taken during a stop at a traffic light. I looked out the window and saw the scene, attracted by the composition elements (triangle, shadows/light) and the symbolism/messages it contained. With the camera on the passenger's seat, I pulled it up and took only a couple of quick shots before the light turned green.



*2nd Place*  
*Pipes*  
© **Bill Seelig**

In this image I took a photo of my wife, Claudia, in concrete pipes at a nearby construction site. Then I cloned out Claudia, to leave only her shadow, to add an air of mystery to the photo and also make the image more dramatic.



*3rd Place*  
*Simple Beauty*  
© **Tammy Trocki**

I took this shot at a Sunday outside market and afternoon dance, while I was on a photo workshop with Valerie Jardin in Paris in late October this year. This older woman stood watching the festivities and I was drawn by her expressive, manicured hands. I also liked the simplicity of her dark flowing dress and the "bokeh" of sunlight behind her when I used a wide aperture.

# Novice EIC Winners

## November (Street Photography) Competition



*1st Place*  
*Stockholm Metro*  
© **Maude Svensson**

This is an escalator leading to the mystical and artsy underground in Stockholm, Sweden. My favorite station is Solna Centrum, and for this shot I placed myself at the most dramatic part where I imagine the cave opening up for the entrance to a burning hell hidden deep inside the earth. I had been waiting for the right people to show up for some time. When I saw the tall man dressed in a red jacket that matched the blood red color of the solid rock walls, I thought this is my man. As an extra bonus, he seemed to be in a hurry to enter Helheim. The guy behind him, however, seemed hesitant. Just as in real life.



*2nd Place*  
*If I Had a Hammer*  
© **Larry Brauer**

There was a lot of new construction going on in my Bethesda, MD neighborhood - both residential and office buildings. So one day I decided to explore these sites with my camera. I came across some workers loading a dismantled crane on a flatbed truck and took some shots. I was across the street from where they were working so I used my trusty zoom lens to capture this worker with a sledge hammer. I took a number of images. But in this one, I focused on his face, which came out sharp, and I got the hammer and his hands slightly blurry. In post-processing, I cropped the original to use the nearby equipment to frame the worker.

*3rd Place*  
*Covid Birthday*  
© **Janice Solomon**



I was photographing the cherry blossoms in my neighborhood when I heard music nearby and discovered that a family had hired a Mariachi band to play for a little girl's birthday party. They were outside, socially distancing, and the father was dancing with his daughter who was wearing a tiara. Other family members looked so full of joy watching them. It was a happy moment during the pandemic. I cropped the photo to zoom in closer on the father and daughter and to hide the house number but left enough to show that this occurred in front of a house. I also had to lighten the people standing in the doorway.



# Intermediate EIC Winners

## November (Street Photography) Competition



*1st Place*  
*Police Pops*  
© **Cherry Wyman**

I love street photography but rarely have a chance to do it in my own back yard. Our annual Palisades July 4<sup>th</sup> parade is a big deal in Northwest DC. We go all out with full community participation. This year I decided to run alongside the parade taking photos as it progressed up MacArthur Boulevard. I wasn't happy with the side shots, so when I got a little bit ahead of the DC police and their kids handing out pops, I jumped into the parade and took this shot. My goal was to capture the expression on the kids' faces.



*2nd Place*  
*Looking*  
© **Beth Altman**

This image was taken at City Center, downtown DC. I was taken by the simultaneous reactions and expressions of the toddler and the man at one of the tables to the woman walking by the restaurant and liked the composition of the interaction between the three.



*3rd Place*  
*Sounds of the City*  
© **Don Tobin**

I was wandering around the DuPont Circle area on a Friday evening in early June. I saw this gentlemen singing near the Metro entrance at Connecticut and Q Streets, NW. We chatted a bit and I took several photos. I used a Nikon 105 prime lens at f2.8 to get a shallow depth of field and de-emphasize the background. In Lightroom I spent some time on the texture and colors of his Fedora. It was just very good luck that the colors of the gentlemen's hat and shirt matched so well.

# Advanced EIC Winners

## November (Street Photography) Competition



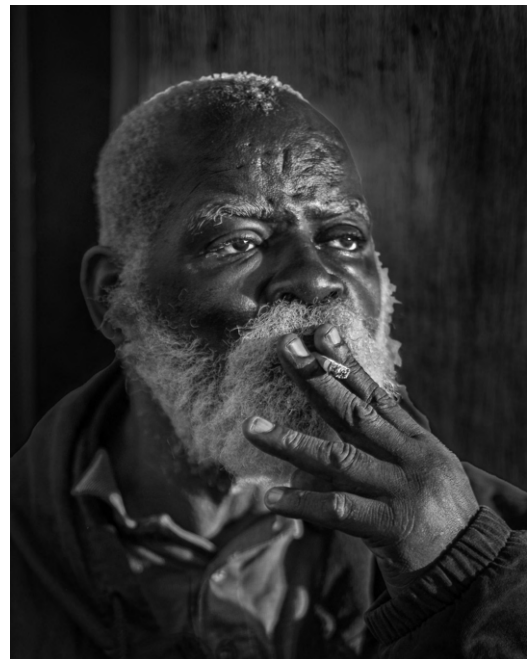
*1st Place*  
*Mother and Child*  
© **David Terao**

This was taken from the second level at the Redondo Beach pier just south of Los Angeles at sunset. The sun was streaming down the pier and casting long shadows. It was pre-COVID, and there were many groups of people out and about. The difficult part was waiting for only one or two people to be in the scene rather than the usual cluster of people.



*2nd Place*  
*Church Support*  
© **Chet Stein**

The image was taken on my last pre-pandemic visit to Jerusalem. I was on my way to the Old City during the Marathon and I noticed a religious group, primarily Nuns, enjoying the excitement of the race. I thought to take the image, because of the contrast that it presented.



*3rd Place*  
*The Last Puff*  
© **David Terao**

I shot this image in Fells Point, Baltimore early one weekend morning. I saw this photogenic, homeless man sitting on stairs smoking cigarettes. I walked by him a couple times unsure how to take his picture. As I passed him, he greeted me and seemed quite friendly. So, I stopped, and we started chatting. His name was Dennis. I asked if I could take his picture, and he happily obliged.



## Enchanting by Bill Seelig

Background. I sometimes feel like an “evil twin” of some NBCCers because I almost always take photos of people, while some others rarely do. Interacting with people is a big part of my photography life.

My Story. Many decades ago, I grabbed my Nikkormat camera with my super-portrait 85mm f1.4 lens and headed out to NW DC very early one Sunday morning to see what I could find. I ended up walking down a seemingly deserted neighborhood street when I came upon an oil painter. I immediately concluded this was a very classy/special lady, so (as you might expect) I ran right up to her, told her how beautiful she was (true), and proceeded to take photos, with her permission, of course.

After a while she said “Stop!”

I usually/wisely do exactly what ladies want, so I stood there while she packed up her entire art setup in a custom cart.

“Follow me,” she said, so I did.

At this point I felt we had some kind of bond, after only several minutes together, even though I realized we had not even introduced ourselves to one another.

After a long walk in silence (talking did not seem necessary), we came to a seemingly routine-looking DC house, but upon entry I knew this was a special place. There were amazing works d’art everywhere I looked. The house was ‘packed’! It was so absolutely over-the-top I really couldn’t take it all in.

Then she said “follow me” and we went

to a small room where she exclaimed, “All of these were owned by Marie Antionette, Queen of France.” At this point I had no reason to doubt her word, because everything here was so absolutely majestic, just like in the rest of the house.

The centerpiece of the small room was a box stage of unbelievably beautiful blue fabric, sewn all over with massive numbers of threads of pure gold. In the center was a marionette.

The marionette was obviously the lady’s pride and joy so I decided to only photograph it. The marionette had a wig of human hair, super wood carving, painting, a fantastic outfit, etc. It was absolutely amazing!

The resulting photos are very special to me and I always think about this day, every day when I look at the resulting framed print hanging in our dining room.

Summary. I have absolutely no idea who this lady was and purposely left without looking at the address, street name, etc. I decided to only leave with my memories and film, because I was pretty sure this was a unique event and this was not likely going to happen to me again. What an experience!

For me, looking at even a single print can evoke all sorts of memories/experiences/feelings, so photography has become a unique feature of my life.

There is no way I can truly convey all of this experience with anyone else, so I only do what I can with the little note and the accompanying photograph, as representations of my special day long ago.



*The Marionette* © Bill Seelig (1974)



# NBCC Board of Directors, Committees and Appointments 2021-22

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## OFFICERS

### President

Rich Chitty

### Vice President

Cherry Wyman

### Secretary

Kathryn Mohrman

### Treasurer

Claudia Seelig

---

## DIRECTORS

Kent Mason

Roy Sewall

Toni Robinson

---

## STANDING COMMITTEES

### Competition

Judy Switt\*

#### *Lightbox:*

Geoff Hornseth

Dick Pelroy

Nikos Zacharakis

#### *Coordinators*

Robert Barkin

Max Kantzer

John Willis

### Education

Jill Randell\*

Toni Robinson

### Judges

Cat Simmons\*

Mark McDonough

Guillermo Olaizola

R. Pamboukian

Sarah H. Salomon

Mark Segal

### Membership

Toni Robinson\*

Steve Frahm

Guillermo Olaizola

Don Tobin

Cherry Wyman

### MAPV

John Norvell\*

Robert Barkin

### Field Trips

James Corbett\*

Beth Altman

George Corbin

Kurt Focke

Kevin Gebo

Thomas Gross

Pauline Jaffe

Julia Malone

Dick Pelroy

Jack Rosenberg

Tara Ryan

Paul Schmitz

Jeffrey Taksey

Jim Turner

### Exhibitions

Lester LaForce\*

Sarah H. Salomon

John Willis

### Programs

Tammy Trocki\*

Judy Ackerman

Evelyn Jacob

Kent Mason

Toni Robinson

Jack Rosenberg

David Terao

### MPA

Carol Lee\*

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## SPECIAL COMMITTEES

### Community Outreach

*Phabulous*

*Photographers*

Joel Hoffman\*

*Montgomery County*

*High School*

*Photography Program*

Kent Mason\*

*Focus on Climate*

Roy Sewall\*

### Equipment

Max Kantzer\*

David Davidson

Mark Leatherman

Mark McDonough

Nikos Zacharakis

### Hospitality

Riko Saidel\*

Geri Millman

Bill Seelig

Terry Van Houten

### Photo Essay

Stu Mathison\*

José Cartas

Mark Segal

John Willis

Nancy Wolejsza

### Hybrid Zoom

#### Meetings

Max Kantzer\*

Steve Lapidus

Allen Neyman

Jill Randell

Tammy Trocki

### Competition

#### Submissions

Cherry Wyman\*

John Allender

James Corbett

Shelley Price

### Anonymous Gift

Kathryn Mohrman\*

Melissa Clark

James Corbett

Joel Hoffman

Kent Mason

Sarah H. Salomon

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## OTHER APPOINTMENTS

### Lens & Eye

Cherry Wyman\*

Janice Solomon

### Facebook Group

#### Administrator

Toni Robinson

### Database

#### Administrator

Bruce Cyr

### Asbury Liaison

Rich Chitty

### Share & Care Representative

Pauline Jaffe

### GordieGram Administrator

Toni Robinson

### Google Chat Group Administrator

Bruce Cyr

### Dinner Reservations

Kay Norvell

### PSA Representative

Judy Burr

### Church Liaison

Rich Chitty

### Website

John Allender\*

Rich Chitty

Shelley Price

Cherry Wyman