

Thousand Oaks Photo Group Digital Composition Challenge Rules

(Revised March 28, 2020)

Revision Summary: Changed digital image submission deadline time to 10:00 PM (previously 12:00 AM). The due date remains the same, the immediate Wednesday before the club meeting.

Highlights:

- *Digital images are due no later than the immediate Wednesday before the club meeting at 10:00 PM.*
- *Send digital images to PhotoEntries@tophotogroup.org*
- *Digital images must be no larger than 1400 pixels wide and 1280 pixels tall.*
- *Be sure to follow file naming requirements exactly.*

Details:

The Digital Composition Challenge is held bi-monthly on the opposite months of the Print Contest.

The purpose of the Digital Composition Challenge is to help members learn how to take better images by understanding and using the important elements of good composition in their images.

To learn more about composition, see the tutorials on Composition posted on the Resources page of the website: <http://tophotogroup.org/Resources.html>

- 1. Basic Image Submission Requirements** - All images must be taken with a digital camera, submitted as digital images. All images must be submitted no later than 10:00 PM on the immediate Wednesday before the club meeting (typically a Monday).
- 2. Members Only** - Only paid-up members of the T.O. Photo Group may enter the Digital Composition Challenge.
- 3. Subject** - There is no assigned subject for this category, only the assigned composition theme.
- 4. Themes** - Images must utilize the monthly Composition guideline or theme. See the club website for information on the composition theme for the next Challenge.
- 5. Number of Images** - Each Photo Group member may enter up to 2 images per Challenge.
- 6. Editing** - There is no limit on editing or using computer software to enhance or modify the image.

- 7. Date of Image** - There is no limit on when the image was taken. You may use an image from your archive. However, members are encouraged to take images specifically for the Digital Composition Challenge in order to enhance their learning.
- 8. Images** – To be included in the challenge, all images for the Digital Composition Challenge must be submitted no later than 10:00 PM on the immediate Wednesday before the club meeting (typically a Monday to PhotoEntries@tophotogroup.org
 - A. Size** - All images must be resized to a maximum size of 1400 pixels horizontal by 1280 pixels vertical (neither dimension may exceed those maximums). Only JPG files (sRGB) are acceptable.
 - B. Rename** - All images must have the file name renamed to include the photographer's full name and then the image name. Place the number 1 or number 2 after your name to indicate the primary and secondary image you wish to have critiqued (in case of time constraints). For example, *Jeanie Smith 1_Desert Dunes.jpg*. Do not use ALL CAPS; Do use spaces and an underscore for readability and legibility.
 - C. Sending Your Images** – Send digital images to the following email address: PhotoEntries@tophotogroup.org. An email will be sent to confirm receipt of your images(s) or to notify you if corrections are needed in the sizing or naming of your digital file. If you do not receive a confirmatory email, presume that your images(s) were not received and contact the club for assistance. Enter early to be sure you have time to get your images entered with the correct naming conventions.
 - D. More Info** - For detailed instructions on how to prepare your images for submission, see the article entitled, *Resizing Your Images for Contests* on the TO Photo Group website on the *Photo Group Contests & Challenges* page.
- 9. Eligibility** - Images not following these rules will be disqualified and ineligible for that month's Digital Composition Challenge. The decision of the elected leadership of the Photo Group regarding eligibility of images will be final.
- 10. Critiquing** - Images will be critiqued anonymously by a professional photographer. Images will be evaluated based on their use of the composition theme and overall impact as well as their artistic and technical merit and creativity.
 - The judge will grade images per club's image scoring system and names of authors of images with score 8 or 9 will be announced.
- 11. Use of Images** - Generally members' names are announced at the club meeting only when they win a Judge's Merit Award during the critiquing.

Any image entered in a club contest may be published in the club newsletter or on the club website.