



Focusing on...

Brook Hill Photography Club – Kids with Cameras

by Drew Jackson

A while ago I saw an exhibit of photography at the Sonoma County Office of Education from high school students called “Pictures from the Hood”. The whole exhibit was images taken in homes by mostly Hispanic students. The exhibit gave a glimpse into the lives of the students, and families, that operate on the economic fringe of our society. The images themselves were moving and original with a sense of grittiness. They were powerful because they showed a slice of life that few of us ever get the chance to see first hand. I remember thinking to myself at that time . . . elementary school kids could do this. Little did I know that ten years later I would get the chance to prove my theory.

This past year was the first year for the Brook Hill Photography Club. A generous donation from SRPS made it all possible. I started the new school year last August with a plan in hand to offer a photography club to the students at my school. I had no idea how it was going to work, but I had the funding and the energy to make it happen. Now I just needed to do it.

The plan was to purchase digital cameras and put them into the hands of ten to twelve year old students and see what happens. I was excited by the possibilities, but there were many details yet to be worked out – not the least of which was how to get members.

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~ CALENDAR ~

JULY

- 4 Electronic entries due**
- 10 Dinner with the Judge 5:30pm**
Monthly Competition 7:00pm
- 24 Program: Print Salon 7:00pm**
- 25 Newsletter items to Sheri**

AUGUST

- 8 Electronic entries due**
- 14 Dinner with the Judge 5:30pm**
Monthly Competition 7:00pm
- 25 Newsletter items to Sheri**
- 28 Program: Equipment 7:00pm**

SEPTEMBER

- 2 Board Meeting 7:00pm**
- 5 Electronic entries due**
- 11 Dinner with the Judge 5:30pm**
Monthly Competition 7:00pm
- 25 Program: Jerry Meshulam**
Master’s Presentation 7:00pm
- 26 Newsletter items to Sheri**

~ EXHIBITIONS AND ONGOING CALLS TO ARTISTS ~

EXHIBITIONS, ETC.

Advance alert for Harvest Fair

Exhibitor guidebook and deadlines available August 1 at this website:

http://www.sonomacountyfair.com/hf_howtoenter.php

Deadline: July 17

Roseville Arts, Roseville, CA, juried open show, September 6-October 10. Cash prizes (\$1000, 500, 100, 50); work must have been produced within last two years. Entry fee \$15 per image, up to five. Application at

<http://newsdeadline.com/05-08/07-30-08rose.pdf>

Deadline August 10

Digital creative image competition, "Imagination on Behalf of Our Planet," in which images must be altered digitally. Exhibit at New York Hall of Science, October 4-January 25. Details at:

<http://www.asci.org/index2.php?artikel=981>

Deadline August 22

Sebastopol Center for the Arts is reviewing applications for shows in 2009 in its Gallery II. Application for at

<http://www.sebarts.org/visual/pdf/GIIProspectus2009.pdf>

General information at

<http://www.sebarts.org/index.htm> - go to Visual Arts, then Gallery II.

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I decided the fairest way would be to have students interested in participating tell me why they were interested. I sent out bulletins to all 4th, 5th, and 6th grade classrooms explaining the club and offering the students a deadline for submission of essays explaining why they should be considered. In one week I had thirty-five essays for what I figured would be ten open positions.

Over the course of this past school year two different groups of students (twelve total) met twice per week after school as members of the Brook Hill Photography Club. They learned how to operate the Canon 560 digital camera, how to compose and take images, how to discuss images, and how to use Picassa software to edit their work. These students took over six thousand images, had their own twenty piece show at the Sonoma County Office of Education, managed to sweep all the awards at the 2008 Sonoma County Ag Fair, and had the first art show ever done at Brook Hill Elementary School during Open House. I couldn't have been prouder of all they learned in just thirty or so meetings.

Thank you SRPS for making this club possible. You have helped create an artistic program that has excited many at our school. Many students have already told me they are looking forward to "making it" into the club this next year and I am already working on ideas to make it better.

(See images on Page 5)

ONGOING CALLS TO ARTISTS

Santa Rosa Recreation and Parks

Department: Exhibits at Finley and Steele Lane Community Centers and City Hall. To apply, go to Finley Community Center, 2060 West College Avenue, Santa Rosa, to pick up an application. Community Center hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 am - 7:00 pm and on Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. For further information, call 707-543-4512; contact is Tara Matheny-Schuster, email tmatheny_schuster@srcity.org

The Atrium Gallery at Marin General Hospital mounts four shows a year of "healing art." The gallery is looking for local artists for future shows. Previous artists have included Ernest Braun. Send slides and SASE to Wende Heath, Institute for Health and Healing, PO Box 8010, San Rafael, CA 94912.

Open deadline: SHOWCASE 2008. Plaza

Arts Center is now taking applications for the Showcase 2008 season. Showcase exhibits are juried and run for a period of four weeks - including weekends, a reception and promotional postcards. Each artist is allocated 8 linear feet of display space except for the January Showcase which allocates 12 linear feet. All media are considered. The fee is \$125 for a 4-week event. Showcase guidelines at: <http://www.plazaartscenter.org/artistShowcaseGuidelines.htm>

~MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION~

SPRS WEBSITE

<http://www.santarosaphotographicsociety.org/index.html>

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION AND CORRECTIONS:

Contact Sheri Prager, Editor, The Positive Print
See SRPS roster for email address

Print Salon July 24, 2008, 7:00 pm

Salon Format: A three member panel will discuss each of the prints submitted. The panelists will be Tanya Amochaev, Jim Thomason and Chuck Honek. Chuck is a past member of SRPS and has recently judged at club competitions. Jon Frieseke will be moderator and will encourage audience comments and questions. Members must be present to have their images discussed.

Salon Content: Prints may be of any subject and either color or B&W. Sixteen prints will be reviewed during the course of the Salon. Each print must be matted or framed and have a minimum print dimension (height or width) of five inches and a minimum print area of fifty square inches. Each entry will be assigned a number and it is the photographer's responsibility to make sure that a label, tape, Post-it, etc, with that number is clearly visible at the lower right corner of the submission. The photographer will place her/his entry on the side table before the Salon starts.

Print Submission: To submit a print for this Salon send an email to alwitt@comcast.net with the subject line July Print Salon, and with the body of the email containing the print title, print size, and member name. For example: Grape Harvest - 8x10 - Ned Nikon. The first sixteen entries will be accepted and each photographer will be notified of the assigned number by email. Entries must be received no later than midnight Friday, July 17.

If fewer than sixteen members submit a print, two prints will be accepted from members until a total of sixteen prints have been accepted. Second prints will be accepted in the order received after all single entries have been processed. Information about a print to be considered as a second entry should be put in the body of the email and clearly identified as Second Entry.

MAY COMPETITION RESULTS

GENERAL

Level B

1 st Aluminum Pots	Joe Ray
2 nd Ladies Man	Steve Lowry
3 rd Lassen Reflections	TJ Mills

Level A

1 st Penn Cove Early Morning	Bob Alwitt
2 nd Almost Dawn	Marcia Hart
3 rd XXX	

Level AA

1 st Twisted Leaf	Sheri Prager
2 nd Polka Dots	Liz Lawson
3 rd Young Egret on Leaf	Joe Simons

Level M

1 st Carrot Bloom	Howard Bruensteiner
2 nd Babe	Kay Damgaard
3 rd Clearing Spring Storm, Yosemite	Jerry Meshulam

CREATIVE

Level B

1 st Amorosa, Look Out!	Jim Oswald
2 nd Sea and Sky	Phillip Hann
3 rd Oak #34	Lucy Aron

Level A

1 st XXX	
2 nd XXX	
3 rd XXX	

Level AA

1 st Deeply Rooted	Linda Caldwell
2 nd XXX	
3 rd XXX	

Level M

1 st Forces at Rest, Egret and Moon	Diane Miller
2 nd In Morning Light	Marilyn Brooner
3 rd Heart	Kay Damgaard

NATURE

Level B

1 st Anenome	Kevin O'Connor
2 nd Hawk Hunt	Shirley Bowersmith
3 rd Dragonfly	Harold Moore

Level A

1 st XXX	
2 nd XXX	
3 rd XXX	

Level AA

1 st January Sunset	David Wallace
2 nd Painted Hills, Oregon	Bobbi Chamberlain
3 rd XXX	

Level M

1 st XXX	
2 nd XXX	
3 rd XXX	



2007 End of Year Winners A—Nature

**"BUZZARDS VYING FOR THE KILL"
BY JOE SIMONS**



Brook Hill Photography Club

(Continued from page 2)



The camera — Canon 560



The Lab Field Trip



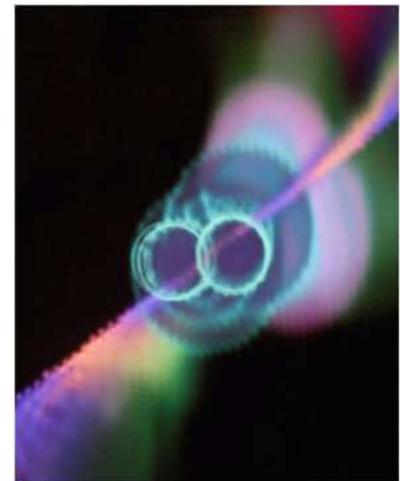
Baretta Dairy Field Trip



El Pajaro - Nathanael



Folds - Samuel



Neon Bee - Samuel



Grassy Keys - Shane



Sonoma County Office of Education



Outrageous - Natasha Candel



Brook Hill Elementary School
1850 Vallejo Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
(707) 522-3120

Donations gratefully accepted to support the Brook Hill Photography Club. You can make cash donations directly to the school (make a notation on the check that the money is for the Brook Hill Photography Club) or you can donate supplies.

Supplies we will be looking for:

- photographic paper
- ink cartridges

Cash donations will be used for things like:

- \$10 will purchase photographic paper at a discounted price.
- \$15 will purchase replacement screen protectors
- \$20 will purchase two sets of rechargeable batteries
- \$50 will purchase a print and matt for a gallery image

You can make cash donations or deliver supplies directly to the school or contact:

Drew Jackson
H: (707) 838-7097
djackson@sonic.net

Thanks again for your support of this art program.

~ 2009 SRPS CALENDAR ~

A reminder about calendar images for the 2009 SRPS calendar that we produce jointly with AJ Printing & Graphics. This year's theme for the calendar is "the urban landscape." (The AJ folks chose that theme because the last few years have shown so many landscape and vineyard shots, and they'd like a bit of a new look this year.)

Please interpret "urban landscape" as you choose and concentrate your photo locations in the Bay Area.

The deadline for prints (format below) is Thursday, July 10, the first meeting in July. This is a bit later than other years to allow some more time for shooting. I'll work with Dan and Greg at AJ to get the calendars completed as early in October as possible.

Format for images: the AJ staff pick the images from prints we submit. The ultimate file, if chosen, should be horizontal, 300 dpi saved as a TIFF to get the highest quality. Size for final files must be 9 by 12 inches at 300 dpi.

BUT... for the prints you submit, you can make the print in that same ratio (3:4, horizontal only) in a smaller size to fit on 8 1/2 by 11-inch paper. In other words, you can size the image at 7 1/2 by 10 inches and print it on regular size paper. (Images not in the 3:4 horizontal ratio will be cropped if the AJ folks want to use them.)

Suggestion: your prints will look best on a photo-quality paper.

Please look through your images and also get out and shoot some urban landscapes! And print them to hand to me at the July 10th meeting (or contact me to arrange for getting them to me if you can't attend that meeting). Thanks! - Jeremy

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