

THE GRAND RAPIDS CAMERA CLUB

The Grand Rapids Camera Club is the oldest camera club in the United States in continuous and uninterrupted existence. It was organized in 1898 as an outgrowth of the Valley City Photographic Society.

The 1st meetings were held in the old Auditorium Building, which was located at the corner of Fountain Street and Ionia Avenue. The club has met at many different sites since then, including the Art Gallery and the Public Museum.

Club members held their first exhibition in the spring of 1899. Subsequent salons were held at the art gallery, public museum, The Ryerson Library, bank lobbies, photographic studios, galleries, camera stores, shopping malls, hotel lobbies and many other more obscure places.

The club is an active member of the Southwestern Michigan Council of Camera Clubs (SWMCCC), which sponsors an annual photography school and two competitions each year.

The continued success of the Grand Rapids Camera Club lies in its many unique facets. With the growing popularity of digital photography in the 21st century, the GRCC serves the needs of photographers whose interest lies in digital reproduction, or in traditional photography. Our members offer a wealth of information, many of them internationally and locally recognized photographers.

THE GRAND RAPIDS CAMERA CLUB MONTHLY PHOTO COMPETITION Established 1965/Revised 2007

The Grand Rapids Camera Club's slide, digital and print competitions are meant to provide the photographic experience and stimulation necessary to raise an individual above the "point and shoot" stage to that of a qualified and creative photographer.

Participating members find that the unprejudiced judging of their work is very helpful in making them see good pictures. In addition, they view the pictures that are selected as the best and can discern for themselves what makes those pictures good. Club competitions have been credited for being the best training for photographers. Club competitions are also the showplace for your work, the results of many hours of making images.

A photographer does not take pictures for just his or her own viewing, but to show others how he sees the world. It expresses his ideas and emotions as an individual.

THE CLUB HOLDS MONTHLY JUDGINGS IN THREE DIVISIONS:

- ◆ Slide
- ◆ Digital
- ◆ Print

EACH DIVISION HAS 6 CATEGORIES:

- ◆ (A) Assigned subject
- ◆ (C) Creative
- ◆ (J) Photojournalism
- ◆ (N) Nature
- ◆ (O) Open
- ◆ (P) Portrait

I. LIMITS ON THE NUMBER OF ENTRIES

A TOTAL OF FOUR (4) ENTRIES ARE ALLOWED IN EACH DIVISION – SLIDES, DIGITAL AND PRINTS.

3	Entries in any combination in Creative, Open, Nature, Portrait or Photojournalism.
1	Entry in the assigned category.
4	Entries total.

One digital image, slide or print *per entry* is allowed in the assigned, creative, open, portrait and nature categories. A sequence of up to four (4) images is allowed in the photojournalism category and can be submitted as one entry.

A member may enter in any or all of the above divisions. If all three divisions are entered following the afore-mentioned rules, a total of 12 entries may be allowed provided that one (1) in each division is entered in the assigned category.

II. CATEGORY DEFINITIONS AND CONDITIONS

a) **ASSIGNED:** The Grand Rapids Camera Club board selects a subject for each month of the competition year as the “assigned” subject. The assigned category is designed to challenge your photographic skills and to encourage you to photograph images that you may not have normally. Give a lot of thought to them. Be creative. The applicable subject may be one or many, but remember that the subject must be the dominant feature. If entering 4 images in a division, one (1) of them **MUST** be of the assigned subject. Only 3 images may be entered if choosing not to enter an assigned subject. All possible digital manipulations are permitted unless the assigned subject specifically calls for the image to be captured and submitted as a nature or photojournalism image within the assigned category.

b) **PHOTOJOURNALISM:** This type of picture or series of pictures tells or illustrates a story, such as those used in the news media and periodicals. This includes subject matter such as spot news, contemporary life, human interest, sporting events, documentaries etc. Any technique or digital manipulation that tends to deprive the picture of the spontaneity should be avoided.

c) **NATURE:** Any image that is presented in a manner that does **NOT** depict the influence of human habitation (the hand of man). This cate-

gory includes such subjects as botany, zoology, geology, archaeology, etc. Subjects that do **NOT** qualify include domestic animals, horticultural varieties of plants or hybrid plants. Enhancement of digital images should not call into question the integrity of an image. Visibly manipulated and creative images must be entered in the “Open” category.

d) **OPEN:** All images, regardless of the subject matter or technique are eligible in the open category, sometimes referred to “Pictorial” Category. All manipulations are permitted in this category.

e) **PORTRAITURE:** This category is for human portraiture. Any photograph of a male or female, regardless of age, could be considered. Although it would usually be a head and shoulders or an above the waist photograph, the entire human form can be included. The definition of portrait in the dictionary is “A likeness of an individual, especially the face”.

f) **CREATIVE:** The creative category is for manipulated and enhanced images and those where the makers creativity comes into view in the final image. These entries may depict the makers interpretation of any subject or style. Although there are not any exclusions from this category, images entered should be unique and different, perhaps out of the ordinary.

THE GRAND RAPIDS CAMERA CLUB
Promoting the art of photography and digital
imaging through programs, workshops,
seminars and competition.

III. SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES FOR COMPETITION

a) **ENTRY FORMS:** Slides and prints must be accompanied by a 2 x 2 inch entry form. In addition, a monthly competition form must be completed listing all slide, digital and print entries. These forms are available at the meetings. All rules in section II applying to the division you are entering and rules applying to titles must be followed to avoid possible disqualification. All submissions must have the same title on the entry, the Competition Entry Form and the 2 X 2 individual entry form.

b) **DIGITAL IMAGES:** Digital entries are to be submitted by e-mail according to the guidelines as defined on page eight. No entry forms are *required* for digital images, however, it is helpful if the titles are included on the Competition Entry Form in case it becomes necessary to verify your entries.

c) **TITLES:** The titles must be unique for each image entered and is limited to 28 characters, including spaces. The same EXACT title must be used on the entry and on all paperwork involved. A digital image, a slide and a print of the same image must share the same title. Each slide, print or digital image entered in competition must be able to be identified by title and therefore CAN-NOT have the SAME title as any entry entered by the same maker previously. Doing so may result in the entry being disqualified. If the maker cannot think of another title of an image of the same or similar subject, numbers are allowed, for instance, "Rose #3" or "Balloon #4" etc.

d) **RE-ENTRIES:** Once a a projected image or print is accepted or accepted with honors, it cannot be entered in GRCC monthly competition again. Only non-accepted and disqualified entries may be re-entered at a future judging.

IV. MONTHLY COMPETITION AND JUDGING

a) **COMPETITION CHAIRPERSON:** The monthly judging and the judges are the responsibility of the Competition Chairperson. The Board appoints this position for a two-year term and he or she becomes a non-voting member of the board, if not a board member through normal selection.

b) **JUDGING:** Judging will be held at the general meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of each month, except February, July and August. All slides and prints must be submitted by 7:10 PM Digital images must be sent by e-mail and reach the digital coordinator before the deadline listed in the monthly bulletin.

c) **JUDGES:** Judging will be done by 3 club members who have each attained a minimum of 600 merit points, at least 20 honors in club competition and has been appointed by the Competition Chairperson. A different set of judges will be chosen for each competition month along with an alternate if he/she cannot judge his assigned

month. If a judge cannot be in attendance the alternate shall judge.

d) **SCORING:** Scoring shall be accomplished on a point system using a scoring machine that shows the points of the three judges and the sum of the judges' score. Each judge shall use a vote spread of 1 to 5 points. The sum of the judges' score shall be used to rank the entry. If there is more than a 2 point difference between any two judges, the scorer will ask that the image be re-judged and the resulting score will replace the original. The point system is as follows: 3-6 not accepted; 7-11 accepted; 12-14 honor; 15 top honor. Scores will be recorded by the score keepers on the 2 x 2 entry form or on the digital scoring form.

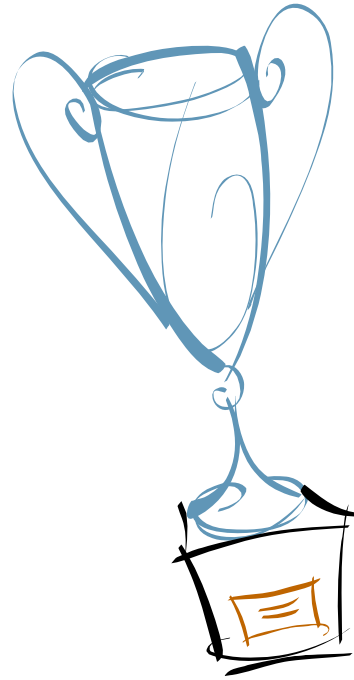
e) **TITLES:** Titles shall be read *before* the picture is judged, as the maker's creativity in choosing a title is part of his/her overall presentation. After it is judged, the maker's name and score shall be read.

V. AWARDS

a) **MERIT POINTS:** Merit points are earned for acceptances and honors in Grand Rapids Camera Club competition and SWMCCC competition. Members are credited with the score given to their entries by the judges at the monthly meetings. Members are also credited with points earned by entering SWMCCC competitions. (see page 13 and below) These totals will be added to the members' total accumulated merit points. Merit points continue to accumulate as long as he/she is a dues paying member of the GRCC.

b) **YEAR TO DATE SCORES:** In addition to the member's total lifetime merit points, the scores earned in the current calendar year are calculated for each division and as a whole for purposes of determining the photographer of the year and division award winners.

c) **AWARD SYSTEM:** The Recognition Award System is a method of recognizing the acquired talent and skills of each photographer. As merit points are accumulated over the years of membership, the following awards are presented:



SCORE	AWARD
3— 6	Not Accepted
7—11	Accepted
12—14	Honor
15	Top Honor

MERIT POINTS	SWMCCC
6	Entry
9	Accepted
12	Honor
13	3rd Place
14	2nd Place
15	1st Place

MERIT POINTS	AWARD
200	Certificate of Excellence
600	Masters Award
1500	Senior Masters Award
3000	Grand Masters Award
5000	Star Masters Award
7000	Diamond Masters Award
10,000	First Galaxy Award
14,000	Second Galaxy Award
19,000	Third Galaxy Award
25,000	Diamond Galaxy Award

PRINT ENTRY GUIDELINES

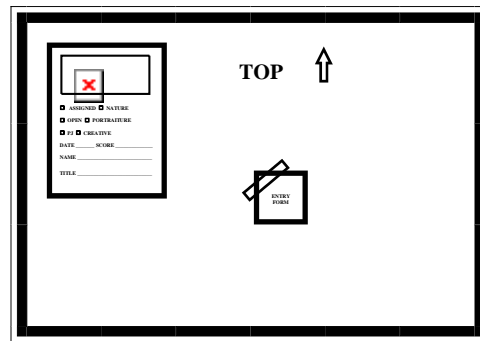
Color and black and white prints must be of images taken by the submitter. Commercially or otherwise prepared images are allowed in the monthly competition, as well as prints made on the computer. All prints must be mounted on 16 x 20 inch or smaller mounts. For PJ sequences, the full sequence must be mounted on one mount, with the maker's name, entry title and category on the center upper back. The top of the print shall be indicated. Entries may be mounted, but may not be framed.

A monthly competition form and entry form must accompany the print. Prints will be judged in a light box to provide equal illumination for each entry. Both color prints and black and white prints will be judged together. The prints will be separated by size of the image and judged accordingly. No more than 4 may be entered in the print division. When entering 4, one must be in the assigned category, but not more than one.

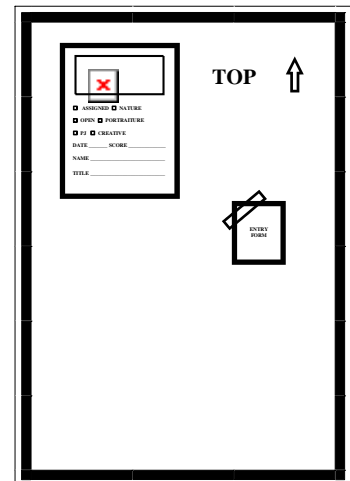
GRICC
Grand Rapids Camera Club
ESTABLISHED 1998
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN, USA

ASSIGNED NATURE
 OPEN PORTRAITURE
 PJ CREATIVE

DATE _____ SCORE _____
NAME _____
TITLE _____



**THE BACK OF YOUR PRINT
SHOULD LOOK LIKE THIS**



PRINT LABEL

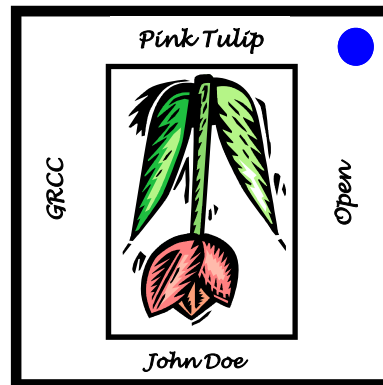
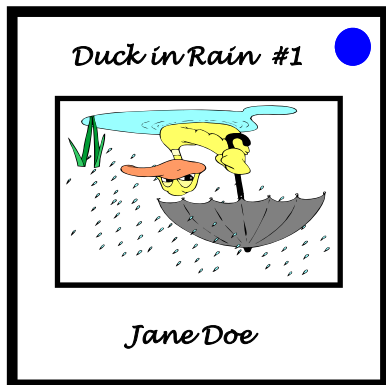
- Securely attach a completed print label to the upper left back of your print.
- Label the top of your print.
- Print entries must be accompanied by a monthly competition form and a 2 X 2 inch entry form.
- Attach the entry form to the back of the print for easy removal.

SLIDE ENTRY GUIDELINES

All slides must be mounted in 2 x 2 inch mounts and be able to be projected in carousel type projector trays. Cardboard, plastic or thin glass mounts (such as Gepe Mounts) are acceptable. All the slides in a category will be judged together with the projection screen as far as possible from the judges to lessen the impact of larger images. A “thumb spot” must be placed in the upper right corner, to indicate it’s correct orientation. With the slide *upside down* mark the thumb spot in the upper right corner. The title must be placed across the top of the slide, to the left of the thumb spot. The maker’s name also must be written on the slide. (see example).

Complete a 2 x 2 entry form for each slide or print entered. Photojournalism slides may be up to 4 images. Only one entry form is required for multiple images in the photojournalism category.. After PJ – write the quantity, (maximum of 4). On the evening of the competition, stack your slides and individual entry forms in the appropriate area on the preparation table.

Slides will be placed in the tray in a manner that prevents slides of the same maker running consecutively whenever practical. Your name, title and thumb spot must appear on all slides. No more than 4 may be entered in the slide division. When entering 4, one must be in the assigned category, but not more than one.



- When viewing the slide the way you wish it to show on the screen, turn the slide upside down.
- In that position, put the thumb spot in the upper right-hand corner.
- Across the top, next to the thumb spot, print the title of the slide.
- Print your name on the slide.
- Print the category and the name of our club on the slide.
- Slide entries must be accompanied by a Monthly Competition Form.
- Each slide must be accompanied by a 2 x 2 inch entry form.

DIGITAL ENTRY GUIDELINES



- Open the image in Photoshop or Photoshop Elements.
- Select “Image Size” and uncheck “Resample image”.
- Change the resolution to 72 pixels/inch.
- Check “Resample image”. Resize the image to fit the maximum dimensions allowed by the LCD projector (1024 x 768 pixels), as shown below.
- **LANDSCAPE**: Change the width to 1024 pixels. Click OK
- **PORTRAIT**: Change the height to 768 pixels. Click OK.
- When saving, select jpeg quality level of 12 if you have an internet broadband connection (cable or DSL). If you have a slower dial-up phone modem, select a quality level of 8 to avoid long transmission times. All images submitted for competition must be saved in jpeg format (.jpg)
- Send images individually as email attachments to the competition coordinator.
- The image file name should contain the following information in the following order: A capital letter for the category code; an underscore (_); the image title (use underscores between words); your name (use your first initial and last name)

EXAMPLE OF A CORRECTLY SUBMITTED IMAGE FILE NAME: N_Wildflower#1_Jdoe.jpg

CATEGORY CODES: (A) Assigned; (C) Creative; (J) Photojournalism; (N) Nature; (O) Open; (P) Portraiture.

MANIPULATION OF DIGITAL IMAGES

- 1) Manipulation is defined as any substantial change made to an image after that image has been captured within a camera.
- 2) Minor manipulation of an image, such as cropping, color corrections, exposure compensation, conversion of RAW digital images, use of digital filters and other minor changes are NOT considered manipulations under the definitions and regulations presented by the Grand Rapids Camera Club.
- 3) The use of clip art or any other image component or element (not created by the photographer) cannot be added to an image. This rule can be suspended for assigned subjects which specifically allow their use.
- 4) The use of Photoshop Plug-ins, filters, textures, designs and other tools provided in editing programs are permitted.
- 5) Manipulation of an image must be performed by the photographer who created the image.
- 6) In the Creative, Portrait and Open categories all possible manipulations are permitted.
- 7) Judges may disqualify any image in the Photojournalism and Nature categories for obvious and substantial manipulations that call into question the integrity of the image.

THE GRAND RAPIDS CAMERA CLUB

YEAR-END PHOTO COMPETITION

Established 1965/Revised 2007

The Grand Rapids Camera Club holds its year-end photo competition the last Saturday in January. Contrary to the monthly judging, the year-end competition gives members the opportunity to enter slide, print and digital images to compete with one another for 1st, 2nd, and third place, honorable mention and other special awards. The awards are presented at the annual banquet which is held the 3rd Wednesday in February.

I. ELIGIBILITY

Accepted and honor images of the preceding competition year (January through December) are eligible in the Year-end Competition.

a) ENTRIES: Entries must be entered in the same category as the one in which they were accepted during the monthly competition, except the assigned subjects. An image entered in the assigned category shall be entered in the appropriate category: Creative, Nature, Open, Portraiture or Photojournalism. An assigned entry being placed in the nature category must conform to all the rules governing nature entries. Members shall designate what category they wish their assigned images to be entered in. If a member does not specify a preference, assigned images will be automatically entered in the open category.

b) DEADLINES: Slides and prints must be submitted by the deadline determined by the competition coordinator and the board in order to be eligible. A maker must notify the digital coordinator of the intention to enter his/her images in the competition by the date mentioned above. *Digital images will not automatically be entered in year-end competition.*

c) LIMITS: The number of entries allowed in each category will be determined by the competition chairman and the board on a yearly basis. You will be notified of such prior to the competition entry deadlines, when necessary.

II. COMPETITION CLASS

There are two classes in the Open and Nature categories for slides and digital and one class each in the Photojournalism, Portraiture and Creative categories. All divisions and all categories are eligible for trophies, certificates and ribbons mentioned below. Classes will be divided as follows:

At the close of the competition year, the competition chairperson prepares a list (without names) showing the average scores in each category (Nature or Open) for each competitor. The board then determines a division point between Class A and Star Class based on the grouping of the average scores, allowing a minimum average score of 6 and a maximum average score of 15 in each category. A member must have entered a minimum of 6 nature images, and a minimum of 12 combined open and assigned images to be eligible for star class. All members will compete as one class in the Creative, Portraiture and Photojournalism categories.



CLASS A: Those members whose average score falls below the decided division point will compete in Class A.



STAR CLASS: Those members whose average score falls above the decided division point will compete in Star Class and receive a certificate.

III. EXCEPTIONS

The following exceptions will apply when necessary:

a) **PHOTOJOURNALISM/CREATIVE:** If there are insufficient entries, photojournalism and creative entries may be combined with open entries. A minimum of four entrants is required for a separate competition to be held. Rules for open judging apply.

b) **OPEN/NATURE PRINTS:** Open, creative and nature prints may be combined if there are

insufficient entries in those categories. A minimum of four entrants is required for a separate competition to be held. Rules for open judging apply.

c) **CLASSES:** If there is not a minimum of four (4) entrants in any one category that qualify to compete in Star Class or Class A, the two classes will be combined and will compete as Class A

IV. JUDGES

Three judges from outside current club membership are selected by the board, or a committee appointed by the board. Members of other camera clubs or photographers of reputation may be considered for judging the year-end competition as long as they or a member of their immediate family, has not been a member of the GRCC for two years prior to the competition.

V. AWARDS

Awards for winners of year end competitions are the trophies, ribbons and certificates presented at the year-end awards banquet. Members will be asked in advance to specify their preference to receive a certificate or a trophy. Awards will be presented in accordance with those preferences, or as specified by the board if necessary. Ribbons are awarded to all honorable mention winners.

a) **PLACE AWARDS:** At least four (4) entrants in each category are required for a first place award and a competition to be held. A minimum of six (6) entrants in a category are required to award both 2nd and 1st place. After the elimination to honorable mentions, at least three (3) entrants must remain. A minimum of eight (8) entrants in a category is required to award 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. After the elimination to honorable mentions, at least four (4) entrants must remain.

b) **LIMITATIONS:** An entrant may be awarded only one place in a category. When the judges have eliminated the entries down to the honorable mentions, 1st place is selected and the remaining entries by the 1st place entrant are automatically awarded Honorable mention and removed from further consideration. Once 2nd place is selected, the same action is taken to the balance of the entries of the 2nd place winner.

c) **DIVISION AWARDS:** Division winners will be determined by the total year-to-date scores. One award will be given to the top scorer in each division.

d) **PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR:** The Photographer of the year is the one individual who has attained the highest average score overall in all divisions. To be eligible he/she must have entered a minimum of forty (40) entries. The average score will be determined by dividing the sum of the scores by the number of entries. In the case of a tie, the Photographer of the Year will be determined by the board of directors. Criteria to be considered will be a members overall contributions to the club, participation in club activities, involvement in SWMCCC competitions, among other factors.

VI. PROCEDURES

a) TIME OF JUDGING: The judging shall be held in one day beginning at 9 a.m. and continuing until finished, with a one hour lunch break near the noon hour. The Grand Rapids Camera Club will provide lunch for the judges and judging workers.

b) MINIMUM WORKERS

- Competition Chairman to oversee the judging.
- Score-keeper to handle the judging machine.
- Projectionist to handle the projector and prints.
- Digital coordinator to operate computer and digital projector
- Entry handler to handle slides and prints and sort in/out results
- Record keeper to record honorable mentions and places.

c) JUDGING PROCEDURES: All entries shall be judged with an “in/out” system to reduce the number of entries to the honorable mention quantity. Each judge shall vote “in” or “out” on each entry. An entry is eliminated from further competition if at least two of the three judges vote “out”. The judges shall continue to go through complete rounds of entries until approximately 20% of the total entries is reached for honorable mention. If judges have a difficult time reducing the entries to 20%, the Grand Rapids Camera Club president or the competition chairman in the president’s absence, may extend the honorable mention percentage by 2% if he or she finds it necessary.

d) HONORABLE MENTION: Until the judges reach the honorable mention quantity, no talking is permitted by either the judges or the workers in the judging room other than what is necessary for carrying out the judging procedure. Judges may ask for focusing at any time.

e) PLACE RANKINGS: After the judges reach the honorable mention quantity, each judge will select the image he or she determines should be ranked first. At this time the images, up to three, will be displayed for the judges to view and then discuss, thus deciding on the first place print, slide or digital entry. The remaining honorable mention entries entered by the 1st place winner will be automatically awarded honorable mention ribbons and removed from further competition. This procedure is repeated for 2nd place, if it is to be awarded, unless judges have decided to award 2nd place to the remaining selected image from the 1st place round. Third place, if to be awarded, shall be selected in like manner after both the 1st and 2nd place maker’s images have been removed. All remaining images are awarded honorable mention ribbons. Judging will continue in this manner for all divisions and categories in the order mentioned in section (c) above until all winners have been selected. If there are no remaining images in the honorable mentions after a 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place winners entries are removed from further competition, entries may not be drawn from those previously eliminated. If this occurs, no place award will be given.

VII. ORDER OF JUDGING

PRINTS
<p> PORTRAIT PRINTS OPEN PRINTS NATURE PRINTS CREATIVE PRINTS </p>

SLIDES
<p> PHOTOJOURNALISM SLIDES PORTRAIT SLIDES CLASS A OPEN SLIDES STAR CLASS OPEN SLIDES CLASS A NATURE SLIDES STAR CLASS NATURE SLIDES </p>

DIGITAL
<p> PHOTOJOURNALISM DIGITAL PORTRAITS CLASS A OPEN STAR CLASS OPEN CLASS A NATURE STAR CLASS NATURE </p>

VIII. MINI PROGRAM COMPETITION

A mini-program is a program put together by a member consisting of a group of images most commonly applying to a particular theme. The program can be instructional, documentary or entertainment. The program may or may not contain music and can be either slide or digital. The mini program competition is held near the same time as the Year-end competition and the awards are presented to the recipients during the Awards Banquet.

a) LENGTH: A mini program *must* be at least 5 minutes in length and not more than 20 minutes. The number of images is up to the maker. A ten-minute program will average 100 images, with 90-135 being typical.

b) EQUIPMENT: The equipment used to present a program is limited to:

- Two (2) slide projectors
- A programmed or manual dissolve
- Two channel stereo sound system
- A digital program burned to a CD

A single projector and mono sound is permitted and encouraged. The GRCC has 2 projectors and a manual dissolve unit available to all members for use in putting together and presenting their program.

c) DIVISIONS: There will be no divisions when judging mini programs. Slide and digital programs will be judged as one division. One 1st 2nd and 3rd place winner will be chosen from all entries submitted.

d) JUDGING: The mini program judging is a semi-closed judging as the makers must attend to present their own programs. The results will be kept confidential with the exception of the 1st place winner, who will be asked to present his or her program at the awards banquet. If the 1st place winner is unable to attend, the 2nd place winner will be notified prior to the awards banquet and be asked to show his or her program instead. All participants mini-programs will be shown at a general meeting, during the competition year.

e) JUDGES: The board will select three judges from outside current club members. Members of other camera clubs or photographers of reputation may be considered for judging the mini-program competition as long as they or their immediate families are not current member of the GRCC. The judges are to consider photographic technique, story telling or instructional technique, interest and showmanship, titles, narration, music and programming technique in selecting the winners.

f) MERIT POINTS: Merit points will be awarded to the makers of mini programs and added to the members *total* merit points earned. Merit points will not be added to the member's year-to-date points. A maximum of two members may work on a program together. The merit points earned are split equally between them. Points are shown below.

g) LIMITATIONS: All competitors will be awarded at least Honorable Mention. At least 3 entrants are required to hold a competition and award a first place. Four (4) entrants are required for both 1st and 2nd place awards. Five (5) entrants are required to award 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

AWARD	MERIT POINTS
1st Place	50
2nd Place	40
3rd Place	30
Honorable Mention	20

SWMCCC

SOUTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF CAMERA CLUBS

THE SOUTHWESTERN MICHIGAN COUNCIL OF CAMERA CLUB'S (SWMCCC) purpose is the education and promotion of photography. The Council includes about 20 clubs in Michigan and Northern Indiana who have joined together for increased benefit to their members. Every member of a member club is a member of SWMCCC. (pronounced swimsee) Each club is represented by a club delegate. These delegates form the governing board of the Council and select the officers. The delegates and officers operate according to the constitution and by-laws.

COMPETITION: SWMCCC sponsors two competitions each year, Spring and Fall, each hosted by a different member club and held in their city. All Grand Rapids Camera Club members are eligible and encouraged to enter. At SWMCCC competitions you will be competing against members of other SWMCCC clubs for 1st 2nd and 3rd place awards, along with acceptances and honors in respective categories.

VOLUNTEERS: SWMCCC activities are planned and carried out by a host of volunteers. Many of them have served for many years and have held many positions. The executive board accepts nominations and determines which nominees deserve to be honored. The volunteers' contributions are recognized by awarding titles. ASWMCCC—Associate; FSWMCCC—Fellow; HSWMCCC—Honor.

ENTERING SWMCCC COMPETITION

CATEGORIES: Categories for entry are: Small Prints, Portrait Prints, Nature Prints, Open Prints; Monochrome prints (black & white); Portrait Slides, Open Slides; Nature Slides; Digital Portrait, Digital Open; Digital Nature.

ENTRIES: GRCC members may submit up to four entries in each category. There is a nominal charge of \$1 for each image. Entering in multiple categories provides greater opportunities for awards. Select the category for each entry to your advantage. A print 8 x 12 or smaller will likely

score better in the small print category than the other print categories, and a portrait will score better in the portrait category than in pictorial. The only paperwork you need to prepare is the SMCCC Entry Form, listing how many images you are entering and the total of your entry fees. Besides submitting your entries and entry fees, the only other requirement is to label your slides and prints according to GRCC procedures for proper identification. Digital entries can be e-mailed or brought the morning of competition on a CD or a flash drive.

THE GRAND RAPIDS CAMERA CLUB ENCOURAGES
SWMCCC COMPETITION AND AWARDS MERIT POINTS
FOR SWMCCC ENTRIES BY CLUB MEMBERS.

DEADLINES: Your entries can be brought directly to the competition, or dropped off to the SWMCCC delegate by the deadline for each conference. Information will be made available to you at the meetings, and will be listed in the GRCC newsletter, *The Lights & Shadows*. Complete rules and entering information will be published in the SWMCCC newsletter “*The Counsellor*” which is published twice a year and mailed to all club members. All GRCC members are members of SWMCCC, and eligible for SWMCCC competition.

JUDGING: SWMCCC selects three judges for each division chosen from SWMCCC clubs and from qualified professionals and photographers in the community. Judges will be listed in “*The Counsellor*”, and listed on SWMCCC’s web site (SWMCCC.org) previous to the competition. All entries shall be judged using an in/out system. An entry is eliminated from further competition if at least two of the three judges vote “out”. After several rounds of judging the judges will select a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place award from those images remaining. Those place awards are chosen from the highest scoring images. The remaining images will be awarded honors, and those eliminated in the previous round, acceptances.

AWARDS: A recorder maintains a record of accumulated points earned for acceptances and honors by each member. Medals are awarded to those who have accumulated scores to reach a bronze, silver or gold award level and are given at the conference awards banquet or at the individual club’s general meetings. Ribbons are

awarded to competitors whose entries receive acceptances or honors.

AWARD	POINTS EARNED
Bronze Medal	20
Silver Medal	50
Gold Medal	100
Inscribed Gold Medal	200—300

ADDITIONAL AWARDS: A competitor who receives four honors in any one division at a conference receives an “*Oscar*”, a *very prestigious award* to any that has received one!

The Grand Rapids Camera Club sponsors “*The Joe Timmer Award*” for the most creative slide in the open competition and presents “*The Joe Timmer Most Creative Digital Award*.” The late Joe Timmer was an exceptional and internationally known photographer that was a member of the Grand Rapids Camera Club for many years.

The River City Camera Club sponsors “*The Evelyn Zeek Award*” given to the maker of the best portrait slide as chosen by the judges. Evelyn Zeek was also internationally known and best recognized for her unique style of portrait photography.

The Association of Portrait Photographers offers an award for the best digital portrait.

In addition a “Most Creative” award is given in the categories of Small Prints, Monochrome prints, and General Prints.

SWMCCC SUMMER WEEKEND OF PHOTOGRAPHY:

Each July SWMCCC sponsors the Summer Weekend of Photography held in Holland, Michigan. It is one of the major photography activities in the Midwest and draws participants from all neighboring states and Canada. Photo opportunities, lectures, photography related entertainment and hospitality are offered during the three day weekend.



