

Pictured are some of the award-winning images from CCCC Competitions. Clockwise from top left: Ballerina by Fiona Keyes, 5pm Express by Jordan Cooper, Colors on the Move by Kayann Casssidy, Manhattan Skyline Dreams by Robert Kelly, Ebony and Ivory by Jim Wilson, A New Beginning by Carol DeGuiseppi, Yellow Tulip with Leaf by Anita Bower, Free as the Wind by Arvid Bloom, Trumpets by Stephanie Vacek, I'll Bloom Tomorrow, Resting Now by Valerie Dunn.

# **Welcome Packet**

# Welcome to the Chester County Camera Club A Community of Photographers

Enjoy learning and sharing photography in a collaborative, educational and fun atmosphere. The club welcomes and nurtures photographers of all levels – from beginner to professional.

Updated September 2020



#### Welcome

Thank you for joining the Chester County Camera Club. Whether you are a beginner or a highly proficient photographer, you will find many opportunities to grow your skills, share your photography, and enjoy the comradery of our community of enthusiastic photographers.

This Welcome Packet is intended to provide you with information about our club so that you can immediately enjoy the benefits of membership.

#### Club Schedule

Our club meeting year runs from September through the beginning of June. For the foreseeable future we will be conducting most meetings via Zoom.

- 1st Wednesday of the month Mentor Meeting. A presentation on a photography-related topic by a club member.
- 2nd Wednesday of the month Guest Speaker presentation.
- 3rd Wednesday of the month Mentor Meeting an opportunity for less-experienced members to ask questions and learn from more seasoned members.
- 4th Wednesday of the month Competition Night.

Guests are welcome to attend two meetings before joining. Meeting and event information is subject to change so be sure to check the posting under "Schedule" on the website: cccameraclub.org.

## **Major Club Events**

#### **Members Forum**

An opportunity for our members to share their passion and expertise with others. Select club members present on a wide variety of topics of interest to our membership.

#### **Monthly Presentations**

Special guest speakers present on their photographic specialty. Examples of some of the past topics included *Wabi-Sabi in Photography; The Art of Printing; Pinhole Photography; and Travel Photography.* Be sure to check the <u>website</u> for more information about the upcoming speakers and their topics.

#### **Mentor Meetings**

Whether you are new to photography or have some experience, we all face situations where it would be great to get advice from other photographers. The club offers a Mentorship Program to connect experienced photographers with less experienced ones. Whether you need help with a particular software program, your camera functions, artistic guidance or just understanding the process for competing each month, let us know your needs and we will connect you with a club photographer who has particular expertise in the area. Or if you are proficient in a specific area of photography, whether it's shooting or post-processing, and you'd like to be a mentor to newer photographers join this group as a Mentor.

#### **Club Outings**

A great way to improve your skills, experience new photographic locations, and meet new friends! The Chester County Camera Club offers a robust schedule of one to two outings per month. Some of the most recent outings included visits to The PA Renaissance Faire; Bethlehem Steel Stacks; Mount Moriah Cemetery; Railroad Museum of PA; and the Tattoo Convention. Club members are always willing to share their photo tips, and participants may post their images from each outing on the website gallery for all to enjoy. Check the "Schedule" tab on the website to stay informed of the upcoming photo opportunities.

#### Workshops

The club hosts several workshops each year, allowing members to get hands-on experience learning new skills and techniques. Check the schedule page of the website often as new events may be added during the year.

#### **Competitions**

Each month, the Chester County Camera Club invites a highly qualified guest judge for the monthly competition. Entering images in contests, especially when they are themed, give you a chance to test your skills, expand your creativity, obtain constructive feedback, and fine-tune your skills.

Club Members can enter up to three photos in any category to see how their images rank against the other submissions. The rules for submissions are on the website at cccamerclub.org under the heading "Club Information" then click on "Competition Rules".

#### **How to Enter:**

For complete instruction on how to upload and enter images into a competition, watch the ten-minute tutorial video on the website. Go to Help / Videos / Uploading Images to Competitions.

#### **Other Great Activities**

In addition to the programs listed, we also offer other programs including:

**Print Critique Group** – members who are passionate about printing meet periodically (virtually or in-person) on weekends to share their prints and receive constructive comments.

Holiday and Annual Awards Parties – These events are always highly attended and provide even more opportunities to meet and socialize with your club members. The Holiday Party is held in December and the Annual Awards Party Is held in June.

**Summer Challenge** – a low key way to stay active during the summer months, this challenge motivates members to keep creating images and sharing in a fun, group atmosphere.

### **Stay Informed! Club Information:**

#### **CCCC** Website

Check the Chester County Camera Club website (<u>cccameraclub.org</u>) regularly for scheduled event updates, gallery opportunities and news items. Members have access to all the features of this site, including galleries of photos from competitions and club outings. Links to many photo resources and learning opportunities are available.



BE SURE TO LOGIN EVERY TIME BECAUSE SOME INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE ONLY TO MEMBERS WHO HAVE LOGGED IN.

#### **CCCC Facebook page**

Search for Chester County Camera Club on Facebook and follow it. You will see regular updates about interesting speakers at club presentations, and become informed about upcoming outings. Be sure to share a comment or like a post to ensure new items will show up on your Facebook feed.

#### **CCCC Discussion Forums**

Members can hold online discussions on a variety of topics using the CCCC website Discussion Forums. Examples of member's discussions include the sharing of resources in a member's book lending library, or opportunities to be a volunteer photographer at various charity events.

#### Have a Question?

Members are always happy to help other members, so don't hesitate to reach out for friendly advice or help. For questions about the club, feel free to contact us!

Ginia Apostolacus, President | giniaaposto@gmail.com

Carolyn Mead, Vice-President | <a href="mailto:cfoxmead@gmail.com">cfoxmead@gmail.com</a>

Valerie Dunn, Membership Coordinator | vidunn7@gmail.com