

Friends of the
Agawam Public Library

**4th Open Judged
Virtual Photography Show**

Awards & Comments

March 2024

About the Show

There were 124 entries

Creative: 24

Pictorial: 43

Photojournalism: 22

Nature: 35

All images are Copyrighted.

Photos are for sale unless otherwise noted.

Prices are listed in the Show Catalog.

*If interested in purchasing the print
of a photo in the show please contact*

Bob Kadis r.kadis@comcast.net or 413-789-4814

Note from the Judges

There were an exceptional amount of great images in this show. Many stood out on their own while others competed for top awards. The range of entries made judging a difficult task, which was a good thing. It made us look at the images over and over before making a final decision. The Best of Show came down to two images which could have been settled with a flip of a coin. It was not. Both stood out with the winner chosen after long decisions.

Dave Roback and Tim Donelan
Award Judges

The Friends of the Agawam Public Library
would like to
express their gratitude to
Jim Gillen
for his technical help
with resizing of the photos.

Honorable Mention Photojournalism

Tim Carter – NextGen Tap Dancer



Honorable Mention Photojournalism

Tim Carter – NextGen Tap Dancer



An interesting capture many times creates emotion. There are many happy emotions from the drummer, musicians and the children performing for the audience. The dancer caught in mid air makes this special. A wonderful story telling image from a festival.

Honorable Mention Photojournalism

Tim Carter – Unapologetic



Honorable Mention Photojournalism

Tim Carter - Unapologetic



Politicians love to have their pictures taken at events. This was a simple and clean photo that is not a setup of forced in anyway. A nice moment.

Honorable Mention Nature

Kimberly Leupo - Reflection of a Feast

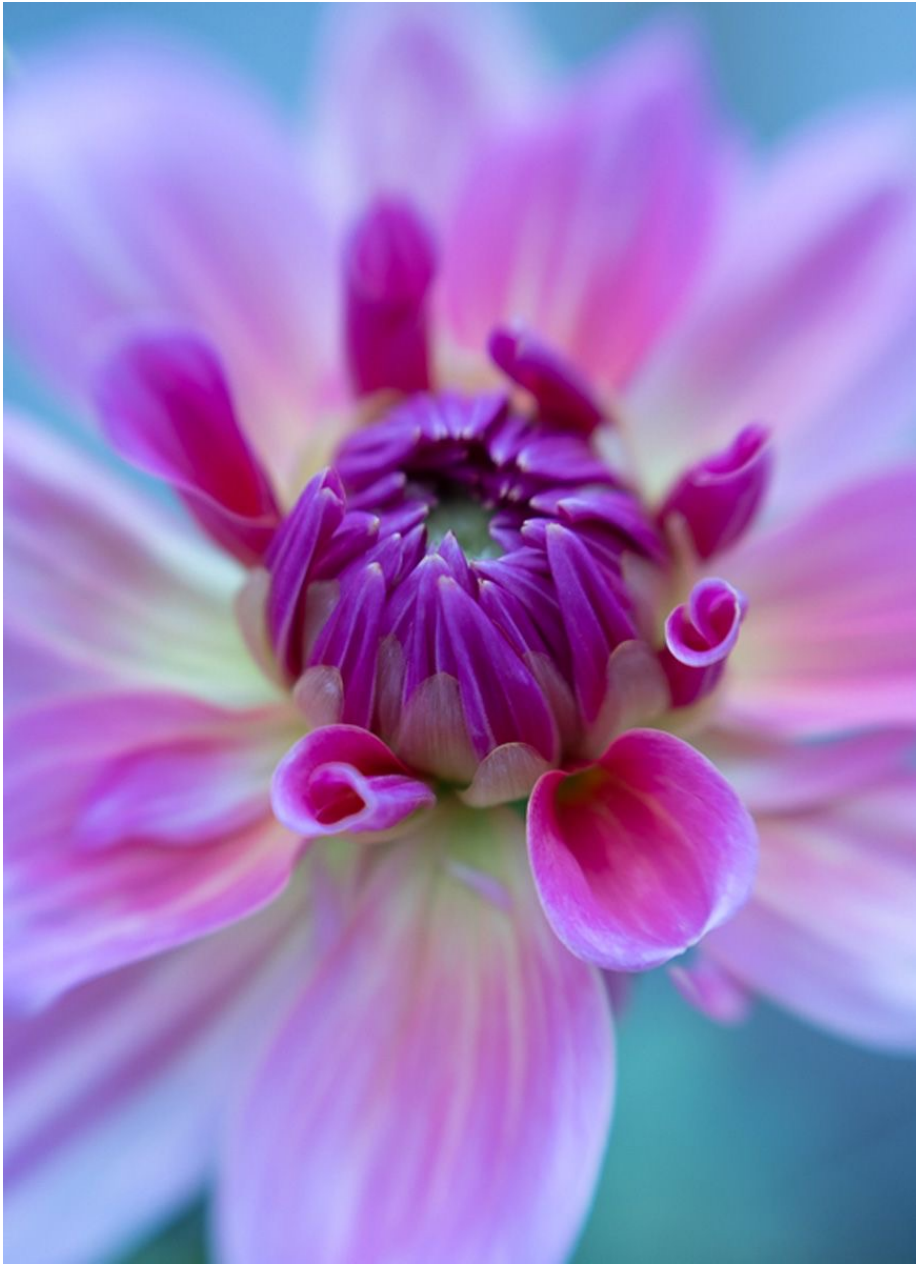


Honorable Mention Nature

Kimberly Leupo - Reflection of a Feast



This is not one of the prettiest nature images you will see but maybe one of the most interesting. The bears are not staring at the photographer but tending to the task at hand. Although we are not sure of the buffet subject it does add to the overall image.



Honorable
Mention Pictorial

Joan F. Byington

Dahlia

Honorable Mention Pictorial

Joan F. Byington

Dahlia

By very effectively using a soft-focus technique the maker steers all the attention to the focused heart of this flower where many petals sit ready to unfurl. One can begin to imagine seeing the petals slowly opening and stretching out past the edges of the frame. Hence there is a sense of motion being conveyed. Well done.





Honorable
Mention Nature

Joe Kruzel

Bashful



Honorable Mention Nature

Joe Kruzal

Bashful

This image creates a very subtle form of emotion. The deer doesn't seem to be scared but in its own way curious of the maker, as the maker is curious about the deer. The tones are well handled and the detail is excellent.



Honorable Mention Pictorial

Kimberly Leupo

Light and Shadow in
Abu Dhabi



Honorable Mention Pictorial

Kimberly Leupo

Light and Shadow in Abu Dhabi

Framed beautifully, this image took some skill to keep all the highlights and shadows in check. There is plenty of depth and interesting layers from front to back.

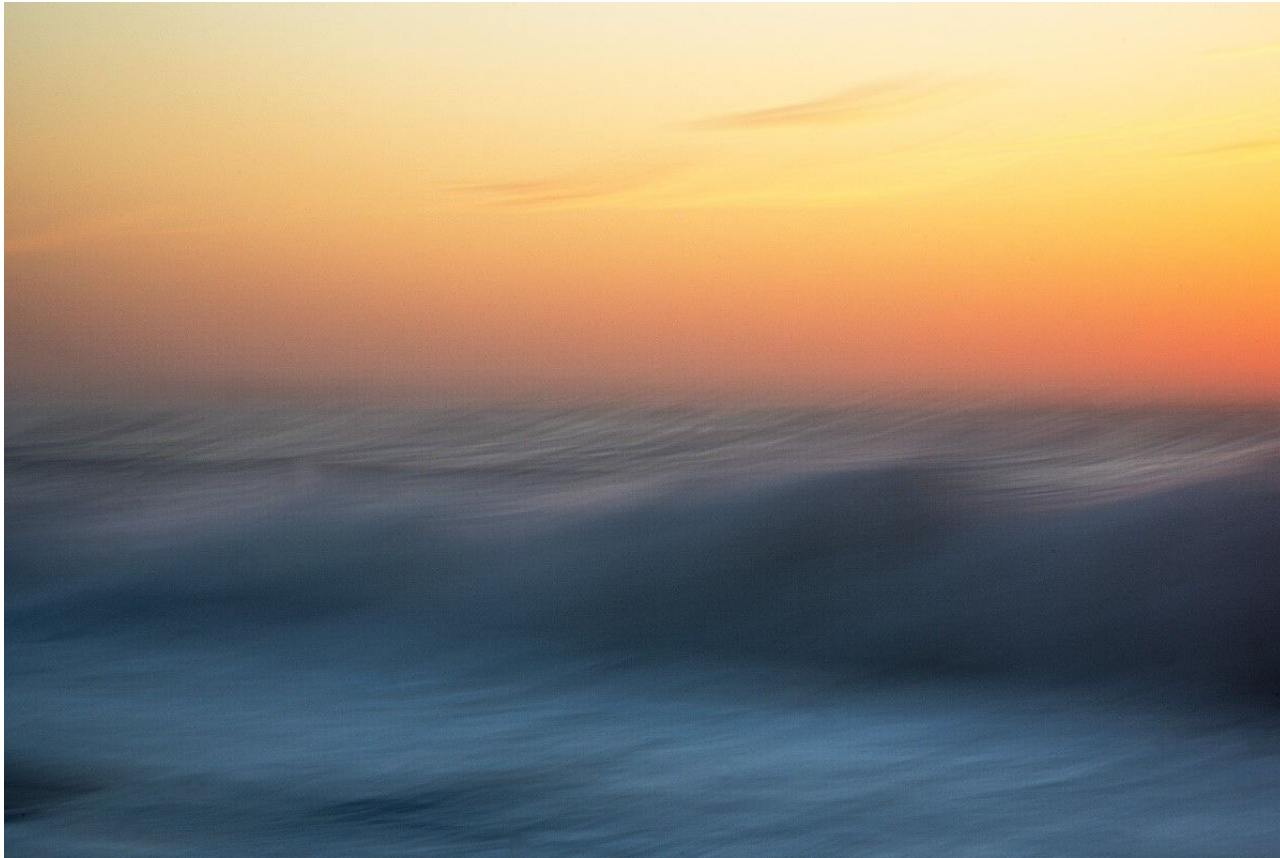
Honorable Mention Creative

Carmine Angeloni – Main Beach Waves



Honorable Mention Creative

Carmine Angeloni - Main Beach Waves



A surprisingly simple shot of the ocean and sky. The blurred effect along with the variety of soft colors work together to create a very compelling and peaceful image. Nice concept and good execution by the maker.

Honorable Mention Creative
Karin L. Lessard – The World Within



Honorable Mention Creative

Karin L. Lessard – The World Within



When an image pops off the screen and makes one think, it is worthy of an award. The tones are handled perfectly and the sharpness and detail of the subject against the soft background works beautifully.

3rd Place Photojournalism

Karin L. Lessard – Home Run Celebration



3rd Place Photojournalism

Karin L. Lessard - Home Run Celebration



Many times the best action images are captured after the play has taken place. This is one of them. There are pleasing results all over this image. From the dugout to the stands. It is a walk-off winner.

2nd Place Photojournalism

John McGarry – Hard to Bring Down



2nd Place Photojournalism

John McGarry - Hard to Bring Down



The photographer has chosen to zoom in and get a closeup shot of a struggle for possession of a rugby ball during a game. The image successfully shows us the level of concentration and focus necessary to engage in this intensely physical sport. The looks of determination on the faces of both the ball carrier and the tackler are clear and sharp. The timing of the shot was very good.

1st Place Photojournalism

Amy S. Dane – Faith



1st Place Photojournalism

Amy S. Dane - Faith



This image conveys a wonderful feeling and a compelling image of faith. It was a very simple setting, a kneeler in front of three statues in a room in a place that cannot be identified. But by waiting for a man to enter the scene and kneel before these statues the photographer was able to make an image that speaks of religious faith. The blue lights at the top help add to the spiritual feeling of the image. Although all the technical aspects for creating a good image were handled well, it's the moment that was captured that is most important.

3rd Place Pictorial

Rosemary Polletta – A Child's Curiosity



3rd Place Pictorial

Rosemary Polletta – A Child's Curiosity



What a nice image of childhood. The maker captured a small child at the perfect moment as she steps into the doorway. Her curiosity compelled her to enter. The barn and the wood of the barn and the forest behind look very good. The yellow coat stands out and makes this image great and delightful. Good work by the maker.

2nd Place Pictorial

Joe Kruzel – Valley View Sunrise



2nd Place Pictorial

Joe Kruzel – Valley View Sunrise



When it comes to landscapes, it does not get much better than this. The image is sharp from front to back with the shadow tones being exceptional in the water and rock formations. Great tonal range.

1st Place Pictorial
Larry Sanchez – 3 O’Clock



1st Place Pictorial

Larry Sanchez – 3 O’Clock



Keeping it simple was the over riding theme of this image. Clean and crisp, this jumped right off the screen.

3rd Place Nature

Linda Kozloski – Shaking Out the Raindrops



3rd Place Nature

Linda Kozloski – Shaking Out the Raindrops



This is an incredibly sharp image with plenty of detail in the bird's features including the eye and feathers. The background, although it could not be altered, is soft enough not to take away from the subject. Well done capturing the shake.

2nd Place Nature
Stephen Ostroskey – Hawk Squabble



2nd Place Nature Stephen Ostroskey – Hawk Squabble



What a perfectly timed capture of these two hawks facing off. Although we don't know what the squabble is about it draws our attention. Caught with their wings and beaks wide open the hawks are trying to establish domination. The fighting stances create a feeling of tension. The hawks are perfectly placed against a muted background with no competing distractions.

1st Place Nature

John McGarry - Puffin Gathering Nesting Material



1st Place Nature

John McGarry - Puffin Gathering Nesting Material



A very good capture of a puffin. This closeup shows us the details of the puffin's face; especially clear are the eyes and the beak. The materials in the mouth add to good story. Very good composition with excellent handling of the colors. Fine work by the maker.

3rd Place Creative
Amy S. Dane - Fabric Folds



3rd Place Creative

Amy S. Dane - Fabric Folds



A unique composition and arrangement by the maker. Without the title the viewer would have no idea what the subject really is. The arrangement and the various colors create a great pattern and an interesting and pleasing image. Good creative work by the maker.

2nd Place Creative
Joe Kruzel – Wonder Fall Mushroom



2nd Place Creative

Joe Kruzel - Wonder Fall Mushroom



What a great capture by the maker. The composition is well thought out with the mushroom and the leaf in perfect balance. The lighting was very creative, especially under the mushroom. The blurred background makes the mushroom stand out. Congratulations to the maker.



1st Place
Creative

Jim Gillen

Messina
Gallerina



1st Place Creative

Jim Gillen

Messina
Gallerina

It pays to look up. This striking image with all its patterns, stood out among the crowd. The stark lines makes this an easy choice for a black and white conversion.



Best in Show
Nature

Richard Harper

Female Mallard
Landing

Best in Show Nature



Richard Harper

Female Mallard Landing

This is an outstanding capture of a Mallard in flight. Not easy to achieve. This took a lot of patience and technical ability. The maker framed the subject with the wings surrounding the head and body. Excellent exposure and stop action with no blur. Dave Roback

This image stands out. It has the WOW factor. Capturing this Mallard in this position involved both good luck and excellent technical skills. The position of the wings really makes this shot unique. The blurred background and placement of the bird slightly off center were good artistic choices. Well done.

Tim Donelan