



# 74<sup>th</sup> Photographic Convention & Image Competition

April 19-  
April 21,  
2024



**Maine Professional  
Photographers Association**

[www.MainePPA.com](http://www.MainePPA.com)

# MPPA CONVENTION SCHEDULE

## FRIDAY, APRIL 19

3:00 pm - 6:00 pm | Jeff Carpenter **Level Up Your Lighting and Capture Headshots Like A Pro**

6:00 pm - 7:00 pm | **Headshot Shoot Out with Shooting Bays**

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm | Dinner on your own

9:00 pm - 11:00 pm | **Welcome Party at Hotel Suite 206**

## SATURDAY, APRIL 20

9:30 am - 10:00 am | **MPPA Annual Meeting**

10:00 am - 12:00 pm | Esteban Gil **Couples Photos in Any Lighting**

12:00 - 2:00 pm | Lunch on your own

2:00 pm - 4:00 pm | **Guided Shoot Out with Couples**

6:00 pm | **Convention & Speakers Group Photo**

6:30 pm - 9:30 pm | **Award Ceremony, Banquet & Dance Party with DJ Rob Burnell**

9:30 pm - 11:00 pm | **After Party at Hotel Suite 206**

# MPPA CONVENTION SCHEDULE

## SUNDAY, APRIL 21

9:00 am - 12:00 pm | Bryan Rowe **Introduction to Product Photography**

12:00 pm - 2:00 pm | Lunch on your own

2:00 pm - 6:00 pm | Vanessa Joy **Luxury Wedding Market**

6:00 pm - 9:00 pm | Dinner on your own

9:00 pm - 11:00 pm | **After Party at Hotel Suite 206**

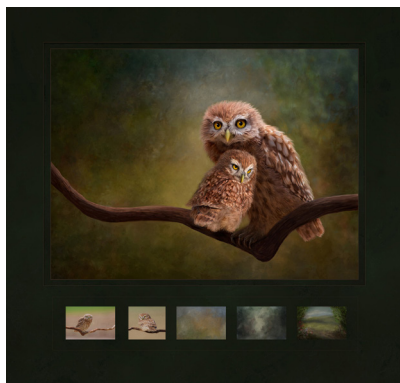
## MONDAY, APRIL 22 - BONUS DAY

9:00 am - 5:00 pm | Bryan Rowe **Dynamic Product Photography Workshop Bonus Day**

(PPA Merit Class) Includes Lunch Buffet  
(*\$149 Member / \$199 PPA / \$299 Non-Member*)

# Table of Contents

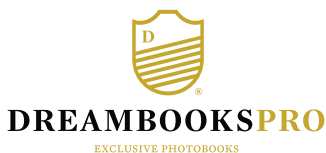
|   |    |
|---|----|
| Save the Date: 3 Day Portrait Workshop.....   | 6  |
| Welcome Party & After Hours Information ..... | 7  |
| Join the MPPA.....                            | 8  |
| MPPA Board of Directors.....                  | 9  |
| 2023-2024 Year in Review.....                 | 10 |
| 2023 Convention.....                          | 12 |
| Image Competition Judges Panel .....          | 14 |
| Convention Speakers .....                     | 21 |
| Maine Photo Studio Rentals .....              | 26 |
| 2023 Award Winning Images.....                | 28 |
| 2023 Photographers of the Year .....          | 31 |

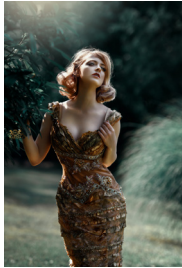


**Publication Editor | Rebekah Wheeler**  
**On our Cover | “Protected” by Yedi Koeshendi**

# Convention Sponsors

*A huge thank you to our sponsors who made this convention possible and affordable to our members!*





# SAVE THE DATE

## 3 Day Portrait Workshop with Kelly & Kalina Schneider

**October 11-13, 2024**

Don't miss out on an electrifying 3-day portrait photography workshop in stunning Maine, led by renowned artists Kelly and Kalina Schneider! Immerse yourself in an inspiring location, working with models for a dynamic and creative experience. Covering every aspect from planning to editing, including hands-on shooting sessions and mastering lighting techniques. Need help with post-processing? Our last day features an in-depth session with this award-winning team. Plus, students receive valuable resources and custom PS Action sets! Stay tuned for more details, as spots will be limited.

# **After Hours Parties**

## **HOTEL SUITE #206**



**Refreshments provided**  
***Bring Your Own Beverages***

---

**Friday: 9:00-11:00PM**  
**Saturday: 9:30-11:00PM**  
**Sunday: 9:00-11:00PM**

# Join the MainePPA!

*And here's why...*

## Hybrid Education, Convention & Social Events

MainePPA prides itself on bringing world-class speakers, experts and educators to Maine and online. Monthly programs, social events and our multi-day convention are no additional cost to members. Attend full day workshops and convention and earn merits towards your national PPA degree.

## Networking

Make connections and gain a solid network of peers and professionals that will aid you as you continue to grow your business in an ever changing industry.

## Discounts & Prizes

Commission free shopping at in state camera store! Door prizes at most events!

## Get Involved

All Maine PPA members have the opportunity to help mold the direction of our association every year. With a multitude of committees and an our annual convention, you have many ways for your voice to be heard. You also earn awards and recognition at our annual convention!

## MPPA Dues Structure

|                   |       |                       |       |
|-------------------|-------|-----------------------|-------|
| Active Member*    | \$175 | Retired Photographer* | \$100 |
| Associate Member* | \$100 | Honorary Member       | --    |
| Student*          | \$100 | Lifetime Achievement* | --    |

*\*Includes Convention*

Join today at [MainePPA.com/join](http://MainePPA.com/join)



# Meet the Board



**Chantal Paradis**  
President



**Roderic Jackson**  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President



**Rebekah Wheeler**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President



**Nick Angelides**  
Immediate Past  
President



**Allen Small**  
Treasurer



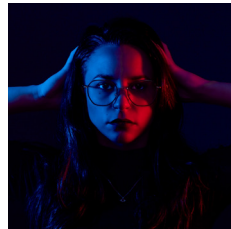
**Emily Small**  
Secretary



**Traci Rousseau**  
Director



**Caitlyn Wyman**  
Director



**Alyssa Dusoe**  
Director



**Holly Kangas**  
Director

## Welcome our 2024-2025 Incoming Board

**President:** Rebekah Wheeler

**1st Vice President:** Roderic Jackson

**Secretary:** Emily Small • **Treasurer:** Allen Small

**Directors:** Holly Kangas & Traci Rousseau

**Immediate Past President:** Chantal Paradis

# 2023-2024 Year in Review



Bangor Meet & Greet at  
Smoke & Steel



Augusta Holiday Party and  
Yankee Swap at  
The Orzy Studio



# 2023-2024 Year in Review



Lauren Delvecchio  
- Wedding Lighting  
Start to Finish



Shannon Squires - Layered: Dissecting the  
Art of Composite Photography



Robert Akers - In Person Sales

# 2023 Convention



Peter Scheibner - How to Transition from Photographer to Videographer



Roberto Valenzuela - Fearless Posing



Katelyn Mallett - Instagram Essentials For Photographers



Joshua Snow - Landscapes: Hindsight Vs. Foresight



Scott Detweiler - Using AI in Your Photo Business



Shawn Black - The Business of Boudoir Bonus Day

Model Shoot Out



# 2023 Convention



Presenter: Roderic "Jax" Jackson



Member Lobster Pin Award Recipients



President's Gift:  
Chantal Paradis



Best in Show: Heather Watt



Win Tracy Maine  
Photographer of the Year:  
Gina Soule

# 2024 Jury Chair



## **Carl Caylor**

*M. Photog., Cr, F-WPPA,  
Hon. F-WPPA, WPPA HOF,  
F-ASP, IPC Juror  
PPA Approved Juror*

Carl is a down-to-earth, portrait photographer and photographic instructor. He has been involved with professional photography for over 30 years. He started his photographic career as a custom printer and technician and now covers a gamut of

photographic assignments including portrait, wedding, commercial, environmental and photojournalism. He is PPA certified, a master photographer, a craftsman with Professional Photographers of America and an international juror. Carl is one of 129 photographers to earn the ASP-Fellowship. He has won numerous national awards for his photography, including 29 PPA Loan Collections and several Kodak Gallery, Fuji Masterpiece and Lexjet Awards.

Carl is the author of the book "Portraiture Unplugged" a guide to natural light portraits and is one of the most sought-after instructors in the country because of his "hands-on" coaching approach. He enjoys sharing what he has learned so far in his journey. Carl's greatest strength in our industry is his ability to see what skills others already possess and how to break down concepts on a personal level to help advance those skills further. Carl is happiest when he can help other artists succeed and witness growth in the footsteps of our industry.

# 2024 Judges Panel



## **Jessica Robertson**

*M. Photog., Cr., CPP, FP,  
SP  
PPA Approved Juror*

Jessica Robertson has been a professional photographer for over 20 years. Based in Ashland, Virginia, Jessica and her team work out of a 3000-square-foot retail space to serve the Richmond area. Jessica holds a degree in Art with a Concentration in Photography from Guilford College, and she has earned several prestigious degrees and certifications, including the PPA Masters of Photography, PPA Master Craftsman, and PPA Certified Professional Photographer. She also serves as an Affiliate Juror for PPA and has earned her Associate Fellow and Fellow of Photography degrees from the Virginia Professional Photographers Association. In addition to her thriving business, Jessica is grounded by her family; her husband, John; and her daughters, Grace and Jaclyn. A full and busy life for sure! She feels grateful for her family and the opportunity to pursue her passion for photography while maintaining a sustainable and fulfilling career.

# 2024 Judges Panel



## **Lisa Asp**

*M. Photog., M. Artist, Cr., CPP  
PPA Approved Juror*

Lisa Asp, M. Photog., M. Artist, Cr., CPP, grew up in Minnesota. She moved to the east coast in 1998 and opened an upscale, retail photography studio in Connecticut. When her husband was offered a job back in Minnesota in 2011, they jumped at the chance to move back near family & friends and relocated. After purchasing and renovating a house, Asp

opened “Tangerine House of Design”, a full-time home-based studio, in Edina, MN. Pet photography had previously been a small part of her business but took off at this point and became her niche market. In 2019, Asp moved back to a commercial space in Minneapolis. Lisa has won numerous awards for her work including five Kodak Gallery awards, Fuji Masterpiece, Lexjet, PPA District First Place and GIA Second Place, Diamond Photographer of the Year, and more.

Receiving PPA “Photographer of the Year” status the last 10 years straight, Asp has been named one of PPA’s “Elite Plus” members. She enjoys volunteering her time with several pet rescues photographing their adoptable animals, fostering and assisting in their fundraisers and food drives. Her love of animals has grown into wildlife (and landscape) photography. She is a past president of the Twin Cities Professional Photography Association, Founder and Director of the Animal Image Makers Conference, and a PPA Councilor.



# 2024 Judges Panel



## Keith Howe

*M.Photog., M.Artist, M.E.I.*

*M.Wedding Photog.,Cr.,*

*F.F.Ph.*

*PPA Approved Juror*

Keith's journey from a young boy with a simple box camera has been nothing short of remarkable. Today, he stands as a distinguished figure in the world of photography, holding the esteemed titles of Master Photographer, Photographic Craftsman, Master Artist, Master of Electronic Imaging

and Master Wedding Photographer, all recognized by the Professional Photographers of America (PPA). He is the only one in the state of Nebraska to hold all 5 and the first in the world, a testament to his exceptional skills and dedication.

He has been honored with the Imaging Excellence Award by the PPA, thanks to the selection of 13 of his photographs for the highly acclaimed Loan Collection. His work has graced prominent platforms such as EPCOT and has been featured in esteemed publications like Sports Illustrated, Ironwork, Guidepost, Positive Thinking, American Profile, Art Doll Quarterly, Doll Crafter, and even the cover of The Professional Photographer magazine.

Among all his professional accomplishments, Keith holds the highest regard for receiving the coveted National Award from the PPA. This prestigious recognition is bestowed upon individuals who have made significant contributions to the field of professional photography, a distinction that fills him with immense pride.

# 2024 Judges Panel



## Thom Rouse

*M. Photog. MEI, CR, F-ASP  
PPA Approved Juror*

Thom Rouse began his career as a portrait and wedding photographer in 1994. Based near Chicago, he now divides his time between commercial, fine art and commissioned fine art images with his clients as the central subject of his pieces.

His conceptual fine art images utilize real world photographs blended and manipulated to create an alternative to real

world perception. Thom also lectures and teaches workshops on topics ranging from Photoshop as an artist's tool, visual literacy and lighting and posing for figure studies.

Thom holds the PPA Master of Photography degree, the Award of Excellence, the Master of Electronic Imaging degree, and the Photographic Craftsman degree. He is a Fellow in the American Society of Photographers and a member of the Camera Craftsman of America. He has 61 PPA loan Collection images and has won the ASP Gold Medallion twice. He has received numerous Photographer of the year awards, the Kodak Elite award, the Canon Par Excellence Select Award as well as numerous Kodak Gallery and Fuji Masterpiece awards. Thom's work has been exhibited throughout the United States as well as Canada, China, Japan, Korea, and Europe.

# 2024 Judges Panel



## **Toni Harriman**

*M.Photog., M.Artist, Cr., CPP  
PPA Approved Juror*

Toni has owned & operated Johnson Photography since 1982. She holds the prestigious Master of Photography, Photographic Craftsman and Master Artist degrees from the Professional Photographers of America. She was named a CPP (Certified Professional Photographer) having passed

an extensive written test of her photographic knowledge and a review of her photography.

Toni is an award winning artist. Toni was twice named a Diamond Photographer of the year in the PPA International Print Competition. Toni has been named as a Top 10 photographer in Iowa several times as well as named 2020 Top Iowa Master Photographer of the Year. And she has had images published in the PPA loan books & Professional Photographer Magazine.

Toni is also an approved PPA juror available to judge state image competitions around the country where she can also give programs on Emotion and Creativity, Painting in Photoshop, Print Competition and Volume Photography. She also teaches with Arthur Rainville- for more info on that go to [epiphanyphotoretreat.com](http://epiphanyphotoretreat.com)





# Level Up Your Lighting and Capture Headshots Like A Pro

*with Jeff Carpenter*

**Friday, April 19**

3:00-6:00pm

6:00-7:00pm Headshot Shoot Out with Shooting Bays



Join Jeff Carpenter of ReadyLight Media and NEXT LEVEL Workshops as he dives into the art of lighting, providing hands-on demonstrations and insider tips that will revolutionize the way you approach headshot photography. Whether you're a beginner looking to enhance your skills or an experienced photographer seeking to refine your craft, this workshop is tailored to meet your needs and elevate your headshots to professional levels.

## **ABOUT**

Jeff Carpenter is a commercial portrait and headshot photographer, educator, and owner of ReadyLight Media, a visual media and marketing agency based outside of Nashville, TN. Being a predominantly self-taught photographer, he developed a passion for educating in a way that was simple and easy to understand. Jeff is a brand ambassador for Profoto, Tether Tools, and V-flat World, and has been teaching advanced lighting classes since 2018.



# Creative Lighting with Couples

*with Esteban Gil*

**Saturday, April 20**

10:00am-12:00pm

2:00-4pm Guided Shoot Out with Couples



Are you always chasing the shade? Are you always running away from difficult lighting situations? If you have ever recommended to your engaged couples that the “best” light is usually late in the day or during sunset, you’re going to want to take this class!



Join Esteban Gil, wedding and fashion photographer and educator, as you delve into the art of capturing the essence of an engaged couple through different lighting conditions by utilizing creative lighting techniques made for all situations. You will explore the dynamics of mixing off-camera flash and natural light to elevate your creative mind! Learn how to skillfully balance these elements to sculpt flattering highlights and shadows during those difficult times of the day. Discover the versatility of off-camera flash to add depth and drama, while also harnessing the soft, beautiful qualities of natural light.



## **ABOUT**

Esteban Gil, Connecticut based wedding photographer and educator based in Guilford, CT. He founded the creative community, Steel & Flint Society, in 2018.



# Introduction to Product Photography

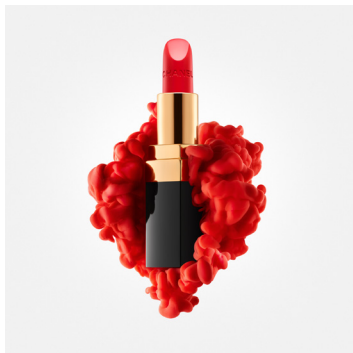
*with Bryan Rowe*

**Sunday, April 21**

**9:00am-12:00pm**



Learn from one of industry's best product photographers (Coca-Cola, Chanel, Nike to name a few). This class will introduce all the tips to get you started capturing product photography. Bryan will cover the basics of tethering, lens choice, hard vs. soft light, grids and creating condensation and fake ice. Observe a product set up, capture and edit.



## **ABOUT**

I absolutely love what I do! The immense fulfillment I get from sculpting light to bring out the inner beauty of every product or subject I photograph is what keeps me constantly excited about photography.

I'm a massive fan of detail, color and simple compositions (if you couldn't already tell) and I specialize in product, liquids, and portraiture.



I was born and raised in Durban, South Africa. I grew up skateboarding, surfing and later found a passion for snowboarding which brought me to the incredible state of Colorado.



# Luxury Wedding Market

*with Vanessa Joy*

**Sunday, April 21**

**2:00-6:00pm**

*Program sponsor*



Want to step into a higher wedding demographic? Need to plan for this year's WEDDING GAP?

Learn from high-end wedding photographer, and Canon Explorer of Light, Vanessa Joy to gain the knowledge and tools you need to:

- Price yourself for weddings in the luxury market.
- Refine your photos and branding to attract high-end clients.
- Create business systems that'll make clients love you - and spend more. (key to surviving the wedding gap!!)

Get ready for applicable, tangible steps to building and thriving in a luxury wedding market - and surviving the Wedding Gap.

## **ABOUT**

Since 2002, Vanessa Joy has been photographing weddings and portraits and educating pros worldwide. She focuses her business in the Austin, NJ and NYC area, and alongside her partnerships as a Canon Explorer of Light, Profoto Legend of Light. She helps photographers take their craft to the next level at [www.thephotoin insiders.com](http://www.thephotoin insiders.com). To learn more visit: [vanessajoy.com](http://vanessajoy.com).





# BONUS DAY\*

## Dynamic Product Photography

*with Bryan Rowe*

**Monday, April 22**

9:00-5:00pm

\*\$149 Member/\$199 PPA/\$299 Non-Member



Learn from one of industry's best product photographers (Coca-Cola, Chanel, Nike to name a few). This class is a continuation of Intro to Product Photography on Sunday. Monday Bonus Day will review advanced practices that the pros use with movement, lighting, hands on shooting portion and editing workflow.



### ABOUT

I absolutely love what I do! The immense fulfillment I get from sculpting light to bring out the inner beauty of every product or subject I photograph is what keeps me constantly excited about photography.



I'm a massive fan of detail, color and simple compositions (if you couldn't already tell) and I specialize in product, liquids, and portraiture.

I was born and raised in Durban, South Africa. I grew up skateboarding, surfing and later found a passion for snowboarding which brought me to the incredible state of Colorado.



## MAINE PHOTO STUDIO RENTAL DISCOUNTS

We've compiled a list of 18 photography studios available for rent to other photographers throughout the state of Maine and negotiated special member rates!

**Locations include:** Albion, Auburn, Augusta, Belfast, Bethel, Biddeford, Brewer, Farmington, Gray, Limerick, Livermore Falls, Mexico, Portland, Westbrook, Winterport, & York

*Please contact each studio directly for more information.*

Want to be added to our list? Contact us at [info@maineppa.com](mailto:info@maineppa.com)

**Visit [MainePPA.com/studios](http://MainePPA.com/studios) for the full list!**

*Pictured: Rental Studio 438, Westbrook*



PART  
*Class,*  
PART  
*Sass,*  
**FULLY**  
*Badass!*

What's the saying, "necessity is the mother of invention"? Well, the mother of Marksman Holster is someone who wanted comfort, timeless style, and a *touch* of badass.

Holly Kangas is the mother of Marksman Holster (and humans), who also works full-time as a wedding photographer. Long days shooting left her looking for a holster that fit not only her comfort and style requirements, but something that would also make her job easier. Being a bit of a self-described sewing ninja, she decided to design and make her own: The Marksman.

Get ready to *fall in love*  
with a little bit of *leather.*



Holly Kangas • holly@mmholster.com  
WWW.MMHOLSTER.COM



**MainePPA  
Member!**

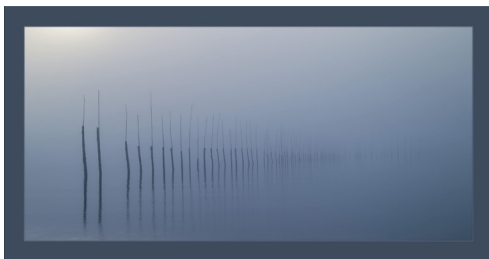
# 2023 Award Winning Images



"I Will See You Again Someday, My Old Friend" by Gina Soule  
**Animal Image Makers**  
**Judges Choice - Julie Savage**



"Generations" by Natalie Breton  
**Judge's Choice - Cindy Shaver**



"Mystic Fishing Grounds" by Sandra Miner  
**American Society of Photographers**

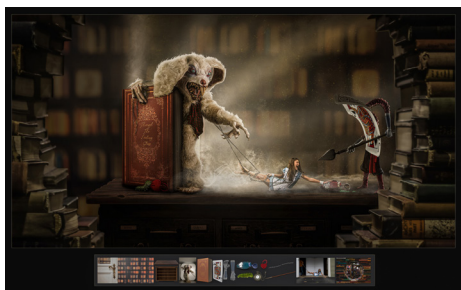


"War Paint" by Natalie Breton  
**Judges Choice - Scott Detwieller**

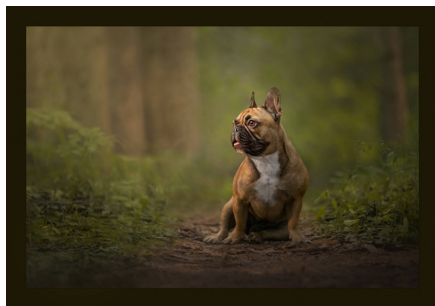


"Hannah & Trevor" by Enid Arvelo  
**Best Event Album**

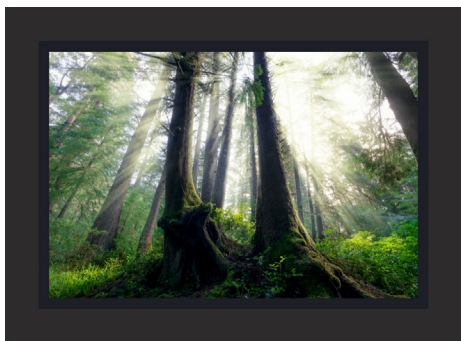
# 2023 Award Winning Images



“Alice in Chains” by Nick Angelides  
**Judge’s Choice - Chris Wooley**



“Summer's Morning Glory”  
by Gina Soule  
**Artistry in Photography**

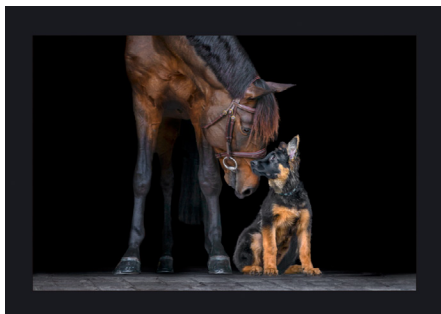


“The Wood Between The Worlds”  
by Rick Berk  
**Judge’s Choice - Bob Coates**

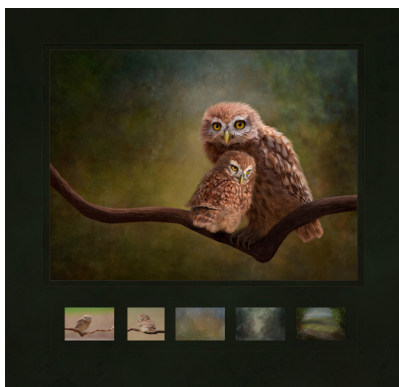


“Dream of Ice” by Rick Berk  
**Judge’s Choice - Mark Sweeney**

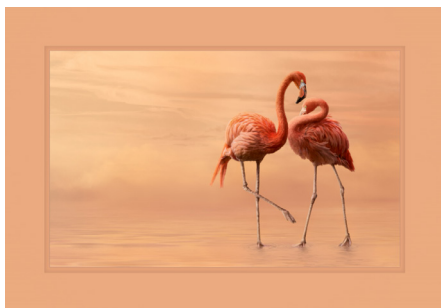
# 2023 Award Winning Images



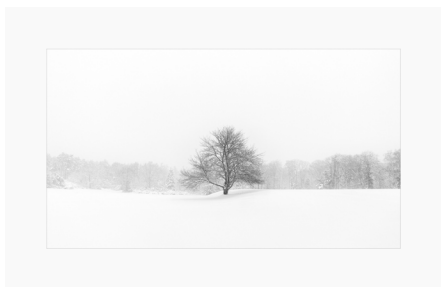
“Friendship Knows No Bounds”  
by Gina Soule  
**Creative Challenge**



“Protected” by Yedi Koeshendi  
**Non-Resident Member**



“Sunset Tango” by Judy Reinford  
**Court of Honor**



“Standing Out in the Snow”  
by Dean Bugai  
**Black & White**



“I Picked These For You” by  
Heather Watt  
**Best of Show**  
**First Time Entrant**  
**Client Image**  
**Certified Professional Photographers**

# 2023 Photographer of the Year

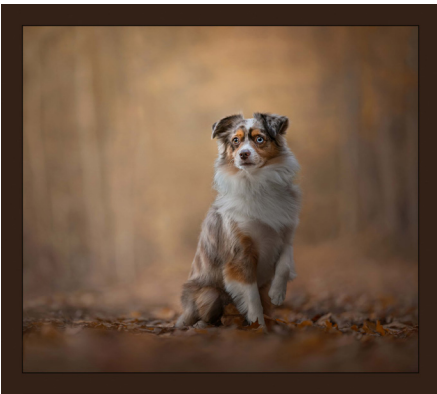
## GINA SOULE



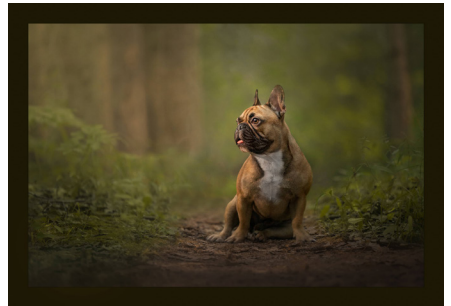
"Her Red Royal Majesty"



"Blue Ribbon Beauty"



"New England Falls Amongst  
The Forest"



"Summer's Morning Glory"

"I Will See You Again  
Someday, My Old  
Friend"

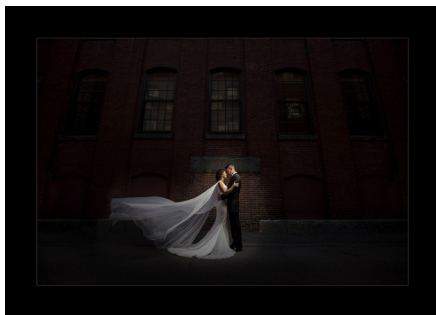


# 2023 Wedding Photographer of the Year

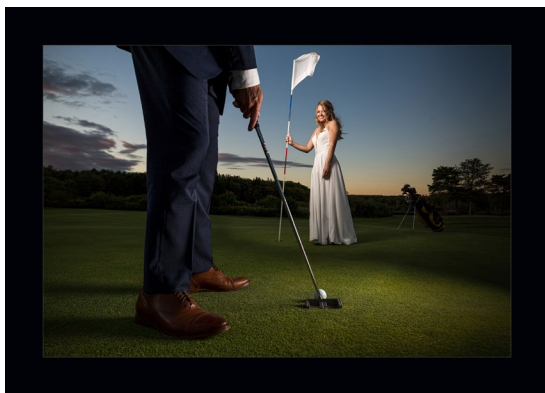
## LAUREN DELVECCHIO



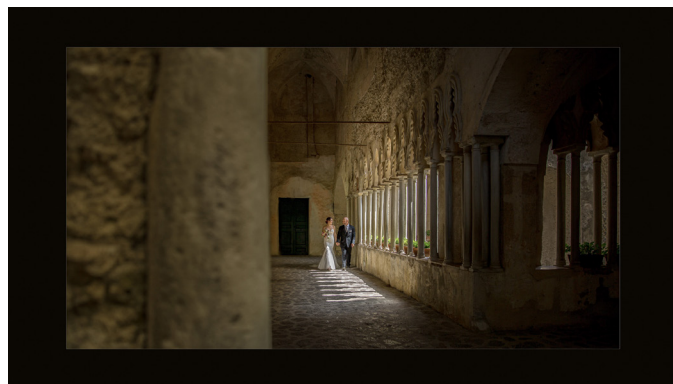
“The Right Attitude”



“Fortified”



“Dressed to the Nines”

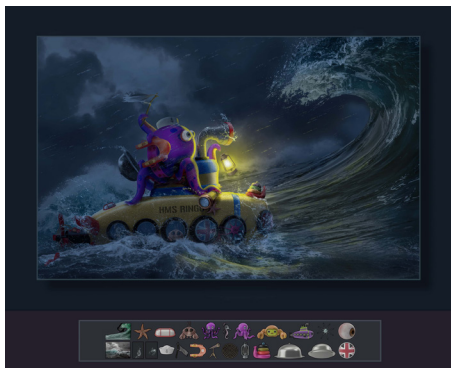


“Italian Love Affair”

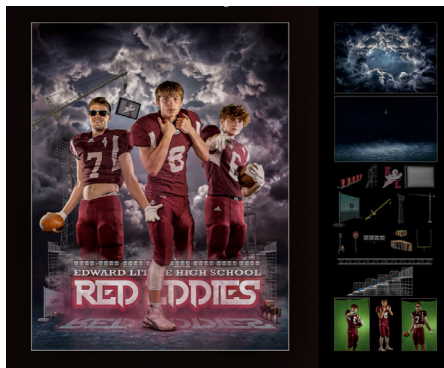


# 2023 Artist Photographer of the Year

## NICK ANGELIDES



“All Legs On Deck”



“Building a Legacy”



“Alice in Chains”



“Nutty for the Holidays”

# 2023 Portrait Photographer of the Year

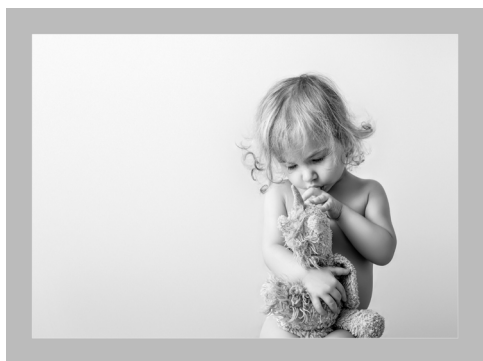
## STACY KNAPP



“Did You See That!”



“This Is My Sleeping Bucket”



“Inseparable”

“Devouring Life  
with Gusto”



# 2023 Landscape Photographer of the Year

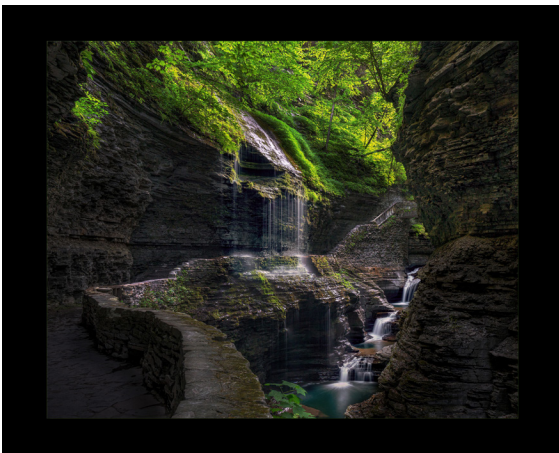
## DEAN BUGAJ



“Symphony of Light”



“Standing Out in the Snow”



“Morning Mist”



“Night Hikes Are The Best”

# 2023 Fine Art Photographer of the Year

## NATALIE BRETON



“Generations”



“Nightshade”



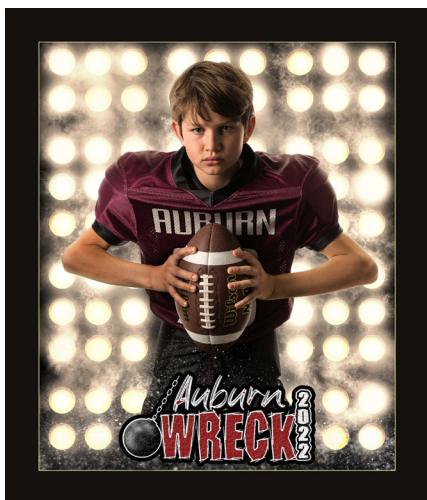
“Checking It Twice”



“War Paint”

# 2023 Sports Photographer of the Year

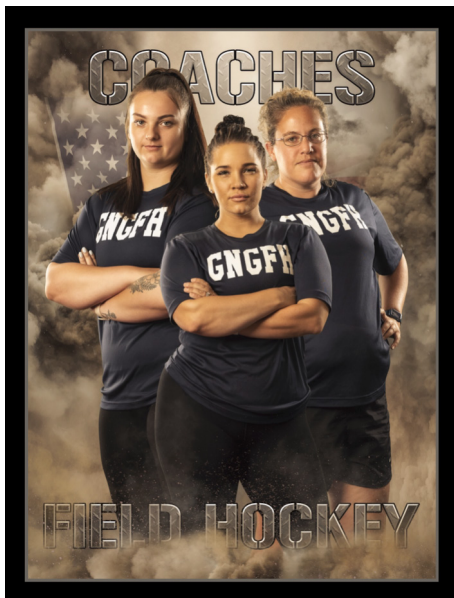
## NICK ANGELIDES



"Light It Up!"

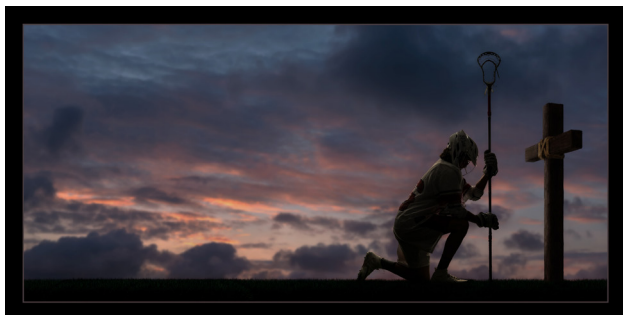


"I'm Your Huckleberry"



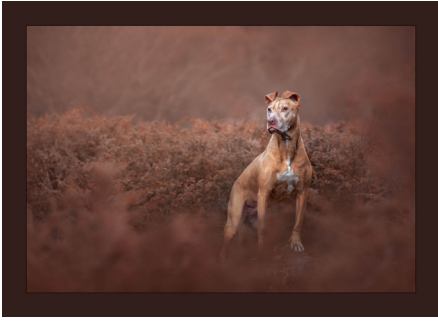
"We Can Be Badass Too!"

"The Athletes' Prayer"



# 2023 Animal Photographer of the Year

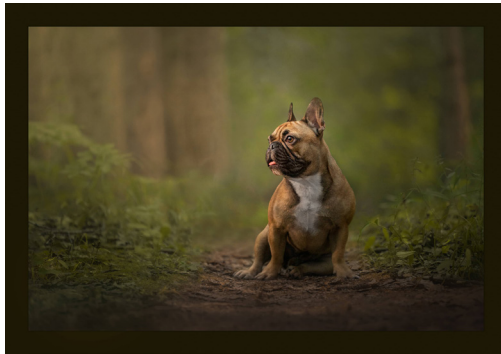
## GINA SOULE



“Her Red Royal Majesty”



“Blue Ribbon Beauty”



“Summer’s Morning Glory”

“I Will See You Again  
Someday, My Old  
Friend”



2023 Commercial Photographer of the Year  
**LAUREN LEAR**



“Crush”