

## Date Specific

more information  
can be found on  
the ATPI web site at  
[www.atpi.org](http://www.atpi.org)

**9.27.2019**

Texas Photographic  
Society National Student  
Competition deadline

**10.19-21.2019**

TAFE Fall Fiesta  
San Antonio  
[www.tafe.org](http://www.tafe.org)

**10.31.2019**

ATPI Fall Photo Contest  
deadline

**11.21-24.2019**

National High School  
Journalism Convention  
Washington, D.C.

**11.27.2019**

ATPI Social Media Contest  
deadline #ATPIPlaytoWin

**1.29.2020**

ATPI Social Media Contest  
deadline #ATPIDayandNight

**2.20.2020**

Precision Camera Open House  
5 - 7 pm  
Austin

**2.21-22.2020**

ATPI Winter Conference  
Austin

**3.5-8.2020**

Society for Photographic  
Education National  
Convention  
Houston

**3.25.2020**

ATPI Social Media Contest  
deadline #ATPIOntheRoad

*Do you know of some other  
important dates? If so, email  
us at [info@atpi.org](mailto:info@atpi.org) and we'll  
pass them on.*



## Double the Fun for Teachers in Summer 2019

### ATPI Offers Two Separate Summer Workshops for the First Time

Summer 2019 saw two ATPI workshops for teachers: the traditional one which took place in Austin in June and a new one called "Roughin' It Road Trip" that saw 10 teachers and two instructors put more than 1700 miles on vehicles driving around Northern New Mexico in July.

Thirty-four teachers and five instructors from Texas and California spent a hot three-and-a-half days in Austin in one of three tracks - Bootcamp, Broadcasting or Straight Outta Camera. Thanks to Sean Perry and the folks at Austin Community College - Northridge Campus and Park Street and the group at Precision Camera the teachers were able to experience some of the best of Austin. Thanks to Vanguard World and Tom Spisz, Regional Sales Manager, six teachers walked away with brand new tripods as door prizes.

The teachers in Bootcamp were able to design and practice class

lessons to take back to school for the new year. The Broadcast class created video stories in Austin and edited in the facilities at ACC. The SoC group traveled to Blue Hole, downtown Georgetown and painted churches near Schulenburg.

More than 700 miles away two minivans and a couple of cars would wander around Taos and spots between Albuquerque and Abiquiu for three-and-a-half days in early July. Jeff Grimm and Ian McVea led the group in exploration of sites that included Sandia Peak, Ghost Ranch, the Slot Canyon at Kasha-Katuwe Tent Rocks National Monument and multiple meals at Michael's in Taos. An opportunity to photograph a feeding rattlesnake up-close may have also been a part of the adventures.

"The incredible locations and sights inspired us as photographers and produced great images, but equally important was the time spent in the vans en route to those

amazing places. I know I felt that my photo brain and heart grew three sizes that week, learning from each other and sharing not only photographic skills, but also ideas for how to bring both the art and the rigor back to our classrooms," McVea said.

Frances Packman, Journalism teacher at Magnolia West High School in Magnolia, attended both workshops. "The Austin workshop gave me the opportunity to learn that with digital, under exposing my files helps bring out more details. Being a 'negative' student for years, this workshop helped me learn major differences between the two mediums. The workshop in New Mexico afforded me the opportunity to take another step to put this knowledge to use. Being able to satisfy the creative spark we have by putting our newfound knowledge to use helps keep us yearning to learn more," Packman said.

**The Roughin' It Road Trip group relaxes in front of a fire one evening at Hotel Luna Mystica, the accommodations used by the group during the workshop. Located eight miles outside of Taos, the 'rooms' were 1950's and 60's vintage campers with names such as Castor, Pollux, Ralphie and Esmeralda. Photo by Ian McVea.**

*More photos from both workshops can be found on page 3.*

# Fall Contest Adds New Category and Metadata Fields

The 2019 ATPI Fall Contest introduces the first new category in several years, based on requests from the membership. This new category is part of the single digital image options and is titled Documentary/Street Photography. It is similar to the photo story category but instead of requiring five images it is only a single image entry. Students may enter this category as either a beginner/middle school or advanced student.

For students and teachers that are unfamiliar with street photography we suggest looking at the work of Garry Winogrand. Eric Kim wrote a thorough article about what can be learned from Winogrand and his work which can be found at: <https://bit.ly/30xbvTJ>.

This also leads into this year's Thematic category. Inspired by the work of the famous photojournalist Henri Cartier-Bresson, the board has selected "The Decisive Moment" as the theme for both the single image category and the thematic video category this year. Look for an article about Cartier-Bresson on page 4 in the newsletter but the contest category provides a great way to introduce this important photographer to students.

Additionally, ATPI is now asking students and teachers to fill in two additional metadata fields before uploading entries. Adding the photographer's name to the author/creator field and the title of the image to the Title field will help

with the creation of the SmugMug galleries of winners. Full details for preparing images can be found at [atpi.org/submission](http://atpi.org/submission).

The contest site will open on September 15 and all entries must be uploaded by 6 pm Central on October 31. For teachers that are new to the site the teacher must create an account first and link to the school. Teachers add student accounts (if your district blocks outside emails to students then we encourage you to use a different email address for their account or turn off notifications) and then adds students to the active contest, identifying if the student is beginner/middle school or advanced. The student is considered advanced if they took a photography class in high school prior to this year.

New features on the contest site will allow judges and reviewers to see captions if the category requires them. The fees form the teacher can print out after all contest entries are uploaded will also show a total amount due. Judging will take place Saturday, November 16.

If you or your students have suggestions on improving the contest site let us know.

**This photo by Pablo Munoz, Robert Vela High School (Edinburg, TX), won first place in Advanced Fashion in the 2018 Fall Contest. Sandra Casperson is his teacher. This image and all the other winners from the contest can be seen on the ATPI SmugMug site.**



## Briefs

### Membership Reminder

Have you renewed your membership in ATPI? You can join ATPI for only \$20/year and help support the organization. You can also join TAJE (\$35), JEA (\$65) and SIPA (\$30) using the same form on the ATPI website. If you aren't sure if you have already paid, email [info@atpi.org](mailto:info@atpi.org) and we'll let you know.

### TAJE Fall Fiesta

TAJE will hold their annual Fall Fiesta Oct. 20-22 at the Wyndham Riverwalk Hotel in San Antonio. Speaker forms are on the TAJE website. Members are urged to sign up to present a session, judge contests and critique publications.

Information about the convention, including contest rules and registration, are available at [taje.org](http://taje.org).

### New Galleries on SmugMug Site

A number of galleries were added over the summer to the organization's SmugMug site. These include the 2018 and 2019 Spring winners in the Top Program, Rising Star and Hal Fulgham Scholarship contests. The 2017 Rising Star portfolios were finally posted too. Direct links to each gallery can be found on the contest information pages on the ATPI website.

With changes to the submission guidelines for the ATPI contest site it will hopefully speed up the posting process. Be sure to take a look at the additional requirements at [www.atpi.org/submission](http://www.atpi.org/submission) before the Fall Contest deadline on Oct. 31.

In addition, the Journalism Education Association has posted winners from their last four national conventions on a new site at [jeaphoto.smugmug.com](http://jeaphoto.smugmug.com). Check out all the award winners and be sure to share with your students.

### Change to Winter Conference Contest Deadline

In the past, the pre-convention contest categories were announced on the Friday prior to the convention and students were required to upload entries by Wednesday evening. Last year we changed the announcement time to Friday morning to give teachers and students a chance to talk about the categories before the end of the school day.

In 2020 we will shift this schedule forward one day to give the judges more time to evaluate the entries and select winners. This means that categories for round one of Cropped, Picture Package and School Portfolio will be announced on Thursday, February 14, 2020 through ATPI's Twitter feed. These contests and Environmental Self Portrait entries will be due by 6 pm Central time on Tuesday, February 19.

Please plan accordingly.

### Social Media Contests for Students and Teachers

In planning for the school year don't forget to include ATPI's social media contests as part of class lesson plans. The categories provide a fun assignment for students and can be an inspiration for the instructor too.

Deadlines for the 2019-2020 social media contests can be found on page 1 of this newsletter but the categories for this school year are #ATPIPlaytoWin, #ATPIDayandNight and #ATPIOnTheRoad.

Students and teachers can enter up to five images in the contest. Entries must be posted to Twitter or Instagram by midnight on the day they are due. Include the contest hashtag along with the student's or teacher's name and school name. Judging happens quickly after the deadline and winners are announced through ATPI's Twitter feed. Winners can be counted for the ATPI Imagemaker TEAM contest in May.





# Workshops Provide Photo Opportunities



From L to R - Donald Davis, Hays HS (Buda), captured this image exploring painted churches. Craig Koen, Porter HS, photographs the Brazos River at twilight from Mt. Bonnell. Dickinson HS teacher Matt Koby caught this moment at Blue Hole. In New Mexico, Cindy Price, The Briarwood School (Houston), shows off tent rocks. Fort Worth Country Day teacher Sil Azevedo used a medium format camera and film for his photo. Alison Strelitz, Westlake HS (Austin), photographed the blue sky against an adobe wall on the Road Trip.

## Briefs

### Board to Meet

The newly elected board for ATPI will meet on Saturday, September 28 in Frisco to discuss plans for the 2019-2020 school year. Agenda items include the job duties for the new vice presidents, plans for the ATPI Winter Conference in Austin, updates to the new ATPI Top Video program contest and a host of other issues.

If you have any concerns or items that you would like the board to discuss or questions for the board, please email these to Shannon Oden, ATPI President, at [shannonoden@misdmail.org](mailto:shannonoden@misdmail.org) by September 21.

### Address Change

Just a reminder that the mailing address for ATPI has changed to PO Box 4647, Wichita Falls, TX 76708. Please make sure that your school and district have this updated address in their systems so that payments aren't delayed. If you need a new W-9 please email [info@atpi.org](mailto:info@atpi.org).

### SPE and Fotofest

Houston will host the national Society for Photographic Education annual conference March 5-8, 2020. The local committee is looking to involve ATPI members and area schools in the event. This conference brings together photography teachers from middle school, high school and

college and university programs from around the globe.

One of the caucuses that participates is specifically focused on high school educators and will have multiple sessions on relevant topics.

Conference registration usually sells out, so start planning now. More details can be found at [spenational.org](http://spenational.org). Contact Mark Chen, SPE 2020 Local Committee member, at [mark@markchenphotography.com](mailto:mark@markchenphotography.com) if you want more information.

At the same time, the biennial celebration of photography, Fotofest, will run from March 8 to April 18 and includes photo exhibitions around the city along with special events that take place at the convention center

March 8 to 21. If you are in the area, be sure to check out [fotofest.org](http://fotofest.org) for all the details.

### Texas Photographic Society Contest

Don't forget the deadline for the second annual TPS National Student Competition is coming up on September 27. TPS and ATPI are partnered for the contest and we encourage students to enter any of the three categories. A flyer with full details is enclosed with this newsletter or check out [texasphoto.org/national-student-competition](http://texasphoto.org/national-student-competition). The contest is open to any student in the US, including 2019 graduates.

# The Decisive Moment

## Knowing and Intuiting Your Way to Captivating Images

by Shannon Oden, Ben Barber Innovation Academy

As instructors we have all introduced our students to THE Henri Cartier-Bresson, well-known street photographer, photojournalist and co-founder of Magnum Photos. He made popular the concept of the decisive moment in which the photographer practices a very disciplined skillset of knowing and intuiting. What does that mean? Observing, composing, and possessing perfect instinct, the foresight in which to press the shutter at the most precise yet spontaneous moment. He stated "Your eye must see a composition or an expression that life itself offers you, and you must know with intuition when to click the camera."

Think of how instinctually we hold a camera in one hand versus a cellphone. Our subconscious knows exactly what we are holding and which fingers we will need at the exact position to grasp. Now think of composing a shot and waiting for the unexpected to happen and then click! There is a very interesting article on the physiological functions of just how our brain works as photog-



"You Had Me at Mozzarella" - Photo by Shannon Oden

raphers - <https://bit.ly/2KWgM1K>.

How can we teach our students to be knowing and intuitive at the same time? I encourage my students to be very disciplined in their technical approach to the composition and functions of their camera but to be completely open and almost expecting the unexpected and I feel this is exactly where you can have an experience in the decisive moment. Focus on composing a beautiful portrait and have a student run and jump high in the background as to almost appear that they might collide but they do not. Layer this with shadows, even perhaps a subject in

macro with the unexpected element which appears in the frame. It takes lots of practice but the kids love it once they can embrace this process of losing a little bit of control in a controlled frame. It's all about the balance of calculated composition and letting yourself remain open to the possibilities!

Association of Texas Photography Instructors  
P.O. Box 4647  
Wichita Falls, TX 76308

### Imagemaker

September 2019

The ATPI Imagemaker is a publication of the Association of Texas Photography Instructors. Articles may be reprinted with permission of the Association at P.O. Box 4647, Wichita Falls, TX 76308. ATPI is a non-profit organization under 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Shannon Oden, President

Kyle Juntunen, Vice President

Krista Luter, Vice President

Brenda Marafioti, Vice President

Laura Miller, Vice President

Cassandra Syler, Vice President

Leah Waters, Vice President

Andrea Negri, Secretary

Clint Smith, Past President

Bradley Wilson, Senior Consultant

Mark Murray, Executive Director

[atpi.org/about](http://atpi.org/about)