

## Date Specific

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

**9.27.2023**

ATPI Social Media  
Contest deadline  
#ATPISilhouette

**10.7-9.2023**

Texas Association of  
Journalism Educators  
Fall Fiesta,  
San Antonio, TX

**10.27.2023**

Texas Association of  
Journalism Educators  
Best in Texas  
Yearbook Deadline

**11.1.2023**

ATPI Social Media  
Contest deadline  
#ATPIHalloween

**11.17.2023**

ATPI Fall Contest  
deadline

**1.31.2024**

ATPI Social Media  
Contest deadline  
#ATPIPurplePower

**1.31.2024**

Texas Association of  
Journalism Educators  
Best in Texas News  
and Broadcast  
Deadline

**3.1-2.2024**

ATPI Winter  
Conference  
Austin, TX

**03.8.2024**

TPS International  
Student Competition  
Deadline

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



Summer Workshop participants take part in a night photography session at the Amon Carter Museum in Fort Worth. They also visited the museum's Avedon exhibition, which is on view through Oct. 1. Photo by John Skees

## Trimble Tech Hosts Summer Workshop 24 Instructors Participate in Three Hands-On Tracks

*John Skees*

*ATPI Vice President*

The ATPI Summer Workshop for Instructors returned to Trimble Technical High School in Fort Worth this past June. Twenty-four attendees from three states took part in one of three classes over the course of the four-day workshop.

"I keep coming back to this workshop because there is always something new to learn," said Lisa Wallace (Fort Worth Country Day) who participated in the Video 101 class. "There's not another workshop I've ever found where both instructors and participants are so willing to help me be better so that my students will be better."

Photo Teaching Bootcamp, led by Jeff Grimm (Trinity High School, Euless, retired), John Knauer (Olympus America, Inc., retired) and Andrea Schlepffhorst (Byron Nelson High School, Trophy Club) combined classroom time with practical exercises in order to give photo teachers a wide range of assignment ideas to bring back to their own classrooms.

Video 101, led by Matt Koby (Dickinson High School), gave students hands-on experience conducting interviews, shooting B-roll, sound design, post production, and cinematography. Class participants produced a promo video of the 2023 Workshop which was shown during the workshop's closing session and will

be released by ATPI later this year.

ATPI Vice President Erica Garcia (Navasota High School) and veteran Summer Workshop Instructor Ian McVea (Martin High School, Arlington) led the advanced course at the workshop this year. The Magic of Light covered creating and managing light in still photography. This hands-on class included time in Trimble Tech's studio space and on location around Fort Worth. Participants worked with continuous LED lights, studio strobes, and on-camera speed lights, with special attention to portraiture and tabletop photography.

The workshop also included evening breakout sessions ranging from discussions on the impact of AI on photography instruction, classic car photography, night photography in the Museum District, and a trip to the Fort Worth Stockyards. Participants were also given a guided tour of the Amon Carter Museum of American Art's Avedon's West exhibition.

"ATPI training will test your endurance but it will absolutely help you level-up as a photographer and a teacher," said Bisa Hall (Fulshear High School, Rosenberg) who attended Bootcamp, adding "don't start a new diet before you come, the food here is copious. Know that they are serious about 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. You'll walk away better than before."

# Board Updates Fall Contest Rules

In response to feedback from members as well as the growing incorporation of AI in programs such as Photoshop, the board recently made the following changes for the Fall Photo Contest:

- Drop the cellphone category. Cell phone images may be entered in any category
- Add a Digitally Constructed / AI Assisted category. This will be moved to the Portfolio/Photo Story group to allow up to five images to be uploaded.
- Change the name of Digitally Constructed Single Image to Digitally Constructed / Original Work. This will be moved to the Portfolio/Photo Story group to allow up to five images to be uploaded.
- Change Formal Portrait to Studio Portrait.
- Change Informal Portrait to Fine Art/Environmental Portrait.
- Add an acknowledgement on the upload form that states "I understand that an image that utilizes artificial intelligence can only be entered in the Digitally Constructed / AI Assisted category."

In addition, the following guidelines/rules were developed:

- DIGITALLY CONSTRUCTED /

**ORIGINAL WORK** — Only original images created from work captured by the photographer can be used to create the Digitally Constructed / Original Work entry. Entries that utilize multiple photos from the same photographer to create a composite single image should be entered in this category. An explanation of the elements and processes used must be included in the metadata description field. Any entries that do not contain this explanation will be disqualified. These entries should be uploaded as a set containing the final entry as Image 1 and each of the separate components as images 2 to 5. If the entry contains more than four separate images then just submit the first four.

- **DIGITALLY CONSTRUCTED / AI ASSISTED** — Entries in Digitally Constructed / AI Assisted must start with an original image from the photographer but may utilize AI prompts and generative fill to create a new photographic image. The final result must be a photograph and not an illustration which does not contain any recognizable photographic elements. An explanation of the elements and processes/prompts used must be included in the metadata description field. Entries that do not contain this explanation will be disqualified.

Upload this entry as a set containing the final entry as Image 1 and any of the pieces created by the photographer as images 2 to 5.

- **PHOTOJOURNALISM** — Entries in any of the photojournalism categories — documentary/street photography, sports action, sports reaction, student life and photo story — may only utilize basic editing techniques (exposure, contrast, color correction, cropping, etc.). The entry should reflect the truth, reality, what the photographer saw in the original scene.

Entries that utilize camera or computer software to enhance a photograph through stacking, HDR, multiple exposure or special filters (Instagram / Hipstamatic / VSCO / etc) can be entered in the subject matter category, except the photojournalism categories. Cellphone images can be entered into any category, as long as they adhere to the other rules stated.

- **QUESTIONS** — Questions about any of these guidelines or categories can be emailed to [vpcontests@atpi.org](mailto:vpcontests@atpi.org).

- **BOARD** — The board will review these changes after the contest to consider updates for future contests.

## New Vice Presidents Set Goals for Term

The new ATPI board term started over this summer. As part of their role, each vice president oversees one area of the organization. Here are each vice president's goals for their committee:

### *Summer Workshops*

Erica Garcia (Navasota HS) — My goal would be to continue to help plan summer workshops for teachers with the best options we can provide. I would love for every teacher in attendance at our summer workshops to leave with new insight they can take to their classroom and feel encouragement from the instructors/fellow teachers they can network with.

### *Membership*

Laura Veno (Glen Rose HS) ATPI membership is a great benefit to all kinds of teachers who incorporate photography into their curriculum. Our committee is committed to increasing the exposure of these benefits to this group with a common goal, including photography and journalism teachers, but also art, graphic design, and media teachers. Driving membership through word of mouth, social media, and teacher conferences like TAEA are some of the great opportunities we have coming!

### *Winter Conference*

John Skees (TAPPS) — The Winter Conference Committee is working hard to put on a great event for you this year. This is our second in-person conference since the Pandemic and we've already had some challenges (remember our dates have changed! We'll see you March 1-2 in Austin!) This will be our first year using ACCs new facilities. We want to see as many of you and your students as we have room for. If you've never been to a Winter Conference and have questions please reach out.

### *Contests*

Mark Dimmitt (Hallsville HS) — I am honored to be one of the two Board Vice Presidents assigned to the Competition Committee.

One of my goals is now to work with all board members to navigate the use of AI images in competition in order to insure the validity of all entries and maintain fair, even competition. Much has been done over the summer to take a look at what direction AI is going in photography and I anticipate we will be seeing many more advances and issues dealing with AI.

## Questions?

All ATPI officers have an @atpi email you can use to contact them with questions, suggestions or interest in getting involved. They can be reached at:

- Mark Dimmitt and Matt Koby: [vpcontests@atpi.org](mailto:vpcontests@atpi.org)
- Erica Garcia: [vpworkshops@atpi.org](mailto:vpworkshops@atpi.org)
- Laura Veno: [vpmembers@atpi.org](mailto:vpmembers@atpi.org)
- John Skees: [vpconference@atpi.org](mailto:vpconference@atpi.org)
- Laura Spray: [president@atpi.org](mailto:president@atpi.org)
- Shannon Oden: [pastpresident@atpi.org](mailto:pastpresident@atpi.org)
- Andrea Negri: [secretary@atpi.org](mailto:secretary@atpi.org)

Matt Koby (Dickinson HS) — I'm excited to be co-chairing the contest committee with Mark Dimmitt. My industry background was in filmmaking and television and I teach primarily video production.

It's my goal to expand our breadth and reach on the video side of our contests. The video contests historically haven't had the same engagement. I want to take steps to increase submissions and highlight exceptional work from filmmakers and photographers.



# More Summer Workshop Highlights



Ian McVea (Martin HS) provides an extra light source on a model in The Magic of Light course. Photo by John Skees



Cassandra Syler (Round Rock HS) works with a still life in The Magic of Light class. Teachers had multiple stations to practice lighting techniques. Photo by John Skees



In Video 101, Matt Koby (Dickinson HS) helps participants edit in Premiere Pro. Photo by John Skees



John Knaur guides Jessica Croshaw (Northwest HS) in using her camera. Photo by John Skees

**Association of Texas  
Photography Instructors**  
PO Box 4647  
Wichita Falls, TX 76308

# Imagemaker

## September 2023

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.

Laura Spray, President  
Mark Dimmitt, Vice President  
Erica Garcia, Vice President  
Matt Koby, Vice President  
John Skees, Vice President  
Laura Veno, Vice President  
Andrea Negri, Secretary and Newsletter Editor  
Shannon Oden, Past President  
Bradley Wilson, Senior Consultant  
Mark Murray, Executive Director

## Briefs

### Best of Texas Vol. 5

Volume 5 of The Best of Texas Scholastic Photography was released at the 2023 Winter Conference last February and since that time over 500 students and ATPI members have claimed their free copies thanks to our publisher, Friesens. We have extra copies still available and are offering them free to 2023-2024 members. But we have also received requests from schools and parents that want extra copies for school libraries or to share with family members. Extra copies are available for \$46, which includes shipping. Members and students with work in the book or on the four instructional posters can get their copies by covering postage - \$9. Take care of all of these requests by going to [https://www.atpi.org/best\\_of\\_texas/](https://www.atpi.org/best_of_texas/).

### Winter Conference Update

The 2024 Winter Conference will be held slightly later than usual: March 1-2, 2024. The move reflects the Texas Capitol Complex's availability for the spaces the conference has traditionally used. Contest and class information will be in the next newsletter.

### Fall Photo Contest Theme

If you missed the announcement, this year's Fall Photo Contest thematic category is Transformed. Entries for all categories are due Nov. 18.

### ATPI Committees

If you are looking for ways to get involved with ATPI, consider joining one of the committees. These are a great way to help guide the direction of the organization and help give back to the community.

ATPI has committees for the Winter Conference, Summer Workshop, Membership and Contests. If you are interested in learning more about any of these committees or joining, reach out to the committee chairs.

Also, newsletter contributions are always appreciated. If you are interested in submitting an article or if you have an idea for a future article, email [secretary@atpi.org](mailto:secretary@atpi.org).

### Membership Reminder

Have you renewed your ATPI membership yet? You can join ATPI for only \$20/year and help support the organization. You can also join TAJE (\$40), JEA (\$95), SIPA (\$30) or the Texas Photographic Society (\$40) using the same form on the ATPI website. Note JEA's membership rate has increased as of July 1. 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

Registration is open for the annual Texas Association of Journalism Educators Fall Fiesta. This year's event will move to the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center. The hotel block will be at the Grand Hyatt, which is adjacent to the convention center.

Students can participate in pre-convention as well as on-site photo and video contests, which count toward Imagemaker Team points, as well as learn from professionals in journalism and scholastic media. Pre-convention contests are open to schools that are not able to attend the in-person event; schools must register one student as well as pay a mailing fee if choosing this option. Information about the convention is available at [taje.org](http://taje.org).

### TAJE Best in Texas Contests

TAJE's Best in Texas Contests are accepting entries for work produced in 2023-2024 publications.

The deadline for 2023 yearbook entries is Oct. 27. Multiple photo categories as well as one for photo portfolios are offered. There is no limit on the number of entries in the photo categories.

News and broadcast entries are due Jan. 31, 2024. Like yearbook, the online and print news contests offer several photo options. The broadcast competition accepts news, sports and feature videos, commercials/PSAs, podcasts and anchor reels.

Entries are \$3, plus a \$5 mailing fee. Rules and entry forms are available at [taje.org](http://taje.org). Questions can be emailed to [contests@taje.org](mailto:contests@taje.org).