

Date Specific

more information can be found on the ATPI web site at www.atpi.org

6.10-13.2024

ATPI Summer Workshop for Instructors Only, Fort Worth, TX

8.28.2024

ATPI Social Media Contest Deadline
#atpicruelsummer

9.25.2024

ATPI Social Media Contest Deadline
#atpibacktoschool

10.12-14.2024

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

10.30.2024

ATPI Social Media Contest Deadline
#atpielectiontime

11.15.2024

ATPI Fall Contest Deadline

11.27.2024

ATPI Social Media Contest Deadline
#atpipumpkinspice

2.21-22.2025

ATPI Winter Conference
Arlington, TX

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



John Isaac participates in the 2016 Summer Workshop held in Wimberley. Isaac was named the association's 15th Star of Texas recipient at this year's Winter Conference. Photos by John Skees

Isaac Named Star of Texas Winner

For the first time in ATPI's history, the organization named a posthumous Star of Texas winner.

John Isaac was named the 18th recipient during the 2024 Winter Conference awards ceremony.

Isaac, who was born in India, began his career at the United Nations as a messenger. He moved on to become a darkroom technician and eventually a photojournalist. He held this role for 20 years, rising to chief of the photo unit prior to his retirement from the U.N. in 1998.

He was also known for his independent freelance work photographing celebrities such as Audrey Hepburn and Michael Jackson. Later in life, he became a travel and wildlife photographer.

John Knaur first met Isaac around 1999, when Knaur was an Olympus representative. It is thanks to Knaur that Isaac became involved in ATPI. Knaur invited Isaac to his first



Knaur and Isaac at a Summer Workshop.

ATPI workshop in 2004, where Isaac helped teach how he captured and edited his images. Isaac continued to come to ATPI workshops as a mentor and teacher over the next two decades. Isaac was also an ATPI Winter Conference Keynote Speaker. His final trip to ATPI was in 2018 in Fort Worth, when he worked with Ian McVea (Martin HS, Arlington) at the Summer Workshop.

"I met John Isaac at an ATPI Summer Workshop in Commerce, Texas 20 years ago," Sue Jett, a retired instructor, said. "We were given a list of places to shoot, and I wanted to go to a farm for rescued

horses and donkeys. No one else wanted to go, so John came with me. It was one of my best days. John could talk to anyone with his quiet, kind manner. He convinced the owners to pose for us so he could teach me about portraits and light."

Multiple teachers noted Isaac's generosity. Isaac often donated prints as gifts or door prizes for workshops.

"He had a wonderful story about the yellow flower and yellow butterfly that landed on it. It gave him the strength to pick up a camera again and take photographs of beautiful things rather than the hell he went through with the U.N.

responsibilities," said Dustin Parrish, a former instructor.

Parrish said the story moved him to ask whether he could share the story with his students. Isaac said yes and asked Parrish for an address. A few weeks later, a print arrived in the mail.

"This was the sort of loving person John was," Parrish said. "He absolutely gave everything to everyone."

Jett also shared a story about Isaac's giving nature. She said after the donkey farm visit, they stopped at a flea market.

"He started talking with a woman who needed money and was selling her possessions," Jett said. He asked her what was most special to her and held the best memories. She showed him a platter that had belonged to family. He paid much more than she was asking, and then gave it back to her and told her to hold on to those special memories."

New Video Scholarship Has First Recipients

Texas HS and Rock Hill HS Repeat as Top Program, Top Video Program Winners

Over \$5,000 in scholarships were awarded during judging for the Hal Fulgham Memorial Scholarship on Saturday, April 27, 2024, including three new scholarship recipients for video portfolios, added to the Hal Fulgham contest this year.

Students submitted a portfolio reel no more than three minutes long and up to three additional video clips not more than seven minutes long that were judged by a team. Winning first place and a \$1,000 scholarship was Jeannette Belt, Memorial High School (Houston), Elizabeth Carney, instructor. Judges wrote that the portfolio showed “exemplary technical execution and captivating presentation.”

Capturing first place in the Hal Fulgham Fine Art Portfolio category was Sophia Gregg, Bridgeland High School (Cypress). Juan Guevara is her instructor. The first place portfolio in Hal Fulgham Photojournalism went to Kristina Colburn, Texas High School (Texarkana), Clint Smith, instructor.

Judges commented on Colburn’s portfolio, “This is a superb portfolio - not one weak shot.” For Gregg’s portfolio, judges wrote “I think the stillness in many of your images, the consistent aesthetic approach, and your technical execution are perfectly entwined to create evocative and thoughtful imagery.”

The top school awards went to Texas High School for Top Program, Rock Hill

High School (Frisco) for Top Video Program and Bellaire High School (Bellaire) for Rising Star Program. Clint Smith leads the program at Texas High School. Russ Olsen

and Margie Raper are the video instructors at Rock Hill. The instructor at Bellaire High School is Andrea Negri.

Our judges for this year’s photo judging were Samantha Jo Berry, director of education & curriculum at CADY; Lauren Franco, owner and lead photographer at Lauren Marie Photo; Steve Goff, retired professor of photography from Odessa College and Texas Photographic Society board member; Tadd Myers, editorial photographer from the Dallas-Fort Worth area; Sam Oldenburg, assistant director of student publications at Western Kentucky University; and Chad Smith, professor in the Department of Art at Texas A&M - Commerce and a TPS board member.

Berry said, “The images I saw today prove that high school photographers are in no way ‘amateur photographers.’ Kudos to their instructors for igniting a passion for photography in their students.”

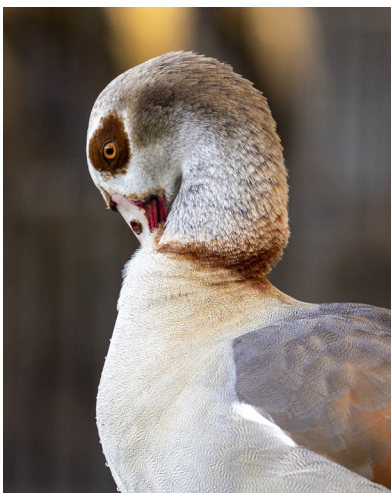
“The state of photography in Texas high schools remains extremely impressive! What I really appreciated seeing were the school portfolio entries with consistent quality across all of the photographs. I loved seeing that because it showed me that the photographers at the school really learn from and push each other, becoming stronger together,” Oldenburg said.



First Place Top Program Still Life. Photo by Jolie Orozco, Navasota High School. Erica Garcia, instructor.



Top: First Place Hal Fulgham Photojournalism portfolio. Photo by Kristina Colburn, Texas High School (Texarkana). Clint Smith, instructor. Right: Second Place Top Program Landscape-Nature. Photo by Taryn Farnsworth, The Woodlands High School (The Woodlands). Julie Pelosi, instructor.



Top: First Place Rising Star Portrait. Photo by Isabel Sauer, Lamar Middle School (Austin). Alissa Godina, instructor.



Left: First Place Rising Star Commercial-Advertising. Photo by Ava Alva, V.R. Eaton High School (Haslet). Josette Coker, instructor.

Briefs

Membership Dues Increase

Beginning July 1, ATPI's annual membership dues will increase to \$30. This is the first membership increase in 10 years.

When you join ATPI, you can also join TAJE (\$40), JEA (\$95), SIPA (\$30) or the Texas Photographic Society (\$40) using the same form on the ATPI website. If you aren't sure if you have already paid, email info@atpi.org and we'll let you know. Renew or join before July 1 and only pay \$20.

Winter Conference Appreciation

Thank you to the following for their support at this year's Winter Conference:

- CADY, for providing instructors and models for the hands-on class
- Jostens, for providing the lanyards
- Tamron, for providing a gift certificate lens
- Austin Community College - Highland Campus, including Laura DiMeo, Matthew Krebs and Sean Perry, the department chair of photography,

Thanks also to Robert Davis, State Preservation Board; Representative James Frank and his chief of staff, Julia Crusius; Assad Malik and Peyton Sims; and faculty and students at ACC for their help organizing and running the conference.

Imagemaker Team

Imagemaker Team results were not available as of press time. Please check the ATPI website to see the list of this year's top 10 student photographers.

TAJE Fall Fiesta

Save the date for the annual Texas Association of Journalism Educators Fall Fiesta. This year's event returns to the Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center Oct. 12-14. The hotel block will be at the Grand Hyatt 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. Information about the convention is available at taje.org.

ATPI Committee Reports

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.

Committee chairs gave the following updates on their committees:

- Erica Garcia (Navasota HS, Navasota), workshops committee: The goal for the summer



Mike Tobias (Port Neches-Groves) received first place in the faculty Winter Conference ATPI Culture category.

workshop committee would be to continue to help plan summer workshops for teachers with the best options we can provide. This summer will be at Allen HS, and we have some great classes that will be offered. Please join us for the following options: Roadtrip, The Environmental Portrait, & Live Broadcast Bootcamp.

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.

- John Skees (TAPPS), winter conference:

We want to offer our thanks to the staff at Austin Community College for hosting us on their new campus this year. They have a fantastic facility and welcomed us with open arms. We hope to see them again when the Winter Conference returns to Austin in 2026.

The 2025 Winter Conference will take place on February 21-22 at UTA in Arlington. In an effort to be more respectful of your time, the keynote address and awards ceremony will be held separately this year. The keynote will take place at 5 p.m. on Friday so that you will be able to leave for dinner shortly after 6 p.m.. We are dropping the last 50-minute class on Saturday (normally from 3:15 to 4:05) and hold our awards ceremony at that time. Schools that either didn't compete or need to leave earlier can hit the road at that time. We will have our group photo after lunch on Saturday before heading off to hands-on classes.

Speaking of hands-on classes: If you have ideas or suggestions we want to hear them! If you

would like to help with the Winter Conference Committee, we want to hear from you too.

- Laura Veno (Glen Rose HS), membership:

ATPI membership is a valuable and affordable benefit to all teachers who incorporate photography into their curriculum. We were able to share many of these benefits with many new faces as we presented at the Texas Art Education Association this past fall. Our committee is committed to increasing the exposure of these benefits to this group with a common goal, including photography and journalism teachers, and 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 will continue to pursue over the next year.

- Mark Dimmitt and Matt Koby, contests

Social media contest prompts and due dates for the 2024-2025 school year have been set. Mark these on your calendar:

- Aug. 28: Cruel Summer #atpicruelsummer
- Sept. 25: Back to School #atpibacktoschool
- Oct. 30: Election time #atpielectiontime
- Nov. 27: Pumpkin spice #atpipumpkinspice
- Jan. 29: Frozen #atpifrozen
- March 26: Green #atpigreen
- May 28: That's a wrap #atpithatsawrap

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. These can be lessons, how-tos or recaps of photo events held in your area.

2024 Solar Eclipse Offers Photo Opportunities

As part of the eclipse on April 8, 2024, ATPI sponsored an eclipse contest for students and teachers. Judging for those entries is still being completed, but here are a few images from that day.



A student cranes his neck back to view the eclipse at Abilene Christian School on Monday, April 8, 2024. Photo by Claire Blizzard



While dressed up at the celestial bodies, junior Jennifer Gonzalez, Senior Yen Nhi Le and anatomy teacher Grant McDermed watch as the total eclipse passes through Fort Worth, Texas, at Chisholm Trail High School on Monday, April 8, 2024. Photo by Aiden Salas

Summer Workshop Returns to Allen High School

Allen HS will host this year's Summer Workshop for Instructors Only, which will take place June 10-13. Participants will be able to pick from three tracks with hands-on instruction.

The Live Broadcast Bootcamp will take advantage of the newly renovated KGLE 3 studio to learn tips and tricks for producing a daily, or weekly live production. Script writing, crew building, and video package production to going live for the whole school to see will be covered. The class will start with reviewing Video Package production. Teachers will have an assignment to produce a 90-second video package offsite. Once the videos are produced participants will begin training on the Broadcast equipment. Switcher, scripts, audio, anchors - all positions will be manned by the class. The final goal is to produce a show and give teachers a plan for running a daily, weekly or monthly broadcast. Allen HS instructors Kyle Juntunen and Gennifer Long and ATPI Vice President Matt Koby (Dickinson HS) will lead the group. Teachers should bring a camera, microphone, SD card and laptop.

The workshop will also feature a popular track, Road Trip. Led by Jeff Grimm (retired) and Andrea Schlepfforst (Byron Nelson HS, Trophy Club), the class will put participants in new environments to help

push advisers to create successful photos. Bring a camera, extra SD cards and lenses, and a laptop.

The last track will focus on creating environmental portraits. Participants will learn how to get the best out of their subjects and environments. John Knauer (retired) and ATPI Vice President John Skees (TAPPS) will lead this class. Participants should bring a laptop with preferred editing software, a camera, and extra batteries, lenses and memory cards.

Classes will generally run from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. each day. Attendees who arrive June 9 are invited to join the group for dinner at 7 p.m. that evening, though each person will be responsible for their own tab. The final day of classes will run until noon.

ATPI has reserved a block of rooms at the Holiday Inn Express in Allen. Rooms are \$107 per night, excluding taxes, at the special rate. Reservations must be made by May 24 and can be booked through the Summer Workshop page on the ATPI website.

Registration is \$275 and includes instruction, three meals, door prizes and plenty of snacks. More details can be found on the ATPI website at <https://www.atpi.org/summer2024>.

**Association of Texas
Photography Instructors**
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