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SPARK
PHOTO FESTIVAL

A Significant Contribution
to the Arts Community

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Evolving to be an important aspect of our community’s cultural fabric, SPARK 2019 nourishes symbiotic relationships between young and old. Senior, photographic artists, who continue to broaden their artistic scope by exploring new techniques, exhibit alongside younger photographers honing their craft and discovering their artistic voices. Photography may seem immediate to the uninitiated, but considerable skill, technique and artistic discretion is required from the person behind the camera for the resulting composition to capture details that will engage viewers. The cross-generational exposure offered by this year’s festival will serve to enrich the lives of all involved, participants and audience members alike. Since our business focus and values include promoting and presenting an image of what our community has to offer, we are proud to be supporters of an event that showcases such diverse talents from within our cultural landscape.
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David Campion & Sandra Shields
Produced and circulated by The Reach Gallery Museum
Abbotsford. Curated by Laura Schneider.

Nicole Bauberger, Get There From Here
Opening Reception: Saturday April 13, 2 pm
April 13 - June 24, 2019
WHEREAS The Spark Photo Festival is a celebration of photography and the artists, innovators, storytellers, professionals and enthusiasts behind the camera lens; and

WHENAS April will mark the arrival of numerous photographic exhibits, artists, workshops, lectures and other related events and activities in locations throughout the Peterborough Region.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Diane Therrin, Mayor of the City of Peterborough, do hereby proclaim April 2019 to be Photography Month in the City of Peterborough. I encourage all citizens to participate in the various events and exhibits throughout the community that celebrate photographic art.
It is my great pleasure to extend sincere congratulations to the SPARK Photo Festival as we celebrate the opening of the 7th annual festival.

Every year in April, SPARK Photo Festival provides a forum for creativity and vision to take centre stage. The outstanding work displayed by these photographers takes us into a world that is often right in front of us but presented from a perspective few of us have ever seen or experienced. These works of art shared through SPARK adorn the walls of local galleries, studios, cafés and restaurants throughout our community in a celebration of the artists, dreamers, innovators, storytellers, professionals, and enthusiasts behind the camera lens.

This year’s featured exhibit theme is family life. There is nothing more important to the majority of us than the loved ones in our life. Family can mean many different things to many different people, but it is sure to elicit emotion. Whether it is the birth of a child, getting married to your soulmate, something as simplistic yet beautiful as a grandchild connecting with grandma or grandpa, or even the pain of losing someone dear to you, I look forward to seeing the stories that will be told, all through the unique and talented perspectives of these photographers.

For seven years now the SPARK Photo Festival has cemented itself as a staple of our community’s flourishing arts culture. Through the art of photography, it has always served as a truly powerful opportunity to explore the experiences of our people from a variety of viewpoints. I encourage everyone to take full advantage of this year’s festival—seek out these beautiful images, share in them with your friends and loved ones, and take time to appreciate the stories that each one of them tell.

Truly,

Maryam Monsef, P.C., M.P.
Peterborough—Kawartha
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Robert Boudreau
Bill Lockington
Micky Renders

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Linda Cardona
Margaret Hamilton
Michael Harris
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Randall Romano
Helen Smith
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Best of High School Photo Exhibit
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Christopher Greene Student Exhibit Lead
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Jeff Stover Kenner C.V.I.

Juried Themed Exhibit Family Life
Richard Bell, MPA, HLM, APPO, Cr. Photog. Judge
Frameland Frame It 4 U Frame Assembly
fireklix imaging & design Book Draw Prize
Wendy Gonneau Judge
SPARK Exhibit Sponsor & Prizes
Randall Romano Exhibit Helper
Allen Rothwell Judging Host
Charles Van den Ouden Judge

Catalogue Cover Photos
Front Cover Laura Berman
Back Cover Heather Doughty | Katie Ellement

Catalogue & Pocket Guide
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A special thanks to Jennifer Jones and all the staff at the Peterborough Public Library for facilitating the use of the library for the presentation of three SPARK Exhibits.
Festivals across humanity often signify either the start of an agricultural season, the planting, or the end of a season, the harvest. Cultural festivals share in this seasonal characteristic. SPARK’s annual harvest of photography highlights the abundance of photographic works created throughout our region, photos that are carefully cultivated year round in the imaginative gardens of its photographers. Each photographic image first germinates as a concept and is brought into the light through numerous exposures, experimentation, and often failure. Photos that bear little fruit are carefully weeded from the crop. Washed, cleaned and edited further in post, the photos are printed and presented to nourish the appetite of the observer who brings their own “story of looking” to the table.

The SPARK harvest of 2019 continues the story of looking. Since the first festival in 2013, SPARK has germinated a total of 351 photographic exhibits, representing hundreds of photographers and over 8000 photographic works. But this is simply the numbers.

Festivals also radiate positivity, a sense of belonging and identity achieved through a shared experience. SPARK is a great experiment by local lovers of photography asking the question “What if?” What if we had a local photo festival? What if that photo festival had an exhibit of the Balsillie Collection of Roy Studio Photos as selected by photographers? What if photographers of every skill level could exhibit their work? What if photographers invited businesses to act as venues, making them a partner in their art, bringing photography to where people go about their daily activities? What if the festival attracted internationally recognized super-star photographers like Edward Burtynsky and Larry Towell to the city? What if SPARK used photography to welcome and integrate newcomer youth in the community? The “what if” question is a good one, and has guided SPARK activity.

As a photo festival, SPARK is continually reviewing and assessing current and future photographic trends, most of which can be seen at this year’s festival.

AI (Artificial Intelligence) is poised to have a larger impact on photography than either the invention of the image sensor or social media. While image sensors led to the mass democratization of an art form, AI promises to “whitewash” that art form, paint it with the dictatorship of the algorithm. Currently, AI is at a primitive stage; facial recognition is used to organize photos of similar people into albums; and portraits and night photographs can be enhanced. As AI evolves however, it will be able to instantly review millions of similar images on the Internet then computationally alter the outcome to achieve “best” results. Ideas of aesthetics, whether human, natural, or object, will be coded into the algorithm. It will be the programmer who will decide what beauty is. The user/photographer may be allowed limited control – don’t like your dark skin colour, lighten it a shade or two; is your nose too long, shorten it. As images are “Disneyfied” through AI, one of photography’s central attributes, the ability (ironically though correctly always questioned) to document “reality” is finally being buried six feet under. There will no longer be any inherent or implied truth in the photographic document other than the truth of the algorithmic prejudices of the code writer.

Reaction to the proliferation of images on social media - images that with increasing frequency are regarded as inauthentic – is driving current photographic trends. AI will only intensify that reaction and strengthen current trends.

Photographers today are embracing what might be called the “slow photography movement” by returning to film-based photography with a renewed passion for craft. (See TASSS Film Photography) An essential attribute of photography, its’ materiality, has been lost in the virtual universe. With its one-off attribute, highly valued by visual artists, instant photography is also making a splash. SPARK as a festival, has always been based on the material attribute of the photographic creative process, with the print and not the original photograph, as the art object, the print being the ultimate and defining goal of photographic and artistic intention.

A second trend is the manipulation of the original photographic digital capture through intensive post-processing. A good example of image manipulation is found in Laura Berman’s work, featured on the 2019 SPARK catalogue cover. Using image-editing software, Laura meticulously paints over sections of the captured image pixel by pixel. Doing so, creates deep, atmospheric and layered realities, not quite photographic and not entirely painterly.

Since the invention of photography, photographers have manipulated their images, in camera through exposure, chemically during processing, by burning and dodging the print, or through multiple exposures onto either film or paper. Computer image editing software has expanded the tools available for image manipulation. These tools are increasingly used for the expression of individual artistic intent and vision.

A third trend might be called collaborative portraiture. This has a long history as a technique used by documentary photographers to establish trust with their subjects, often marginalized populations, resulting in access and authenticity that otherwise would be difficult to achieve.

Collaborative portrait photography reverses the power dynamic between the photographer and their subject. Traditionally the photographer decides how the person will be portrayed, the location, props, make-up, clothes, even facial expression and body posture. Collaboration with the subject in Heather Doughty’s project, Inspire: The Women’s Portrait Project, is central to the resulting portraits. Doughty advances the concept one step further by inviting the last portrait subject to “nominate” or suggest the next person to photograph, creating a domino effect wherein the whole series can be understood as a single collaborative effort.

SPARK didn’t happen in a vacuum. Due to the enormous range of talented photographers living and working in our region, SPARK was founded to give the medium and its practitioners a voice, a sense of common purpose and community. It is important to remember that SPARK came about due to the extraordinary efforts and hard work of many individual volunteers from our community. It has been an honour and a privilege to get to know and work alongside such a talented group of people, the photographers and the volunteers.

With the exception of the City of Peterborough, which has supported SPARK both financially but more importantly, with their encouragement and emotional support, SPARK has relied on building relationships with the local business community to drive the festival agenda, programming, and finances. That we were able to provide a bridge to connect the business and arts/culture community, not by asking for a hand out, but by accepting a business “hand in” the festival, especially in their role as exhibit venues, will remain an important part of the lasting SPARK legacy.

After seven years I am moving on to pursue personal projects. I would like to express my gratitude. Everyone I have met has made SPARK a most excellent adventure and they all shall always remain in my heart.

Robert Boudreau
Since the invention of the first roll–film camera in 1888 to the highly celebrated digital cameras of today’s age, the act of taking pictures has been both a pleasant pastime and a way of documenting the world and those who inhabit it.

We are sometimes shocked by the immediacy of an image, or soothed by memories preserved in a picture or provoked by a scene we don’t understand. Whatever our response, the picture taker is observing and documenting a Person, Place or Thing. It is up to us as the viewer to read the image and to let it percolate within; perhaps, allowing us to gain greater insight to what it is to be human and what it is to live in the world.

Our photographs are our treasures.

Chris Greene
2019 Student Exhibit Lead
2018 SPARK Juried Exhibit Results | Family Life 2019 Exhibit

2018 JURIED EXHIBIT

The theme of the 2018 SPARK Juried Exhibit was Reflections.

A maximum of 30 images from all submitted are chosen by a panel of expert judges to be printed, matted, and framed by SPARK for the exhibit. The images on this page are the 2018 Reflections awarded entries.

2019 JURIED EXHIBIT THEME

The theme of SPARK’s 2019 Juried Exhibit is Family Life.

The theme is an invitation to look both inward and outward to define through your photographs what family life means to you.

2019 EXHIBIT ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Exhibit Committee:
Robert Boudreau, Randall Romano, Allen Rothwell
Judges: Rick Bell, Wendy Gonneau, Charles van den Ouden,
Draw Prize: fireklix imaging & design
Frame Assembly: Frame It For U
Printing: Peterborough Clicks
Cash Prizes provided by SPARK

2019 JURIED EXHIBIT FAMILY LIFE

The theme of SPARK’s 2019 Juried Exhibit is Family Life.

The theme is an invitation to look both inward and outward to define through your photographs what family life means to you.

Peterborough Public Library
Friends of the Library Community Room
345 Aylmer St N
Peterborough
705 745.5382
libraryinfo@peterborough.ca
www.ptbolibrary.ca

Hours
M to Th 10 am to 8 pm
F | Sat 10 am to 5 pm
Sun 2 pm to 5 pm

2019 Juried Exhibit Family Life

2019 Reception & Family Life Awards
Friday April 5
6 pm to 9 pm

2018 First Place: Tere Deslippe Centre of Attention
2018 Second Place: Bryon Jones Marine Reflection
2018 Third Place: Lola Allin Reid: Khadija: Memories of Marrakech
2018 Best in Show: Peter Clute: Damselflies on Pondweed
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**STEP 3**  Place lens over this ad to GET STARTED

**STEP 4**  Look for this symbol in your snapd Peterborough paper and around town for unique **AR** experiences from our partners and the community
Featured Exhibits

Featured exhibits are meant to bring attention to the important role that public, private, and commercial galleries, artist collectives and studios play in the professional development of photographers and photography as an art form.
I am a self-taught photographer and have been making photographs since the 1970s. I was educated and worked in the field of biology for more than 35 years. My work took me from the shores of Lake Ontario to the coast of James Bay and points in between. My background in biology has provided an opportunity for me to experience and embrace the rich, natural diversity of Ontario, which is an inspiration in my photography.

My passion in photography is focussed on capturing the subtle details of the world that surrounds me. Through my photographs I hope to express a mood, convey a message and most of all, to lead the viewer to take a closer look at the world in which they live. There is subtle beauty close to us all, if we just take the time to stop and look at what surrounds us. We are the stewards of the world we live in and future generations will inherit what we pass on to them. It is my hope through my photographs to raise the viewer’s awareness of the world that surrounds them and in so doing inspire in them a greater appreciation for the natural world and all they see and experience.

This collection of photographs was made in and around the 95 acres near Bethany that my wife and I call home.
My motto is: “Enjoy the interesting and beautiful moments in your own small world.”

The local region of the Kawarthas offers much that for a photographer is interesting and beautiful. My youth on a family farm instilled a lifelong appreciation for animals and all aspects of farm life. In this exhibit I attempt to capture some interesting parts of our rural countryside.

Barns, fences, fields, animals and farm activity all have something to say to us if we pause on our journey to look and listen. I hope these photos will encourage you to expand the pleasure you can find in and around our countryside.

I have enjoyed photography all of my life, first using my family’s simple cameras to photograph livestock and farm settings. While in Alaska during military service in the 1950s I bought a 35mm camera and learned many techniques from comrades who were experienced photographers. The isolation and absence of other outlets gave time and space for much photography. Following retirement as Professor at Trent University I moved to digital equipment and began editing photos on computers. Photography has become an important part of my life. Thinking as a photographer helps me see that which is interesting and beautiful in my world.
Featured Exhibit

Andy Christopher
Victoria Beach

Alypsis Inc.
Singing Horse Gallery
686 Crown Drive
Peterborough
705 749-1894
ac-alypsis@nexicom.net
www.alypsis.com

Hours
M to Th 9 am to 5 pm
F 9 am to 4 pm
Weekends Closed

Andy Christopher
Peterborough
705 749-1894
ac-alypsis@nexicom.net

“Man is most nearly himself when he achieves the seriousness of a child at play.”

Heraclitus, Greek Philosopher - 535 BC-475 BC
Beverley has a collection of black and white family heirloom photos from the mid 1800’s and chose a few of these cherished images to retouch and put on display with the originals in their beautiful old frames.

Paul loves to manipulate the printed canvas and add his own touch with sculptured metal leaves or ‘splats’ of cast bronze. These sculpted touches highlight the textures in the photographic image, so the metal blends with the background and adds a surprise element for the viewer.

Peggy Cracknell has a deep affinity for Nature as seen in her images of water, rocks and flowers. She works with her husband Walter who prints all their images. He has a remarkable eye for the textures of rocks and water and his enlargements of his high-resolution images of rock surfaces make them seem quite dimensional.
This latest ‘portrait’ series combines my love of masks and primitive art with my habit of seeing faces in the strangest things. Having spent over 35 years photographing people and studying the human face, this is a new way for me to present my favourite subject. All the components were collected from a scrap metal yard near my home in Port Hope, Ontario. The individual pieces were carefully aged in my back garden until a suitable patina was achieved and then reconstructed as still life compositions. There are 22 males, 22 females and 8 non-binary, as I see them.
Artist Statement

Capturing the light is everything! As a photographic artist, it is always the light that I remember most about any location. It is my inspiration. Its elusive quality can transform a water or landscape in just a matter of seconds. I strive to convey that sense of place by capturing its fleeting magic.

Looking past the obvious, close observation and engagement of the subject is my process. The challenge is to see beyond the distraction of the conspicuous to capture its unique self. Some of my subjects are quite beautiful, others less so. My goal is to inspire those who see my work to look more carefully at the world around them, to discover beauty in unusual places.

My subject matter is nature, whether it is a traditional landscape or a silky waterfall I strive to have the patience to wait for the little extras that nature provides in time, such as a bird in flight or waiting for the clouds to part and showing off magnificent God rays streaming down.
Artist Statement

Just a girl and her dog, seeking adventure and new opportunities, making their way through life in a positive way.

Bronson and Cole is an ongoing collaborative effort between local photographers Katie Ellement and Heather Doughty.

Each portrait captures an adventure that occurs as canine Bronson and human friend Cole explore life. The portraits are humorous with a positive twist and underline the strong bond that humans and animals have.

The vintage theme evokes memories of a simpler time, while the minimalist composure encourages the viewer to invest in the experience by using their imagination to evolve the story.

Bronson and Cole are a light-hearted, positive commentary on friendship, youth and adventure.
Colborne Street Gallery proudly presents Geoff Fitzgerald’s *The Swimming Pools*, a selection of photographs documenting public pools across Toronto, Hamilton and Oakville. The swimming pool has been a source of inspiration for many artists. Matisse made a work titled *The Swimming Pool* in 1952, Hockney began painting his famous pools in the 1960s, and Edward Ruscha’s first book project in colour, *Nine Swimming Pools and a Broken Glass*, was printed in 1968.

Oozing with vibrant colours and a boldness typical of summer days, these images of a fleeting moment in the hot sun, also project the uncanny. One of Ruscha’s pools shows wet footsteps running off the diving board, yet no figures are present. It’s slightly off-putting. In a similar way, Fitzgerald has shot his photographs from an altered perspective; the bird’s eye view. His pools do not depict sparkling blue water and splashes in the sun, they are taken in the off-season; devoid of people and the warm tone of summer. They are empty, almost abandoned with a certain unease. Fitzgerald’s awareness and exploration of formal qualities combined with striking composition invites you to consider these spaces anew.

Fitzgerald is an award winning, Toronto-based freelance commercial and editorial photographer. He has worked with various clients including the Fairmont Hotels, Canadian Geographic, Ryerson University, and Habitat for Humanity. His most recent exhibition was held at Hashtag Gallery in Toronto in the Fall of 2018.
KATE’S STORY

I have always wanted to go to Iceland. Being able to go with my son, Justin, who has become a seasoned drone pilot and photographer, really made this a once in a lifetime experience. Justin planned our itinerary from beginning to end, taking us well off the beaten path and into incredible places of dreamlike beauty. The two of us would spend our days happily immersed in capturing our images, discussing approaches, techniques and the absolute wonder of it all.

The scenery was certainly spectacular, but what I loved most was spending this magical adventure together.

Kathryn Grierson

“Operating a drone tends to open some incredible, never before seen perspectives which are absolutely ripe for abstract photography. The stakes can be high (excuse the pun). On more occasions than I’d like to admit, I convinced myself she was a goner. Thankfully the drone’s “smart” self preservation features have tended to outsmart this operator.

A common theme in photography is that it inspires you to get out there and travel which, with my drone in tow, I have been very fortunate to be able to do. Most recently, this led my mother and I to Iceland, the land of fire and ice.”

Justin Sharp
The Kawartha Artists’ Gallery and Studio (KAGS) was created in 1990 by artists, for artists, aspiring artists and those interested in the arts. Our members work in a wide variety of media and styles. KAGS has also had a strong history in photography.

We have a unique gallery and studio entirely run as a co-operative by volunteers. KAGS is a non-profit organization funded and managed by its 70 plus member artists.

The gallery has exhibitions throughout the year which change every two to five weeks. The studio is currently used for workshops and weekly drop in art sessions. The studio, through arrangement with KAGS, is also available for use by other art groups.

Members and non-members alike can rent the gallery for individual or group shows during the year.

Each May we hold our “Best of High School Art Show” to celebrate and offer awards for works created by the art students of high schools throughout the area.

This, our third year to participate in SPARK, will feature member artists’ photography in two categories - Categories One and Two.

Category One is Art Photography by itself.

Category Two is Reference Photography with a Painting the photograph inspired.

We are very happy to be part of the SPARK Photo Festival once again and look forward to welcoming all SPARK visitors to KAGS.
The Absolute Eye Collective

Photo Found Modern Art

City of Kawartha Lakes Gallery
29 Francis St
Lindsay
705 324.9411
astsevens@kawarthalakes.ca

Hours
M to F  8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Sat | Sun Closed

Absolute Eye Collective
Peterborough
Contact John McQuade
705 799.2997
dralaimage@gmail.com
www.miksang.org
www.absoluteeye.org

Artist Talk Photo Found Modern Art
Monday April 15
6:30 pm
Lower Meeting Room
Lindsay Kawartha Library
190 Kent St
Lindsay

The Absolute Eye Collective
Director: John McQuade

“I think if you can turn off the mind and look only with the eyes, ultimately everything becomes abstract.”
- Ellsworth Kelly

Absolute Eye works from the gap of perception. That gap is before any interpretive framework. In this open vision the visual world is free form and often presents as abstract. This is the way of much Modern Art. This exhibit presents Photo Found Modern Art images.
Christopher Thorpe
Curves

META 4 Contemporary Craft Gallery
164 Hunter Street W
Peterborough
705 874.9444
ptbo@meta4gallery.ca
www.meta4gallery.ca

Hours
M noon to 5 pm
Tu to Sat 10 am to 5 pm
Sun noon to 4 pm
Closed On
F April 19
Sun April 21
M April 22

Christopher Thorpe
Warkworth
‘round the bend’ Studio
705 924.3313
thorpe@artbridge.ca
www.christopherthorpe.ca

Receptions & Events
Friday April 5
6 to 10 pm
Free Photography activity in the studio
Sunday April 14
2 to 4 pm
Free Photography activity in the studio

My artwork is different. I currently paint on canvas that is giclée printed with my photographic compositions. My subject is crows in our rural environment.

Most of my landscapes feature curves or waves. This goes a long way back for me. I was introduced to yacht racing as a 6 year old sailing the long gentle (sometimes turbulent) waves of the North Sea. These environs were repeated in the undulating landscapes of the Yorkshire Wolds that surrounded our home. I’d often take walks through woodland with their rookeries. Those crows intrigued me… I wished I could get closer and befriend one. With my passion for sailing I later pursued performance yacht design which is all about curves. Many of my furniture pieces just happen to feature curvatures. The rolling hills around my Warkworth home bring me comforting joy.

Influenced by the thinking of David Hockney and his paintings of the Yorkshire Wolds (and his frustration with Western Art being dedicated to a single vanishing point – thanks to the camera obscura back in the 15th century – see his “Secret Knowledge”) I merge together multiple photographs, thus generating multiple vanishing points, I print on museum quality canvas in a broad horizontal format – to match how our two horizontal eyes scan a landscape. Once printed and mounted I get out my brushes and enhance these canvasses with crows. In addition to the satisfaction of leaving my painted personal mark, the crows, which also have curved flight paths, really bring my pictures to life.
Individual Exhibits
Artist Statement
My work is an exploration of the interior and emotional life of animals, particularly farm animals. I create an atmosphere of classically dramatic light and space to illuminate my subjects individuality and emotions, offering the viewer the opportunity to recognize that these animals do have inner lives and to see them as ‘some-one’ not as ‘some-thing’. Through the intersection of photography and painting I am able to create an image that reflects the way my mind and heart understand the scene more fully than with photography alone. My work begins with the literal photograph. I then digitally paint into it using a series of over and underlays, rich colours, light and textures to create an image that is more of a classical portrait rather than a photographic recording. The edited photographs are strikingly different from the original image captured by the camera, creating an emotional impact more real than reality.
The exhibit “Let’s Dance” is inspired by my friend Karen (Priest) Nickle. We met in grade school. Though I’ve known Karen a long time, it was only recently I came to the realization that Karen loves to dance.

To honour Karen during a difficult moment along her life journey, I decided to comb through my archives searching for photographs of dancing and dancers. I knew these photographs would resonate positively for Karen.

The initial edit yielded over 250 original dance photographs. Many are from a time long ago and were exposed on film, either BW or transparency; a few are the result of editorial or portrait commissions but most are simply because I happened to be present with a camera while people were dancing.

I decided to work collaboratively, with a group of friends and fellow photographers to chose the final exhibit photographs. That they understood intuitively the life affirming essence of motion is testament to the restorative power of this art form.

“Let’s Dance” documents that energy and promise.

“Dance me to your beauty with a burning violin
Dance me through the panic ‘til I’m gathered safely in
Lift me like an olive branch and be my homeward dove
Dance me to the end of love.”

Leonard Cohen
I have loved photography since I first purchased a Brownie box camera at the age of 16. The play of light through the lens on land and water, the muscles of animals, and the feathers of birds entices me.

I am drawn from country roads to the sight of horses in green fields, birds in leafy bowers, or a red fox near her den.

In September I visited the Great Bear Rainforest in BC and came home with multiple images of Spirit Bears, black bears, and whales breaching. In October I drove into Yukon Territory to photograph landscapes studded with glacial rivers and lakes.

My past travels have taken me to Sable Island (home of the legendary feral horses), Newfoundland (especially Change Islands and Fogo, with the ponies and icebergs), Prince Edward Island (which I called home for 8 years), and Europe (where I rambled for 14 months in my youth).

I must acknowledge the role Northumberland Photo Club has played in my education with the camera and development of images in Lightroom. After a day of shooting, I spend many hours on the computer selecting images for refinement.

I invite you to peruse this collection and perhaps linger over a delicious meal served with care at the Monaghan Café.
Barb Callander

Bear Necessities

Barb Callander is a Manitoba born wildlife photographer living in the Kawartha's. She frequents remote locations photographing at risk wildlife in their natural environment. Barb’s work has been published in Canadian Geographic and Canadian Wildlife Federation on-line publications. She has exhibited her work at the City of Kawartha Lakes City Hall, SPARK, the Victoria County and Rolling Hills Studio Tours and publishes an annual wildlife calendar to raise funds for World Wildlife Fund Canada.

Her fascination with apex predators continues with a journey north of the 58th parallel to Katmai National Park in search of the Alaskan Brown Bear.

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Barbara Callander
Pontypool
Rolling Hills Photography
barb.callander@icloud.com
www.rollinghillsphoto.com

Reception
Sunday April 14
3 to 5 pm
Linda Cardona

Line by Design

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Linda Cardona
Peterborough
705 772.5564
lindacardona@bell.net
facebook.com/LindaCardonaPhotography

Reception
Sunday April 7
4 to 6 pm

Exhibit Tour With Photographer
Every Sat in April 2 pm to 3:30 pm

Artist Statement
I have been captivated by photography for as long as I can remember. Like many photographers, I learned on a film camera and then moved over to digital. I love the ability to post process in both Lightroom and Photoshop.

Photographing architecture and architectural details makes my heart soar - whether in colour or black and white. I have purposefully sought out opportunities to discover the beauty of architecture in numerous locations including Peterborough, Toronto, Montreal, Puerto Rico and Mexico. I am thrilled at the prospect of combining my love of floral photography and architecture photography.

Lines are one of the key elements in photography. Lines are found in abundance in architecture. They may be leading lines, repeating lines, shadowy lines, straight or even curvy lines. They add strength and impact to photography.

The theme for my exhibit this year is “lines”. I have gathered together a collection of images in which lines are the dominant feature. The collection is a combination of both new works as well as some old favourites from previous years.

I hope you enjoy my show.
INSPIRE began as the personal project of local photographer Heather Doughty. It is a photographic celebration of inspirational women organically nominated by the community, resulting in a diverse visual commentary of extraordinary women of the area. The photographs are accompanied by unedited biographies of the women chronicling a pivotal life moment or humourous overview. This combination of visual and the written word challenges the viewer to truly see the women and to connect with her, thus opening positive conversations about culture, empowerment and celebration.
I was born in Peterborough in 1947, left and returned in 2004. In 2017, I celebrated being married 50 years to a wonderful man and great partner. I have two daughters who both live in the USA with their families, and grandmother to three amazing grandchildren who constantly bring me joy. I took up photography later in life. Photography has allowed me to see the world with a different perspective with the added pleasure of meeting some wonderful people along the way.

I am currently a member of Spirit of the Hills Arts Association, a volunteer group known as ‘Designing Women’, President of the Peterborough Photographic Society and a board member for the SPARK Photo Festival.

My work has been shown in local restaurants, Elmhirst’s Resort, the Kawartha Tourism Centre, the Ganaraska Art and Framing Shop, the John M. Parrot Gallery, the Square Foot Show at the Port Hope Jazz Festival, Kawartha Artist Studio and Gallery, Warkworth Juried Art Shows, Fairhaven Home, Nelms Opticians, Trent Hills Library, and gift shops. In the fall of 2011, I held a two day personal studio tour at my home and am now planning another one this spring.

At the Long Lunch Juried Art show in 2010, one of my pieces placed second. I also received Best of Photography 2013 for the Maple Syrup Festival in Warkworth and participated in the First and Second, Fourth and Fifth SPARK Photo Festival as a solo exhibitor. In 2019 once again, I will have a solo exhibit at Elmhirst’s Resort in the Keene area.

In 2016, I had the honour of receiving two awards from the County of Peterborough and Otonabee South Monaghan for ‘Leadership in Arts and Culture’

For the year 2018 and 2019, I acted as curator and featured many local photographers each month at Elmhirst’s Resort in Keene, Ontario.
I started in photography many decades ago while in high school, mostly black and white prints, processed at home in my father’s darkroom which was a great way to learn the fundamentals of photography. Times change though and film has been replaced with digital images but the art of capturing those moments in time remains constant.

I have lived in Peterborough, just steps away from the waterway, for almost 20 years now and have always enjoyed experiencing nature, life and local activities and this is reflected in many of my photos. I also love photographing pets of all kinds - they’re such big parts of our lives but often leave us all too soon. You’ll see some of my favourites in this exhibit.

Photography is all about light and I’ve become increasingly interested in the science of light - the quality and quantity of it – and how to use it to best effect in an image. I’m always learning and hopefully these images reflect my ongoing experiences with light, life, nature and the special moments and people that are captured forever in an image.
Inspiration

Bio
I have been enjoying photography for over 35 years and my hope and purpose is to capture images that help me to pause, reflect, be curious, and to inspire me to connect with something bigger than myself. My hope is that you find inspiration to feel connected in areas that matter to you. I invite you to explore my exhibition and am excited to share my thoughts and feelings with you through these images.
Photographer Statement

All photographers dream of the African experience – some of the most interesting and prolific wildlife in the world, numerous cultures and unique geography. Mine was 2010, seven weeks, 11,000 kilometres, 8 countries, coast to coast; never to be forgotten. These are a few images that record the experience.

Bio

Bill Lockington, a co-founder of SPARK, has been a life-long photographer who teaches, exhibits and is a frequent contributor to periodicals and publications. His work is exhibited in the traditional forms of framed prints and large canvases in a number of private and corporate collections and in self-published photography books. He has participated in numerous workshops with, among others, noted Canadian photographers Freeman Patterson, Andre Gallant, Lyle McIntyre and Dennis Minty. Today Bill teaches digital photography and image editing, through the Art School of Peterborough, and has taught at Fleming College's Haliburton School of Fine Art. Travel strongly influences the subject matter of his photography. He enjoys macro work and the pure creative side of the photographic medium. Favourite thoughts on photography are “there are always pictures in the pictures” and “your best pictures are those right around you”.

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Bill Lockington
Peterborough
705 742 1674 x219
wlockington@llf.ca
www.wslphoto.com

Reception
Tuesday April 2
5 to 7 pm
Morocco Travels

Biography

Ken has been behind a camera lens ever since he borrowed his father’s Leica when he was 14. It has been a passion undiminished by time and circumstance.

His knowledge and experience has been built up through both taking and teaching courses and seminars, camera clubs, commercial, portrait and wedding assignments - but mainly by shooting an awful lot of pictures. He gives presentations to a variety of audiences, maintains a web site, and produces books on various themes.

His orientation has been eclectic, but with a leaning to the outdoor world and to his travels. He has connected his scuba diving with a large body of work taken underwater. His interest in canoeing, kayaking and wilderness travel, and his proclivity to carrying his camera wherever he goes, has resulted in a record of those endeavors. Through extensive travels he tries to capture a wide variety of cultural experiences and world sights.

Ken has a business background in the oil industry and consulting, both in Canada and internationally. He has also taught, led a not-for-profit organization and worked for CESO. He has served on the boards of a number of organizations. This is his seventh SPARK show.

Statement

I recently returned (in November) from a trip with my two sons. When they were younger we travelled frequently, so it seemed a great idea to do another trip together. Morocco is a prosperous, stable and independent country approximately the same population as Canada. Religiously it’s almost exclusively Muslim, while ethnically it is predominantly Arab-Berber with a significant European influence; this is reflected in its food, architecture, language and customs.

My photo show will contain images from the cities (especially the medinas, or old cities), the marketplaces or souks (that sell every imaginable thing), the central plains, the Atlas mountains and the Sahara Desert. Watch out for goats in the Argan trees, and the camels.
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705 799.2997
dralaimage@gmail.com
www.miksang.org
www.absoluteeye.org

Artist Talk
Thursday April 18
7:30 pm
The Path of Perception
Kawartha Shambhla Meditation
The Mount Community Centre
1545 Monaghan Rd

Absolute Eye Collective
The Secret Life of Mannequins

Director: John McQuade

“It’s too bad she won’t live...but then again who does?”
from the movie Blade Runner

Absolute Eye works from the gap of perception. That gap is before any interpretive framework. This opens the possibility of playing with the visual world. In this exhibit we imagine the Secret Life of Mannequins.

This summer John McQuade will present two five-day Contemplative Photography courses at the Haliburton School of Art. He is co-author of two books: Looking and Seeing and Heart of Photography.
Garry Barker | Steve Brittain | Ralph Colley | Jennie Versteeg

Images B4

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Garry Barker
Peterborough
gajbarker@yahoo.ca

Steve Brittain
Toronto
sbritt51@gmail.com

Ralph Colley
Selwyn
1colley.ralph@gmail.com

Jennie Versteeg
Peterborough
versteegjen@bell.net

Reception
Saturday April 13
1 to 3 pm

Garry Barker
I enjoy most kinds of photography but lately I
have become interested in cityscapes. For this
my 6th SPARK exhibit, my theme will consist of a
series of images of “Independent and Family Run
Movie Theatres”. Some of the buildings are more
than 100 years old but they are still in operation
and movies have been screened on a continuous
basis for many years.

Steve Brittain
I became interested in photography in the
late 60’s and was hooked. I went on to study
Photography at Humber College. I was employed
in the photo industry working at City TV, and at
the CBC on the National News service. This will
be my 6th year with SPARK and I would like to
thank Bridgenorth Library for giving me another
opportunity to display my work.

Ralph Colley
I look forward to another SPARK exhibit this year
at the Bridgenorth Library as part of Images B4.
My photos for the exhibit are largely from an
ongoing series of street and travel photography
with a few other images I like enough to share.

Jennie Versteeg
This year marks a break from my usual—no fungi,
no dead trees. Instead, there’s a series inspired by
climate change, bits the cat left me, and more.

Garry Barker The Fox Theatre
Steve Brittain Alley
Ralph Colley George
Jennie Versteeg Orange is the New Black
This is our fourth year participating in the SPARK Photo Festival. Previously our exhibits have had more traditional themes, such as “Nature’s Gems”, “In the Meadow” and “Faces From the Crowd”. This year we have taken a much different approach. We hope that you enjoy...

IT’S ALL IN THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER

For some a photograph may be worth a thousand words; for others it may simply create uncertainty, speculation or questions as to what the photographer may have seen and tried to capture. However, when present, a title or a caption can be helpful in suggesting what may have been in the photographer’s mind.

With each photo in our exhibit there are a few words describing what one of us observed when making that image. You may see things differently. That is because ‘it’s all in the eye of the beholder’ and sometimes the fertile mind of the photographer as well!

Ann Hilborn and Peter Clute
Apparent Horizon

The horizon is a limit of perception, a framework to understand what one sees. A camera gives the photographer a tool that can manipulate that edge. Each of these photographs brings attention to the horizon by focusing on it, by blurring it, or by dispensing with it altogether. The intent is to expand interest both in what is apparent, and what is beyond what can be seen.
Mission Statement

To provide photographers, new and experienced, from Peterborough and the Kawartha area, a resource to learn basic and advanced skills required to create a more compelling photographic artwork with a balance of technical and hands-on approach in a fun and social atmosphere.

Our Goals

- Community Involvement
- Photographic Education
- Forums for members to present their photos
- Promote a fun and social environment

The Kawartha Camera Club is the largest and most active photographic club in the Kawarthas. We meet regularly on Thursday evenings throughout the year.

- During the summer months each Thursday is spent at a location that offers a variety of photographic challenges.
- During the winter months we continue to meet at an indoor location in Peterborough between 6:30 - 9:30 pm to discuss all aspects of photography and conduct weekly mini-workshops, followed by coffee.
- The last Thursday of each month is reserved for our month-end photo review where we display photos taken throughout the month.
- The second Saturday of each month is reserved for a day outing for photos and fun at a predetermined location.

These events allow members the opportunity to socialize with other members of the club and discuss photography techniques.
The Peterborough Photographic Society celebrates its 36th anniversary this year. The club was formed to encourage and develop the photographic skills of its members with an opportunity to enjoy the fellowship and support of people with similar interests. These objectives continue to guide the club today. This is an excellent club for both beginners and experienced photographers. Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday of each month from September through June at the Lions centre on Burnham St. in Peterborough. The first part of each meeting is reserved for presentations on photographic subjects by either outside speakers or club members. Following a break for refreshments, the second part of the meeting is used to display member images within various categories and during this time members are free to ask questions and make suggestions regarding the images. Outings are organized each month to interesting photographic venues, giving members a chance to capture and compare images from different perspectives, as well as an opportunity to exchange artistic and technical information. A monthly newsletter “The Viewfinder” keeps us abreast of activities, and can be found on our Website. Detailed club information can be found on our Website at www.peterboroughphotographicsociety.com. Or email us at info@peterboroughphotographicsociety.com.
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Aspire Program (John Howard Society)

What we see.

Aspire is a mentorship program that supports youth (ages 17-25) in achieving training and employment success through a variety of interactions with mentors. We believe that through leadership opportunities, engagement in our community and the chance to connect with other community members in a positive way, our participants are better prepared to navigate the challenges of career development.

Several of our participants have come together through a love of taking pictures and with the mentorship of local photographer, Heather Doughty, have met regularly to explore photography and develop their skills. The result is this amazing exhibit.

Our theme; “What we see” allows us to peer through the lens of each photographer, while recognizing that each of our participants comes to Aspire with different perspectives and experiences. Their passion for photography has led these young adults to carry a camera around with them capturing moments that allow them to communicate aspects of their daily realities that we would never otherwise see. Some of the images are candid, taken in a flash of inspiration, while others are more traditionally staged. The wide variety of subject matter displayed gives us a glimpse into how each person sees and understands their world.

We are very grateful to Heather Doughty Photography for both her ongoing mentorship and generously sponsoring our submission to this festival. Big thanks also to photographer Jason Warren (@lynxtalon) for volunteering his time with the program.

Aspire is a program at the John Howard Society, in partnership with Employment Planning & Counselling and Trent Valley Literacy Association.
Brain Injury Association Peterborough Region (a registered business name of Four Counties Brain Injury Association) has been operating since 1988. BIAPR supports individuals in Peterborough, City of Kawartha Lakes, Haliburton, and Northumberland Counties. The association has evolved into a dynamic organization that provides a range of supports to a clientele with diverse and complex needs. B.I.A.P.R. services are designed to form the basis of a comprehensive model of community support service delivery.

The ABI Day Services offered in Peterborough and the City of Kawartha Lakes (Lindsay) are geared to adults with acquired brain injuries, who have varied needs and capabilities. B.I.A.P.R. is able to provide productive and meaningful activities for all participants. Photography provides our members a new and exciting way to communicate when finding words may be difficult.

2019 will be the sixth year that B.I.A.P.R. has participated in the SPARK Photo Festival; each year more and more of our members are embracing photography. Members look forward to showcasing their work in April during the Festival.

Through the lens of a camera members are able to capture images that are meaningful to them. Our Community Exhibit exposes their creativity and abilities. This chance to engage in the community beyond B.I.A.P.R.’s doors is an opportunity for all our members to interact with people in new ways. The B.I.A.P.R. Open House allows for members to interact with the new people as they discuss their photography.

We continue to be involved in SPARK Photo Festival because photography and the images shared through our members’ eyes can transcend the challenges of living with an Acquired Brain Injury.

B.I.A.P.R.’s theme for 2019 is “Connections” which offers us an opportunity to delve deeper what this word means for each member. By sharing our photographs we can show the diversity of the lives that we all live. Through the camera lens we are all equal in ability.

As B.I.A.P.R.’s members, volunteers and staff – we look forward to sharing our images with our community again this year. Come and share our vision of what “Connections” means to us.
In 2011, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) officially designated April 30th as International Jazz Day in order to highlight jazz and its role of uniting people from all corners of the globe.

Since 2015, Peterborough has joined cities, in 190 countries the world over, in celebrating this day. International Jazz Day Peterborough hosts an annual series of events over the last weekend in April. Educational workshops for aspiring musicians, film screenings, musical performances in local restaurants – and the headline concert – light up the downtown with the many sights and sounds of jazz.

Celebrating Jazz And The Musicians Behind The Music, pays homage to the jazz scene in Peterborough. Bill Lockington’s photographs, taken in and around the city during recent months, feature many personalities active in the local community. He caught up with musicians at gigs, jams and rehearsals – in local bars, restaurants, schools and living rooms. Celebrating Jazz And The Musicians Behind The Music, captures a glimpse or a moment, when the lens freezes in time a fleeting instant of live jazz: the ambience, the aura, the energy. The viewer acquires a sense of the intertwining of sound and image.

These photographs will appear in the lobby of Peterborough’s historic Market Hall during the entire month of April and at the main event of International Jazz Day, on the 28th, which features the internationally renowned Afro-Cuban jazz act Jane Bunnett and Maqueque. The collection pays homage to the vitality and creativity of the musicians who entertain with jazz, the timeless music which continues to fascinate, challenge and delight us.
As we approach our third year as part of the SPARK Photo Festival, we are excited to present our exhibit about the relationship of nature and youth homelessness. We will be at Pappas Billiards on George St. once again this year.

The YES Shelter is happy to be bringing the photography of the youth in our community to the SPARK festival.

“When you’re homeless you feel isolated, you’re not a part of the greater community, you feel like a burden on the greater community and you’re not as accepted.” – Previously homeless youth.

Youth who participated in SPARK in the past often felt like they weren’t a part of the community. Through their participation in SPARK, that changed. It gave them a bridge to the community, a common ground, art.

We welcome you to join us to view our photography at a reception on the 5th from 7 to 9 pm at Pappas Billiards.
2019

Student Exhibits Individual & Group
At Trent University, we recognize that the spark of a new idea is all it takes to create big change. It’s why we pride ourselves on fostering a learning environment that inspires our students to challenge the way they think about the world.

We are proud to be associated with the SPARK Photo Festival since its inception. Congratulations to all exhibitors, including those from Trent University.
David Bigg is a visual artist and photographer. He graduated from the Peterborough Integrated Arts Program at Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School in 2017. He has shown at a variety of venues, including Artspace, By the Bridge and the Best of High School Art. He first became interested in film photography when he was given his grandfather’s old OM-1 SLR camera. He now shoots 35mm, 120, and 4x5 film formats, and uses a variety of vintage and antique cameras, some up to 80 years old, as well as using his cell phone for mobile photography. He shoots and develops all of his own film, as well as doing all of his own darkroom work. He is presently studying fine arts at the University of Ottawa.

Theme

These photos explore the everyday as seen from new perspectives, focusing on the abstract compositions inherent in the world when one takes the time to look for them.

Artist Statement

I used the limitations of the photographic medium (static images, fixed perspective and depth of field), as well as the limitations of different types of cameras (including my smartphone, as well as 35mm, 120, and 4x5 film cameras) to force myself to look at the world in a different way. Limiting myself to the black and white format further stripped away all the non-essential elements until all that was left was the interplay of shadow and light.
Bio

Brileigh Hardcastle is a Toronto based artist currently in her final year of study of photography at Ryerson University. Interested in topics surrounding absence/presence and issues in urban planning, Brileigh’s work uses a hybrid of documentary and abstract approaches to her subject matter.

Statement

Urban expressways are some of the most prominent features of a metropolitan environment. This is especially the case for elevated highways, which serve to reorganize the flow of traffic by making use of the space above and below street level. In Toronto, there are a handful of highways that run in and around the city, but the Gardiner is by far the most prominent. It has been called “the largest and least known civic presence in Toronto”. Being the first major highway in Toronto, the Gardiner was built at a time when the car was deemed a right rather than a luxury.

Today the expressway hides in plain sight as the rest of the city rapidly develops around it. Mimicking the shoreline, it weaves in and around commercial, industrial, and residential areas. As a structure, the expressway spans 18 kilometers in length and is elevated in sections as high as six stories. It occupies over 60 acres of land, not including the land affected by being adjacent to it which encompasses over 100 acres. And yet, its presence is either unacknowledged or forgotten by many.

The Gardiner: A Reclamation embraces a highly subjective approach to seeing the Gardiner Expressway. This project works to depict familiar infrastructure in a way that makes it strange and beautiful. Using various techniques, the photographs transform this monstrosity of a monolith through obscure depictions of the Gardiner. Ranging from documentary to abstract, the images in this series are not limited to a single category of image-making. Together, the photographs work against how we see normally city infrastructure, transforming the Gardiner into something worth documenting for its formal value and aesthetic character.
GROUP STATEMENT

We are a group of graduate students in the Environmental and Life Sciences program at Trent University. Our common interests in science and photography brought us together to present our works showcasing primarily nature and photographs from around the world.

Rishabh Sarswat

Rishabh was born in Muzaffarnagar, India. He has been working as an Environmental Scientist for the last 10 years in India, South Korea, and now in Canada. He is a Yoga and meditation practitioner and is always fascinated with the colours of nature. His growing up and breathing eastern world reflects, as first thing people notice in his work are the colours. The themes in most of his work are natural landscapes with human presence. He wants to convey the spirituality, colours and emotions he has been a witness of. Science can be overwhelming at times, and he finds therapy in expressing by photography.

Victoria Durrett

Victoria (Tori) recently relocated to Ontario from New Hampshire where she first started experimenting with nature photography. She specializes in close-up and single subject photography and pulls her inspiration from the diverse mountain landscapes of New England. She especially loves photographing flowers and animals.

Cassandra DeFrancesco

Cassandra picked up her first camera at the age of 12. Since then, her passion for photography grew. She fell in love with capturing moments that are no longer with us but evoke emotion when viewed upon again. Cassandra enjoys capturing the details of everyday life by using macro photography to larger scale landscape photography. You won’t find a shortage of flower or golden hour shots in her photographs.

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Cassandra DeFrancesco
Kawartha Lakes
flickr.com/photos/cassiedphotos

Victoria Durrett
Peterborough
facebook.com/CSwanPhotos

Rishabh Sarswat
Peterborough
instagram.com/dr.wanderful

Reception
Wednesday April 10
4 to 6 pm
TASSS Digital Photography Students

Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School - Capture the Moment

Students in the Digital Photography Classes at TASSS, embark upon a creative journey, embracing new skills and techniques throughout one semester. Students learn a variety of camera techniques and styles of photography, as well as the elements and principles of design which they apply in a creative and unique way. A moment of their journey is shown here, as part of their final exam, where they create images in two styles of their choosing. The goal of the course is for students to continue to grow as photographers, to see the beauty in the ordinary, to manipulate light to evoke emotion in order to tell a story.
Students embark upon an exploration of traditional photography and darkroom techniques as they explore the world through the camera lens.

The images they make embody the spirit of the beginning and end of a five-month relationship - their first experience with a pinhole camera - and culminates with what they consider their best work.

Students first work with a cardboard box, making a pinhole image (oddly, not being able to see through the lens at all!). What emerges is a surprise, an initial realization of their search for interesting subjects full of contrast and natural design.

Subsequently, upon experiencing reality through the viewfinder of a 35 mm camera, they navigate their way through a world of image and sensation, gaining greater autonomy and more fully informed control over the final photographic product.

_Beyond the Lens_ suggests working through a process - coming out the other side with newly discovered vision, experience and confidence. It also suggests the notion of experimentation. Working with mixed media and alternative processes offers the student the opportunity to embellish, distort, and manipulate the image. It’s fun and it’s liberating.

Ultimately students emerge from the film photography class having observed, absorbed and processed the potential beauty of a street corner, an abandoned yard or a secluded figure with a newfound understanding of the form, content, and significance of the everyday.
Sunflower Fantasy 2018 Andy Christopher
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SEE YOU AT THE SPARK PHOTO FESTIVAL