

2025 PUFFERBILLY DAYS

SEPTEMBER 19 - 21ST

BOONE, IOWA



THE BOOK

2025 SUBMISSIONS
& AWARDS



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The 2025 Pufferbilly Days Photo Contest
is sponsored by:



CHRISTOPHER BENNETT



I want to give a heartfelt thanks to all the photographers that entered one, two, or six photos in this year's Pufferbilly Days Photo Contest. YOU make this contest fun, creative, and growing every year.

In 2021 when I took over the Pufferbilly Days Photo Contest there were 20 entries. This year there were 148 entries! Adult entries totaled 118, Teen had a total of 20 and Youth contributed 10 entries. We can't wait for continued growth in 2026!

Special thanks and gratitude to everyone that helped make the photo contest a success this year by assisting in one way or another. From clerical assistance to judging to putting together the photo displays a lot of hands are needed every year to make this contest happen.

Thank you to the 2025 Judges, Nathaniel Brown, Jon Wilson, and Logan Kahler.

Administrative help included Teresa Kahler and Carla Stensland, thank you. The photo displays were touched by several people including, Monica and Graham Jennings, Jay Janson, Jesse Howard, Johnathan Stensland, Dawn Krause, Kevin Krause, Debra Krause and Andesa Hicks, thank you all.

A huge thank you goes to Amanda Nichols for creating the plaques for the trophies. Our local business play a big role in the contest every year. Thank you to, Ema's Elegance, the Boone Theater, The Book Shoppe, Infamous Ink, Madge's Herbal Shop, Paradox, and Soda & Pop's for making space for us and displaying the photos with pride! Last but not least, thank you to our 2025 contest sponsor, Nerem & Sons.

Until next year's contest, thanks again and keep shooting!

Chris Bennett





NATHANIAL BROWN

Nathaniel Brown is a central Iowa-based photographer and cinematographer with more than a decade of creative experience. Trained at Full Sail University, he has built a diverse portfolio ranging from music and live event production to commercial projects and agricultural storytelling. His work is recognized for capturing authentic moments and visually connecting people to place, whether through community events, abandoned rural landscapes, or the daily life of farming in Iowa. In addition to his independent creative pursuits, Nathaniel now serves as Director of Marketing at Landus, where he continues to integrate his passion for photography and videography into strategic agricultural communications.



JON WILSON

Based in Ames, Iowa, Jon Wilson is an award-winning photographer celebrated for his ability to capture moments that transcend time and emotion. With a keen eye for detail and a commitment to authenticity, he specializes in portraiture, landscapes, seniors, and family photography—each image thoughtfully crafted to tell a visual story.

Jon's work is distinguished by a unique perspective where technical precision meets creative intent. Whether framing the raw beauty of nature, revealing the depth of human emotion, or elevating the elegance of everyday life, Jon tirelessly pushes the boundaries of visual storytelling.

He brings to the table not just artistry, but also professionalism and an empathetic approach that makes every client feel at ease. This ensures a smooth and enjoyable experience—from the session itself to the final delivery.

Recognized for both creative and technical excellence, Jon's work has earned him several prestigious awards.



LOGAN KAHLER



Logan Kahler is a photographer and filmmaker with roots in journalism and storytelling. He began his career in high school, working as a photographer, writer, and layout designer for The Spotlight at Boone High School before moving on to shoot for the Iowa State Daily. There, he transitioned into video, serving as Video Editor for two years and leading a team of shooters. During an internship at the Daily Times Herald in Carroll, Logan earned multiple creative writing awards and was recognized with the Iowa Newspaper Association's award for Best Video in 2015. After graduating from Iowa State



University in 2018 with a degree in Journalism & Mass Communication, Logan became Managing Editor of the Boone News Republican. He covered everything from breaking news to sports and hosted a weekly video series, Coffee with a Councilman, spotlighting local community issues. Today, Logan runs Logan Kahler Photo | Video, a full-service photography and videography business based in Boone, Iowa. He specializes in wedding photography and films while also capturing families, events, and more. Beyond his creative work, Logan is a husband and father of three, an avid BBQ competitor, a regular Iowa State Fair participant, and a house flipper alongside his wife.





YOUTH SUBMISSIONS & AWARDS



EMAROSE DAVIS
SUNFLOWER
YOUTH PLANTS



BRANTLEE STAEBLER
"SUNNY DAY TRAIN"
YOUTH TRANSPORTATION



GREY ERICKSON
SUNSETS & SUNFLOWERS
YOUTH IOWA PLACES



EMAROSE DAVIS
BACKBONE STATE PARK
YOUTH PLANTS



STANLEY UPAH
TULIPS
YOUTH PLANTS



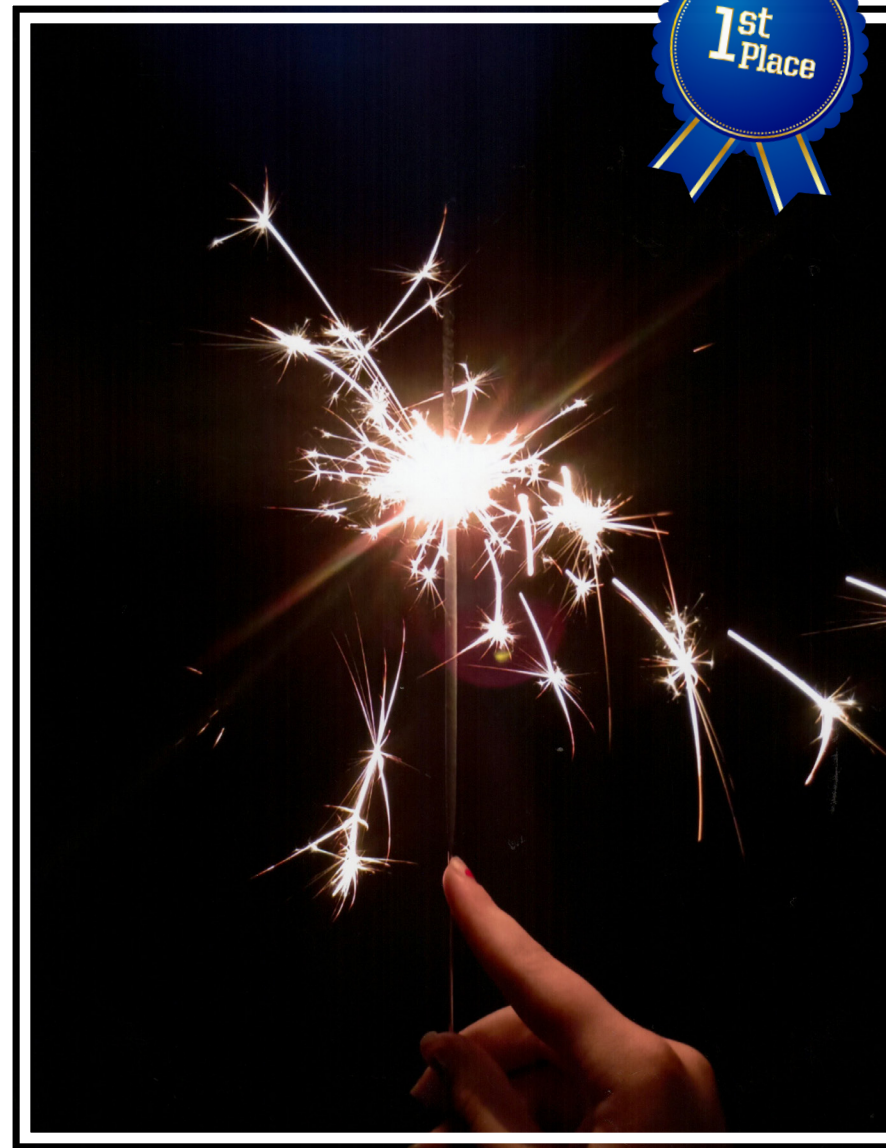
GREY ERICKSON
ALL ABOUT PERSPECTIVE
YOUTH BLACK & WHITE



EMAROSE DAVIS
MIXED EMOTIONS
YOUTH HUMANS



EMAROSE DAVIS
INDEPENDENCE DAY
YOUTH THINGS



GREY ERICKSON
SUNFLOWER DREAM
YOUTH PLANTS

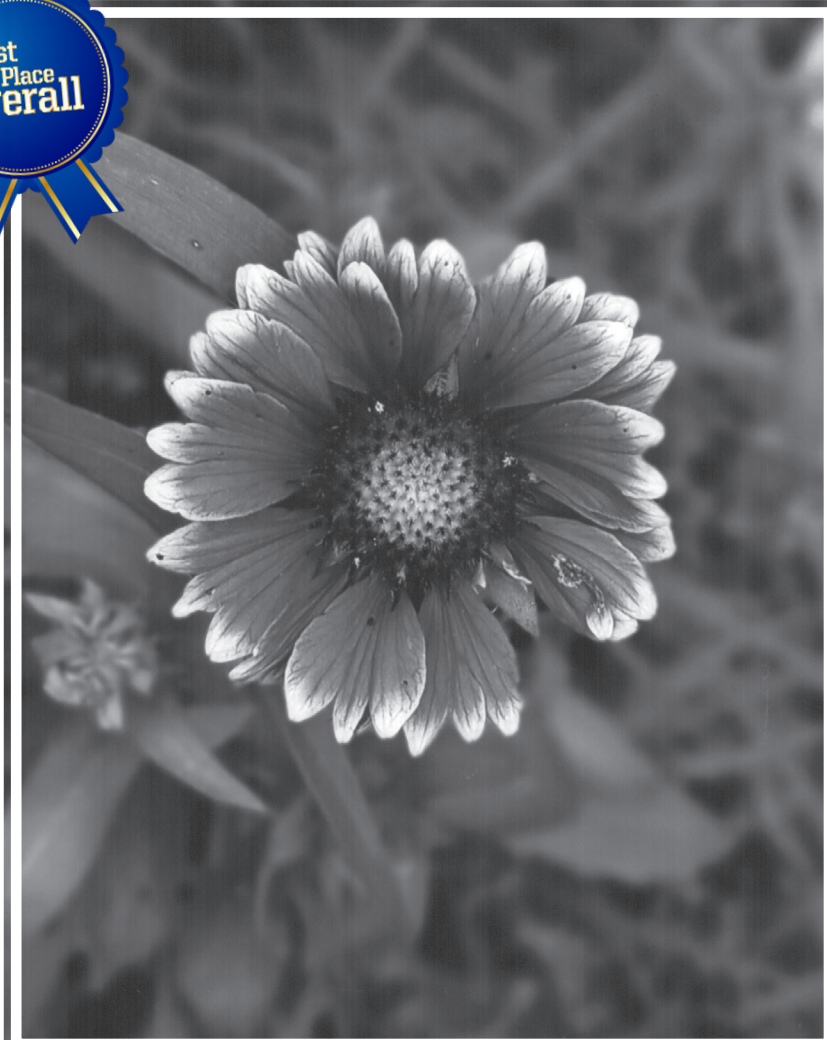


BRANTLEE STAEBLER
SUNNY SHOWDOWN
YOUTH ANIMALS





BRANTLEE STAEBLER
GRAFFITI ARTIST
YOUTH THINGS



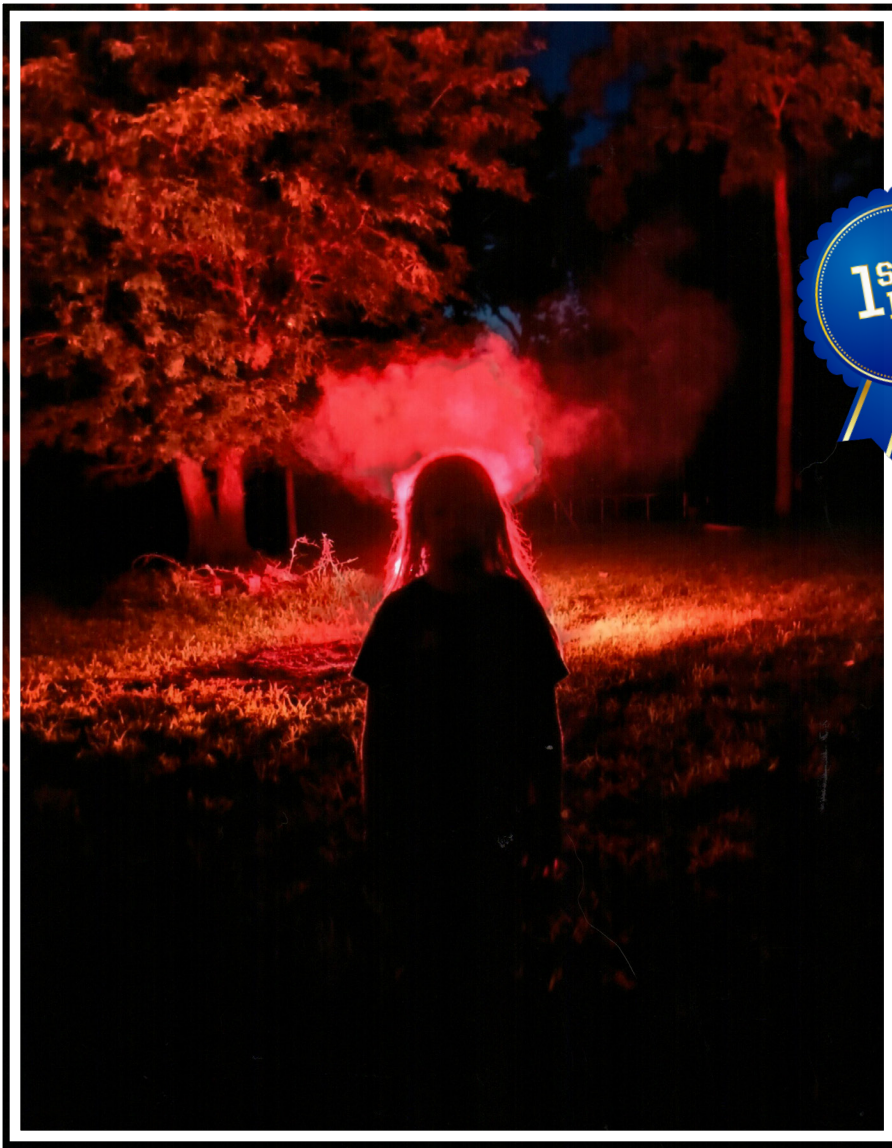
EMAROSE DAVIS
FLOWER
YOUTH BLACK & WHITE



FAYE BROWN
SUNRISE IN THE MIST
YOUTH OUTSIDE OF IOWA
PLACES

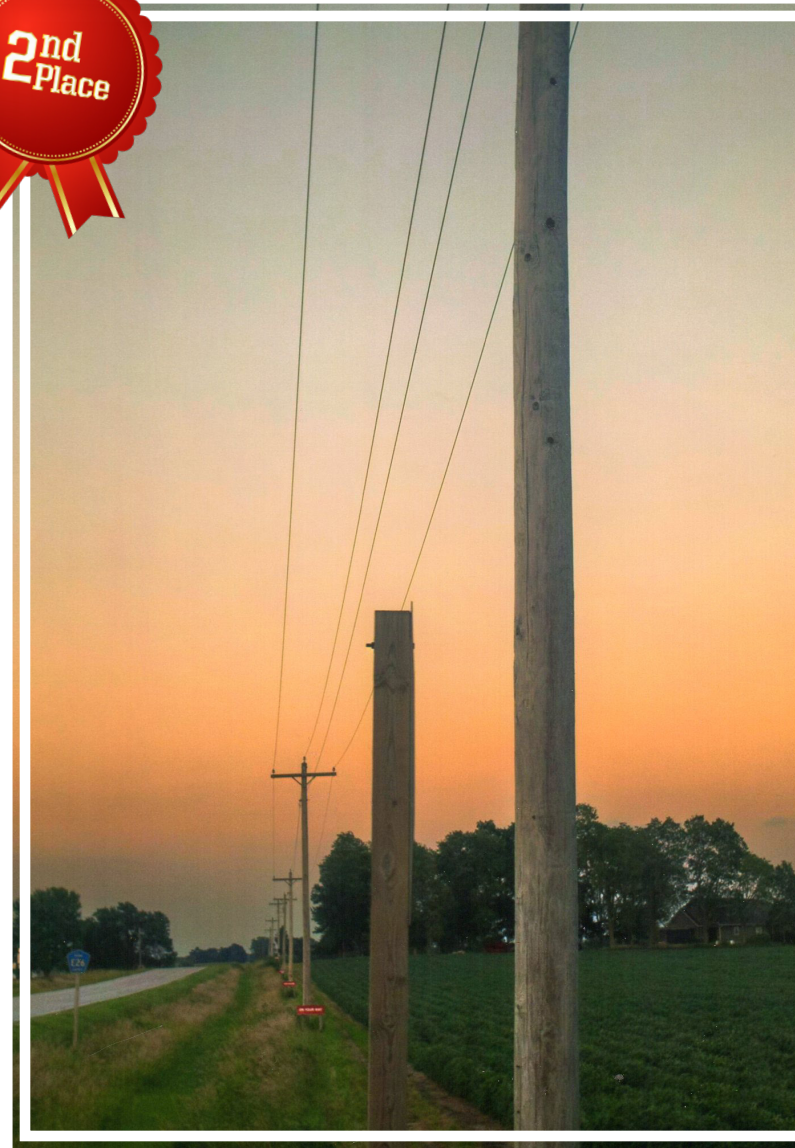
BRANTLEE STAEBLER
THE SUNNY FLOWER
YOUTH PLANTS





EMAROSE DAVIS
HAZEL
YOUTH HUMANS

BRANTLEE STAEBLER
THE SMOKEY RACE
YOUTH BLACK & WHITE



GREY ERICKSON
LOOK OUT YOUR WINDOW
YOUTH IOWA PLACES

BRANTLEE STAEBLER
THE FROWNY KID & THE NANA
YOUTH HUMANS





GREY ERICKSON
BLACK & WHITE DREAM
YOUTH BLACK & WHITE



FAYE BROWN
WHISPERS IN THE LAKE MIST
YOUTH OUTSIDE OF IOWA PLACES

YOUTH AWARDS

<i>Animals</i>	1st	Brantlee Staebler	Sunny Showdown
<i>Black and White</i>	1st Place Overall	Emarose Davis	Flower
	1st	Brantlee Staebler	The Smoky Race
	2nd	Grey Erickson	All About Perspective
	3rd	Grey Erickson	Black & White Dream
<i>Humans</i>	1st	Emarose Davis	Hazel
	2nd	Emarose Davis	Mixed Emotions
	3rd	Brantlee Staebler	The Frowny Kid & the Nana
<i>Iowa Places</i>	1st	Grey Erickson	Sunsets & Sunflowers
	2nd	Grey Erickson	Look Out Your Window
<i>Outside of Iowa Places</i>	1st	Faye Brown	Sunrise in the Mist
	3rd Place Overall	Faye Brown	Whispers in the Lake Mist
<i>Plants</i>	1st	Emarose Davis	Sunflower
	2nd	Grey Erickson	Sunflower Dream
	2nd Place Overall	Stanley Upah	Tulips
	3rd	Brantlee Staebler	The Sunny Flower
	Honorable Mention	Emarose Davis	Backbone State Park
<i>Things</i>	1st	Emarose Davis	Independence Day
	2nd	Brantlee Staebler	Graffiti Artist
<i>Transportation</i>	1st	Brantlee Staebler	Sunny Day Train

An illustration of a vintage camera with a brown leather strap and a small bouquet of pink and white flowers with green leaves. The camera has "DACORA" and "PRONTO-AK" written on it.

Teen AWARDS AND SUBMISSIONS



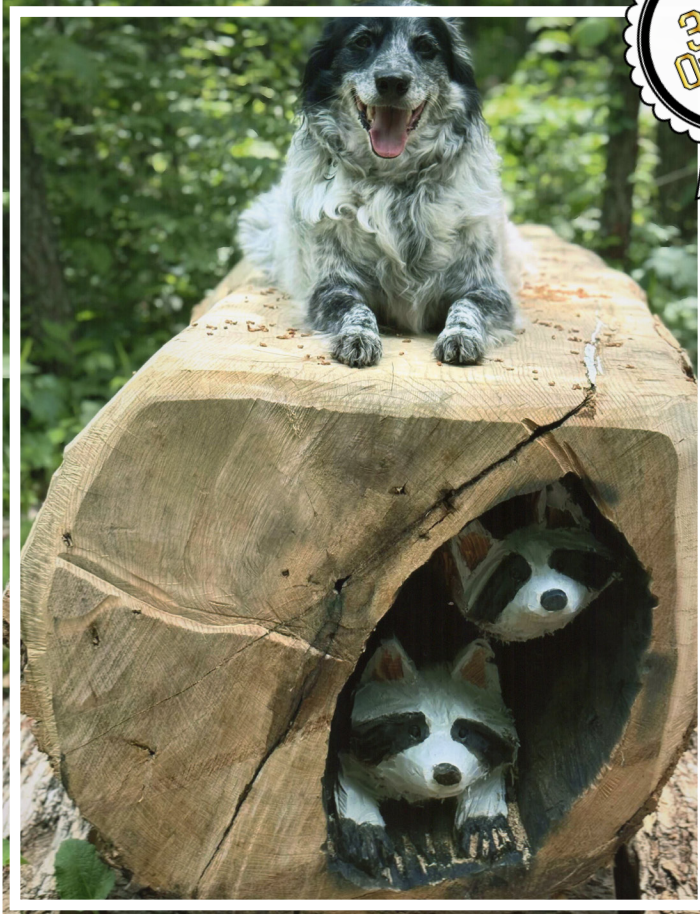
KAYELEE BURNS
STELLAR
PLANTS



TOMMY WILLIAMS
CLOUDY SKY AT SUNSET IN FORT DODGE
IOWA PLACES



TOMMY WILLIAMS
HALF DOME
OUTSIDE OF IOWA PLACES



RYLIN CASEY
LILY
ANIMALS



HENRY MCDOWELL
THE STANDING SILENCE
OUTSIDE OF IOWA PLACES



KAYELEE BURNS
I'LL GO THE DISTANCE
PLANTS



TOMMY WILLIAMS
PANORAMIC OF HALF DOME
OUTSIDE OF IOWA PLACES



KAYELEE BURNS
COLOR POP
PLANTS



TOMMY WILLIAMS
THE ROAD LESS TRAVELED
OUTSIDE OF IOWA PLACES

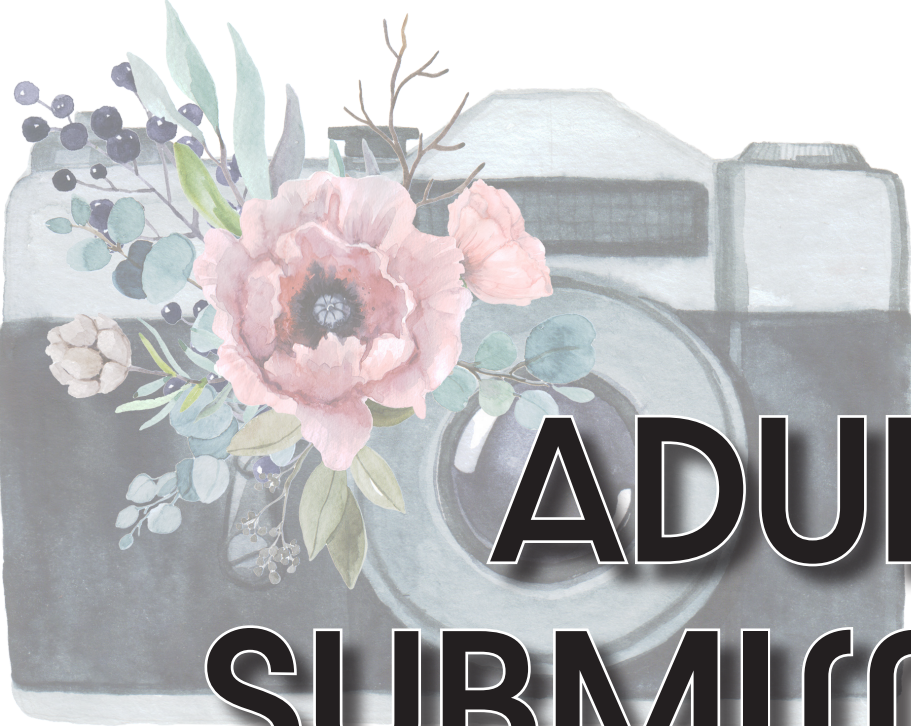


KEATON HENRY-MCDOWELL
THE QUIET WATER
OUTSIDE OF IOWA PLACES

TEEN AWARDS

Final Results:

Animals	3rd Place Overall	Rylin Casey	Lily
Iowa Places	1st	Tommy Williams	Cloudy Sky at Sunset in Ft. Dodge
Outside of Iowa Places	1st	Keaton McDowell	The Quiet Water
	2nd	Tommy Williams	Half Dome
	2nd Place Overall	Tommy Williams	The Road Less Traveled
	3rd	Tommy Williams	Panoramic of Half Dome
	Honorable Mention	Keaton McDowell	The Standing Silence
Plants	1st	Kaylee Burns	Color Pop
	1st Place Overall	Kaylee Burns	Stellar



ADULT SUBMISSIONS & AWARDS

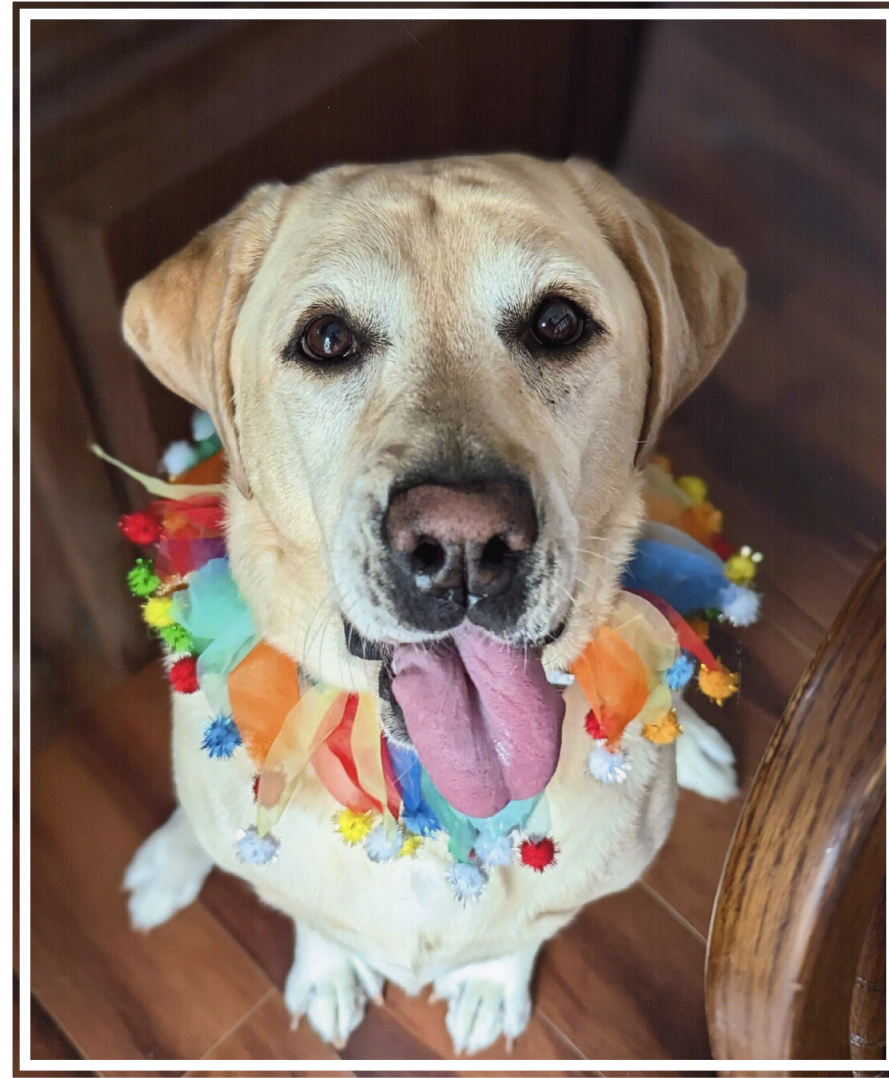
ANIMALS



ADAM MCDOWELL
LIFE BETWEEN THE LEAVES
ANIMALS



KELLY SINCLAIR
THERES A LITTLE HERO IN ALL OF US
ANIMALS



JULIE BROWN
JESTER
ANIMALS

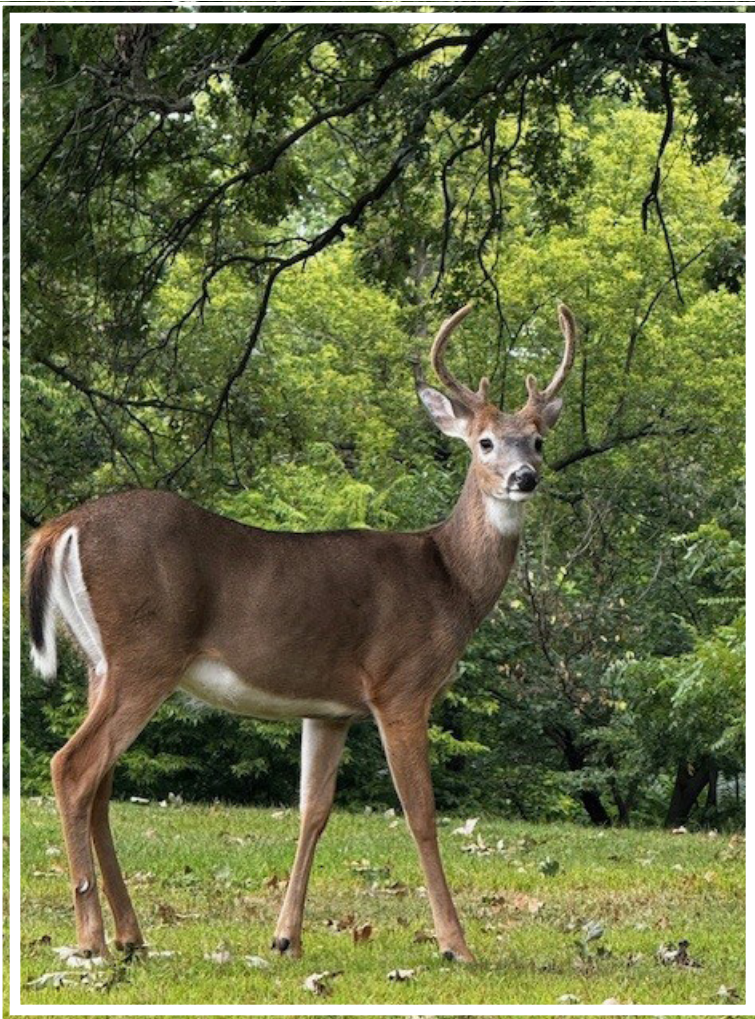


DAWN KRAUSE
GEM OF QUEENS
ANIMALS



SHANON DUCHENE
JUST LOOK INTO MY EYES
ANIMALS





ELAINE PEARSON
CITY DEER NO FEAR
ANIMALS



ELAINE PEARSON
YOU CAN'T SEE ME
ANIMALS

AMANDA WALLACE
PATRICIA
ANIMALS

ELAINE PEARSON
MASKED BANDIT
ANIMALS



Honorable
Mention



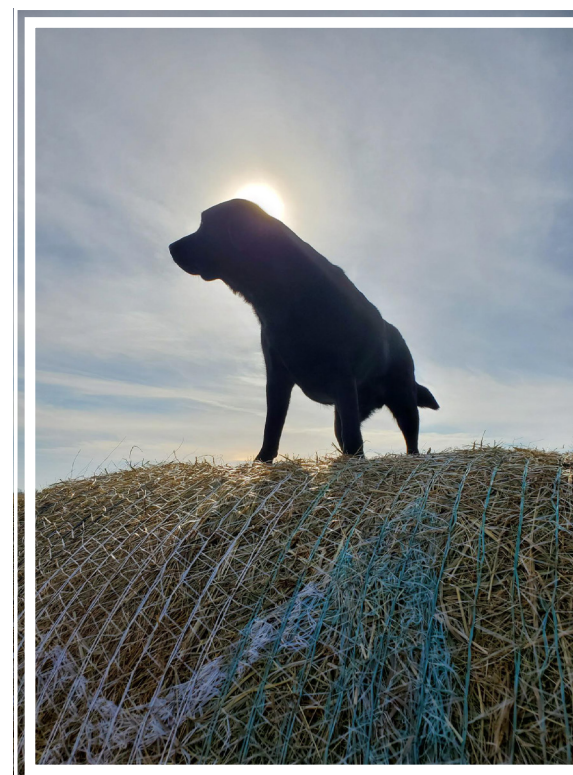
JOHN ROBERTS
BACKYARD OWL
ANIMALS

ANGIE DEWAARD
PEEKABOO
ANIMALS

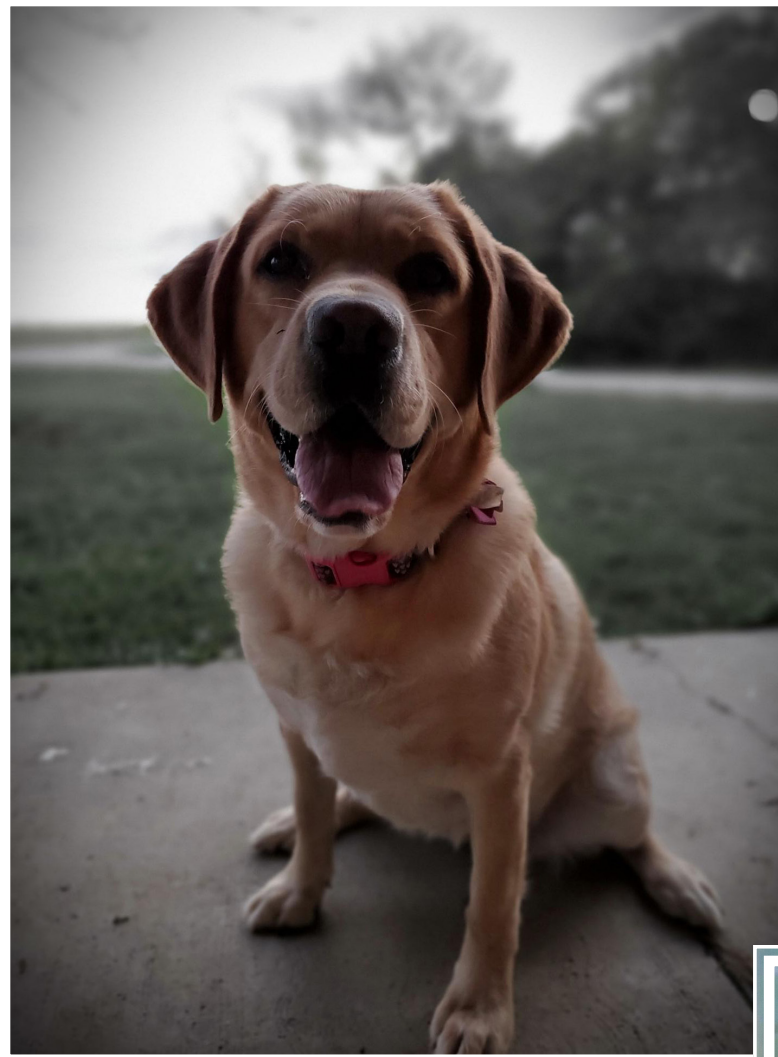
Best In Show



DON LESTER
SWALLOWTAIL ON ZINNIA
ANIMALS



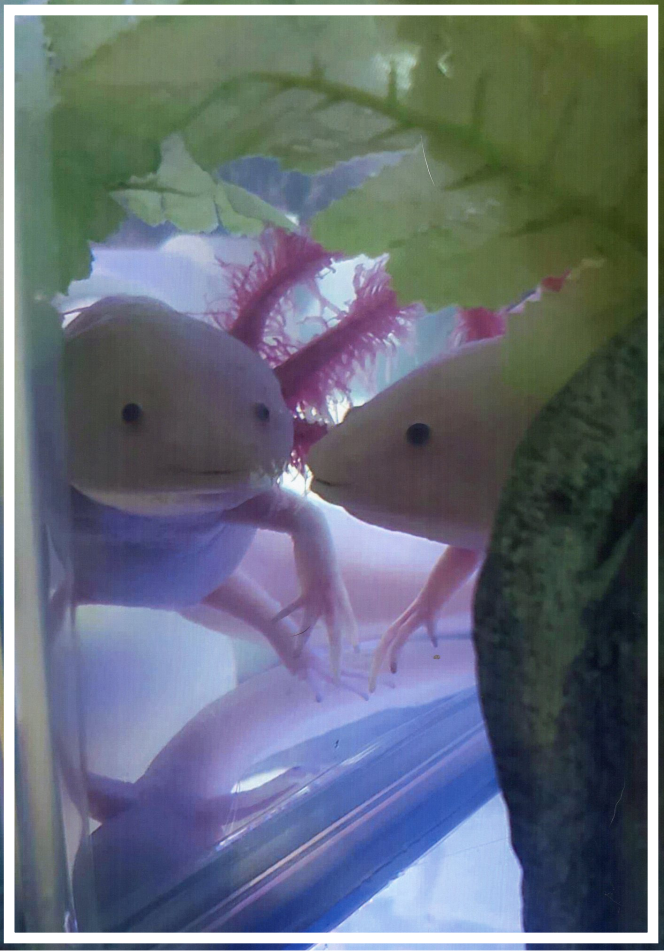
ADAM MCDOWELL
TUCKER
ANIMALS



ADAM MCDOWELL
RUE BABY
ANIMALS



ADAM MCDOWELL
STAY HUNGRY
ANIMALS



KELLY SINCLAIR
AXLE THE AXOLOTY
ANIMALS



JIM PETERSON
MAJESTIC FLIGHT
ANIMALS



ALYSSA MCDOWELL
RUE
ANIMALS



SEAN TAYLOR
SNAGGING MULBERRIES
ANIMALS

SEAN TAYLOR
SWAN REFLECTIONS
ANIMALS

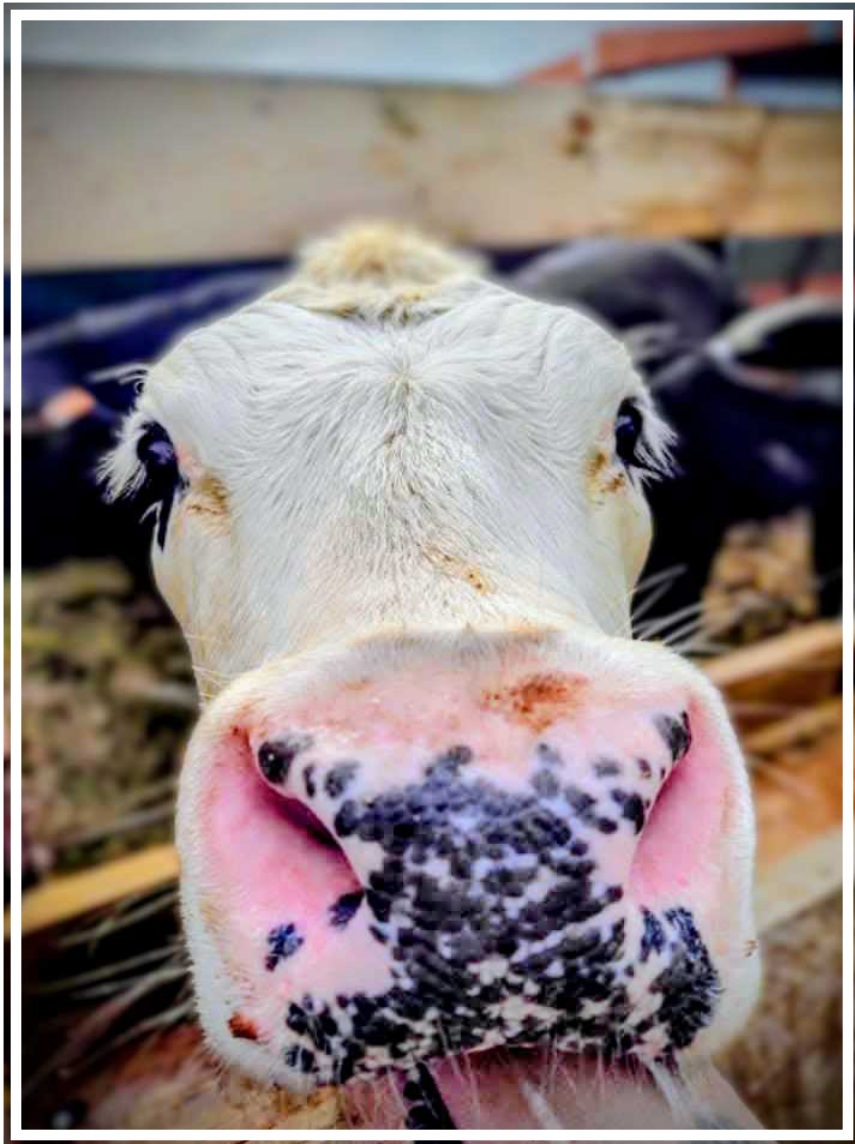


SEAN TAYLOR
SHAKE IT OFF
ANIMALS

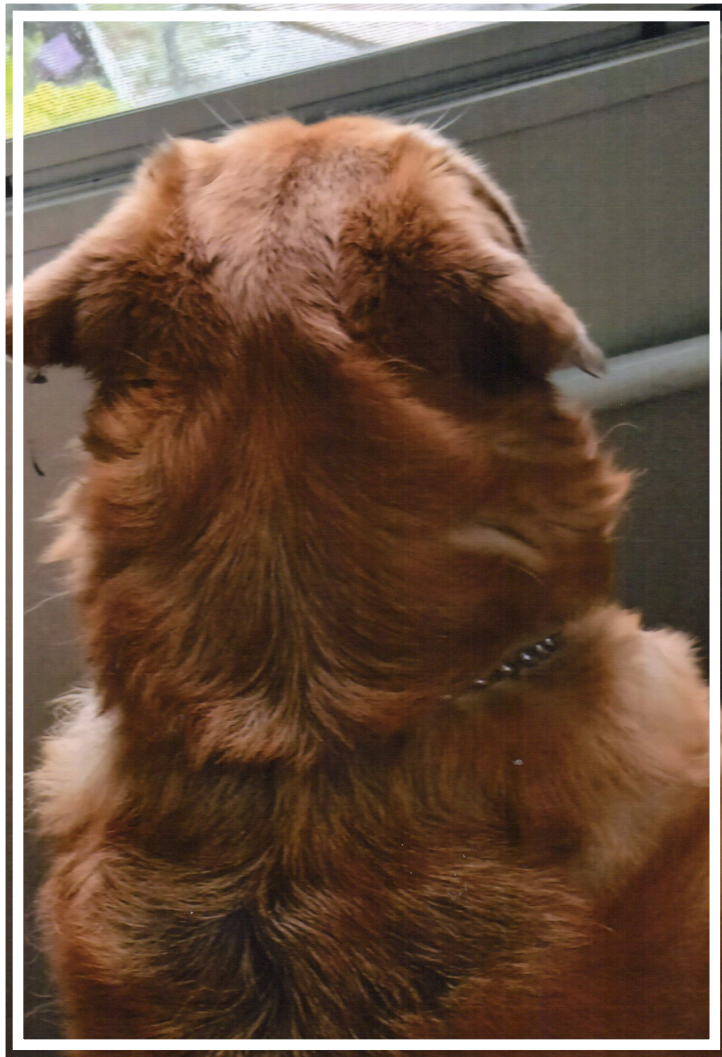




SEAN TAYLOR
DIVING EAGLE
ANIMALS



KIM CUNNINGHAM
LUCY
ANIMALS



RANDY KURTZ
WHERE'S MY DADDY
ANIMALS



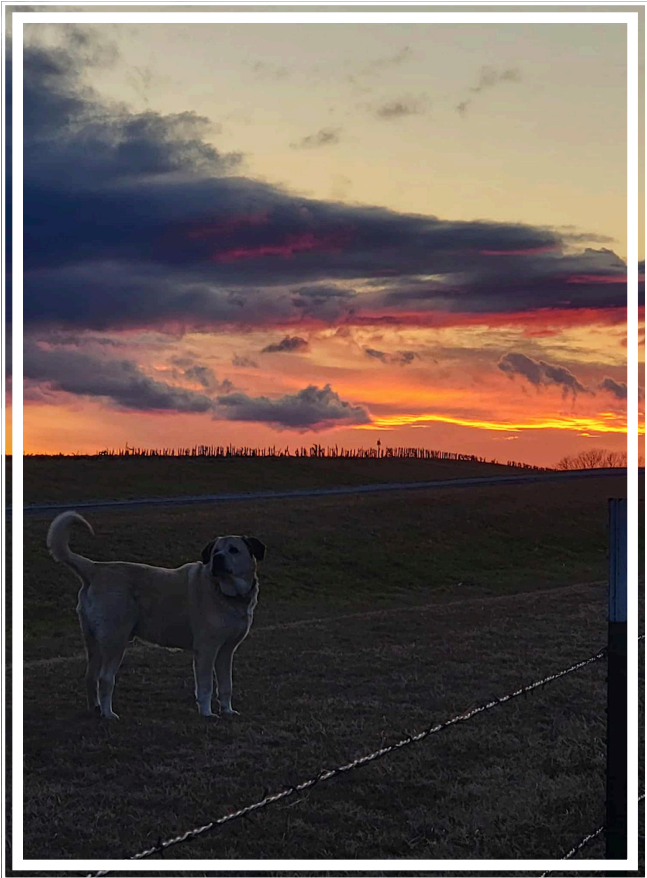
SEAN TAYLOR
LONG TONGUE
ANIMALS



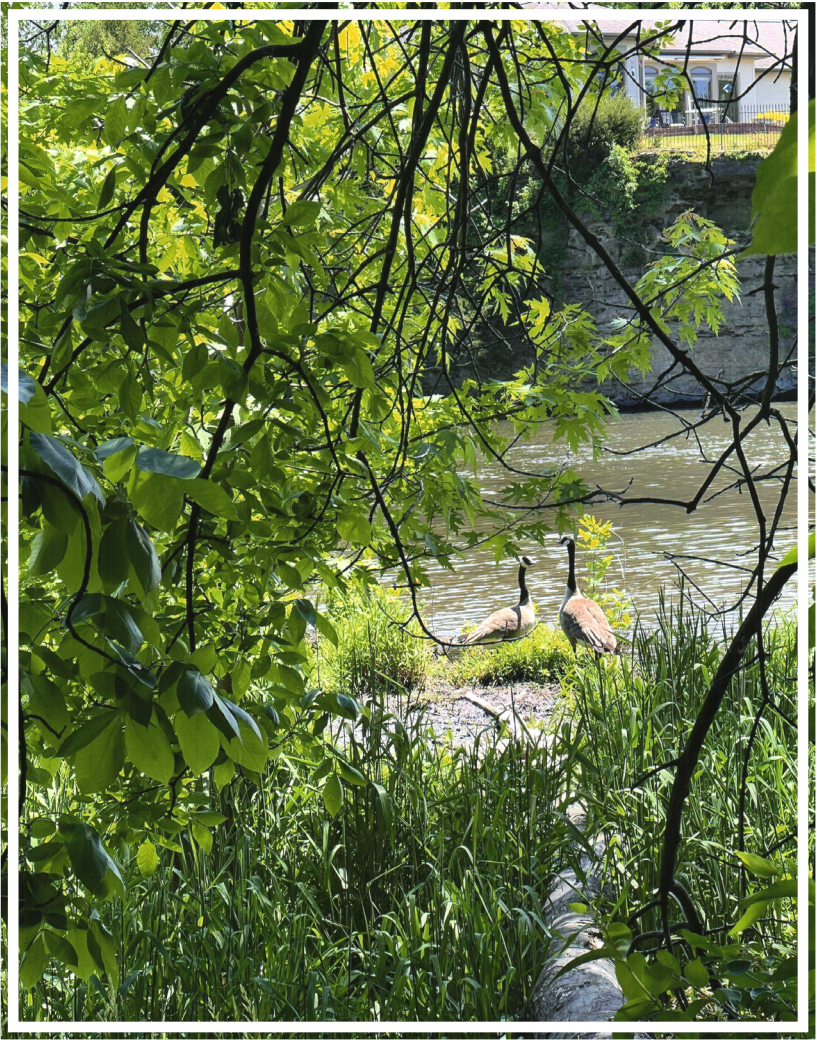
KIM CUNNINGHAM
STUBBORN PUPPY
ANIMALS



BEA UPAH
GIVE ME YOUR SNACKS
ANIMALS



ALYSSA MCDOWELL
SUNSET GUARDIAN
ANIMALS



HEATHER DAVIS
BEST FRIENDS
ANIMALS



COURTNEY DAVIDSON
BROTHERS FROM ANOTHER MOTHER
ANIMALS

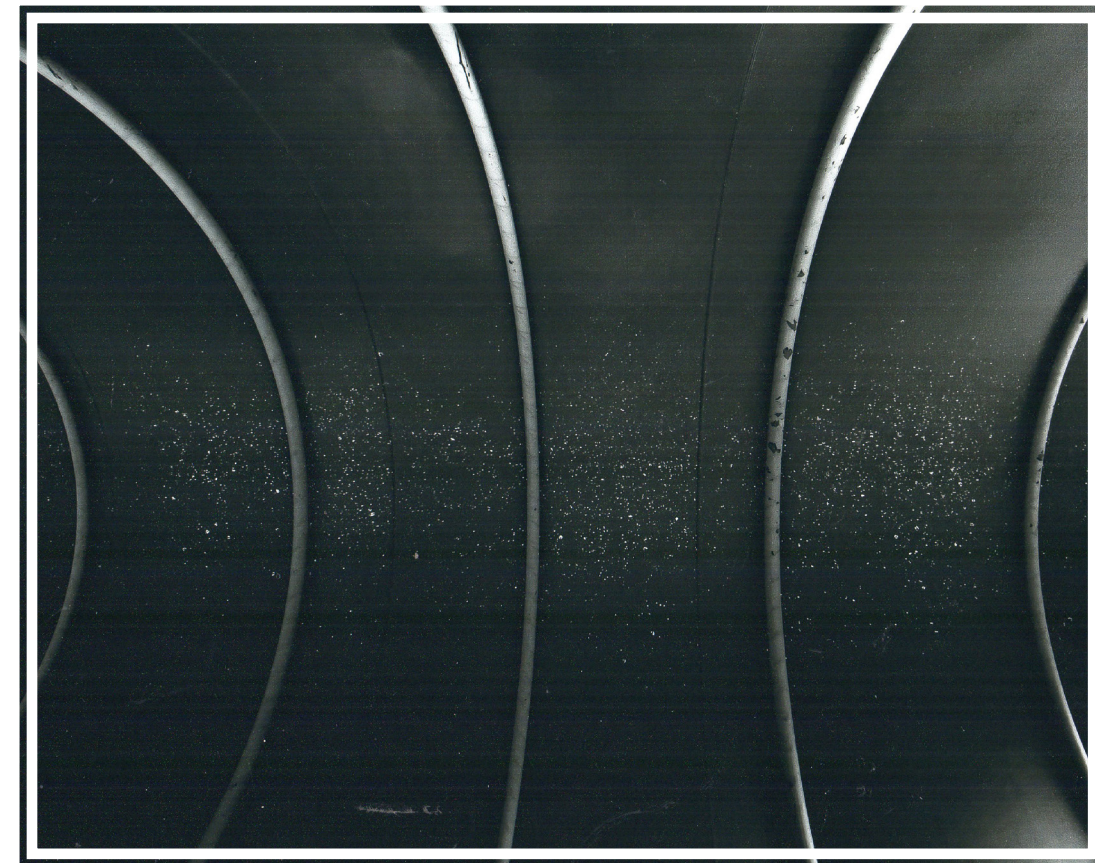
AWARDS - ANIMALS - ADULT

1st	Courtney Davidson	Brothers from Another Mother
2nd	Elaine Pearson	Masked Bandit
3rd	Dawn Krause	Gem of Queens
Best in Show 2025	Angie DeWaard	Peekaboo!
Honorable Mention	Jim Peterson	Majestic Flight
Honorable Mention	John Roberts	Backyard Owl
Honorable Mention	Sean Taylor	Swan Reflections

BLACK & WHITE



JANAE ERICKSON
BABY GLOW
BLACK & WHITE



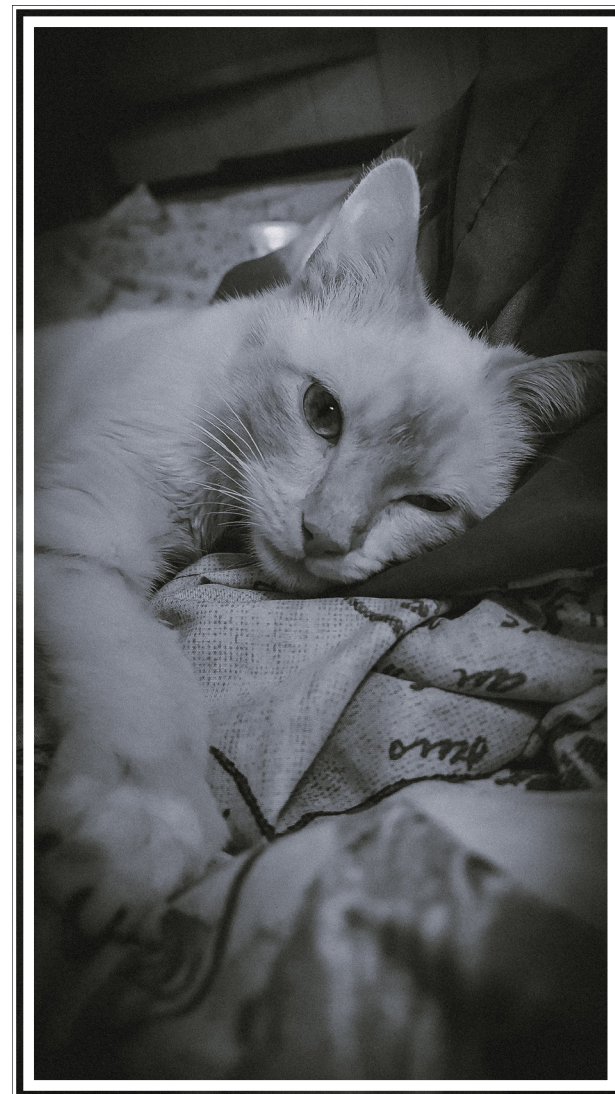
JANAE ERICKSON
WHAT IS THIS
BLACK & WHITE



JANAE ERICKSON
NICU HOPE
BLACK & WHITE



JULIE BROWN
A MOMENT FOR MOM
BLACK & WHITE



DAWN KRUSE
FAIS DE BEAUX
BLACK & WHITE



SHANON DUCHENE
DANCE FIRST
BLACK & WHITE



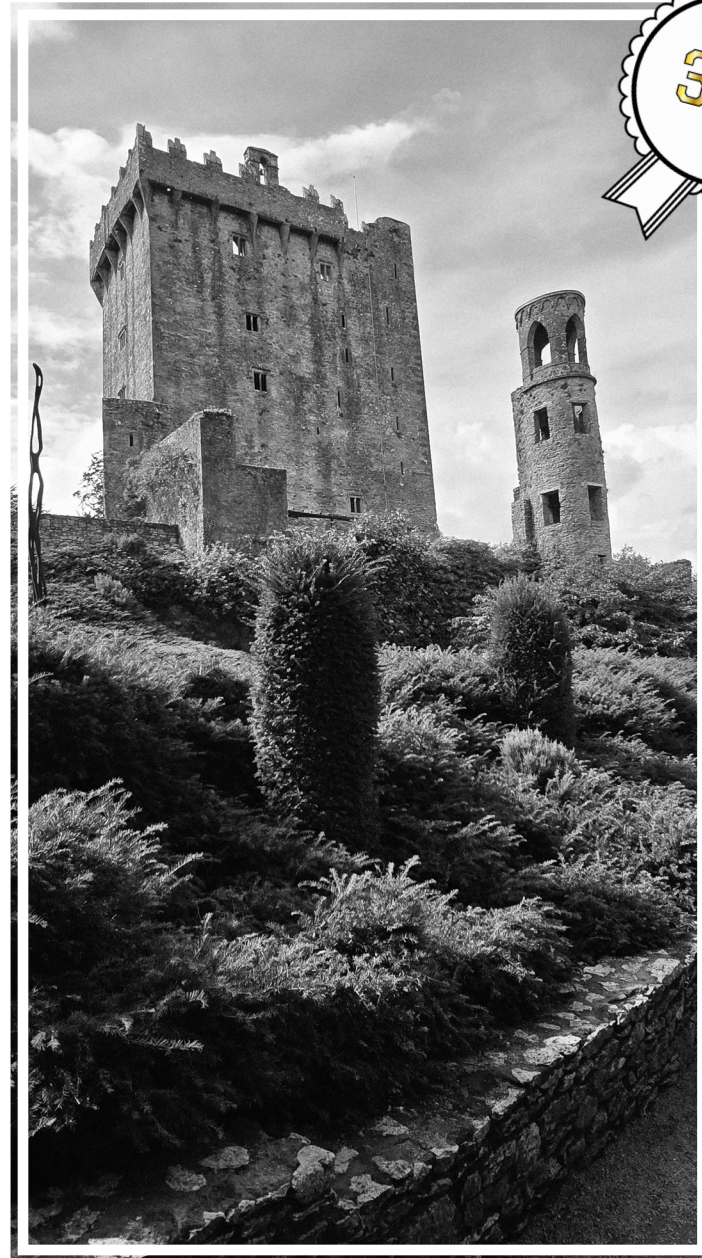
ANTHONY DAVIS
A GRAND STAGE
BLACK & WHITE



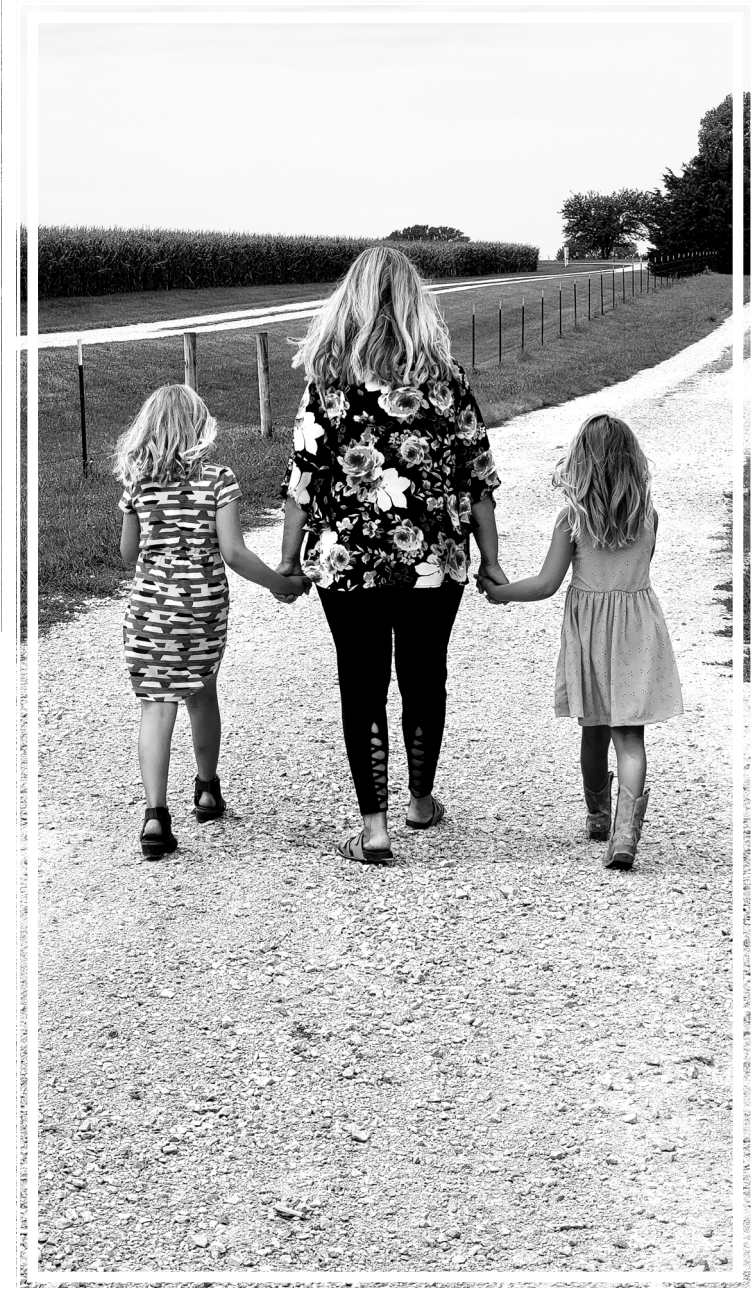
AMANDA WALLACE
WRENTHY WRENALTON III
BLACK & WHITE



JIM PETERSON
WEATHERED CORN CRIB
BLACK & WHITE



DON LESTER
BLARNEY CASTLE
BLACK & WHITE



ALYSSA MCDOWELL
STRENGTH
BLACK & WHITE



BEA UPAH
THING IN THE WOODS
BLACK & WHITE



HEATHER DAVIS
FULL MOON
BLACK & WHITE

AWARDS - BLACK AND WHITE - ADULT

1st	Jim Peterson	Weathered Corn crib
2nd	Shanon Duchene	Dance First
3rd	Don Lester	Blarney Castle

Honorable Mention	Bea Upah	Things in the Woods
Honorable Mention	Janae Erickson	Baby Glow
Honorable Mention	Amanda Wallace	Wrenothy Wrenalton III

HUMANS



JANAE ERICKSON
LIL SUNFLOWER FARMER
HUMANS



JULIE BROWN
THE NIGHT THE PUMPKINS RISE
HUMANS



JANAE ERICKSON
MAGIC IS GROWING
HUMANS



JULIE BROWN
THE LAKE OF CHILDHOOD SECRETS
HUMANS





JULIE BROWN
THE GIRL WITH A BLOOMING SMILE
HUMANS



ELAINE PEARSON
FRECKLES ARE FUN
HUMANS



ANTHONY DAVIS
WONDER
HUMANS

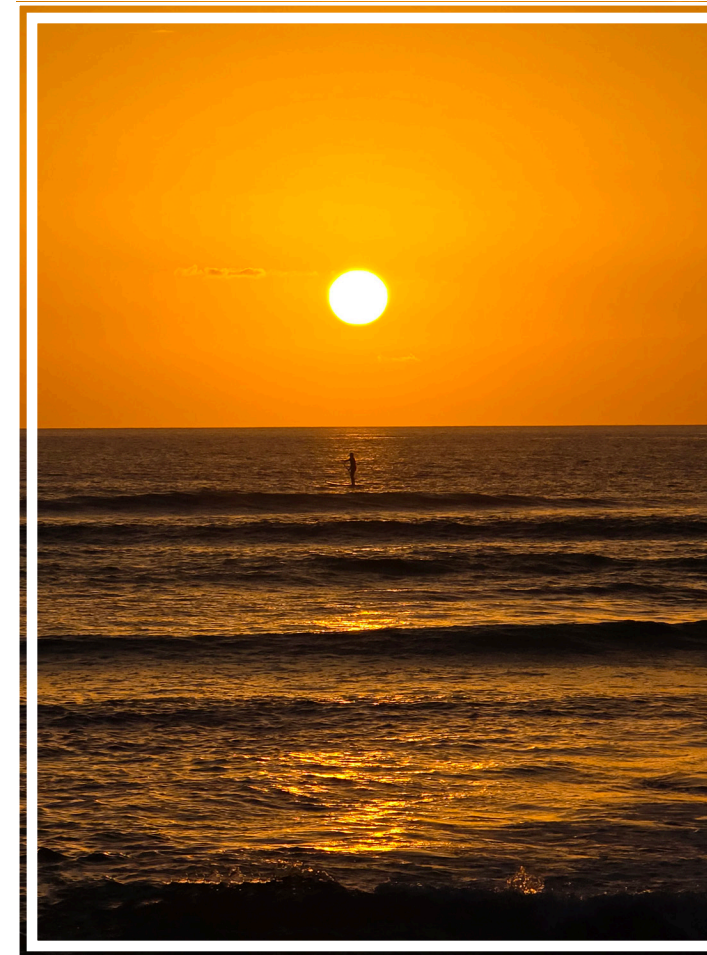


SHANON DUCHENE
LET'S PLAY
HUMANS





JOHN ROBERTS
JOY OF SINGING
HUMANS



DON LESTER
SURFER
HUMANS

ANGIE DEWAARD
SNOW WHITE
HUMANS



AMANDA WALLACE
FAMILY BRIDGE JOURNEY
HUMANS





VICKIE FELICE
FIRST FLIP
HUMANS

KIM CUNNINGHAM
LIVING HER BEST FARM LIFE
HUMANS



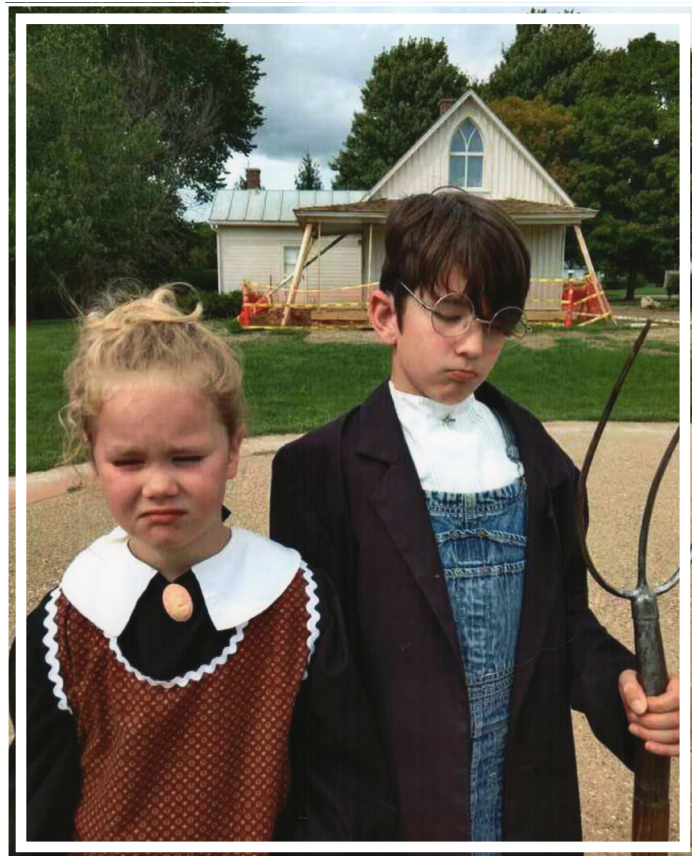
VICKIE FELICE
MILLIE
HUMANS



KIM CUNNINGHAM
FARM LIFE
HUMANS

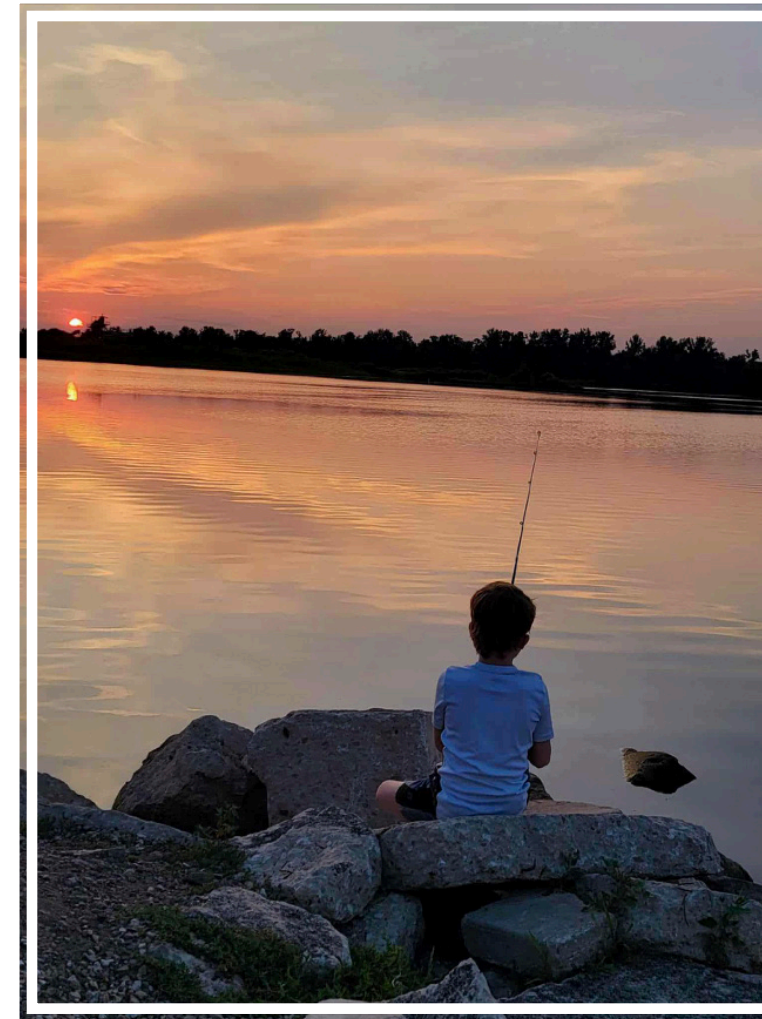


KIM CUNNINGHAM
FARM LIFE
HUMANS



HEATHER DAVIS
SOLEMN
HUMANS

VICKY VAN DYKE
COUNTY FAIR GOLD
HUMANS

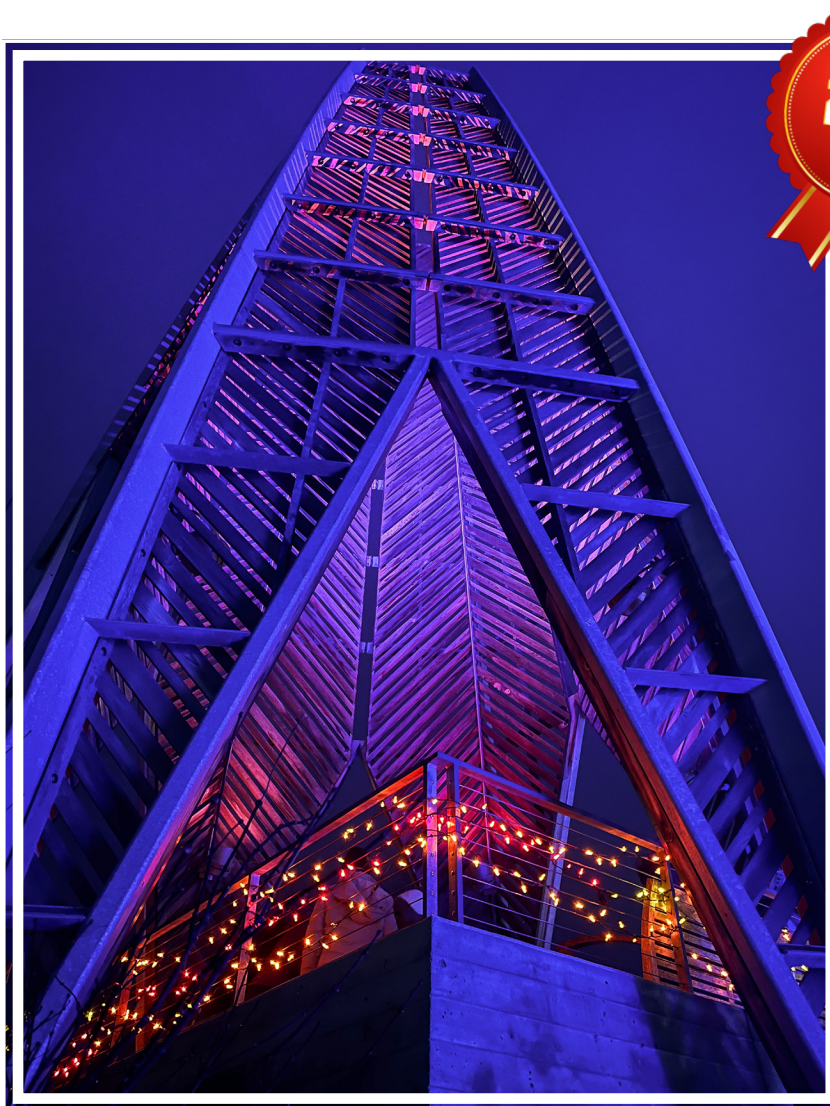


ALYSSA MCDOWELL
HIS FAVORITE PLACE TO BE
HUMANS

AWARDS - HUMANS - ADULT

1st	Angie DeWaard	Snow White
2nd	Janae Erickson	Magic is Growing
3rd	Vicky Van Dyke	County Fair Gold
2nd Place Overall	Shanon Duchene	Let's Play
Honorable Mention	Anthony Davis	Wonder
Honorable Mention	Janae Erickson	Lil' Sunflower Farmer
Honorable Mention	Julie Brown	The Girl with a Blooming Smile

IOWA PLACES



ANTHONY DAVIS
RIEMAN WINTERSCOPE TOWER
IOWA PLACES



DAWN KRAUSE
DUBUQUE AND MCGREGOR RAILWAY
IOWA PLACES



ELAINE PEARSON
GODS CANVAS
IOWA PLACES

SHANON DUCHENE
I WILL RISE
IOWA PLACES



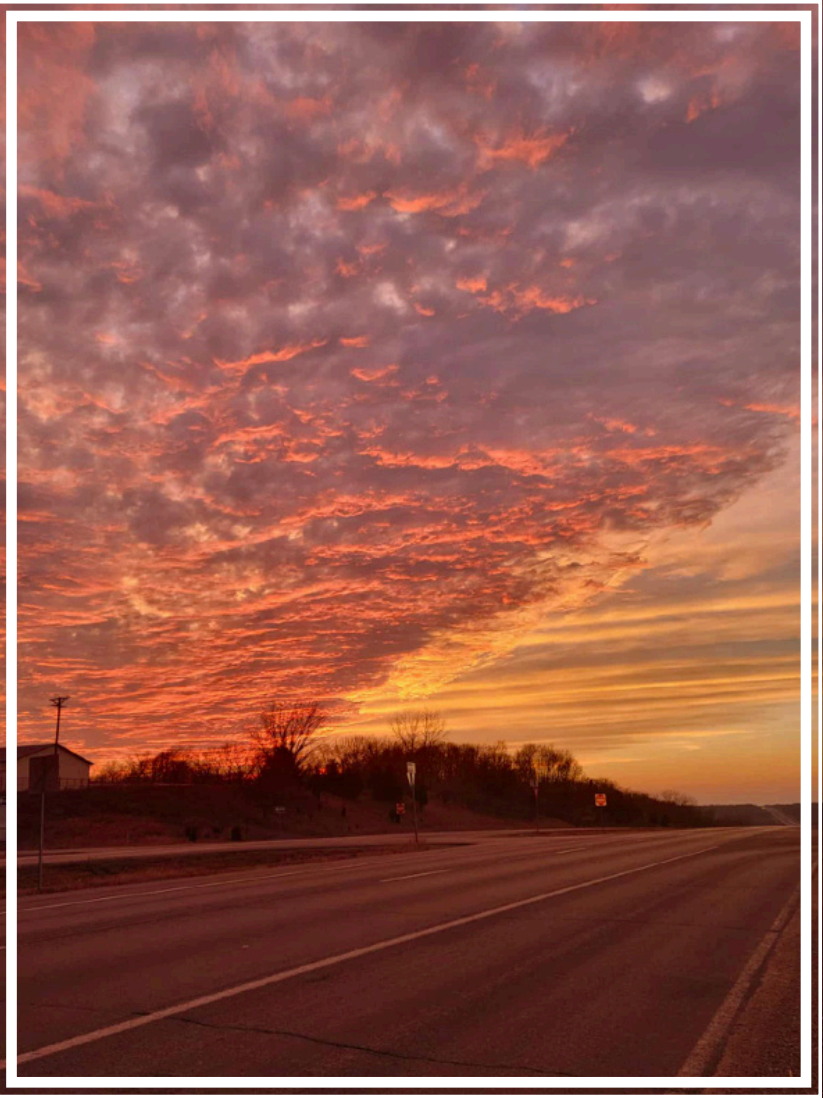


KELLY SINCLAIR
UNDER THE RAINBOW
IOWA PLACES



AMANDA WALLACE
PEACEFUL WILLOW
IOWA PLACES

ALYSSA MCDOWELL
HWY 30 SUNSET
IOWA PLACES



JIM PETERSON
HIGH TRESTLE TRAIL
IOWA PLACES





JOHN ROBERTS
SPRING LAKE SUNSET
IOWA PLACES



VICKIE FELICE
MIRRORED IMAGE
DON WILLIAMS
IOWA PLACES



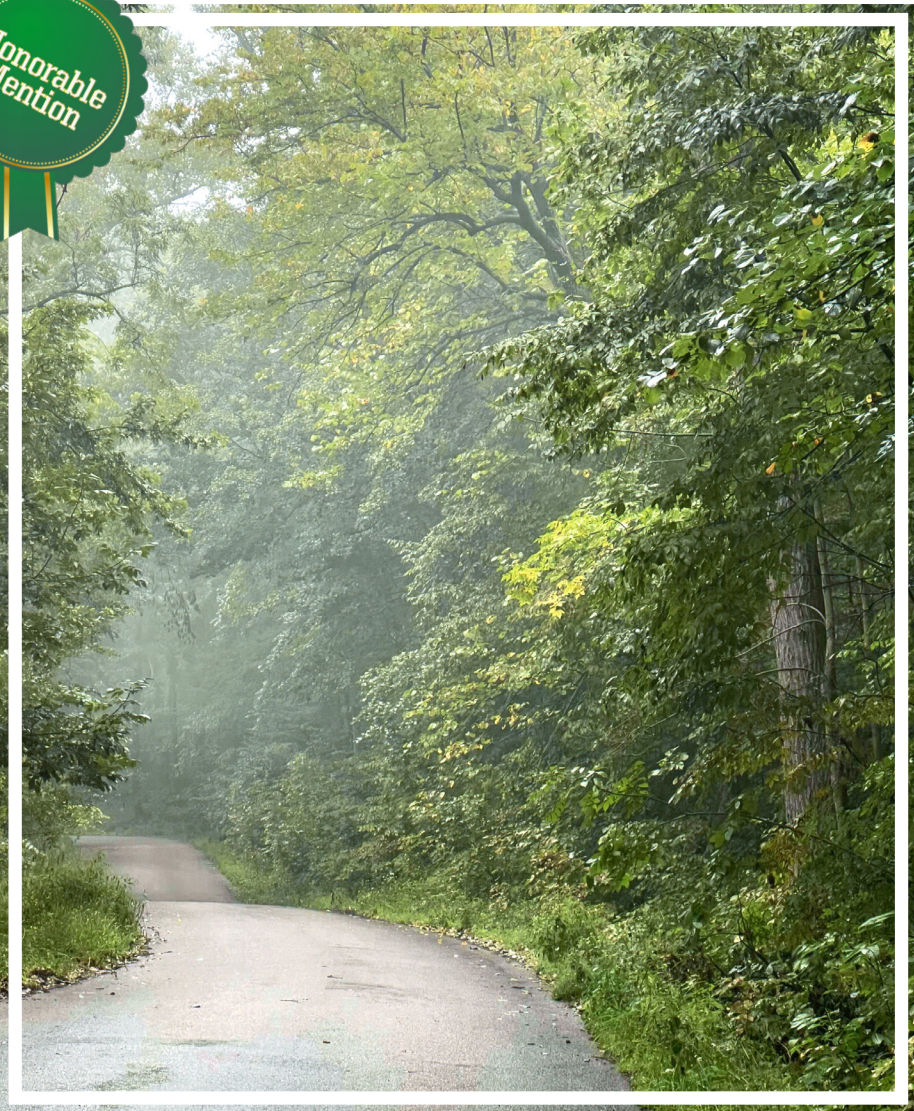
VICKIE FELICE
IOWA SUNSET OVER CORNFIELD
IOWA PLACES



JOCELYN FERRY
MOTHER NATURE 1 MAN 0
IOWA PLACES

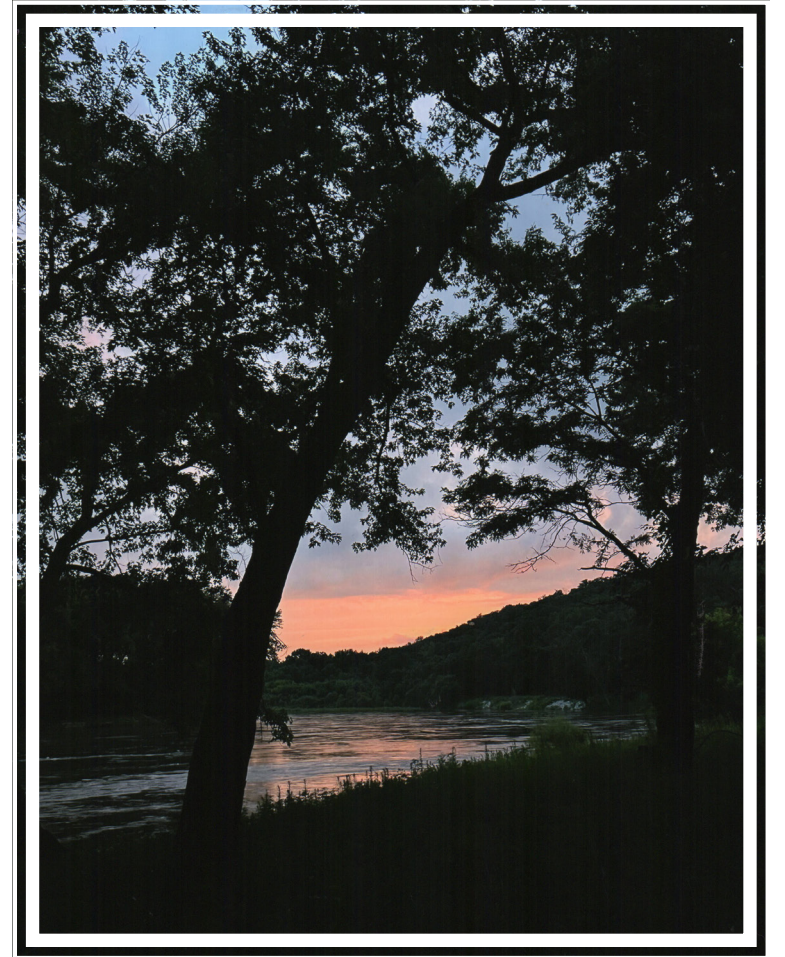


BEA UPAH
CLOGS
IOWA PLACES



HEATHER DAVIS
FOG AT LEDGES
IOWA PLACES

HEATHER DAVIS
BY THE RIVER
IOWA PLACES



VICKIE FELICE
SUNSET AT THE LAKE DON WILLIAMS
IOWA PLACES





HEATHER DAVIS
LEDGES
IOWA PLACES

VICKIE FELICE
LAKE COLORS
DON WILLIAMS
IOWA PLACES



AWARDS - IOWA PLACES - ADULT

1st	Shanon Duchene	I Will Rise
2nd	Anthony Davis	Rieman Winterscope Tower
3rd	Jim Peterson	High Trestle Trail Bridge
Honorable Mention	Dawn Krause	Dubuque and McGregor Rail Way
Honorable Mention	Heather Davis	Fog at Ledges
Honorable Mention	John Roberts	Spring Lake Sunset

OUTSIDE IOWA PLACES



JULIE BROWN
A GLIMPSE OF ZUES WRATH B
OUTSIDE IOWA PLACES

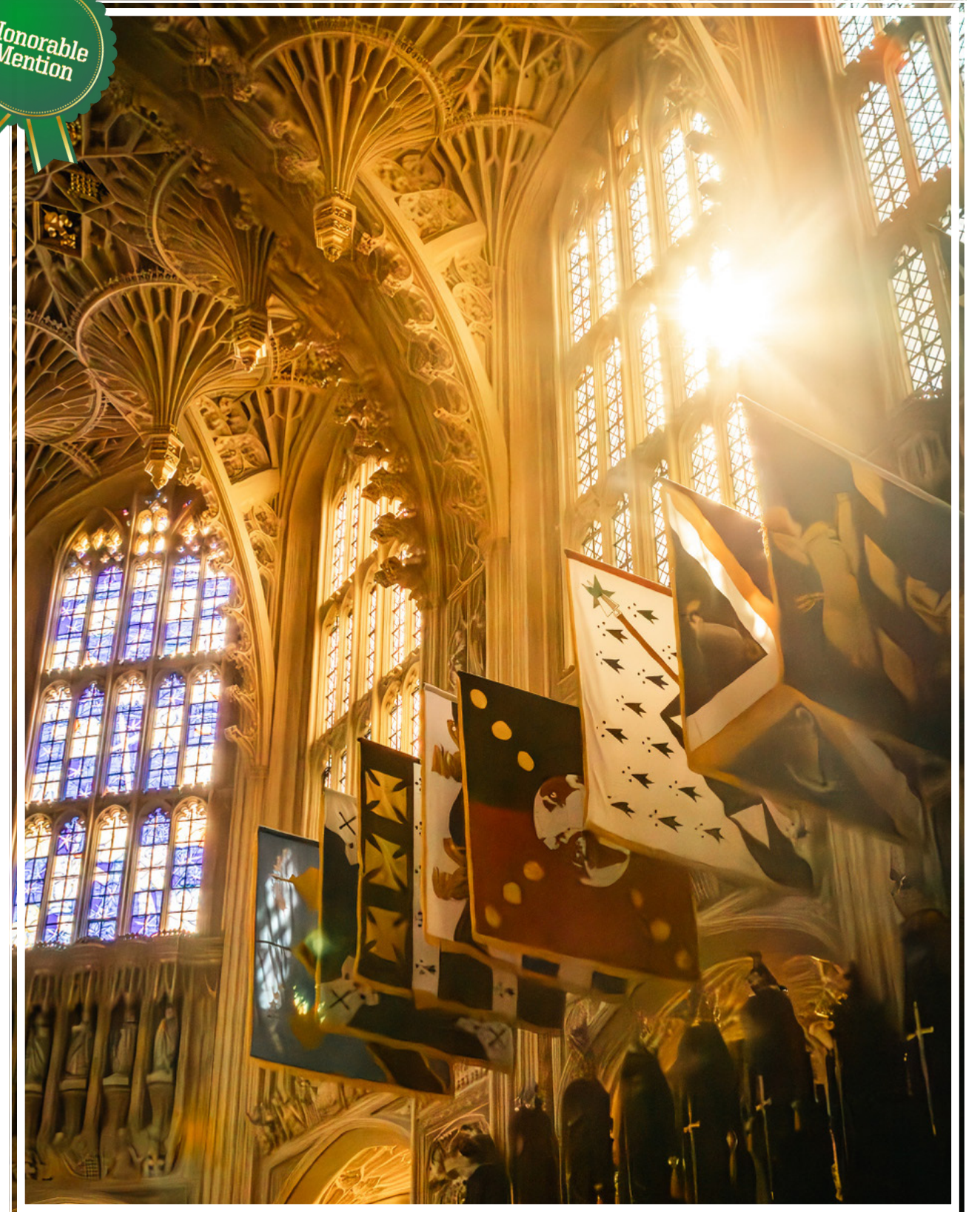
SHANON DUCHENE
SERENITY
OUTSIDE IOWA PLACES



AMANDA WALLACE
SHELL KEY BEACH ST PETE
OUTSIDE IOWA PLACES



JOHN ROBERTS
GRAND CANYON
OUTSIDE IOWA PLACES



ANGIE DEWAARD
WESTMINSTER WINDOW FLARES
OUTSIDE IOWA PLACES

DON LESTER
FORE IRELAND CHURCH
OUTSIDE IOWA PLACES



JIM PETERSON
JOHN MOULTON BARN
OUTSIDE IOWA PLACES



VICKY VAN DYKE
RIVER CONWY, WALES
OUTSIDE IOWA PLACES



ADAM MCDOWELL
CANADA SUNSET
OUTSIDE IOWA PLACES



BEA UPAH
WYOMING AT DUSK
OUTSIDE IOWA PLACES

AWARDS - OUTSIDE OF IOWA PLACES - ADULT

1st	Bea Upah	Wyoming at Dusk
2nd	Jim Peterson	John Moulton Barn
3rd	Shanon Duchene	Serenity
Honorable Mention	Adam McDowell	Canada Sunset
Honorable Mention	Vicky Van Dyke	River Conwy, Wales
1st Place Overall	Angie DeWaard	Westminster Window Flares

PLANTS



KELLY SINCLAIR
BEE IN HEAVEN
PLANTS



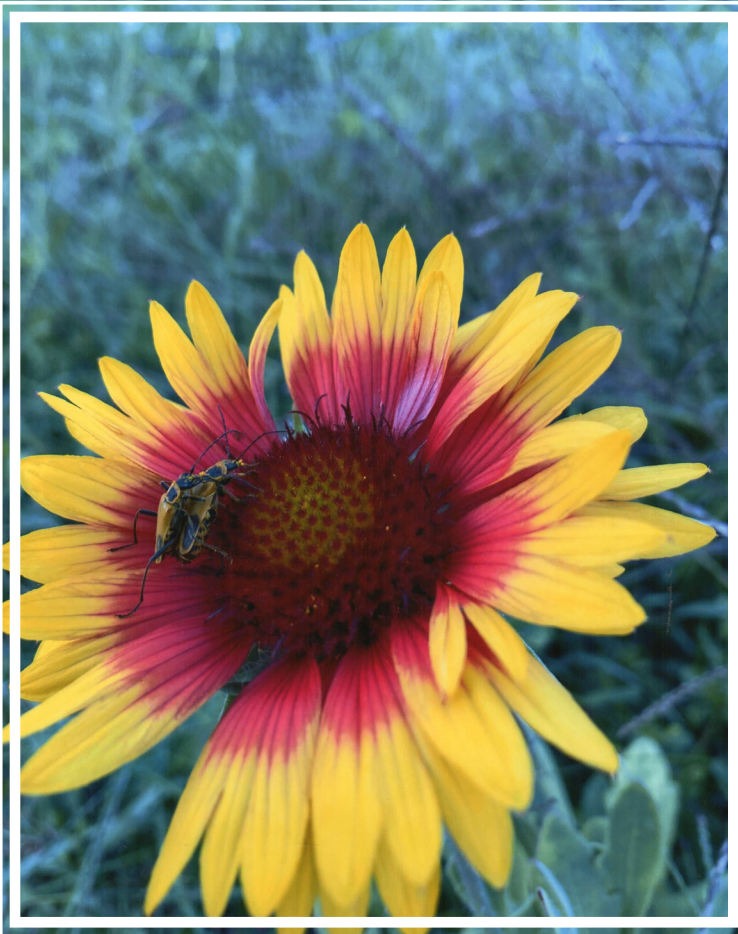
RYNE HILSABECK
SUNNY DAYS
PLANTS



RYNE HILSABECK
EYE OF THE TIGER
PLANTS



DAWN KRAUSE
PATIENCE AND ELEGANCE
PLANTS



RYNE HILSABECK
SUMMER OF LOVE
PLANTS



DON LESTER
PUFFERBILLY IN BLOOM
PLANTS



JANAE ERICKSON
TULIPS AT SUNSET
PLANTS



RYNE HILSABECK
LONE SOLDIER
PLANTS



ANGIE DEWAARD
 CONEFLOWER TEXTURE
 PLANTS

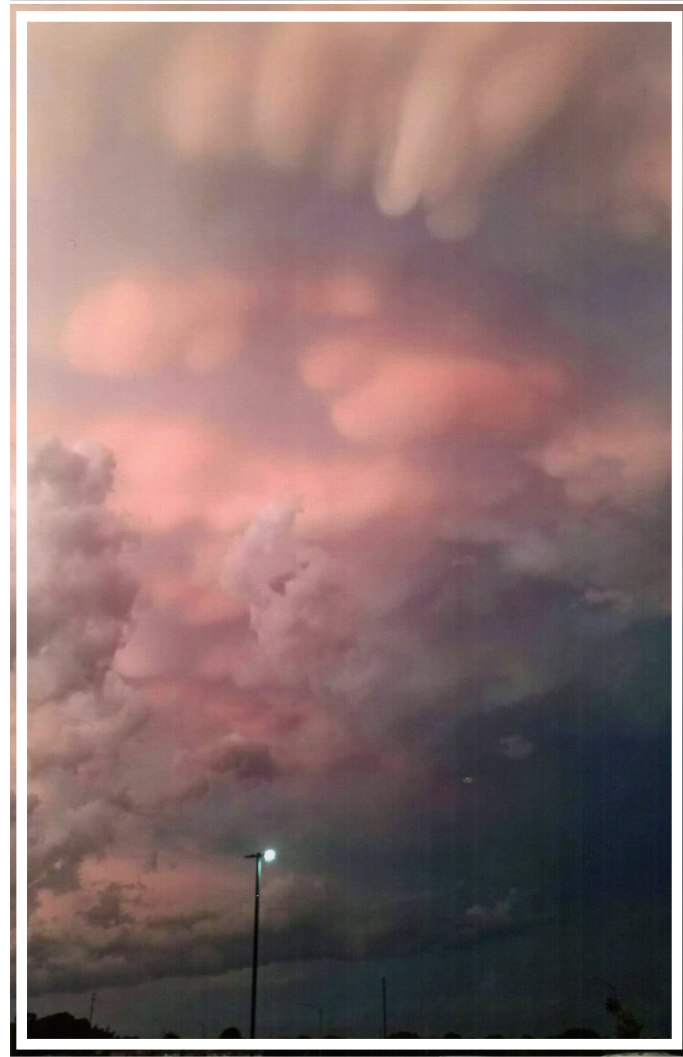


ALYSSA MCDOWELL
 HOPE
 PLANTS

AWARDS - PLANTS - ADULT

1st	Janae Erickson	Tulips at Sunset
2nd	Ryne Hilsabeck	Eye of the Tiger
3rd	Don Lester	Pufferbilly in Bloom
3rd Place Overall	Angie DeWaard	Coneflower Texture
Honorable Mention	Dawn Krause	Patience and Elegance

THINGS



KELLY SINCLAIR
STORM IS COMING
THINGS

KELLY SINCLAIR
FIRST SNOWMAN
THINGS



ELAINE PEARSON
A SHELL OF MY FORMER SELF
THINGS



AMANDA WALLACE
BSB AT THE SPHERE
THINGS



DON LESTER
BUOYS
THINGS



BEA UPAH
CAMERA EATS FIRST
THINGS

JIM PETERSON
MORNING CHILL
THINGS



JOCELYN FERRY
AGAIN
THINGS





KIM CUNNINGHAM
GLOWING AURA
THINGS



ADAM MCDOWELL
OVER THE RAINBOW
THINGS

VICKY VAN DYKE
WHERE ARE THE BEACH TOYS?
THINGS



AWARDS - THINGS - ADULT

1st	Bea Upah	Camera Eats First!
2nd	Jim Peterson	Morning Chill
3rd	Vicky Van Dyke	Where are the beach toys?
Honorable Mention	Amanda Wallace	BSB @ the Sphere
Honorable Mention	Don Lester	Buoys
Honorable Mention	Elaine Pearson	A Shell of My Former Self

TRANSPORTATION



DAWN KRUSE
OCONTO HARBOR RIDE
TRANSPORTATION

KIM CUNNINGHAM
LIFE IS BETTER
TRANSPORTATION



SHANON DUCHENE
LIFE IS TOO SHORT
TRANSPORTAION

JIM PETERSON
WELCOME TO BOONE
TRANSPORTATION





VICKY VAN DYKE
SUNSET SHOWER
TRANSPORTAION

COURTNEY DAVIDSON
GOLDEN ON THE GO
TRANSPORTATION



AWARDS - TRANSPORTATION - ADULT

1st	Shanon Duchene	Life is Too Short
2nd	Courtney Davidson	Golden on the Go
3rd	Dawn Krause	Oconto Harbor Ride
Honorable Mention	Jim Peterson	Welcome to Boone
Honorable Mention	Vicky Van Dyke	Sunset Shower

2025 BEST IN SHOW



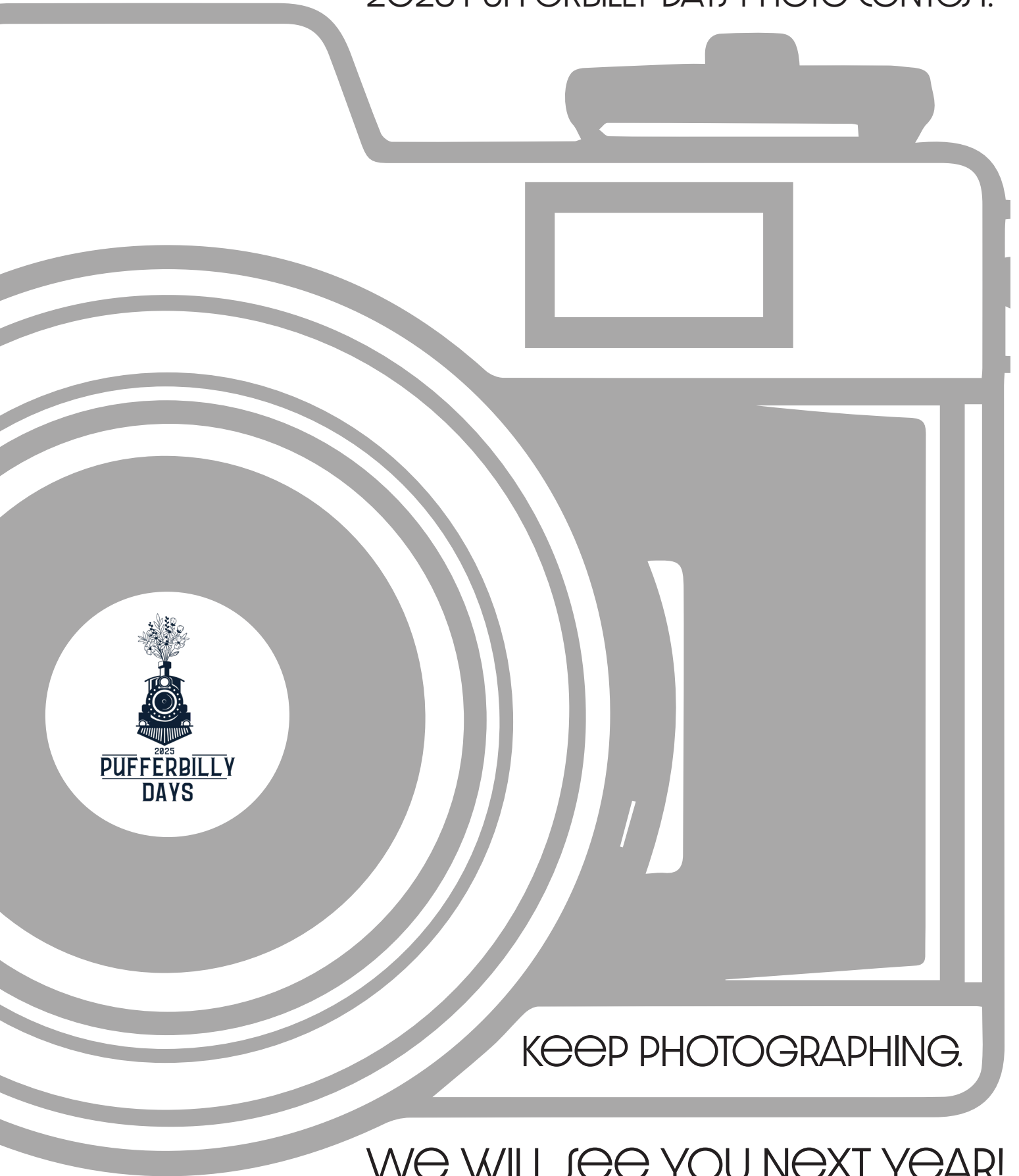
ANGIE DEWAARD
"PEEKABOO"

2025 PEOPLE'S CHOICE



SHANON DUCHENE
"LET'S PLAY"

THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF THE
2025 PUFFERBILLY DAYS PHOTO CONTEST.



KEEP PHOTOGRAPHING.

WE WILL SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!