

2026 PUFFERBILLY DAYS

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

THE BOOK

2026 BEST IN SHOW

THE 2026
Pufferbilly Days
Photography Contest
Awards



The Chairman

I want to give a heartfelt thank YOU to all the photographers WHO 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 160 entries! Adult entries totaled 111, Teen had a total of 38 and Youth contributed 11 entries. We can't wait for continued growth in 2027!

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 2026 Judges, Angie DeWaard, Jon Wilson, and Logan Kahler. Administrative help included Teresa Kahler and Carla Stensland; thank you. The United Methodist Church allowed us to set up the displays; a big thank you!



I would also like to thank the following people, including Monica and Graham Jennings, Valerie Parker, Logan Kahler, Johnathan Stensland, Jesse Howard, Andy Sharp, Johnathan Stensland, Dawn Krause, Kevin Krause and Kayelee Bruns; thank you all. A huge thank you goes to Teresa Kahler for creating the trophy plaques.

Our local businesses play a big role in the contest every year. Thank you to Ema's Elegance, the Boone Theater, Central Iowa Massage, 4 Pawd Creations, Infamous Ink Tattoo & Piercings,

Melissa Bell's Photography, Paradox, and JANA E & CO for making space for us and displaying the photos with pride!

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

Chris Bennett

Chris Bennett



The 2026 Judges:

Logan Kahler



Logan Kahler is the owner, photographer, and videographer behind Logan Kahler Photo & Video, a business he has proudly operated for the past eight years. Specializing in portraits, weddings, and real estate, Logan takes a documentary-style approach to his work, focusing on capturing genuine moments and true, honest emotion as they naturally unfold.

More than simply taking photos or creating films, Logan believes in building real relationships with his clients and creating a comfortable environment where authentic moments can happen. Lately his passion for exploration has gotten him into shooting film photography and at times—expired film stock. His goal is to tell each client's story in a way that feels natural, personal, and true to who they are.



Angie DeWaard currently resides and works in Ames, but has spent many years in both Ogden and Boone.

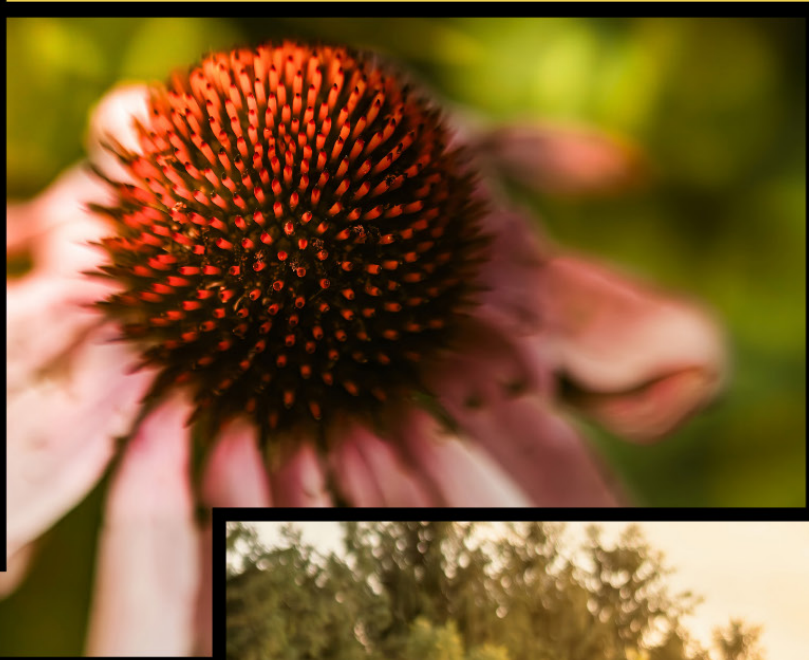
Her love of photography is generational; her grandfather was the national award-winning owner and photographer of Buckroyd Studios in Fort Dodge until his passing. Her own journey began with the Boone County Fair and editing the Ogden High School yearbook growing up. Angie put down the camera for a long time, but decided that she wanted a DSLR when her youngest child was born. Her husband teased her that she would never use the camera, so she took classes and then started Singular Focus Photography, at least 50% out of spite.

While she got the joy of proving him wrong, Angie also rediscovered her passion and love for photography. The photography business has largely been put aside so she can focus more on photographing her family and art. She is grateful for the unique experiences she had behind the lens photographing births, elopements, weddings, cultural and religious celebrations, formal galas, and more. Angie has written multiple articles for digital-photography-school.com. She also has been displayed the four years she has entered the Iowa State Fair, with awards in 2022-2024. This year, she was awarded the Superintendent's Choice in Adult Color at the State Fair Photography Salon. She also has had success at the Pufferbilly Days Photo Contest, taking Best in Show in 2023.

While Angie doesn't maintain an active website or photo blog, several of her commercial photos are still available on her Singular Focus Photography Facebook page.



Angie DeWaard



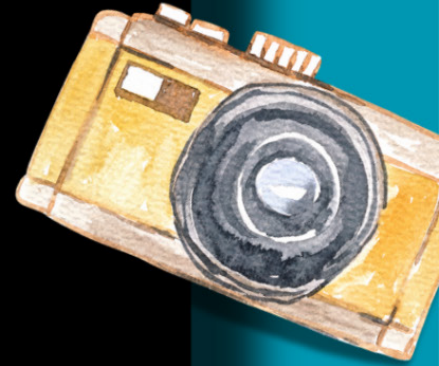
Based in Ames, Iowa, Jon Wilson is an award-winning photographer celebrated for his ability to capture moments that transcend time and emotion. With a keen eye for detail and a commitment to authenticity, he specializes in portraiture, landscapes, seniors, and family photography—each image thoughtfully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





YOUTH A

Cyler Acton
YOUTH ANIMALS
Untitled
1st Place OVERALL YOUTH

Katelyn Hass
YOUTH ANIMALS
Christmas Dog
1st Place ANIMALS YOUTH

Brantlee Staebler
BLACK AND WHITE
Old 30 Gas Station
3rd Place OVERALL YOUTH

Katelyn Hass
YOUTH BLACK AND WHITE
21 and 12
1st Place B&W YOUTH

Brantlee Staebler
YOUTH HUMANS
Through a Mystic World
2nd Place OVERALL YOUTH

Brantlee Staebler

AWARDS

YOUTH PLACES
Old Train Station
2nd Place PLACES YOUTH

Brantlee Staebler
YOUTH PLACES
Fishing Time
3rd Place PLACES YOUTH

Katelyn Hass
YOUTH PLACES
Beautiful Night
1st Place PLACES YOUTH

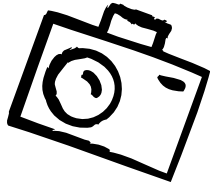
Brantlee Staebler
YOUTH PLANTS
Lazy Susan
1st Place PLANTS YOUTH

Katelyn Hass
YOUTH PLANTS
Yellow Sunshine
2nd Place PLANTS YOUTH

Brantlee Staebler
YOUTH THINGS
Up High
1st Place THINGS YOUTH

YOUTH

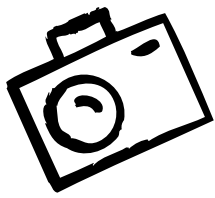
ANIMALS



*Katelyn Hass
Christmas Dog
First Place Animals Youth*



*Tyler Acton
Untitled
First Place Overall Youth*

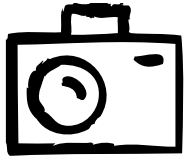


BLACK & WHITE

*Katelyn Hass
21 and 12
First Place B&W Youth*



*Brantlee Staebler
Old 30 Gas Station
Third Place Overall Youth*

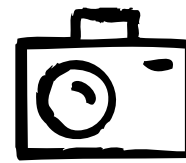


HUMANS



Brantlee Staebler
Through the Mystic World
Second Place overall Youth

YOUTH



PLACES



*Brantlee Staebler
Old Train Station
Second Place Places Youth*



*Brantlee Staebler
Fishing Time
Third Place Places Youth*



*Katelyn Hass
Beautiful Night
First Place Places Youth*



PLANTS

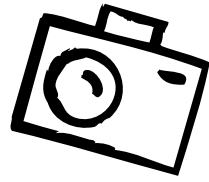


Brantlee Staebler
Lazy Susan
First Place Plants Overall



Katelyn Hass
Yellow Sunshine
Second Place Plants Youth

YOUTH



THINGS



*Brantlee Staebler
Through the Mystic World
First Place Things Youth*

TEEN AWARDS

Faye Brown
TEEN ANIMALS
The Ugly Duckling
1st Place ANIMALS TEEN

Rylin Casey
TEEN ANIMALS
Angel 2.0 (Horse Nose)
3rd Place ANIMALS TEEN

Rylin Casey
TEEN ANIMALS
Horse Eye
3rd Place OVERALL TEEN

Rylin Casey
TEEN ANIMALS
Lily
2nd Place ANIMALS TEEN

Faye Brown
TEEN BLACK AND WHITE
Best Friends
1st Place B&W TEEN

Emarose Davis
TEEN BLACK AND WHITE
Rocks by the Lake
Honorable Mention B&W TEEN

Emarose Davis
TEEN BLACK AND WHITE
Swinging
2nd Place OVERALL TEEN

Daphne Harris
TEEN BLACK AND WHITE
Let the Wind in Ur Face
3rd Place HUMANS TEEN

Brooklynn Daigh
TEEN HUMANS
Baby Wobbles
Honorable Mention HUMANS TEEN

Brooklynn Daigh
TEEN HUMANS
Into the Sun
1st Place OVERALL TEEN

Jorja Daigh
TEEN HUMANS
On the Peak
3rd Place HUMANS TEEN

Jorja Daigh
TEEN HUMANS
Through the Veil
2nd Place HUMANS TEEN

WARDS

Jorja Daigh
TEEN HUMANS
Reflection
1st Place HUMANS TEEN

Faye Brown
TEEN PLACES
Still Evening
1st Place PLACES TEEN
Daphne Harris
TEEN PLACES
Pink Sky
2nd Place PLACES TEEN

Rylin Casey
TEEN PLACES
Northern Lights
3rd Place PLACES TEEN

Faye Brown
TEEN PLANTS
Morning Columbine
2nd Place PLANTS TEEN

Emarose Davis
TEEN PLANTS
Flowers in the Sky
1st Place PLANTS TEEN

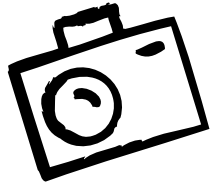
Daphne Harris
TEEN PLANTS
Beam On
3rd Place PLANTS TEEN

Kayelee Burns
TEEN PLANTS
Day Dreaming
Honorable Mention PLANTS TEEN

Faye Brown
TEEN THINGS
Little Whites
1st Place THINGS TEEN
Kayelee Burns
TEEN THINGS
Exhibit A
Honorable Mention THINGS TEEN
Kayelee Burns
TEEN THINGS
Ye Olde Oak
3rd Place THINGS TEEN

Jorja Daigh
TEEN THINGS
Does this Ring Make Me Look Married?
2nd Place THINGS TEEN

TEEN



ANIMALS

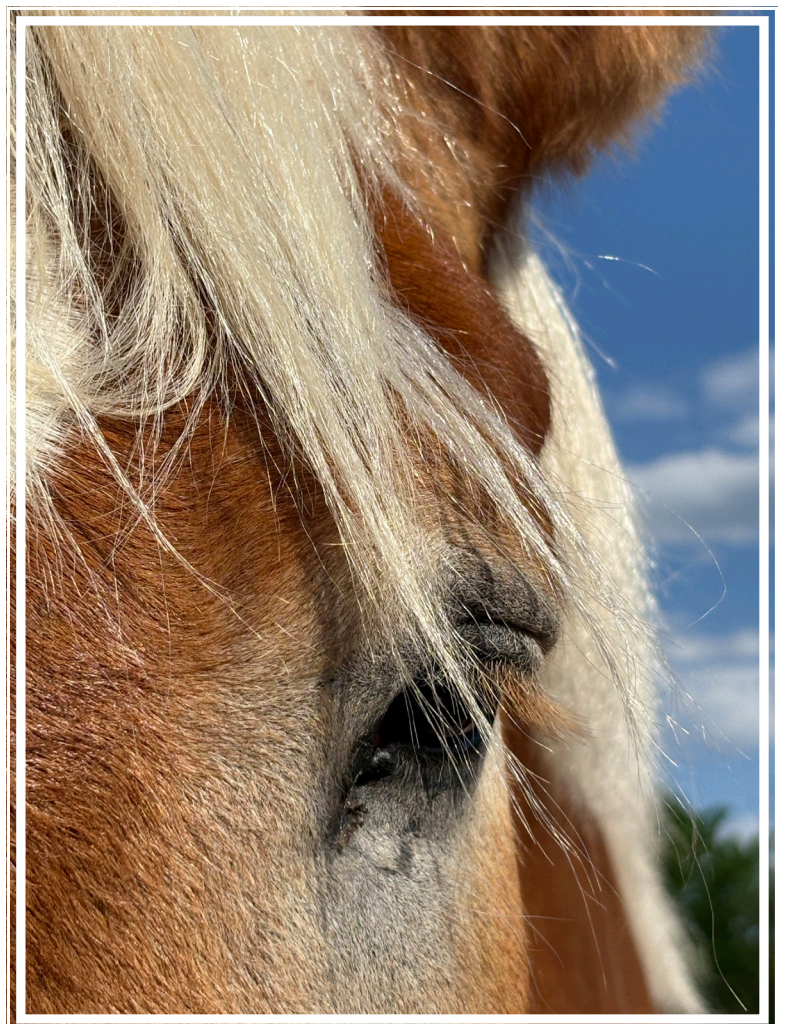
Rylin Casey
Angel 2.0 (Horse Nose)
3rd Place ANIMALS TEEN



Faye Brown
The Ugly Duckling
1st Place ANIMALS TEEN



Rylin Casey
Lily
2nd Place ANIMALS TEEN



Rylin Casey
Horse Eye
3rd Place OVERALL TEEN

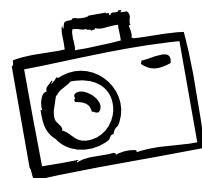
BLACK & WHITE



*Faye Brown
Best Friends
1st Place B&W TEEN*



*Emarose Davis
Rocks by the
Lake
Honorable
Mention B&W
TEEN*

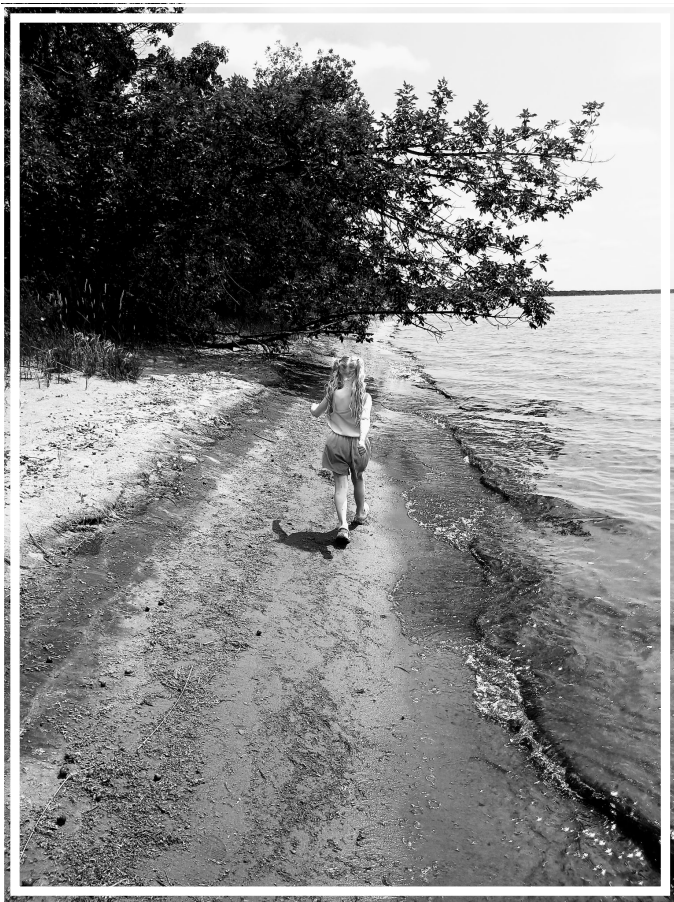


TEEN

Emarose Davis
Swinging
2nd Place OVERALL TEEN



Embarose
Davis
Shapes of the
Clouds



*Emarose Davis
Freya on the Beach*



*Daphne Harris
The Heart of a Book*



*Daphne Harris
Let the Wind in Ur Face
3rd Place HUMANS TEEN*



*Jorja Daigh
Pretty Lady*

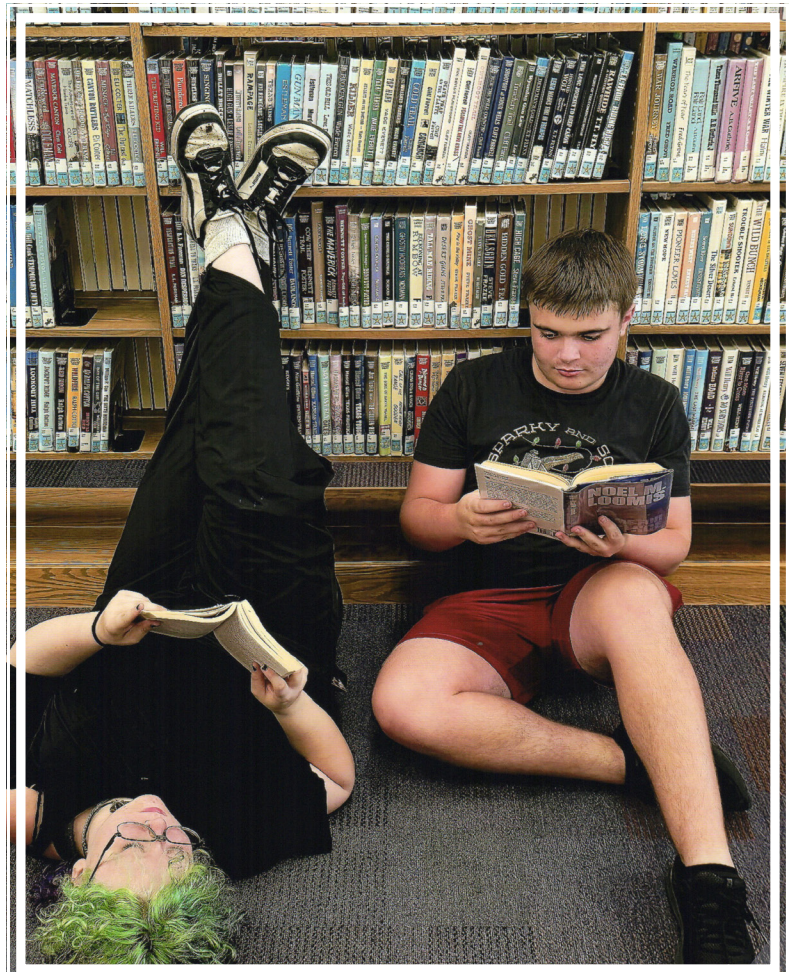


*Jorja Daigh
Little Details
2nd Place B&W TEEN*

HUMANS

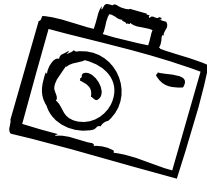


*Faye Brown
Hidden Behind the Mask*

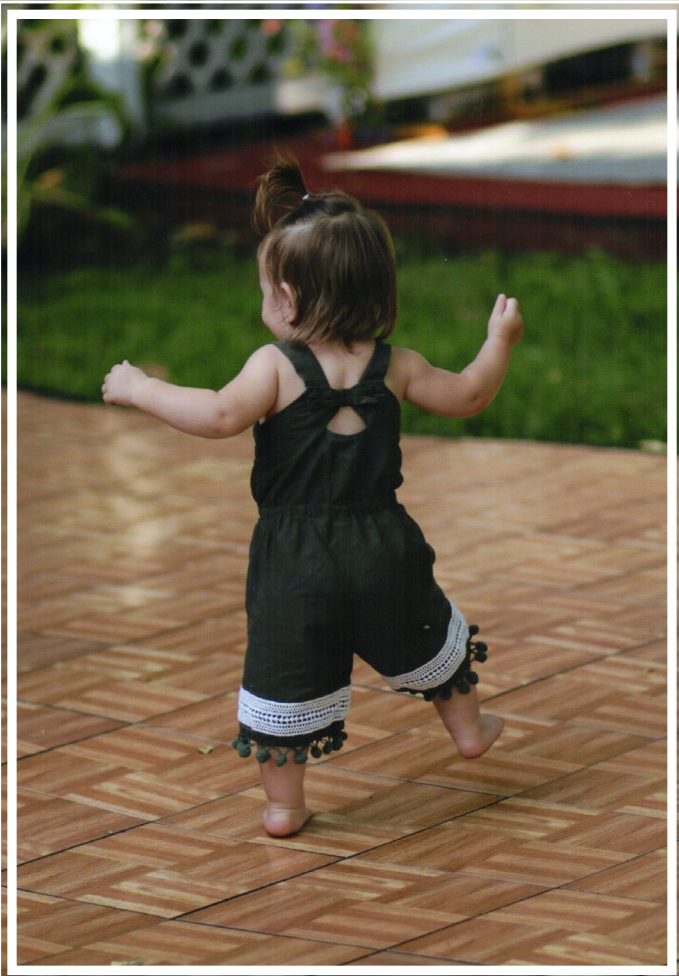


*Daphne Harris
Book Lovers*

TEEN



*Daphne Harris
What the Pages Hold*



*Brooklynn Daigh
Baby Wobbles
Honorable Mention HUMANS TEEN*



*Brooklynn Daigh
In the Sky*



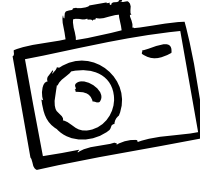
*Brooklynn Daigh
Love on the Rocks*

TEEN

*Brooklynn Daigh
Into the Sun
1st Place OVERALL TEEN*

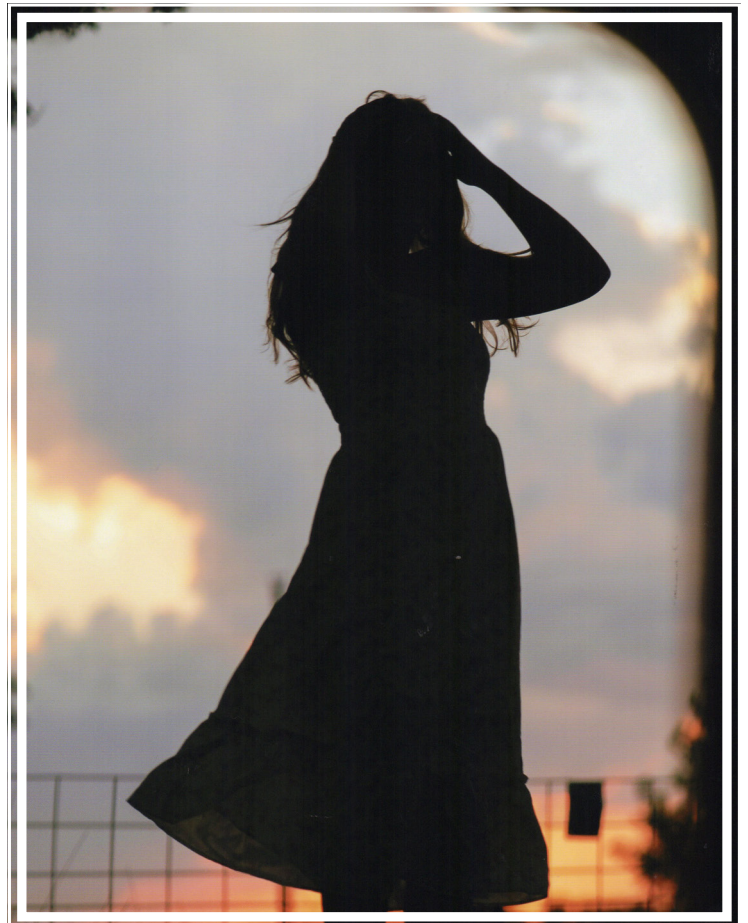


*Jorja Daigh
On the Peak
3rd Place HUMANS TEEN*



TEEN

*Jorja Daigh
Through the Veil
2nd Place HUMANS TEEN*

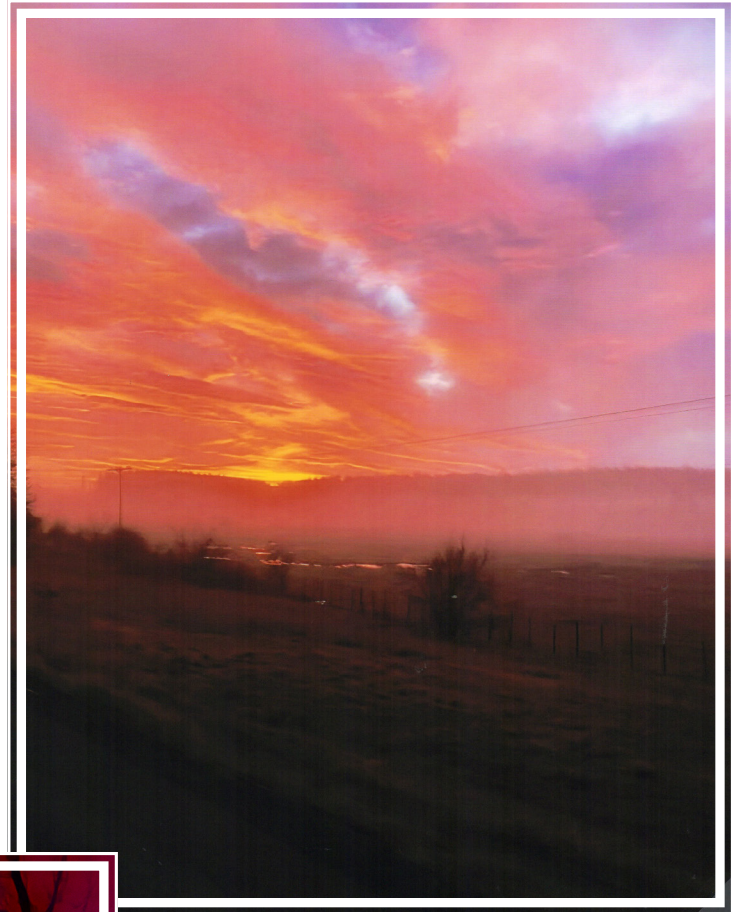


*Jorja Daigh
Reflection
1st Place HUMANS TEEN*

PLACES



*Faye Brown
Still Evening
1st Place PLACES TEEN*



*Daphne Harris
Pink Sky
2nd Place PLACES TEEN*



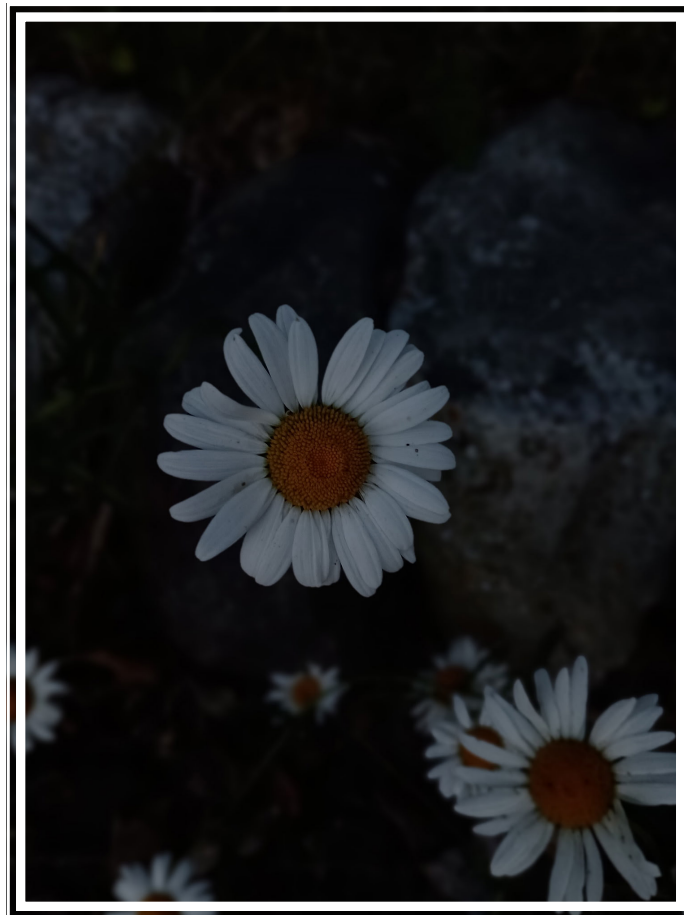
*Rylin Casey
Northern Lights
3rd Place PLACES TEEN*

PLANTS



*Faye Brown
Morning
Columbine
2nd Place PLANTS
TEEN*

*Emarose Davis
Flowers in the Sky
1st Place PLANTS TEE*



*Emarose Davis
Flowers*



TEEN

*Daphne Harris
Beem On
3rd Place PLANTS TEEN*



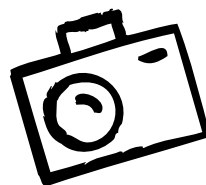
*Kayelee Burns
Day Dreaming
Honorable Mention PLANTS TEEN*



*Kayelee Burns
Stone Crop*

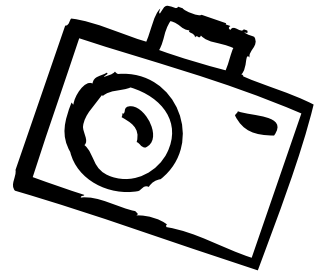


*Kayelee Burns
Almost Amber Waves*



TEEN

THINGS



*Faye Brown
Little Whites*



*1st Place THINGS TEEN
Kayelee Burns
Exhibit A
Honorable Mention
THINGS TEEN*



*Kayelee Burns
Brookside Picnic*

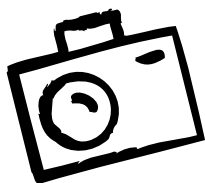


*Jorja Daigh
Does this Ring Make Me Look Married?
2nd Place THINGS TEEN*



Kayelee Burns
Ye Olde Oak
3rd Place THINGS TEEN

TEEN



ADULT A

Sean Taylor
A Relaxing Day in the Porch
Honorable Mention ANIMALS ADULT

Carla Stensland
Claire's Simple Pleasure
3rd Place ANIMALS ADULT

Melissa Bell
Unbridled
2nd Place ANIMALS ADULT

Bethany Shadle
Parrot
Honorable Mention ANIMALS ADULT

Janae Erickson
It's a Boy!
1st Place ANIMALS ADULT

Nicki Acton
Summer Ruby
2nd Place OVERALL ADULT

Nicki Acton
Upside Down Owl
Honorable Mention ANIMALS ADULT

Anthony Davis
Full Voice
Honorable Mention B&W ADULT

Carla Stensland
Lakeside Solitude
1st Place B&W ADULT

Heather Davis
Grains of Sand
Honorable Mention B&W ADULT

Janae Erickson
A Scholarly Toddler
Honorable Mention B&W ADULT

Nicki Acton
Lunch on the Go
3rd Place B&W ADULT

Shanon Duchene
A Dance Between Shadows and Light
2nd Place B&W ADULT

Anthony Davis
Descent
Honorable Mention HUMANS ADULT

John Roberts
Georgia Lily
Honorable Mention HUMANS ADULT

Melissa Bell
Locked In
3rd Place OVERALL ADULT

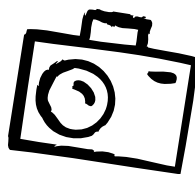
Melissa Bell
Daydream
2nd Place HUMANS ADULT

Dawn Krause
The Sandlot
Honorable Mention HUMANS ADULT

Janae Erickson
One Final Performance
3rd Place HUMANS ADULT

Shanon Duchene
Welcome to the Circus
1st Place HUMANS ADULT

AWARDS



Anthony Davis
Convergence
1st Place PLACES ADULT

Julie Brown
Street Art: What is Home? By
Asbestos
2nd Place PLACES ADULT

Julie Brown
A Peek into Saint Fin Barre
1st Place OVERALL ADULT

John Roberts
Devils Tower
Honorable Mention PLACES ADULT

Sarah Snyder
Where the Light Leads
Honorable Mention PLACES ADULT

Janae Erickson
Somewhere Along the Countryside
3rd Place PLACES ADULT

Janae Erickson
An Icelandic Layover
Honorable Mention PLACES ADULT

Jianhua Yang
Painted Petals
2nd Place PLANTS ADULT

Sean Taylor
Ballerinas
1st Place PLANTS ADULT

Don Lester
Day lily on Parade
Honorable Mention PLANTS ADULT

Dawn Krause
Glass Onion
Honorable Mention PLANTS ADULT

Bethany Shadle
Lilac
3rd Place PLANTS ADULT

Anthony Davis
Night Shift
3rd Place THINGS ADULT

Anthony Davis
Ductile
BEST IN SHOW

Carla Stensland
Tethered Sunset
2nd Place THINGS ADULT

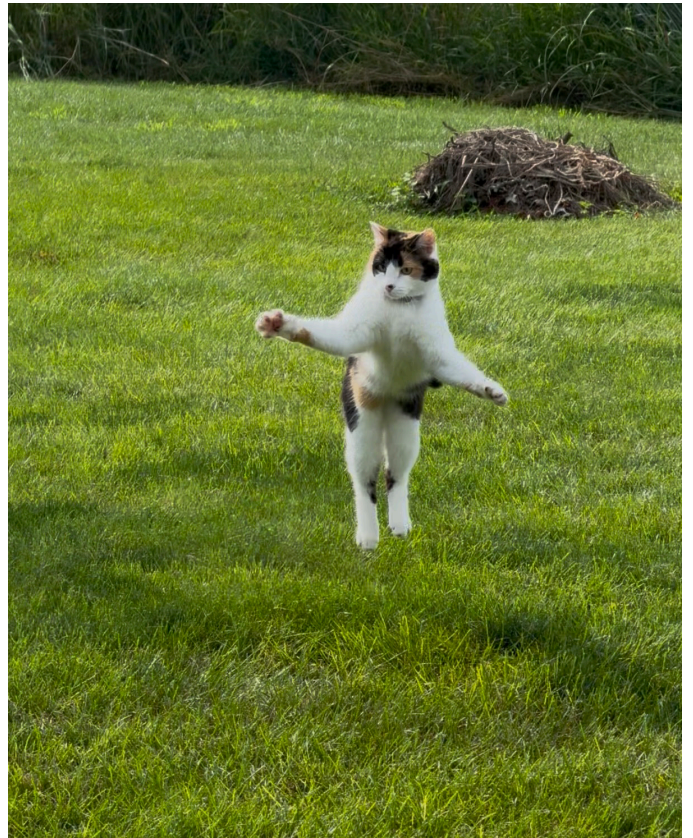
Dawn Krause
Long Train Runnin'
1st Place THINGS ADULT

Bethany Shadle
Puppy Brite
Honorable Mention THINGS ADULT

Shanon Duchene
Rails, Lights, and Fireworks
Honorable Mention THINGS ADULT

ADULT

ANIMALS



*Darci Newcomb
The Flying Calico*



*Shannon Christensen
Metamorphosis of Glen*



Sean Taylor
A Relaxing Day in the Porch
Honorable Mention ANIMALS ADULT



Sean Taylor
Aww! So Cute!



Sean Taylor
Peek-a-Boo



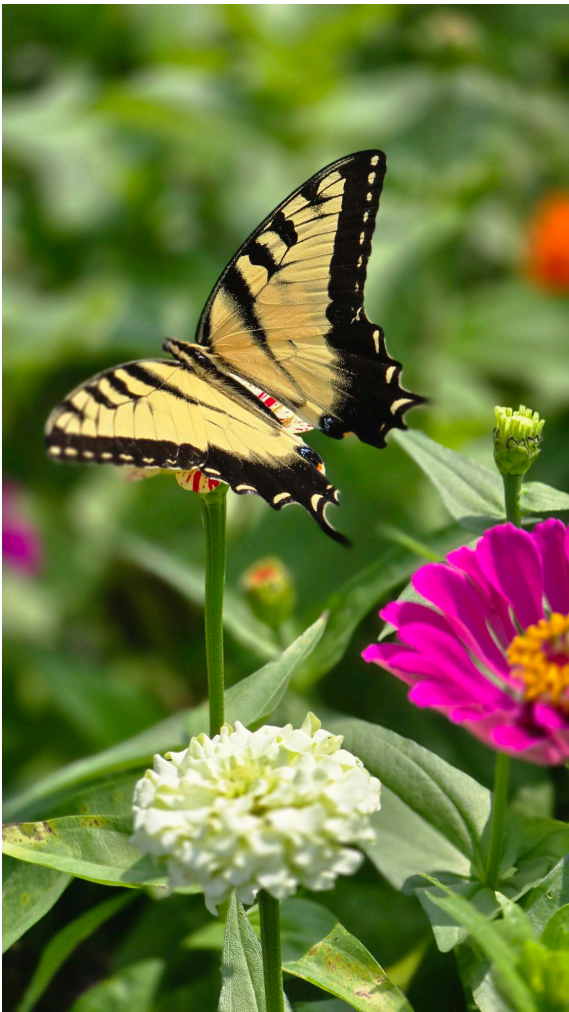
Sean Taylor
Bullfrog Buddah



Sean Taylor
We Are Family



Carla Stensland
Claire's Simple Pleasure
3rd Place ANIMALS ADULT



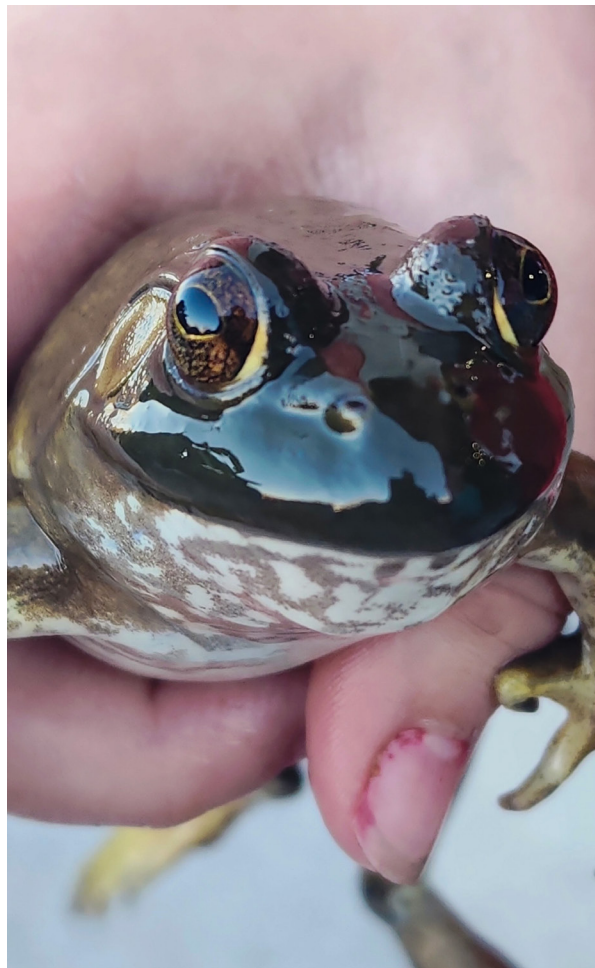
Don Lester
Swallowtail on Zinnia



Heather Davis
Weird



*Melissa Bell
Unbridled
2nd Place ANIMALS ADULT*



*Dawn Krause
Down the Hill*



Bethany Shadle

Parrot

Honorable Mention ANIMALS ADULT



Janae Erickson

It's a Boy!

1st Place ANIMALS ADULT



*Nicki Acton
Summer Ruby
2nd Place OVERALL ADULT*



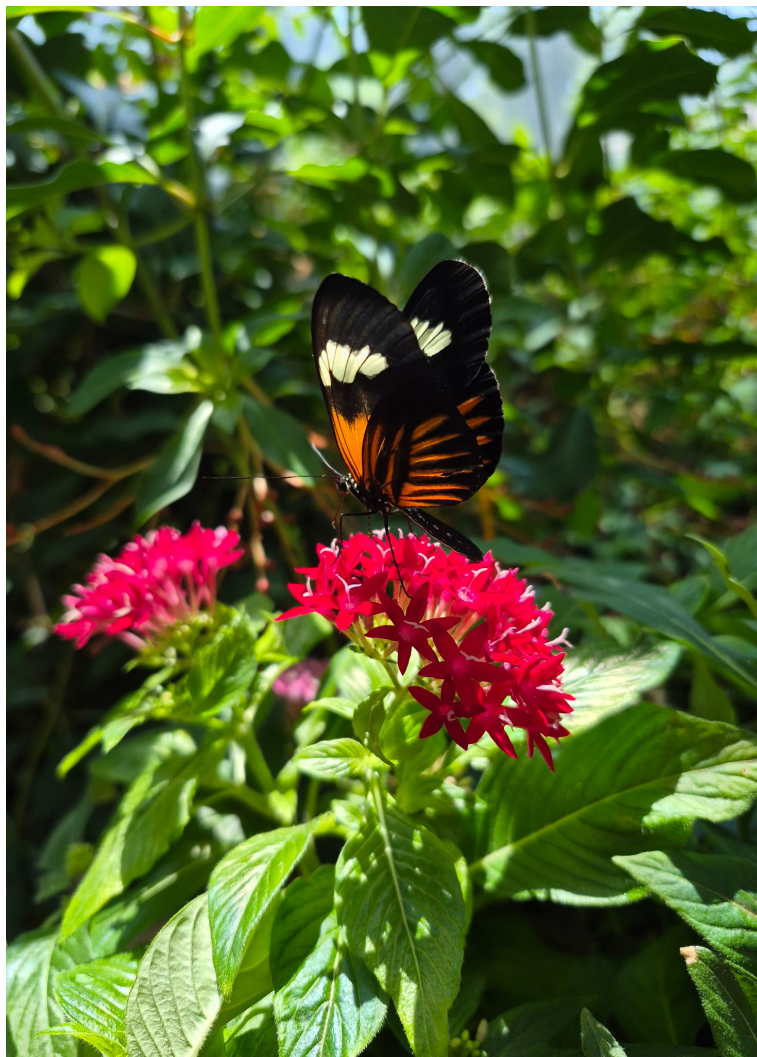
*Nicki Acton
Upside Down Owl
Honorable Mention ANIMALS ADULT*



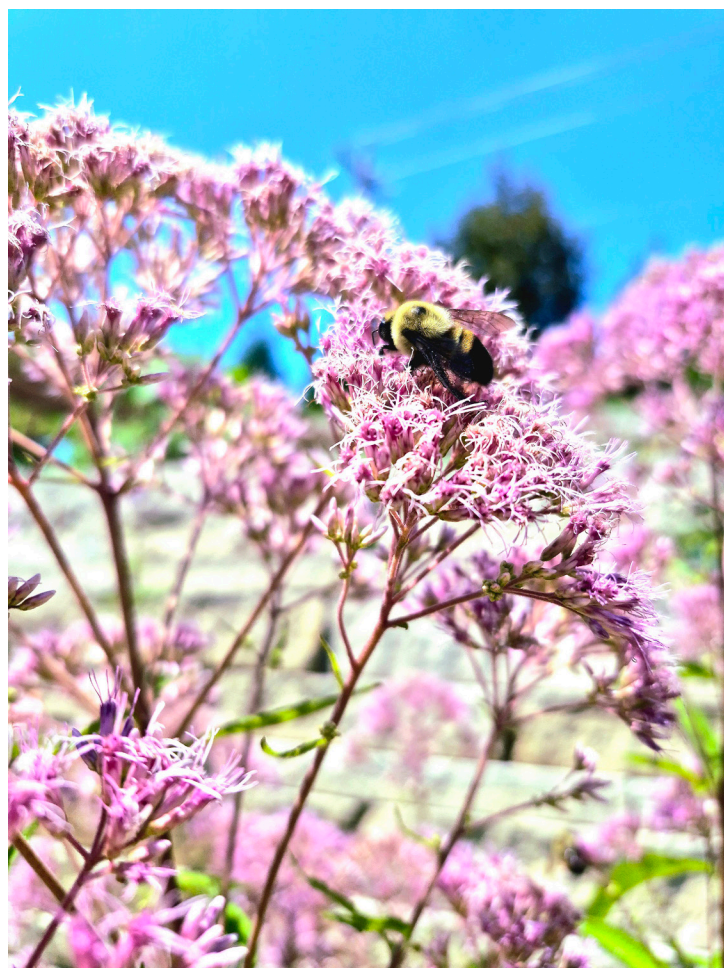
Vicki Felice
Intuitive Timing



Shanon Duchene
Sunlit Beauty



Ruth Sierra Frye
Sunkissed Wings



Ruth Sierra Frye
Buzzy Spring Bee

BLACK & WHITE



*Amanda Wallace
I Got This*



*Anthony Davis
Full Voice
Honorable Mention
B&W ADULT*

ADULT



*Carla Stensland
Lakeside Solitude
1st Place B&W ADULT*

*Julie Brown
The Messy Baker*





*Don Lester
Totems*

*Grace Altenhofe
Farmer's Coop. Elevator*





*Grace Altenhofen
Try Boone*

*Grace Altenhofen
Welcome to Boone*





*Grace Altenhofen
Bickel*

*Grace Altenhofen
Willard's Furs*





Heather Davis
Ledges



Heather Davis
Grains of Sand
Honorable Mention B&W ADULT



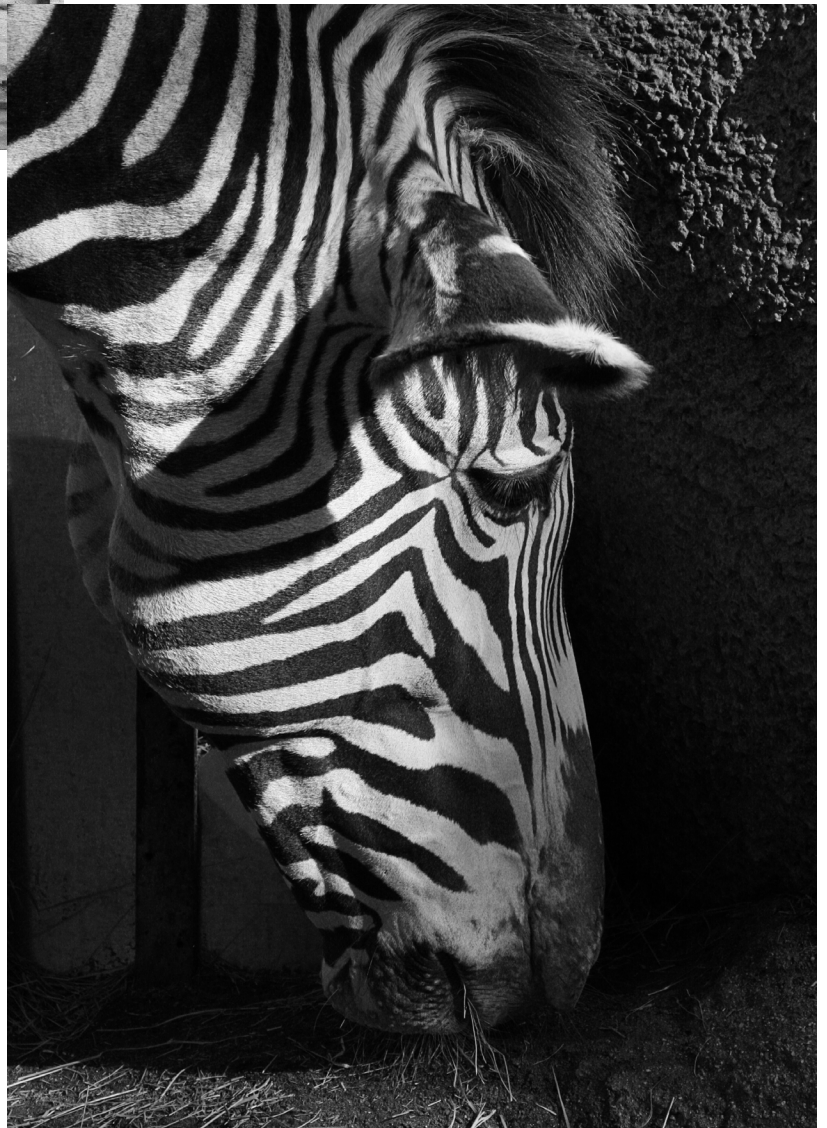
*Melissa Bell
Always*



*Melissa Bell
Becoming*



*Dawn Krause
Sweet Caroline*



*Bethany Shadle
Zebra*



*Janae Erickson
A Scholarly Toddler
Honorable Mention B&W ADULT*

*Nicki Acton
Lunch on the Go
3rd Place B&W ADULT*





Nicki Acton
Copycat

Shanon Duchene
A Dance Between Shadows and Light
2nd Place B&W ADULT



HUMANS



*Darci Newcomb
Unsung Guardians*



*Anthony Davis
Something She Said*

ADULT



Anthony Davis
Descent
Honorable Mention HUMANS ADULT



John Roberts
Georgia Lily
Honorable Mention HUMANS ADULT



*John Roberts
Ellie Picking + Grinning*



*Carla Stensland
America's Future*



*Don Lester
Cyclone Fan*



*Melissa Bell
Locked In
3rd Place OVERALL ADULT*



*Melissa Bell
Daydream
2nd Place
HUMANS
ADULT*



*Dawn Krause
The Sandlot
Honorable Mention HUMANS ADULT*



*Janae Erickson
Uber Who?*



*Bethany Shadle
Maddie at Thomas*

*Shanon Duchene
Welcome to the Circus
1st Place HUMANS ADULT*



*Ruth Sierra Frye
2027 Bookworm*





*Janae Erickson
One Final Performance
3rd Place HUMANS ADULT*



*Ruth Sierra Frye
Sisters by Heart*



*Ruth Sierra Frye
Sassy Girl in the Park*

ADULT



*Ruth Sierra Frye
What Goes on Behind the Lens*

PLACES



*Darci Newcomb
Nature's Spotlight*



*Darci Newcomb
Reflections on Lake Michigan*



*Anthony Davis
Convergence
1st Place PLACES ADULT*



*Julie Brown
A Wee Port Town*

Julie Brown
Street Art: What is Home?
By Asbestos
2nd Place PLACES ADULT



Julie Brown
Through Van Gogh's Eyes





Julie Brown
A Peek into Saint Fin Barre
1st Place OVERALL ADULT



John Roberts
Devils Tower
Honorable Mention
PLACES ADULT



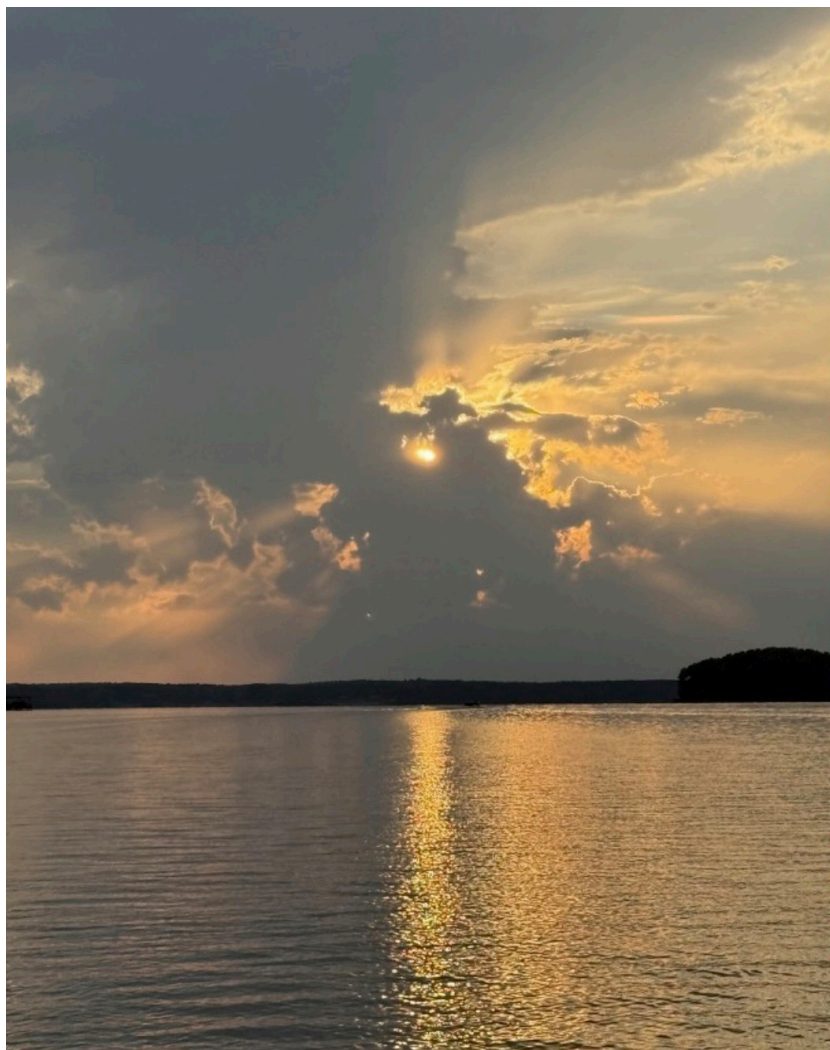
*Carla Stensland
Royal Gorge*



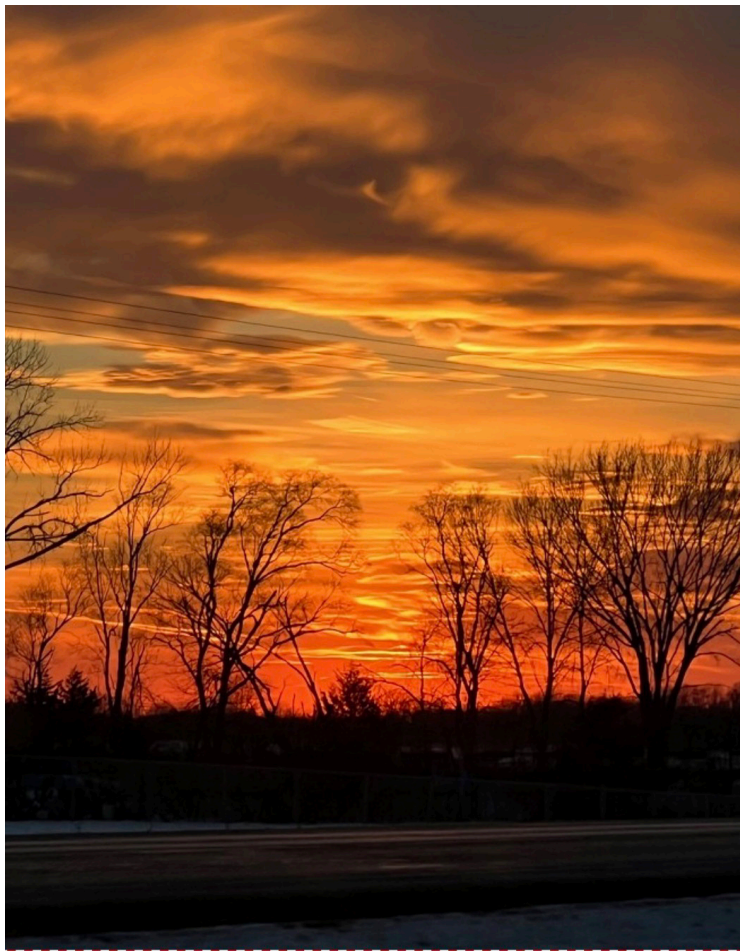
*Carla Stensland
Triboji Happy Place*



Don Lester
Lighthouse on the Coast



Sarah Snyder
The Light Breaks Through



*Sarah Snyder
Even the Darkness Glows*



*Sarah Snyder
Where the Light Leads
Honorable Mention PLACES
ADULT*



Sarah Snyder
As Above So Below



Heather Davis
The Comforts of Home



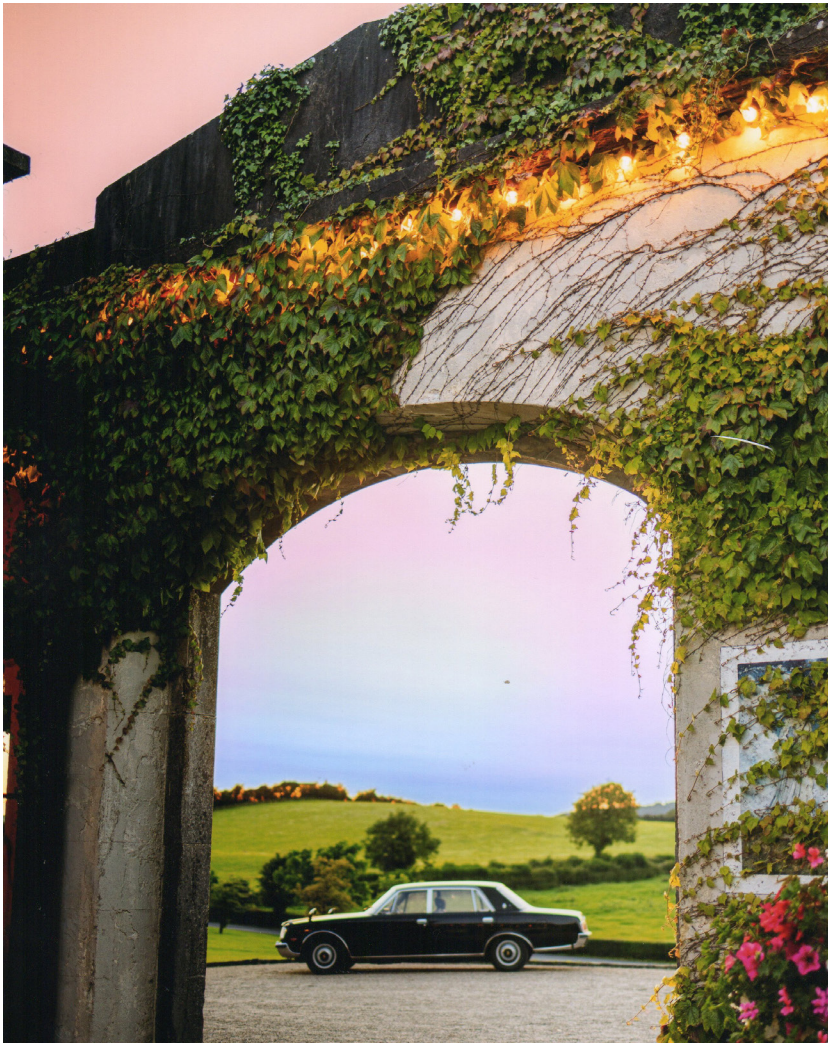
*Melissa Bell
Last Night*



*Dawn Krause
Reflections at Parks Library*



*Bethany Shadle
A Day Out with Thomas*



*Janae Erickson
Somewhere Along the Countryside
3rd Place PLACES ADULT*



*Janae Erickson
An Icelandic
Layover
Honorable
Mention PLACES
ADULT*



*Vicki Felice
Reflections of Winter*



*Vicki Felice
Heavenly Sunset*



*Jocelyn Rubber Stamps-Kurtz
Utah Sunset 2026*

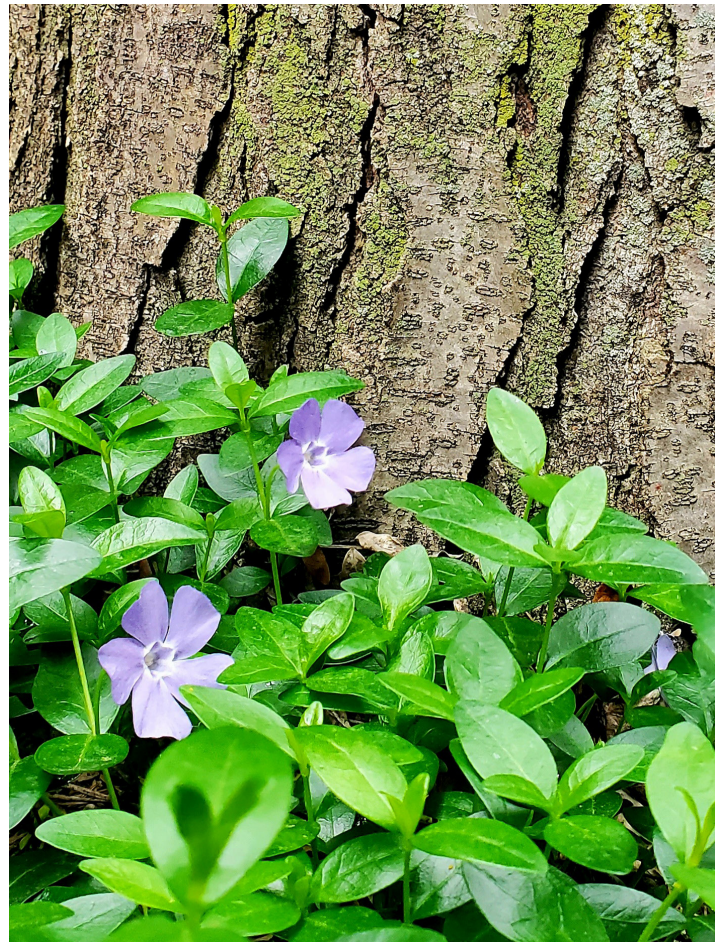


Shanon Duchene
Iowa's Looking Glass

PLANTS

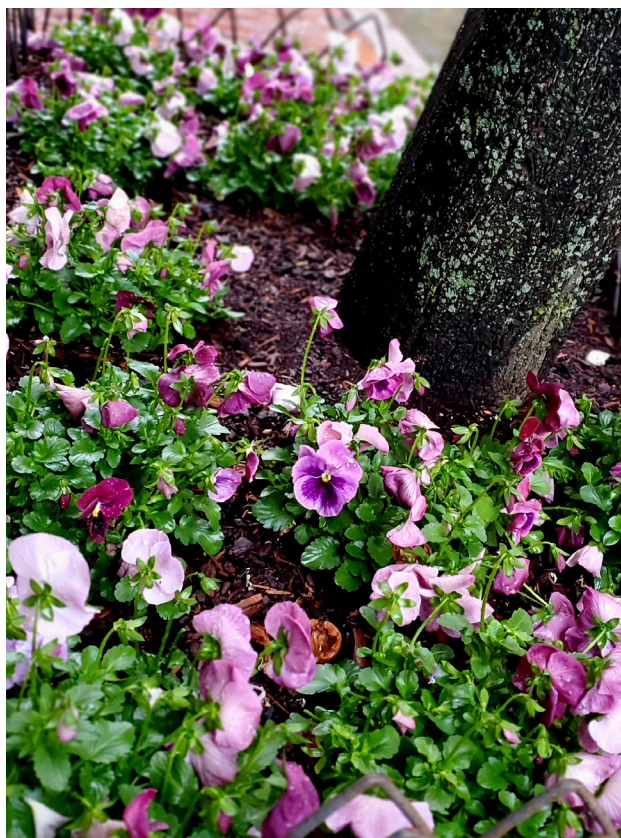


Jianhua Yang
Dancing in the Doorway



Jianhua Yang
Periwinkle Passages

ADULT



Jianhua Yang
Sweet Nothing in the Rain



Jianhua Yang
Painted Petals
2nd Place PLANTS ADULT



Jianhua Yang
Coral Serenade at Twilight



Jianhua Yang
Heartbeat of the City



*Sean Taylor
Ballerinas
1st Place PLANTS ADULT*

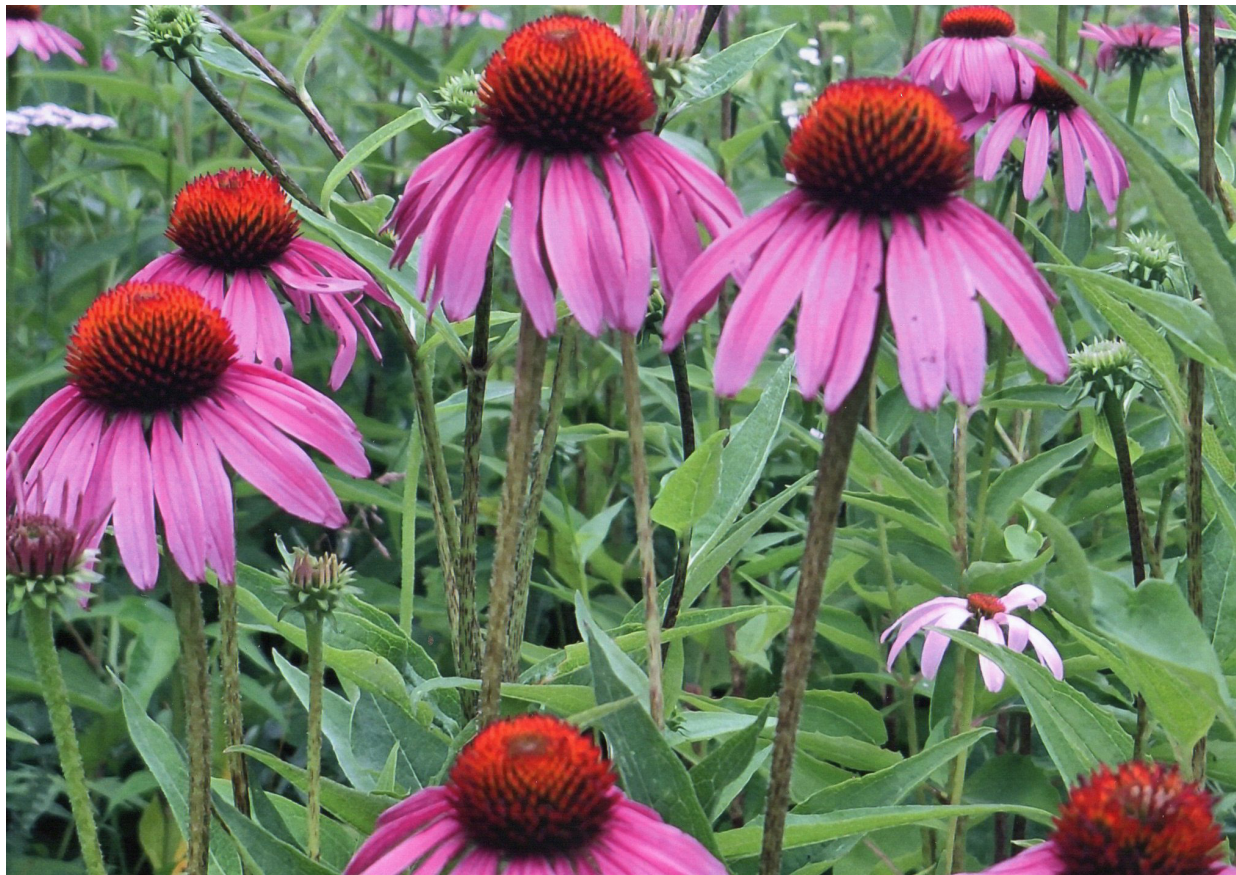


*Don Lester
Daylily on Parade
Honorable Mention PLANTS ADULT*

Dawn Krause
Glass Onion
Honorable Mention PLANTS ADULT



Bethany Shadle
Lilac
3rd Place PLANTS ADULT



Vicki Felice
Coneflower Field



Vicki Felice
Color My World

ADULT



Jocelyn Rubber Stamps-Kurtz
Petunia Stamen

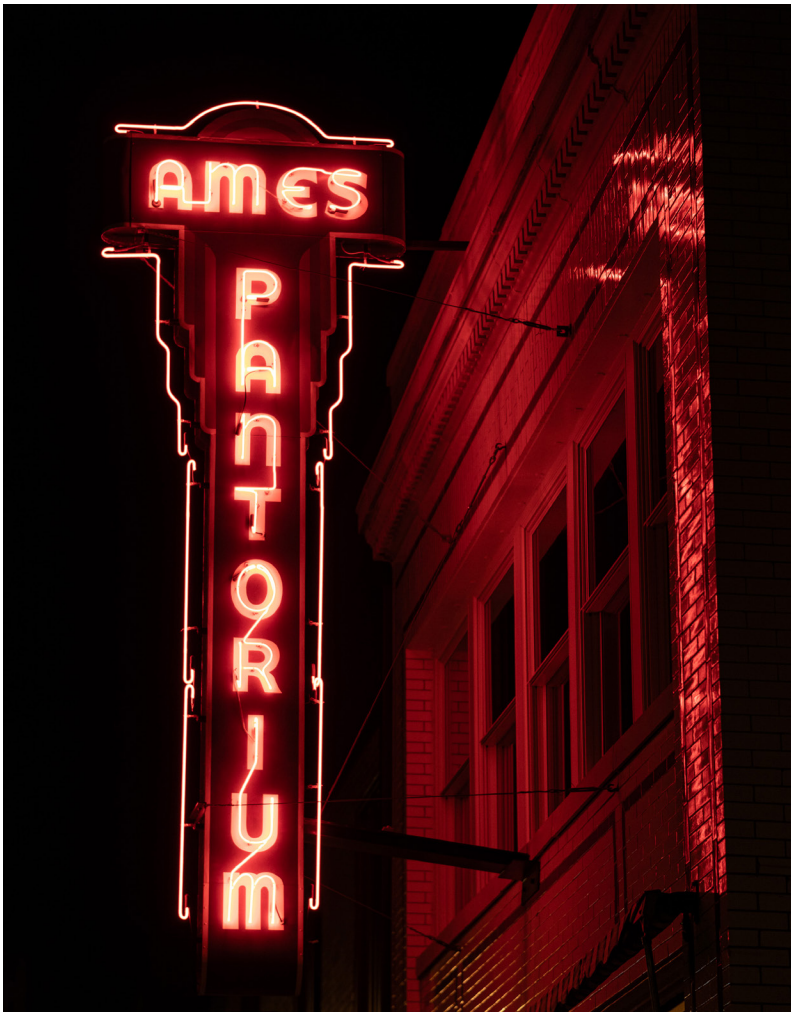
THINGS



*Darci Newcomb
Incoming*



*Darci Newcomb
Paddling Past History*



Anthony Davis
Night Shift
3rd Place THINGS ADULT



Anthony Davis
Ductile
BEST IN SHOW



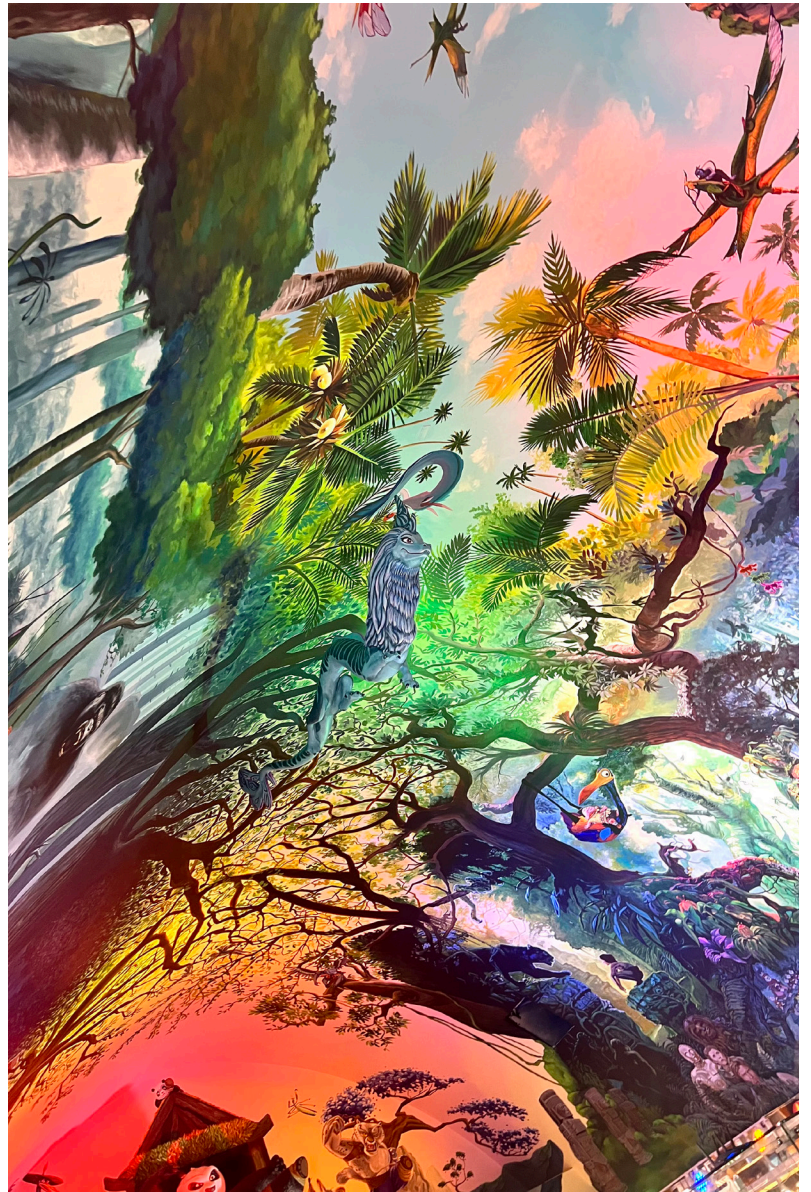
*Julie Brown
A Glimpse in the Garden*



*Carla Stensland
Tethered Sunset
2nd Place THINGS
ADULT*



Don Lester
Nova Scotia Cannon



Heather Davis
Bright



Heather Davis
Wall of Clouds



Dawn Krause
Long Train Runnin'
1st Place THINGS ADULT



Bethany Shadle
Puppy Brite
Honorable Mention THINGS ADULT



Vicki Felice
Fire in the Sky



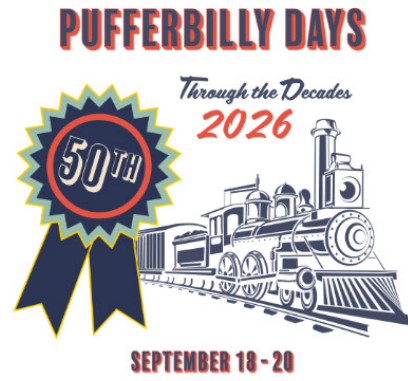
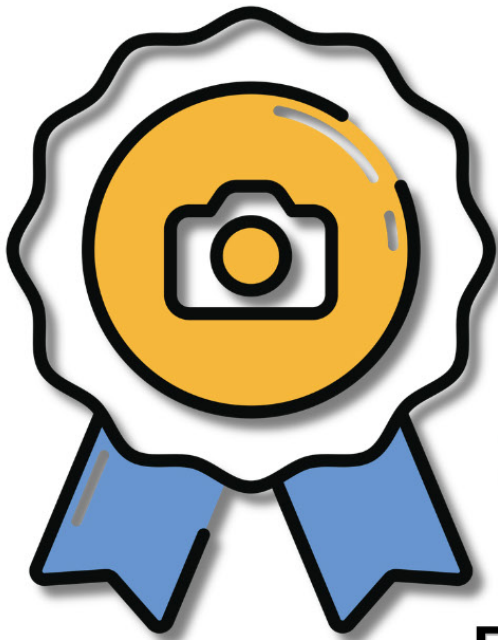
*Randy Kurtz
Tree of Life*



*Jocelyn Rubber Stamps-Kurtz
Diamond Liberty Bell*



Shanon Duchene
Rails, Lights, and Fireworks
Honorable Mention THINGS ADULT

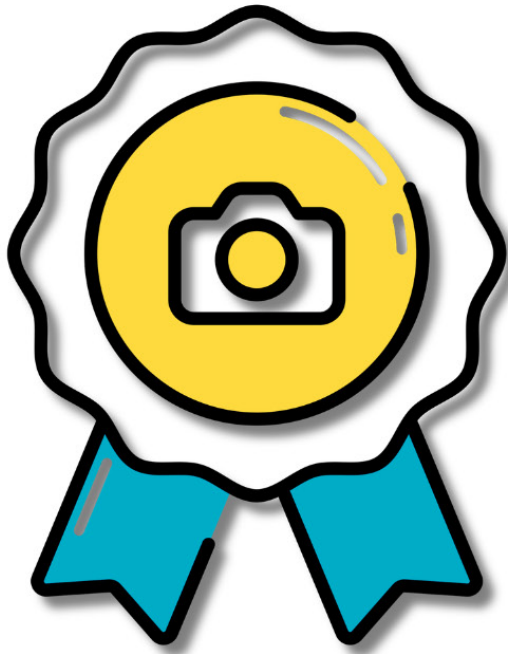


2026 Boone Pufferbilly Days
Photo Contest

BEST IN SHOW



Anthony Davis, Ductile



2026 Boone Pufferbilly Days Photo Contest

People's Choice



Nicki Action, Summer Ruby

THANK YOU TO ALL
THE 2026 PARTICIPANTS.

WE LOOK FORWARD
TO SEEING YOU
IN NEXT YEARS
COMPETITION.

UNTIL THEN,
HAVE FUN
AND
KEEP THAT
CAMERA OUT!