



# May 2021

May Day - May 1

Cinco de Mayo - May 5

Mother's Day - May 9

Armed Forces Day - May 15

Memorial Day - May 31

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[www.pplac.org](http://www.pplac.org)

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## May 2021 – PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

### MAY PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Hello!

I can hardly believe its May already! The weather has been absolutely beautiful and I really hope you all are out there shooting! We are excited to be having *three* programs in May! First up is a PPLAC Outing at the LA Arboretum on Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>. Our own Angela Chen will be our guide. It will most definitely be an exceptional time and it will absolutely be wonderful to see everyone in person again!! Of course, we will follow all the necessary current COVID-19 precautions (face masks and social distancing). Additional details can be found in the announcement and can be found on our website and in this newsletter. Please note that tickets **MUST** be purchased in advance via [www.arboretum.org/visit/hours-and-admission](http://www.arboretum.org/visit/hours-and-admission).



Our second program will be the May “Shoot and Share” for PPLAC members only. The Zoom event will take place on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm. Members shoot their best

images from a park or garden, then submit 3 images that are shared anonymously. We discuss them, critique them and together we select our favorite overall image. Winners receive a prize!!

We will close the month with our 2nd Digital Photographic Competition of 2021 on May 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. Get your images ready! The submission dates are May 14-16. Please don't forget that the board is available to assist you if you have questions while preparing for DPC and can also preview your images for comments/critique prior to submission.

Thank you so much for sticking with PPLAC during the pandemic. We value you and look forward to seeing you in person soon!!

Best Regards,

Eleanor

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## Upcoming Events & General Meetings

Come join our monthly meetings held on the **4th Thursday of each month** (unless it falls on a holiday).

### Save The Date

Meetings and  
Events

Visit our Meetup  
Calendar for more details\*

**May 4, 2021**  
**Outing to Los Angeles**  
**County Arboretum**  
**4:00 PM**

**May 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2021**  
**Dan Holmes**  
**"The Elusive Landscape"**  
**7 PM - 9 PM**  
**A PPC/California**  
**Workshop**

**May 5, 2021 (WCS)**  
**Ella Carlson**  
**"Exploring Your**  
**Creativity"**  
**5 PM - 6 PM Free!!**

**May 7, 2021 (WCS)**  
**Ella Carlson**  
**"Exploring the World of**  
**Possibilities Within**  
**Photoshop"**  
**9 AM - 5 PM**

## Stay Connected

### Facebook

[https://www.facebook.com/  
PPLAC/](https://www.facebook.com/PPLAC/)

### Meet Up

[https://www.meetup.com/  
Culver-City-Photography-  
Meetup/](https://www.meetup.com/Culver-City-Photography-Meetup/)

## PPLAC is a Proud Affiliate of...

### PPC

<https://ppconline.com/>

### PPA

<https://www.ppa.com/>

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## PPLAC Sponsors

**Howard Burkholz**  
**Allstate Insurance**

<https://www.nationalphotograp>

## 2021 Board of Directors

**2020-21**  
**President**  
Eleanor Gray

**1st Vice President**  
(Programs, Speakers,  
Workshops)  
John Powers

**2nd Vice President**  
(Membership)  
Roy Patience

**Treasurer**  
Nikki Washburn

**Secretary**  
Teresa Pepe

**Digital Photographic**  
**Competition Director**  
Gary Parsons

**Digital Photographic**  
**Competition Co-Chair**  
John Powers

**Digital Photographic**  
**Competition Moderators**  
Mel Carll  
Bob Young

**Fundraiser Director**  
Ira Mintz

**Event Photographer**

**May 14, 2021**  
**DPC Submission Opens**

**May 16, 2021**  
**DPC Submission Closes**

**May 27, 2021**  
**DPC #2**

**June 1, 2021 (WCS)**  
**Sandra Pearce**  
**"Digital Painting in**  
**Photoshop"**  
**5 PM - 6 PM Free!!**

**June 7, 2021**  
**Special Presentation:**  
**Mel Carll**  
**"A Photographer's**  
**Testimony of Surviving**  
**Cancer "**

**June 10 - 11, 2021 (WCS)**  
**Sandra Pearce**  
**"Digital Painting in**  
**Photoshop"**  
**9 AM - 5 PM**

**June 24, 2021**  
**Erica Harvey**  
**"Wildlife Photography"**

**July 22, 2021**  
**General Meeting**

**August 26, 2021**  
**Third DPC**

**September 23, 2021**  
**General Meeting**

**October 28, 2021**  
**General Meeting**

**November 18, 2021**  
**Fourth DPC**  
**(THIRD THURSDAY)**

**December 2021**  
**No meeting**

**January 27, 2022**  
**Open House and Awards**

*\*Please note that speakers may  
change at any time.*

[hersinsurance.com/](https://www.hersinsurance.com/)

**Jixipix Software**

<https://jixipix.com/>

**Mindshift Gear**

<https://www.thinktankphoto.com/pages/mindshift-gear>

**ProLab Digital**

<https://www.prolabdigital.com/>

**StudioMagic**

<https://www.layercakeelements.com>

**Think Tank**

<https://www.thinktankphoto.com/>



Angela Chen

Newsletter  
Teresa Pepe

Sponsor Management  
Chair  
Mel Carll

Webmaster  
John Grusd

## Donate to a Veteran

Help a Veteran interested  
in Photography!  
Will appreciate your  
donation of any old camera  
bodies, lenses, reflectors,  
tripods, etc...

These are men and women  
suffering from post  
traumatic syndrome.

Contact Carlos Lozano  
323-721-6665  
or email

[Lozano720mp@gmail.com](mailto:Lozano720mp@gmail.com)

Thank you in advance for  
your kindness!

**Shoot  
and  
Share**  
Professional Photographers of Los Angeles County

See below for details. Take  
a walk in your local park,  
visit a botanical garden,  
show us what you see  
there! Shoot and submit  
your photos between May 1  
and May 17, then tune in to  
the Zoom discussion on  
May 19 at 7:00 PM.

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## Address updates requested

Please update your email and mailing addresses with our Second Vice-President Roy Patience. We are requesting an update due to the return of a number of communications mailed to members over the past few months. We really do want you to receive our mail!!

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## April 22, 2021 General Meeting Highlights



Many thanks to Rebecca Li for her interesting and informative program on Travel Photography. We certainly enjoyed hearing about her adventures and seeing photos from her trips. We hope that we will all soon be able to resume travel and put her hints and tips to work!



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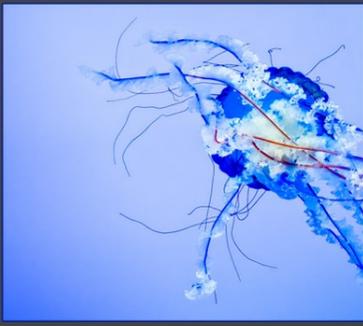
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## Member Spotlight: Kevin High



As a kid, I took pictures obsessively. A point-n-shoot 35mm Minolta, a Kodak disc camera, a Polaroid OneStep. Those spoke my language. I knew how to frame, but not much about the rest.

Flash forward many years: My husband bought a Nikon D5100 for a choir tour of South America. Sometime before touchdown in Uruguay, the Nikon landed in my hands and I shot in Aperture for the 1st time.



The world opened up.

I dialed in.

With all the vibrant colors of life in Buenos Aires, I got the photojournalism fever. I also developed some hauntingly spiritual images from the dilapidated plots of Recoleta Cemetery.

Back in LA, I started capturing headshots for fellow actors. I joined PPC and started taking workshops, where I met John and Sharon and learned about PPLAC.

The more I learn, the more fascinated I become. I love capturing landscapes, night and cityscapes, nature... and even people.

As an actor, I find my light and I tell someone else's story with their words.

As a photographer, I enjoy the challenge of telling a story without words, whether that's a moment between friends or a stolen interlude in nature. I find my light and let the resulting image shine.

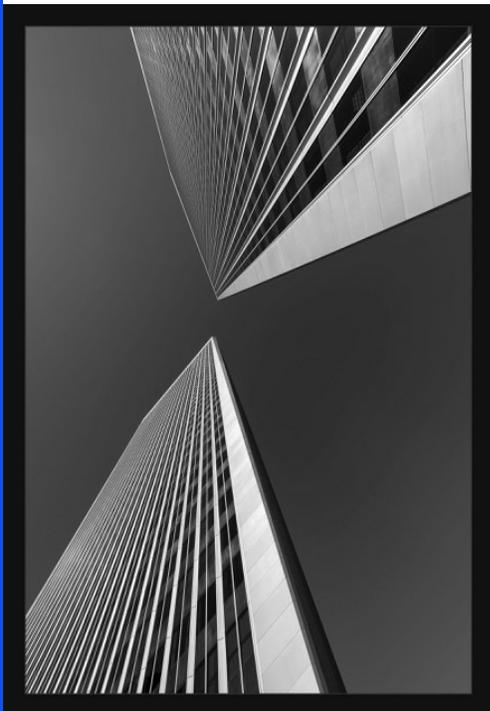
A few years after that South American choir tour, National Geographic published one of my images in a travel book on Argentina. I upgraded to a D810 and my husband finally received the D5100 back.

These days, I'm shooting with a Z7 and living in Santa Cruz. With coronavirus and the CZU wildfire upending our lives, my most recent photographic muses have been our vibrant toddler and the lush garden outside our temporary home.

After the fire, I was able to rescue some of my old childhood 35mm negatives from the attic and found time to sit down and scan them in. Looking back, I can see how much I've grown; my eye is still the same, just the resulting image is more refined, the story a little more clear.

Still... there is so much to learn, so much to experience!

We've been vaccinated and our home is almost



complete. Naturally, the road is calling. We're hoping to get to Seattle, Yellowstone and Disneyland this year!

## Shoot and Share May 2021



May 19th  
Zoom at 7:00 PM



Anytime between May 1<sup>st</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup>, on your own, take your best photographs at **any park and or garden**. It can be flowers, trees, trails, ... anything! Be creative! Use your imagination. Up to three images are allowed to be submitted.

Then, via Zoom on Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM, we will meet and share the photos anonymously. We will discuss them, critique them, and together we will select our favorite overall image.

***The winner receives a \$25 gift from Starbucks!***

***You must be a PPLAC member to submit your images.*** Once your image(s) are submitted (NLT May 17<sup>th</sup>), then the link to the May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting will be sent to each participant.

To our PPLAC members in good standing, go to our PPLAC web site, click on the Contact Us tab at the top, fill out the info and in the *Type your message here* box just type SHOOT AND SHARE! You will then be sent an email address to submit your photos to and the link for the May 19<sup>th</sup> Zoom meeting.



Remember: You must take the photograph(s) between May 1<sup>st</sup> and May 17<sup>th</sup> and you must contact us via the PPLAC web site and submit your images NLT May 17<sup>th</sup>.



# Congratulations to our Shoot and Share Winner April 2021 Bobby Tan

## Shoot & Share!

Congratulations to our latest winners in PPLAC's newest venture, *Shoot & Share!* On April 14<sup>th</sup> we had our second *Shoot & Share!*. The subject was "*Around the Neighborhood*" and we had some very wonderful images incorporating this theme. The overall winner was Bobby Tan with his untitled image of a hummingbird. As the winner, Rob received a \$50 gift certificate to be applied to any course offered this summer on-line for West Coast School.

Our second place winner was Ira Mintz with his image, *Busy As A ...*. Ira receives a \$15 gift card from Starbucks! And our third place winner was Claudia Hoag with her untitled street photography image. She receives a \$10 gift card from Starbucks!

Maybe you'll be next month's winner. You won't know if you don't enter. Details for next month's *Shoot & Share!* will be posted shortly. Remember, this is open to members only – that could be YOU!



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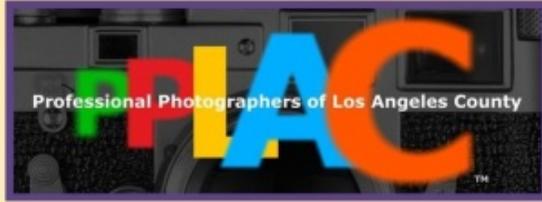
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## Coming Events

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# First Outing of the Year!!

## Tuesday, May 4, 2021



**Our first  
PPLAC Outing  
of 2021!**

## The Los Angeles County Arboretum

301 N. Baldwin Avenue, Arcadia

Join us **Tuesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>** in front of the ticket booth at the **Arboretum at 4 PM** for a late afternoon tour through its gardens as we photograph the various flora on display. Afterwards, for those that can make it, we will have dinner together at a local restaurant yet to be determined.



Our own Angela Chen will be our guide. We follow the necessary COVID-19 related precautions, i.e. wearing masks and maintaining a proper distance from each other at all times.

You need to buy your tickets ahead of time on-line at the Arboretum site.

Go to: [arboretum.org/visit/hours-and-admission](https://arboretum.org/visit/hours-and-admission)

General admission: \$15

Seniors (over 62): \$11

If you're interested in attending, contact PPLAC at:

[pplac.org/contact-us](https://pplac.org/contact-us)

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## Second DPC of the Year

### May 27, 2021



## Quarterly Digital Photographic Competition



**"Simply Homeless"**

**Best in Show  
First Quarter**

**Nikki Washburn**

**Thursday, May 27th, 6:30 PM**

Our second quarterly digital competition of the year takes place. See [pplac.org/photo-competition](https://pplac.org/photo-competition) for details.  
This is a great time for growth and fellowship.

Eleanor Gray is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: PPLAC 2nd DPC 2021

Time: May 27, 2021 06:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7962521301>

Meeting ID: 796 252 1301

One tap mobile

+16699006833,,7962521301# US (San Jose)

+13462487799,,7962521301# US (Houston)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 796 252 1301

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kkz2TYVIr>

## June PPLAC Outing – TBD

### June 7th – Special Presentation: "A Photographer's Testimony of Surviving Cancer" by Mel Carll

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June 24, 2021  
"Wildlife Photography"  
with Erica Harvey  
<https://www.ericalanephotography.com/>

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## Need DPC Help?

Want Help or Advice About Your Images?

### **WE ARE HERE TO HELP!**

At PPLAC we have PPC certified judges who can give you one-on-one informal critiques or advice on your potential DPC submissions, or an explanation about why you received the score you did at our DPC.

PPLAC members can bring up to 4 images (in any viewable form) to our General Meetings at 6:30pm (NOT a DPC meeting) or contact John Grusd at [johngrusd@gmail.com](mailto:johngrusd@gmail.com) or call and leave a message at 310 365 6364 and we will make arrangements.



This image: May Portrait Category Winner "Irish Eyes" by John Powers

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## *Sponsors of the Month*



**Think Tank**

<https://www.thinktankphoto.com/>



**ProLab Digital**

<https://www.prolabdigital.com/>

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## *Sponsor News*

### **Silent Auction Item for June**

**Our Silent Auction item a new bag from Think Tank. Details coming soon.**

**Anthropics company for Portrait Pro 21 Studio Max:**

New, AI-powered PortraitPro 21 portrait-editing software is here! Designed to deliver professional results in minutes, it enables photographers quickly and easily to retouch the skin, resculpt features, reduce noise, modify shadows and brightness, clone and remove objects, replace skies and bring outdoors into the studio, and offers a further array of easy-to-use retouching tools for magazine-quality results.

**DxO company for DXO Lab 4:**

DxO PhotoLab 4 is the most advanced photo-editing software on the market. Featuring an artificial intelligence technology capable of simultaneously denoising and demosaicing images, a dynamic workspace that can be personalized, batch renaming, a watermarking tool, and more, DxO PhotoLab 4 will transform the way you edit your photographs.

**Jixipix Software:**

Jixipix is providing our members the code **PPLACFREE** to download their Black and White program (listed under Hobbyist/Enthusiast Apps)... "Dramatic Black & White" ...for free.

**StudioMagic®**

StudioMagic, (a LayerCake Elements company) has the most extensive collection of special effects software and Virtual Sets on the planet.

Each collection has an array of fabulous masked drag and drop elements. All in all there are thousands of masked elements to choose from. All products are compatible with software programs that use layers.

As a special offer for **PPLAC members** please enjoy a 30% DISCOUNT off of any product in the store, (promotional sales excluded).

Please call Alan Mayer, CEO, Layercake Elements at 818-726-5028 to order the collection and receive your discount.

Upon the order a product link will be sent to you to download the product. Shipping is available.

**Topaz Software:**

Topaz Software is giving our members the ability to purchase their products at 15% discount...the code is **pplac15**.

**ProLab Digital**

**NEW!**



Presenting Our Exclusive  
**3DHD** Aluminum Metal

Free Shipping on \$250 or more!

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3DHD ALUMINUM



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## Find a Photographer

If you would like to have your business added to our "Find a Photographer" link, or want to update your information, please go to the website at <https://www.pplac.org>, click on the Membership button under "Contact Us" and send your information.

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## Help Wanted



**PPLAC** PPLAC is searching  
for a new **Webmaster!**

If you are that someone or know someone, please contact:  
John Grusd, johngrusd@gmail.com

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# For Sale!!

## PPLAC is selling!

Professional Equipment Case with configurable interior

Width 32", Depth 17", Height 25"



**\$250 or make an offer!**

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Contact John Grusd 310 365 6364 or [johngrusd@gmail.com](mailto:johngrusd@gmail.com)



## PPC News

<https://ppconline.com/>



## California Workshops

Dan Holmes

The Elusive Landscape ~ Composing and Creating in the outdoors and nature.

Four, two hour sessions

May 4, 11, 18, 25, 2021

7:00-9:00pm, PST

\$199 PPC Member / \$239-- Non-Member

Presented via Zoom



To Register: Please visit PPC's website: <https://ppconline.com/>

What makes a powerful Landscape or Nature Photograph? How do we find it? What gives a photograph "staying power"? How does it become a "lifetime image"? How do we separate the image from all that beautiful nature? How do we find and create emotional photographs using only what we see, the gear we carry, and the development tools we have?

1. (May 4th) The Elusive Landscape ~ why do we go out, what do we want, what do we see, how do we look, how & what do we find.
2. (May 11th) Composing in the Landscape ~ we have so many tools and rules ~ what do we need, how do we find them, how do we use them.
3. (May 18th) Finishing the images ~ techniques in Lightroom and Photoshop. Homework assignment.
4. (May 25th) Critique and discussion of homework and/or favorite images.



WEST COAST SCHOOL  
PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA

## WCS News

<https://ppconline.com/wcs/2020-west-coast-school/>

**2021 ONLINE**

Explore Your Creativity with Ella Carlson



**May 5th 5-6pm PST**

Ella has a master of fine arts degree from the New Hampshire Institute of Art ,  
Master Photographer, Master Artist, Photographic Craftsman and  
has been a PPA diamond photographer of the year for each of the last five years.

[www.westcoastschool.com](http://www.westcoastschool.com)

This is a **FREE** Zoom Event



# Coming to WCS 2021!

2021 ONLINE

## WCS

### WEST COAST SCHOOL

of Photography

FRIDAY

## MAY 7, 2021

9AM-5PM PST



## \$129 ELLA CARLSON

### Exploring the World of Possibilities within Photoshop

Join 4-time Diamond Photographer and first place GIA winner, Ella Carlson, for this hands-on Photoshop workshop for those with some experience in Photoshop, who want to really dig in and unpack many of the creative opportunities digital has to offer. The goal is to give student's the tools and techniques to expand their artistic palette.



1(800) 439-5839 EXT. 3



Register Online at:  
[www.westcoastschool.com](http://www.westcoastschool.com)

Digital Painting In Photoshop with Sandra Pearce



**June 1st 5-6pm PST**

Sandra is one of the most sought out digital artists in the photographic industry.  
Master Photographer, Master Artist, Photographic Craftsman,  
PPA Diamond Photographer of the Year , GIA Winner and World Cup Participant.

[www.westcoastschool.com](http://www.westcoastschool.com)

This is a FREE Zoom Event



Coming to  
WCS 2021!

2021 ONLINE!

WCS

WEST  
COAST  
SCHOOL  
of Photography

2 DAYS  
JUNE 10-11, 2021  
9AM-5PM PST



SANDRA PEARCE

**\$249- THE ART OF PAINTING IN PHOTOSHOP**

In this class you will be using Photoshop and all its digital brushes that come in knives, sponges, blenders, mixer brush and more! You will learn to use the smudge tool for glass glare, blemishes, stray hairs and a multitude of other things. You will learn to paint images that have been cast off as blurry or unusable. Sandra will teach you almost anything is possible with Photoshop Painting. Every class Sandra teaches is different. If you have taken her class before you will learn something new, sharpen your skills and maybe remember something you forgot.



1(800) 439-5839 EXT. 3



Register Online at:  
[www.westcoastschool.com](http://www.westcoastschool.com)



Professional  
Photographers  
of America

PPA  
News

Please note that PPA has a page dedicated to what is available. You do NOT need to be a PPA member to look at what's there.....and they are offering a lot of webinars this year!

## 2021 Judging Schedule

District Judging Dates: May 9-14

District Early Registration: March 2 to April 14, 5 pm ET

District Late Registration: April 14, 5 pm ET to April 29, 5 pm ET

IPC Judging Dates: September 12-17

IPC Early Registration: July 6 to August 17, 5 pm ET

IPC Late Registration will be August 17, 5 pm ET to August 31, 5 pm ET

## LET'S CONNECT

PPA - Professional Photographers of America  
229 Peachtree St. NE, Suite 2300  
Atlanta, GA 30303

1-800 786-6277

<https://www.ppa.com/inittogether>

## PPA Photography Workshop



## ***“The Ins-and-Outs of Travel Photography”***

Saturday, May 15th, 2021: 9 AM to 5 PM (PDT)

Sign up at

<https://www.ppa.com/events/register/2105PWCA03>

There's a light at the end of the tunnel ... the world is slowly but surely getting ready to open up to the possibilities of world travel again!



Rebecca Li, M.Photog., CPP

While traveling itself is a little way off, NOW is the time to start preparing to travel again!



John Powers, M.Photog., CPP

Join us to learn what you can be doing NOW to get ready to travel overseas again, all in light of travel photography.



Rebecca Li, M.Photog., CPP

This course is taught by the experienced world travel photographers, John Powers and Rebecca Li.



John Powers, M.Photog., CPP

We will also share with you photography tips and insights that you need to learn in order to take the fantastic photos you have always dreamed of having!

*Each participant will receive one PPA Service Merit*

Sign up at

<https://www.ppa.com/events/register/2105PWCA03>