



September 2026



Greetings PPLAC Members!

Summer is quickly coming to a close and it has been an active one for PPLAC! Our members continue to get out there and create, and—most importantly—support and celebrate one another. I am thrilled to share a few highlights with you this month.

We recently held our **third Digital Print Competition of 2026**, and had an impressive 61 entries. Thank you to everyone who participated and shared your work.

Congratulations to the Best of Category winners:

- Architectural: **Ira Mintz**
- Electronic Art: **Angela Chen**
- Landscape: **John Grusd**
- Nature: **Roy Patience**
- Open: **John Powers**
- Photojournalism: **Andrew Lewis**
- Portrait: **John Powers**

And a very special congratulations to **John Grusd**, recipient of Best of Show! **John Powers** achieved an incredible **score of 100** for his Best of Category – Open image, and he received his perfect score on his birthday! Congratulations on an amazing 100, John. These competitions are the best way to improve our skills. *Start gearing up for our final DPC of the year held on Thursday, November 19th.*

On August 15, PPLAC members headed to Camarillo for the **Wings Over Camarillo Air Show**. It was a fantastic day of aviation photography. Vintage, rare, and spectacular aircraft moved through the sky performing loops, rolls, vertical climbs, and tight formations. Both thrilling and challenging, we worked hard to capture those fleeting moments through our viewfinders. Our **Image Review** will be held **Wednesday, September 2nd**. Everyone is invited to join us to view, critique, and vote for your favorite images.

Our next outing is September 26th, when we will explore the **Hayden Tract** in Culver City. Concentrated within a relatively small area, the Hayden Tract features buildings with strange angles, dramatic curves, exposed steel, and unexpected architectural enhancements. Come join us!

Our **Workshop Wednesday** Zoom calls have been a great success! These online gatherings are a wonderful way to listen, learn, get inspired, and enjoy some camaraderie—all from the comfort of home. We hope you'll join us for our next Workshop Wednesday on September 16th!

Our **Mentorship Program** begins in September, connecting members to share knowledge and experience while creating opportunities to grow and strengthen their photography skills.

Our members have been actively entering photography competitions at county fairs. From the Orange County Fair to the Ventura County Fair, PPLAC photographers have been receiving well-deserved recognition.

Congratulations to **Mel Carll**, who received a 2nd Place in the BW Wildlife Category. Congratulations also to **Leslie Geffin, Tim Hintz, and Gary Parsons** for having their images accepted among thousands of entries. And congratulations to **Albert Huen**, who had **four images placed at the Ventura County Fair!** What a wonderful achievement!

As we move into September, I hope you will take advantage of everything PPLAC has to offer. Enter a competition. Come to an image review. Join us on an outing. Participate in Workshop Wednesday. Share your knowledge—or seek out someone who can share theirs with you!

Make it a great day!

Liz Chalmers, CPP
PPLAC President

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Wings Over Camarillo

DPC #3

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MANY Outings (see below!)

Image Reviews

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Membership Monthly Meetings

Adventures 2026

Death Valley

Adventures 2027

Portland, Oregon

Kanab, Utah

Monterey, California

PPLAC Sponsors

PPLAC Board Members



image credit: Heather Dinkins

BECOME A MEMBER!

We are always looking for new members to join PPLAC. Whether you are a working professional or someone who wants to actively grow their skillsets to just take better photographs, we welcome all engaged & enthusiastic Image Makers!

TO FIND OUT MORE

contact [David Glazier](#)

AND JOIN US AT
OUR NEXT IN-PERSON MEETING!

SEPT 24, 2026 @ 6:30PM

See Info Below!

SAVE THE DATES

Meetings and Events

Come join our monthly meetings held on the
4th Thursday of Each Month
(unless it falls on a holiday)

September 2 @ 7:00pm
Image Review
Wings Over Camarillo
[Zoom Link](#)

September 16
Workshop Wednesday
[Zoom Link](#)

September 26
Hayden District Outing

September 24 @ 6:30pm
Membership Monthly
Speaker: Najee Williams

October 3
Steampunk Outing
(Optional)

October 7
Image Review
Hayden District
[Zoom Link](#)

October 13 @ 7:00pm
Image Review
Steampunk
[Zoom Link](#)

October 14 @ 7:00pm
Workshop Wednesdays
[Zoom Link](#)

October 22
Membership Monthly
Speaker: [Christopher Broughton](#)
(Zoom Presentation - Link TBD)

October 24
[Dia de los Muertos Outing](#)
[Buy Your Tickets](#)

November 14
Red Line and
Riding the Rails Outing!

**Please note our speakers/schedule may*

FUN FACT

Did You Know?

Wikipedia has a page dedicated to
["The Most Important Images"](#)

Do You Agree??

STAY CONNECTED



 Share This Email

Send Us Images for
Facebook



Community Network
with PPA

GENERAL INFORMATION

We Have a Newsletter Sign-up Form Available on the Website

<https://www.pplac.org/welcome-to-pplac>

Please share this link with anyone who may be interested in receiving our Newsletter, attending our Meetings, joining us on Outings, Adventures, or simply want to meet new faces!

YOU TUBE - NEW "IMAGE REVIEW" VIDEOS

MAY 28: [DPC #2](#)
JUNE 18: [Image Review - CorgiFest](#)
JULY 08: [Image Review - Concours D'Elegance](#)
JULY 22: [Workshop Wednesdays](#)
JULY 29: [Image Review - The Getty](#)
AUGUST 05: [Image Review - Santa Monica Pier](#)
AUGUST 19: [Workshop Wednesday](#)
AUGUST 27: [DPC #3](#)

As a reminder, these are "**unlisted**" videos.

They are only accessible by way of these Newsletters.

We respectfully request you to Bookmark them.

MEMBERS ONLY:

Sponsorship News!

We have received a ONGOING discount with DXO complete with its own code. A separate mail was sent out earlier this year to Active & Lifetime Members with the information on how to claim your savings.

Please contact [David Glazier](#) if you need the code

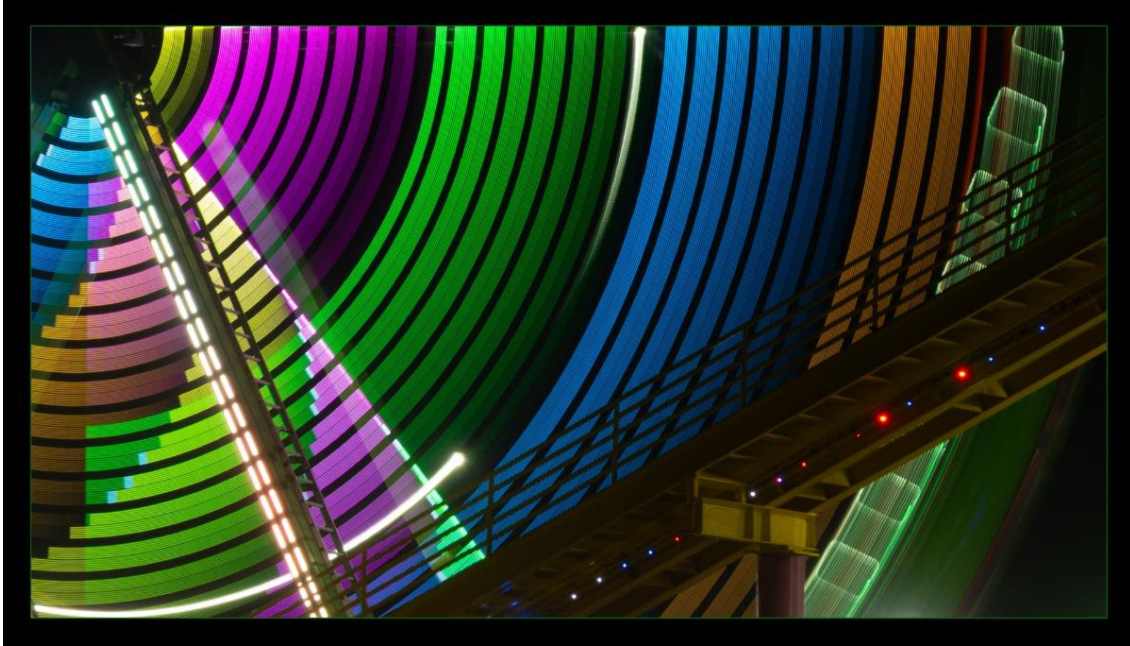
"Concert of Wills: Making the Getty Center" DVD

Saul Miller wants to share his copy of *Concert of Wills: Making the Getty Center DVD* with the PPLAC members. The documentary chronicles the creation of one of Los Angeles's great architectural landmarks. The film features firsthand interviews with architect Richard Meier, artist Robert Irwin, Getty President Harold Williams, along with Getty staff, trustees, and the construction workers who brought the vision to life.

It's a fascinating look at the ideas, disagreements, and collaboration behind the Getty Center's design and construction.

The DVD will be available starting at the **September General Meeting**. PPLAC members interested in borrowing it can sign up at the meeting. Saul will track the loan queue, so please return it promptly so the next person on the list can enjoy it.

IMAGE OF THE MONTH



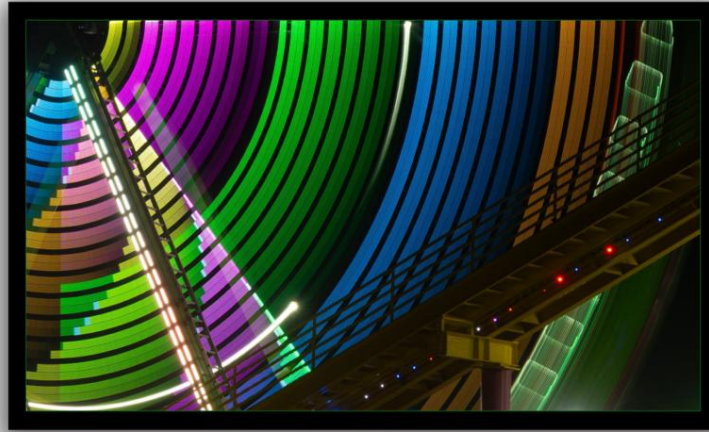
Santa Monica Pier: Roy Patience

LAST MONTH

PPLAC IMAGE REVIEW
Santa Monica Pier

On July 23rd, nineteen PPLAC members ventured out to the Santa Monica Pier for an enjoyable evening of photography, food and fun. The outing began with dinner at Maria Sol. Then, as twilight settled in, we moved from underneath the pier onto the beach to photograph the waves and the vibrant energy on the pier.

The Image Review featured 51 great images. Members shared their insights and voted for their three favorite photographs. **Roy Patience** captured both First and Third Place honors, earning \$25 and \$10 Amazon gift cards, respectively. **John Powers** was awarded Second Place and received a \$15 Amazon gift card. Congratulations to our winners!



Roy Patience
First Place



John Powers
Second Place



Roy Patience
Third Place

Liz Chalmers
PPLAC President

PPLAC Outing: Wings Over Camarillo Air Show!



From left to right: Liz Chalmers, Bridget Bourgon, Greg Trainor, Larry White, hatless Heather Dinkins, Saul Miller, Chris Martens, Hutch Hutchison, John Grusd, Roy Patience, Nikki Washburn, Mel Carll, Dave Glazier, Ira Mintz and Angela Chen

On Saturday, August 15, 2026, 15 PPLAC members and friends headed to Camarillo to enjoy the Wings Over Camarillo Air Show. From aerobatic performances and high-powered jets to classic biplanes and vintage WWII aircraft, the show offered many aeronautical photographic opportunities—if you could catch the action in time! It was a fun day of aviation, photography, and camaraderie for everyone who attended.

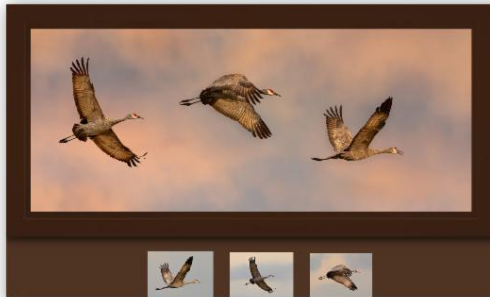
Liz Chalmers
PPLAC President

Images of the Month

DPC #3



Best in Show and Landscape Category
John Grusd



Electronic Art
Angela Chen



Architecture
Ira Mintz

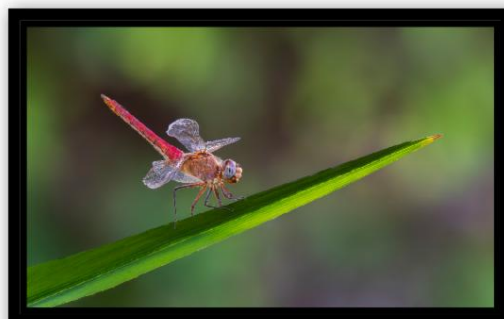
Photo-journalism
Andrew Lewis



Open
John Powers



Portrait
John Powers



Nature
Roy Patience

UPCOMING EVENTS



7:00PM
Wednesday
September 16th, 2026
An online
Zoom Meeting!

WORKSHOP WEDNESDAYS!

an evening featuring
The "Johns" (Powers and Grusd)



One of the Johns will discuss the importance of finishing your images by checking for dust spots, sensor spots, unnecessary distractions and then show you the simple tools to remove or fix them!

He will then reveal the thinking behind and creation of his amazing winning image, "The Human Tapestry"! (left)

The other John will discuss the creation of his award-winning image, "Shelter from the Storm", (above right) plus insights into photographing in challenging weather conditions!
He will follow that with a preview of the upcoming 2027 PPLAC Adventures!

Workshop Wednesdays are designed to provide members with an informal, comfortable, interactive environment where questions are encouraged!

You can find links to this Zoom on the PPLAC Website, on the Website Calendar and in our Newsletter, Blasts and Social Media.

Please contact **Liz@LizChalmers.com** for more information!



PPLAC General Meeting!

Presentation

Thursday, September 24th, 2026

6:30pm

"Dynamic Sports Portraits!"

Najee Williams

Discover how individually photographed athletes are transformed into dramatic team composites and dynamic individual products. Photographer, Najee Williams will share his complete volume-photography workflow, from planning and lighting to green-screen capture, compositing, product design, and profitability. Najee will demonstrate how creativity and efficient production combine to create a successful volume-photography business.



Najee Williams is a Los Angeles-based professional photographer, educator, and owner of Hocus Pocus Focus, Inc. and Jock Shotz Photography. After studying lighting with legendary photographer Dean Collins, he went on to teach photography at the Tri-Community Photography Center.

From 2005 to 2015, Najee's company was the Official Photographic Service of Hollywood's world-famous Magic Castle. Today, he specializes in high-volume sports photography, using dramatic lighting, green-screen technology, digital compositing, and custom graphic design to create dynamic team and individual portraits.



This is an in-person meeting! We hope to see you there!

Center Point Clubhouse - 6200 Playa Vista Dr, Playa Vista, CA 90094

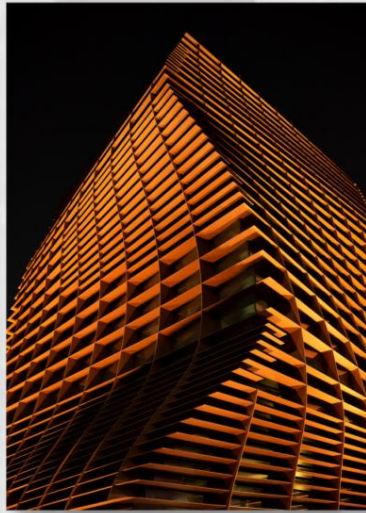


PPLAC Outing!
Saturday
September 26th, 2026
5:45pm

An Evening of **Twilight Architectural Photography!**

Join us for an evening of architectural photography
in the amazing "Hayden District" of Culver City!

The area abounds with incredible buildings designed by the
renowned architect, Eric Owen Moss! We will photograph
"The Waffle", "The Pterodactyl", "The Wrapper" and many others!
Our path could traverse several miles on level terrain so please
wear comfortable walking shoes and bring a flashlight.
Photographic gear should include a tripod, remote release and
wide and normal focal length lenses.



RSVP to PPLAC 1st Vice President, Roy Patience,
for details about where and when to meet and a map of the route.
roypatience@gmail.com



PPLAC Outing!

Saturday

October 3rd, 2024

11:00am

Steampunk at Strathearn Park!

Get ready to photograph the fantastical world of Steampunk
at Strathearn Park in Simi Valley on October 3rd!

Explore the marvels of Victorian-era industrialism. Whether you're a
seasoned steampunk enthusiast or just curious about the steam-powered
wonders of yesteryear, this event is tailor-made for you!

Grab your camera, lace up your corsets, and join us
for an unforgettable day filled with excitement and exploration!

We will meet inside the gate at 11:00 AM and start looking
for interesting Steampunk enthusiasts and the outdoor museum displays!



Save \$10.00 if you purchase your ticket before Sept. 17th!

[See the accompanying link for tickets.](#)

Venue address: 137 Strathern Pl, Simi Valley, CA

**If you're planning on attending, please RSVP to
1st VP Roy Patience at his email below!**

roypatience@gmail.com



PPLAC General Meeting!

This is a Zoom Presentation!
Thursday, October 22nd, 2026
6:30pm

"Seeing in Color but Thinking in Black and White!"

Christopher Broughton



Christopher Broughton is a photographer based in Los Angeles, CA. He received a BA and MA in photography from the Brooks Institute of Photography in Santa Barbara, CA and returned to Brooks to serve as a full-time faculty member in both the graduate and undergraduate photography programs for over two decades teaching numerous, different subjects. One of the true highlights of his career was spending recent summers taking students abroad to study in the "City of Light", Paris, for 10 weeks. As an educator, he has continued that tradition with his students at Mount Saint Mary's University in Los Angeles, California. Christopher counts Walker Evans, Robert Frank, and Elliott Erwitt among his greatest artistic influences.



This is a Zoom meeting! We hope you can join us!

**The link to join will be found on:
the PPLAC Website, Calendar, Newsletter, Blasts and Social Media.**



PPLAC Outing!
Saturday
October 24th, 2026
11:45am

Day of the Dead Celebration! ***Dia de los Muertos!***

On October 24th, PPLAC will be heading to the Annual Day of the Dead (Dia De Los Muertos) Celebration at the Hollywood Forever Cemetery! This all-day festival honors the souls of the dead ancestors returning to Earth. Vibrant colors abound! Come photograph traditional costumes and faces painted like skeletons or sugar skulls! Great for people photography!

While there, be sure to enjoy Mexican staples like tamales, maize dumplings, and Pan de Muertos, a sweet bread resembling bones.

Go to www.ladayofthedead.com and get your tickets now! Be sure to get the 12pm DIA DE LOS MUERTOS tickets. You can stay as long as you want.

The tickets link will take you to a page where you can purchase tickets along with more info about the event.



We will meet at **11:45am** at the front gate of
The Hollywood Forever Cemetery
6000 Santa Monica Blvd, LA, CA 90038

If you're interested in attending, please contact 1st VP Roy Patience at:
roypatience@gmail.com



PPLAC Outing!
Saturday
November 14th, 2026
8:45am

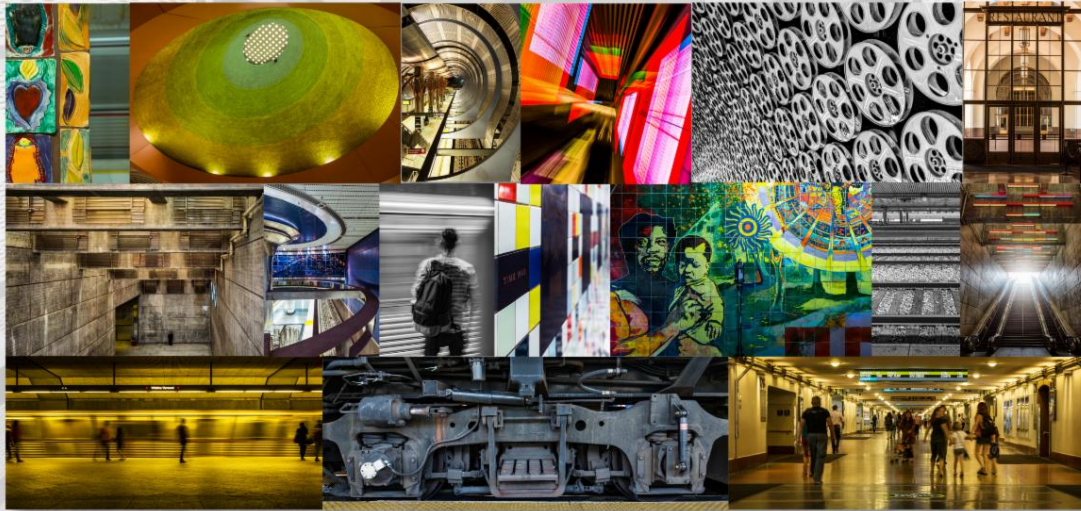
Ridin' the Red Line Rails!

This is a very fun Outing with a huge number of photographic opportunities!
We will be riding LA Metro's Red Line which runs between North Hollywood
and downtown's Union Station.

All of the uniquely themed stations along the way are great subjects!
The trains themselves are bright, shiny and present chances to introduce
motion blur.

There will be fascinating characters if you like street photography and
the stations access interesting areas like Hollywood Blvd and Downtown LA.
We will be hopping on and off the train, leaving and entering stations and
will stop for lunch along the way. It'll be a busy day!

Get ready! What you see below is not half of what you will experience!



If you're interested in attending, it is important to contact
1st VP Roy Patience at his email below!
He will send you many important details about this Outing as well as
rules and restrictions regarding photographing on the Metro.
roypatience@gmail.com

LAST ADVENTURE FOR 2026

please contact: Roy.Patience

PRICING

\$70 for PPLAC Members

\$100 for Non-Member Photographers

\$50 for Non-Shooting Attendees

****members receive priority reservation****



Four-Day Adventure!

November 2-5, 2026

Death Valley Adventure!

Join us on this epic exploration
to one of the most iconic and
storied places in America!



Thank you for your interest in this PPLAC Adventure! The response has been overwhelming!

If you are still interested in attending this event, we have started a **Wait List** in case there is a cancellation. Just contact Roy Patience and he will add you to the list.

**PPLAC 1st VP,
Roy Patience - roypatience@gmail.com**

We hope to see you on our next PPLAC Adventure!

ADVENTURES FOR 2027

please contact: [Roy Patience](#)





PPLAC Adventures 2027

Start Dreaming!

We are still finalizing the details but we
want to let you know what is coming
up in 2027! Stay tuned!

Oregon Columbia Gorge and Coast Adventure!



Kanab Southern Utah and Northern Arizona Adventure!



Classic Monterey California Adventure!



Nightscape Workshop Adventure!



Important!

There will be new PPLAC Adventure policies and fees beginning in 2027!
Don't worry! This is still, by far, the best value out there!
A link to the new policies can be found on the PPLAC Website on the "Events to Plan For" page under the Calendar tab.

We hope to see you on our next PPLAC Adventure!

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PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA

News

WEST COAST SCHOOL 2027 SEPTEMBER 12 - 16

PPA PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF AMERICA

If you are curious or interested in becoming a **Certified Professional Photographer**, learn more [here](#).

Community Network
with PPA

Did You Know? PPA has a page dedicated to [copyright protection](#)? AND you DO NOT need to be a PPA member to look at their [website](#).....and they are offering a lot of webinars this year!

LET'S CONNECT!!

PPA - Professional Photographers of America
229 Peachtree St. NE, Suite 2300
Atlanta, GA 30303
[1 \(800\) 786-6277](tel:18007866277)



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