



# July 2024

<https://www.pplac.org/>



**2024 President John Powers**

*"Photography takes an instant out of time, altering life by holding it still."*  
Dorothea Lange

Greetings, PPLAC Members:

This quote from Dorothea Lange reminds me that what we capture with our cameras are moments that will never be the same again. We capture that moment, that second, that instance in time that will never be repeated again in this place at this time and in this way ... ever! The Japanese have a phrase, *ichi-go ichi-e*, that sums this up perfectly: it simply means that each moment is a once-in-a-lifetime occurrence. Every time we click our camera, we capture that moment in time, in history, that will never happen again. It is certainly profound when you think about it ... and think about it every time you pick up your camera!

June was another month of great photographic opportunities. We held two photo reviews (our four-day Sequoia National Forest trip and our Renaissance Faire excursion). We then ventured out to Simi Valley for its inaugural Steampunk festival (hot and sparsely attended but fun, nonetheless). And we wrapped up the month with a "two-fer": Roy Patience sharing his experiences photographing the recent solar eclipse from Indianapolis and Tim Meyer guiding us through amazing lighting techniques.

Next month promises more photography opportunities. Be sure to take advantage of all the hard work our members put forth to ensure you have ample chances to capture great images.

See you at our events and remember, “*Keep on clickin’!*”

John Powers, M.Photo.Cr., CPP  
PPLAC President

# Coming Events & General Meetings

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

July 25, 2024  
General Meeting

July 27, 2024  
South Coast Botanical Gardens

August 17, 2024  
Wings Over Camarillo

August 22, 2024 (Zoom)  
Image Competition

September 26, 2024  
General Meeting

October 24, 2024  
General Meeting

October 28-31, 2024  
PPLAC Adventure - Monterey

November 21, 2024 (Zoom)  
Image Competition

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

*\*\*<https://www.pplac.org/calendar>*

# 2024 Officers

**President**  
John Powers

**1st Vice President**  
(Programs, Speakers, Workshops)  
Liz Chalmers

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

**Treasurer**  
Mel Carll

**Secretary**  
Teresa Pepe

**Digital Photographic  
Competition Director**  
Gary Parsons

**Digital Photographic  
Competition Co-Chair**  
Kevin Karzin

**Digital Photographic  
Competition Moderators**  
Mel Carll

# Stay Connected

**Facebook**

<https://www.facebook.com/PPLAC/>

**Meet Up**

<https://www.meetup.com/Culver-City-Photography-Meetup/>

**PPLAC is a Proud Affiliate  
of...**

**PPC**

<https://ppconline.com/>

**PPA**

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

# PPLAC Sponsors

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**Luminar Neo from Skylum**

<https://skylum.com/luminar>

**On1**

<https://www.on1.com/>

**Paul's Photo**

<https://paulsphoto.com/>

**ProLab Digital**

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

**Radiant Photo**

<https://radiantimaginglabs.com/>

**StudioMagic**

<https://www.layercakeelements.com>

**Think Tank**

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

**Topaz Labs**

<https://www.topazlabs.com/topaz-photo-ai>

# JULY DATES

July 4 Independence Day

July 25 PPLAC General Meeting

**The 12 Elements  
of a Merit Image**

Bob Young

**Fundraiser Director**  
Ira Mintz

**Sponsor Management Chair**  
Mel Carll

**Newsletter**  
Teresa Pepe/Eleanor Gray

**Webmaster**  
John Grusd

**Parliamentarian**  
Nikki Washburn

**Event Photographer**  
Angela Chen

**July Sponsor of the Month**

**Topaz Labs**  
<https://www.topazlabs.com/topaz-photo-ai>

<https://www.ppa.com/ppmag/articles/12-elements-of-a-merit-image>

**CONGRATULATIONS**  
**PPLAC Member**

**Eleanor Gray, CPP**  
**PPA Master Photography**

**PPLAC is pleased to announce**  
**Leslie Geffen**  
**as our new**  
**"Refreshment Coordinator"**

## June 2024 Highlights



**PPLAC General Meeting**  
**Presentation**  
**Thursday, June 27th 2024**  
**6:30PM**

***"Creativity***  
***and Things They Don't Tell You about Studio Lighting"***

**Tim Meyer, MFA, M-Photog, Craftsman, ASP, CPP**



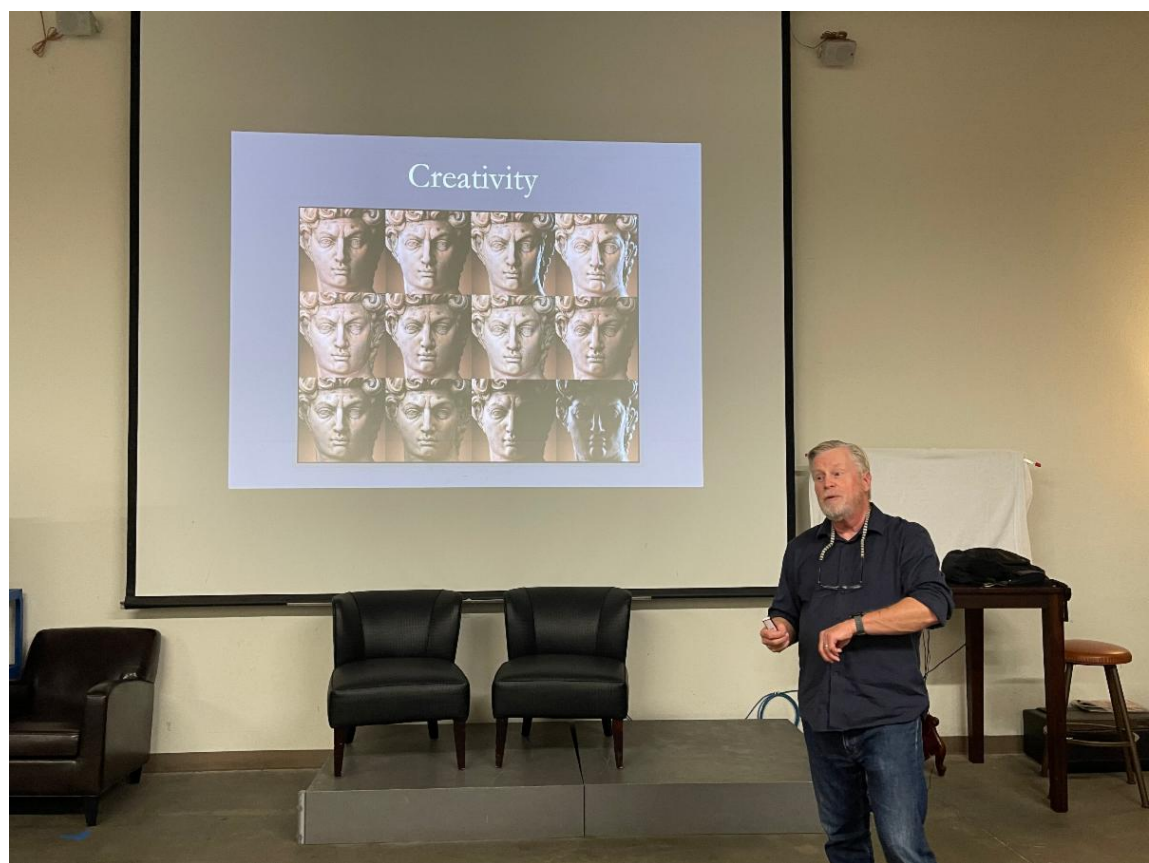
**Join us as Tim takes us on an adventure exploring creative studio lighting and techniques! He will demonstrate historical and contemporary styles with an emphasis on unusual approaches and how to apply them to your own work!**



Throughout his 40 plus years as a professional photographer, educator and author, Tim Meyer's work has been internationally recognized and respected for its innovative style and technique. In addition to many national education programs, he has lectured internationally in England, Germany, and Mexico. Tim's writings on photography and art have been published as magazine and online content and his book, *The Portrait, Understanding Portrait Photography*, published in English, German, Italian and Chinese and now in its second edition, has been adopted as a textbook at numerous colleges. His areas of expertise are portraiture, wedding, and fundamental, advanced, and creative lighting.

**Meeting Location: Paul's Photo 23845 Hawthorne Blvd, Torrance, CA**





# The Total Solar Eclipse of 2024

Roy Patience June 2024



**Totality**





**PPLAC Outing: “RenFaire!”  
The Winning Photographs!**

In April, 2024 four members from PPLAC went to Irwindale for the annual Renaissance Faire, one of the largest faires this side of the Mississippi! Everyone had a grand time, for sure!

Then, on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024, we held our photo review, going over the 27 images that were submitted for comment and voting. We discussed each image and then everyone voted for their favorites. The first place winner was Ira Mintz. Second place went to John Powers, while third place went to both John Powers and Angela Chen. Ira received a \$25 Amazon gift card from PPLAC and John got a \$15 Amazon gift card and the \$10 Amazon gift card went to John and Angela. Congratulations to Ira, John, and Angela. And also big thanks to all who participated.



First Place: Ira Mintz



Second Place: John Powers



Third Place: John Powers



Third Place: Angela Chen

John Powers  
President

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# PPLAC Outing: “*Steampunk Festival* in Simi Valley”



Pictured above: John Powers, Mel Carl, Nikki Washburn, Steve Friedman, Roy Patience, Kathy Newman, Angela Chen, Hutch Hutchison, Andrew Lewis, and Tom Jordan

On Saturday morning, June 22, 2024, a number of photographers descended upon Simi Valley’s first *Steampunk Festival*. Besides our PPLAC members, consisting of John Powers, Mel Carl, Nikki Washburn, Roy Patience, Angela Chen, and Andrew Lewis, we came across members from the Lancaster Photography Association and the Thousand Oaks photography organization. It was a new adventure for all of us and a bit of a challenge. The Steampunk participants were less in numbers than anticipated and the weather continued to climb through the morning, reaching 96 degrees by lunchtime. Speaking of lunch, several gathered on the grounds for a meal together before everyone dispersed for the day.

We will meet via Zoom in the near future. All our members will be notified when this will occur.

John Powers  
President, PPLAC

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## Coming Events! Meetings/Outings

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### July 25 General Meeting

#### NOTE: New Meeting Location

*Center Point Clubhouse  
6200 Playa Vista Drive  
Playa Vista, CA 90094*





## PPLAC General Meeting!

### Presentation

Thursday, July 25th, 2024

6:30pm

## **"Life Changing Adventures!"**

### **Mel Carll M.Photos. Cr. CPP M-PPC**

Mel will take you on a very personal journey as to how one deals with extreme life changing events. From "Everything is grand!", to "Will I live to see tomorrow?", and the road to living once again. And how photography plays a huge part of this transformation.

Discover how Mel applies his daily mantra: "The ground is beneath me, not above me, so enjoy life..."



Mel Carll is a Valencia, CA based photographer who enjoys every aspect of photography. His photography adventure started in 2005 and has only picked up steam since.

Mel is currently the Executive Director of the Professional Photographers of CA, and American Society of Photographers. He is also the current Director of West Coast School of Photography. He has earned his Master Photographer degree, Craftsman Degree and CPP with PPA, and his PPC Masters Degree and the Harris Giachetto Service Award with PPC.

Mel has received image awards with PPA, PPC and PPLAC. In 2010 Mel had images entered into the permanent collection of the California African American Museum as part of the "Allensworth, A Place, A People, A Story" exhibit.



### **New Meeting Location!**

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

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## **Outings/Safaris/Adventures**

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**PPLAC Outing!**

**Saturday**

**July 27th, 2024**

**9:30am**

## ***South Coast Botanic Garden Butterflies!***

**Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA**

Join PPLAC at the beautiful South Coast Botanic Garden when we will visit the SOAR Exhibit and photograph (hundreds!) of tropical butterflies! Afterwards, we'll take a leisurely photographic stroll around the extensive gardens and will finish with lunch where you can order from Dottie's (the on-site eatery) or bring your own food.



For more information about the Garden and to purchase tickets, visit the Garden's website: <https://southcoastbotanicgarden.org/>

**To purchase tickets:**

Click on Events and Programming, scroll down to SOAR - Tropical Butterflies

Click on BUY TICKETS, choose **July 27**

Click on: **10:00am Butterfly Pavillion and Garden Admission**

On the next page, scroll down to choose Adult (\$23) or Senior (\$19) ticket

Buy your tickets today! The Butterfly Pavilion is very popular!

As always, we will follow up with a Photo Review!

If you're interested in attending, please contact Liz Chalmers at:

**[liz@lizchalmers.com](mailto:liz@lizchalmers.com)**



**PPLAC Outing!**  
**Saturday**  
**August 17th, 2024**  
**9:00am**

## ***Wings Over Camarillo Air Show!***

**555 Airport Way, Camarillo, CA**

PPLAC is heading off into the wild blue yonder for the fantastic "Wings Over Camarillo Air Show"! Don't miss this exciting opportunity to capture breathtaking images of vintage and modern aircraft in aerial action! There are also static aircraft displays and an extensive car show! It's a great way to spend a day with your fellow photographers!



For more information about the Air Show and to purchase tickets, visit the website: <https://wingsovercamarillo.com/>

We recommend buying the "VIP Chalet Tickets" which include parking, food and shade! These tickets are limited and sell out quickly so act now if you are interested. Otherwise, the General Admission tickets are much less expensive and offer the same access to photography.

There will be an informative Zoom meeting (Date TBA) beforehand to discuss gear, settings and the logistics for us all to meet. And as always, we will follow this PPLAC Outing with an Image Review! (Date TBA)



If you're interested in attending, please contact Liz Chalmers at:  
[liz@lizchalmers.com](mailto:liz@lizchalmers.com)

## **Monterey Coastal Adventure**

"This PPLAC Adventure is filling up fast! There are only a few spots left!! The lodging is also filling quickly so it is important to make your plans as soon as possible."



**Four-Day/Three-Night**  
**Adventure!!**  
**October 28-31, 2024**

### **Monterey Coastal Adventure!**

**Join us on this scenic exploration to**  
**what Ansel Adams called,**  
**"The greatest meeting of land and sea!"**







**On this PPLAC Adventure, John Grusd will lead us on a beautiful photographic journey to the home turf of Ansel Adams and Edward Weston! It's a land of rugged coastlines, photo opportunities and inspiration!**



**Included will be a PPA approved workshop, "Photography as Art: Flexing Your Creativity!" which will enhance your photographic knowledge and skills.**



**The PPLAC Adventure fee of \$70 (PPLAC members), \$80 (non-members) includes four days of guidance, a pre-trip informational Zoom meeting and a post-trip review of our favorite images.**

**Lodging and transportation are not included. The lodging will be at the Lighthouse Lodge in Pacific Grove.**

**For questions or to register for this event, please contact PPLAC 1st VP, Liz Chalmers - [liz@lizchalmers.com](mailto:liz@lizchalmers.com)**







Sponsor of the Month

Topaz Labs

<https://www.topazlabs.com/topaz-photo-ai>

Photo Opportunities

2024

PHOTOGRAPHY ADVENTURE TOURS

FEB	YOSEMITE
MAR	VIETNAM / CAMBODIA
MAY	YELLOWSTONE
JULY	ICELAND
JULY	NAMIBIA
AUG	KENYA WOMENS SAFARI
AUG	KENYA SAFARI
SEP	KENYA SAFARI
NOV	ICELAND

For detailed Itineraries email or text us at:

Sharon Lobel  
(818)802-7597  
ShutterbugSharon@aol.com

David LaNeve  
(714) 398-0138  
DavidLaNeveCPP@Gmail.com

*SPECIALIZING IN LUXURY PHOTO TOURS*

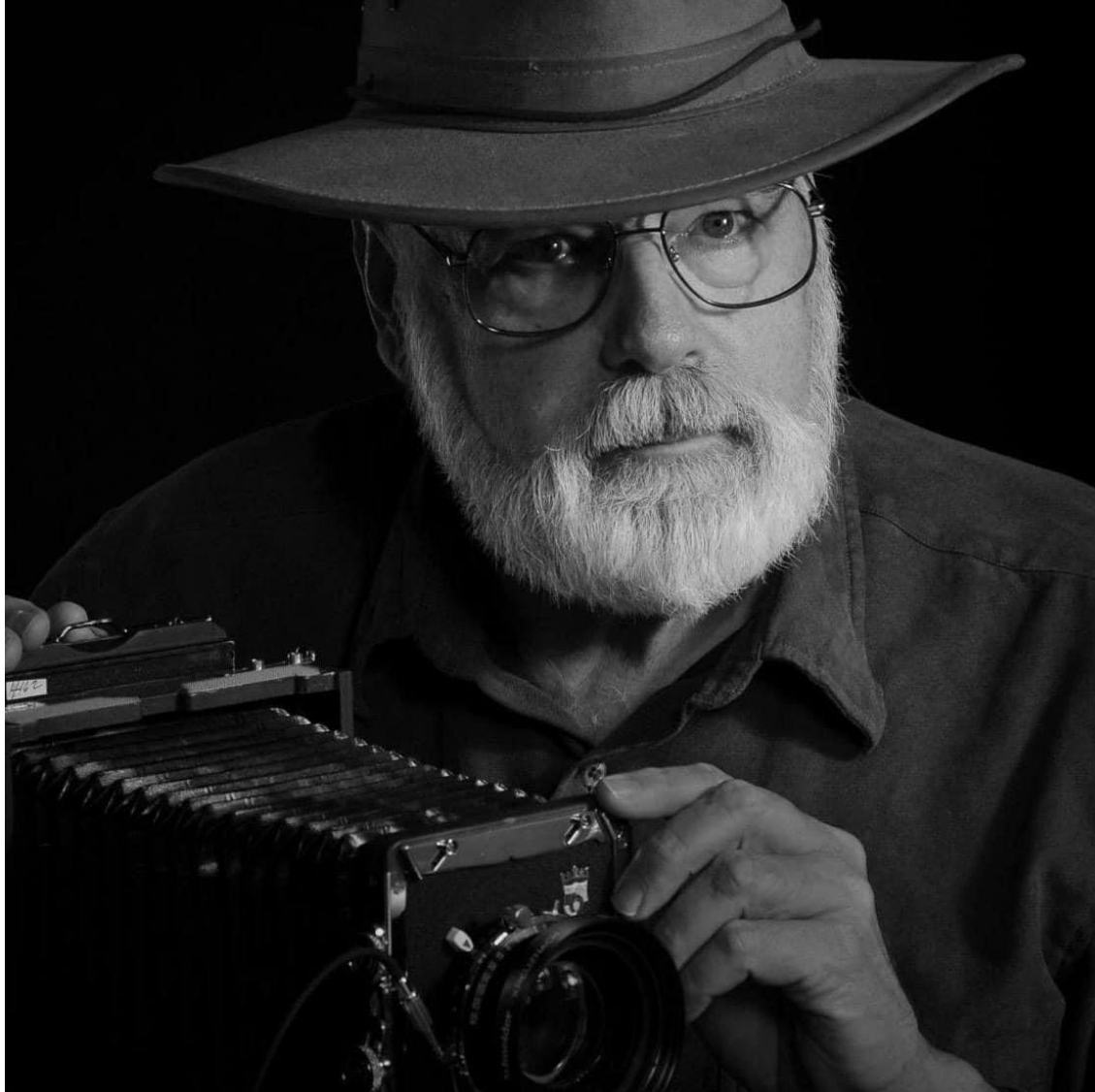


PPC News

<https://ppconline.com/>

Passing of our friend Frank Peele





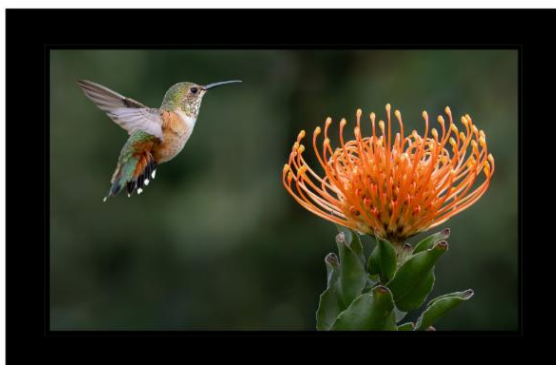
It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our friend Frank Peele. Frank was a valuable member of our photographic community. He was dependable, yet humble mentor, instructor, colleague, peer, and friend to many of us. He was a longtime member of the Professional Photographers of California and also an instructor at West Coast School. He will be greatly missed.

His Celebration of Life is on Friday, July 5th. Burial on July 8, 2024.

Please visit [www.ppconline.com](http://www.ppconline.com) for additional details.

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## 3rd Quarterly Photographic Image Competition



**Thursday, July 18, 2024  
6:30pm**

**Official rules and regulations: [www.ppconline.com](http://www.ppconline.com)**  
(open to all PPC members. Images previously merited at any other  
PPC affiliates are not eligible.)

Entries open: July 4, 2024  
Entries close: July 11, 2024



## JUDGING ACADEMY

This workshop will cover all aspects of the judging process.

**July 31, 2024  
10am – 4pm  
via zoom**

**PPC Premium Members: \$99  
PPC Members: \$129  
Non-Members: \$179**

**800-439-5839 ext. 1**





## **LIGHTROOM CLASSIC WHAT'S NEW MASKING AND MORE**

**Taking advantage of the newest features and updates in Lightroom**

**Instructor – Kimberly Olker  
Sunday, August 4, 2024**

**2–6pm PST (via Zoom/Hybrid)**

**Non-Members: \$35  
PPC Members: \$25  
PPC Premium Members: \$15**

**Register at: [www.ppconline.com](http://www.ppconline.com) or 800-439-5839 ext. 1**



## **Reno Great Balloon Race September 6–7, 2024 4am – 5pm**

**1595 N Sierra St, Reno, NV**

**The Great Reno Balloon Race is the world's largest free hot-air ballooning event.  
We will photograph wild horses, Virginia City and/or Lake Tahoe.**

**Hotel reservations are to be made at:  
Courtyard Reno Downtown/Riverfront (meeting place)  
1 Ballpark Lane Reno, NV 89501  
We will be carpooling to events.**

**Premium Members – \$45  
Members – \$75  
Non-members – \$90**

**Register at [ppconline.com](http://ppconline.com)  
Information: 800-439-5839 ext. 1**



A festive invitation for a family picnic. At the top, a banner of blue, white, and yellow triangular flags hangs across the frame. Below the flags is the PPC logo, featuring a black bear silhouette with a camera lens for its eye and the text "PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA" underneath. The background is a soft-focus image of a park with green grass, trees, and picnic tables. The text is centered and reads: "YOU ARE INVITED TO A PPC FAMILY PICNIC". Below this, it says "\$15 per family, we will supply burgers/brats/etc. Please bring a side dish to share, drinks, blankets/chairs, etc." The location is "Chevron Park (El Segundo Blvd/Illinois St in El Segundo, CA)". The date and time are "September 29, 2024 Noon - 4pm". At the bottom, it says "Register at www.ppconline.com 800-439-5839 ext. 1".

**YOU ARE INVITED  
TO A  
PPC FAMILY PICNIC**

\$15 per family, we will supply burgers/brats/etc.  
Please bring a side dish to share, drinks, blankets/chairs, etc.

**Chevron Park**  
(El Segundo Blvd/Illinois St in El Segundo, CA)

**September 29, 2024**  
**Noon - 4pm**

Register at [www.ppconline.com](http://www.ppconline.com)  
800-439-5839 ext. 1

A dark blue poster for the 2024 State Photographic Competition. At the top center is the PPC logo (a yellow bear with a camera lens for an eye) and the text "PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA". To the right is a gold medal with a blue and yellow ribbon, inscribed with "PPC" and "MASTER PHOTOGRAPHER". The text "2024 STATE PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION" is centered below the logo. Below that, in large yellow letters, is "SAVE THE DATE". The competition date is "COMPETITION DATE: NOVEMBER 2-3, 2024" with a note in parentheses: "(Competition will be on November 2 and critiques will be on November 3rd via zoom)". Registration information follows: "REGISTRATION OPENS: OCTOBER 1, 2024" and "REGISTRATION CLOSES: OCTOBER 25, 2024 (noon)". The official rules and registration website are listed as "For official Rules and Registration: [www.ppconline.com](http://www.ppconline.com)". At the bottom, contact information is provided: "Questions and Information: 310-408-3953 or [duganmarcy@gmail.com](mailto:duganmarcy@gmail.com)".

**PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA**

**2024 STATE PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**COMPETITION DATE: NOVEMBER 2-3, 2024**  
(Competition will be on November 2 and critiques will be on November 3rd via zoom)

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For official Rules and Registration: [www.ppconline.com](http://www.ppconline.com)

Questions and Information: 310-408-3953 or [duganmarcy@gmail.com](mailto:duganmarcy@gmail.com)



**WEST COAST SCHOOL**  
PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA

**WCS News**

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



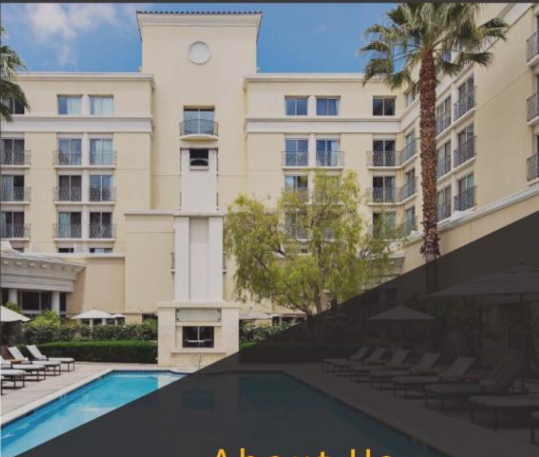


WEST COAST SCHOOL  
OF PHOTOGRAPHY



# TIME TO MAKE THE RIGHT DECISION

WCS is dedicated to provide the highest quality, hands on education and motivational workshops by the industry's top names and talent.



June 9-14, 2024  
Hyatt Regency Valencia, CA

## OUR INSTRUCTORS

**Michael Collins**

Photoshop – Zero to Sixty in a Week



**Scott Detweiler**

AI & Portrait Photography  
Leveraging Technology to Sell More Portraits



**Sharon Lobel & Karen Nakamura**

Macro Photography and Floral Compositing



**Tim Meyer**

Fundamentals of Lighting and Posing



**Pete Rezac**

Hard Light, Soft Light, Window Light, Strobe Light  
BLACK AND WHITE DONE RIGHT



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

Community Network School  
with PPA

## About Us...

West Coast School is a week long photography school offering an outstanding lineup of instructors and a full schedule of special events. Our commitment has been to teach attendees practical, real-world skills that can be used to build a satisfying and prosperous career in professional photography. Come experience an incredible week of networking, education & fun.



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## PPA News

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

If you are curious or interested in becoming a Certified Professional Photographer check out the PPA link below:

<https://www.ppa.com/credentials-mem/cpp-mem>

Please note that PPA has a page dedicated to what is available. 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

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

Professional Photographers of Los Angeles County | 10736 Jefferson Blvd., #859 | Culver City, CA 90230 US

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