



January 2024

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



2023 and 2024 Presidents

Happy New Year, PPLAC!

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season and is ready to kick off a new year! Another year that will most assuredly bring lots of photo opportunities for us to enjoy. The Board is actively working on your 2024 calendar and it's sure to have some new adventures for us all. I can't wait to get out there, learn new things and stretch creatively.

The new year also brings a new President to PPLAC, so this will be my last letter as President, and I want you to know that I've thoroughly enjoyed this position for the past two years. Thank you all for trusting me to guide the organization these last couple of years. It's been a great experience working with extremely talented and committed people. I must thank all the Board and Co-chair members for all their contributions to PPLAC. They not only inspire me with their photography but also give their all to this organization. It is only through teamwork that we survive and succeed, and this group is the best! I hope all PPLAC members consider a Board or Co-chair position and help guide PPLAC into the future. It really is a great experience with lots of laughs along the way.

Speaking of your new PPLAC President, I hope you will join us for our annual PPLAC Open House Board Installation and Awards Dinner on January 18, 2024. It will be a great night of dinner, prizes, a silent auction, awards presentation and more! Please be on the lookout for emails with all the details and how to RSVP.

I look forward to seeing everyone in 2024!

Nikki Washburn
2022/2023 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).

Save The Date

Meetings and
Events

Stay Connected

Facebook

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

Meet Up

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

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

Visit our Meetup Calendar
or website for more details**

January 2024
Open House and Awards Ceremony
January 18, 2024
(Third Thursday of the month)

February 5, 2024
DPC Submissions Open

February 11, 2024
DPC Submissions Close

February 22, 2024
First DPC of the year

March 28, 2023
General Meeting

**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
Bob Young

Fundraiser Director
Ira Mintz

PPC

<https://ppconline.com/>

PPA

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

PPLAC Sponsors

DxO

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Jixipix Software

<https://jixipix.com/>

Luminar Neo from Skylum

<https://skylum.com/luminar>

ProLab Digital

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

StudioMagic

<https://www.layercakeelements.com>

Think Tank

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

Topaz Labs

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

2023

Board of Directors

President
Nikki Washburn

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

2nd Vice President
(Membership)
Roy Patience

Treasurer
Mel Carll

Secretary/Newsletter
Teresa Pepe

Digital Photographic

Sponsor Management Chair
Mel Carll

Newsletter
Eleanor Gray

Webmaster
John Grusd

Parliamentarian
Nikki Washburn

Event Photographer
Angela Chen

Competition Director
Gary Parsons

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

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

Fundraiser Director
Ira Mintz

Sponsor Management Chair
Mel Carll

Webmaster
John Grusd

Parliamentarian
Eleanor Gray

Event Photographer
Angela Chen

Happy 2024!

Let your dreams take flight in
the coming year!

November/December Highlights

PPLAC Outing: "Santa Monica Pier!"



On Saturday, November 11th, 2023 five members of PPLAC made their way to the Santa Monica Pier for a late afternoon/early evening photo shoot. Although the beach and pier were crowded with Veteran Day celebrants, there were plenty of opportunities for remarkable photos. Everyone had a grand time. Afterwards, we gathered at *Bubba Gumps* on the pier for a refreshing dinner and a recap of the day's event.

We will meet on Tuesday evening, December 12th, 2023 for our PPLAC Photo Review so that we can see all the great images that everyone took. Mark your calendar to join us for a fun evening!

John Powers
1st VP, PPLAC



Pictured: Rob White, Leslie Geffen, Angela Chen, Roy Patience and John Powers

**PPLAC Outing: "Santa Monica Pier!"
The Winning Photographs!**

On Saturday, November 11th, 2023, five members from PPLAC went out to the Santa Monica Pier for an evening of night photography, led by Angela Chen. It was a crowded but beautiful evening, providing great opportunities to capture some lovely sunset photos. Afterwards, several met at Bubba Gumps on the pier for dinner. Everyone had a great time!

So, on Tuesday evening, December 12th we came together with other members of PPLAC via Zoom to look at the 25 images we wanted to share. We discussed each image and then everyone voted for their favorites. The first place winner Angela Chen. Second place went to Leslie Geffen. And Angela Chen also took third place. Angela received a \$25 Amazon gift card and a \$10 Amazon gift card from PPLAC and Leslie got \$15 from Amazon for her second place finish. Congratulations to Angela Chen and Leslie Geffen. And also big thanks to all who participated.



First Place: Angela Chen



Second Place: Leslie Geffen



Third Place: Angela Chen

John Powers
1st Vice President

“Death Valley Adventure”

November 7th – 9th, 2023



Pictured: Roy Patience, Rob White, Darrin Howells, Greg Trainor and John Grusd

The first full week of November found our PPLAC members and guests in fabulously photogenic Death Valley for a three-day-plus photographic adventure. Of course, we visited the iconic Death Valley locations but were also fortunate to experience some rare conditions like a wind/rainstorm and a lake where there is normally a dry salt pan. Everyone got incredible images and had a wonderful time both taking photographs and seeing the historical sights!

There will be a *PPLAC Photo Review* on this event on Wednesday evening, **December 6th** at **7 PM**. Details and Zoom link to follow as we get closer to the date.

All the best,

John Powers
1st VP

**PPLAC Outing: "Death Valley!"
The Winning Photographs!**

From November 7th through November 9th, five of our intrepid photographers covered the vast expanse of Death Valley, photographing unique environments with some of the most unusual weather in decades! Everyone had a fabulous time and they managed to capture some once-in-a-lifetime images.

So, on Wednesday evening, December 6th, we came together with other members of PPLAC via Zoom to look at the 32 images we wanted to share. We discussed each image and then everyone voted for their favorites. The first place winner was Roy Patience. Second place went to John Grusd. And Roy Patience and Greg Trainor both took third place. Roy received a \$25 Amazon gift card from PPLAC and John got \$15 from Amazon and a \$10 gift card went to both Roy and Greg. Congratulations to Roy, John, and Greg. And also big thanks to all who participated.



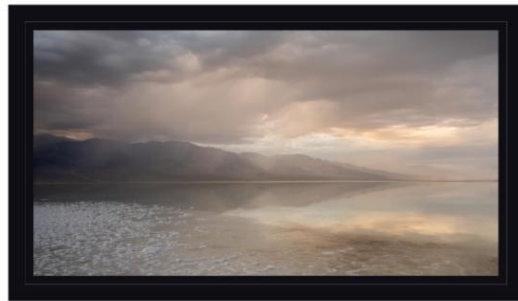
First Place: Roy Patience



Second Place: John Grusd



Third Place: Greg Trainor



Third Place: Roy Patience

John Powers
1st Vice President

PPLAC Outing: “*Lightscape!* at The Arboretum”



Pictured above: Niikki Washburn, Roy Patience, Victoria Bolotina, Angela Chen, Debra Powers, John Powers, and Mel Carl

Pictured below: Leslie Geffen, Natalie, and Denise Comeau

On Saturday evening, December 9th, 2023 eight members of PPLAC spent the evening at *Lightscape!* at The Arboretum. We met at the Santa Anita Mall Food Court for dinner first and then carpooled over to The Arboretum for our walk through the maze of lights. An extra two of our members went the weekend before. Gee, I wonder if you can figure out who they were from the photo above! LOL But we are delighted they were able to make it, too! A grand time was had by all. So delighted that a total of ten of us made this venture!

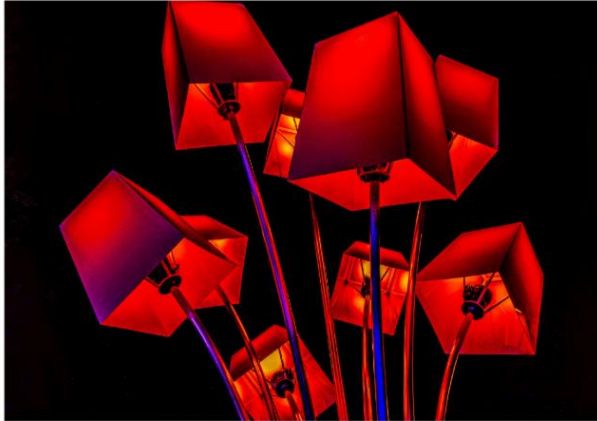
We will meet via Zoom on Tuesday evening, December 19th, 2023 for our PPLAC Photo Review so that we can see all the great images that everyone took. Mark your calendar to join us for a fun evening! I will send out the Zoom link the day before. You don't want to miss the last event of the year for PPLAC!

John Powers
1st VP, PPLAC

**PPLAC Outing: "Lightscape!"
The Winning Photographs!**

On Saturdays, December 2nd and 9th, 2023, ten members and guests from PPLAC went to The Arboretum's *Lightscape!* The evening began first with dinner at the food court at the Santa Anita Mall. Then everyone ventured over to The Arboretum to walk the grounds and capture as many colorful images as possible along the one mile walkway.!

Then, on Tuesday evening, December 19th we came together with other members of PPLAC via Zoom to look at the 42 images we wanted to share. We discussed each image and then everyone voted for their favorites. The first place winner was Leslie Geffen. Second place went to Victoria Bolotina, while third place went to both Nikki Washburn and John Powers. Leslie received a \$25 Amazon gift card from PPLAC and Victoria got a \$15 Amazon gift card and the \$10 Amazon gift card went to Nikki and John. Congratulations to Leslie, Victoria, Nikki, and John. And also big thanks to all who participated.



First Place: Leslie Geffen



Second Place: Victoria Bolotina



Third Place: Nikki Washburn



Third Place: John Powers

John Powers
1st Vice President

Coming Events! Meetings/Outings

**2024 Open House and Awards Ceremony
January 18, 2024**

PPLAC Open House
Thursday, January 18, 2024 - 6pm

Casino Theme

Location: Paul's Photo
23845 Hawthorne Blvd.
Torrance, CA 90505

Dinner, Board Installation, 2023 Photographer Awards, Raffles,
SWAP Meet, Print Competition, and MORE!

Tickets are \$20
Please RSVP to
PPLAC2022@gmail.com
by January 10, 2024

Print Competition Rules:
Theme: Open- anything goes
Must be a physical print
Secret Judge chooses the winner

If you or your guest is a vegetarian or vegan,
please let us know in your RSVP

Print can be any size
No previously merited images allowed

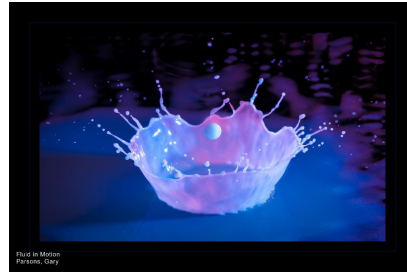


February 22, 2024
DPC #1

2023 Best of Show Images



February 23, 2023
"A Farmer's Isolation"
John Powers



May 25 2023
"Fluid In Motion"
Gary Parsons



August 24, 2023



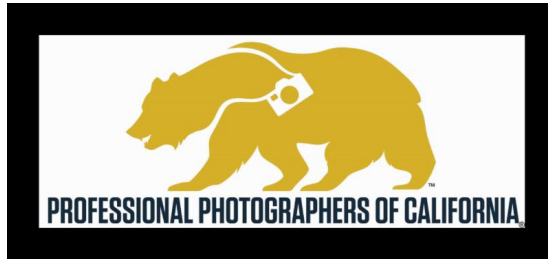
November 16, 2023
"Profiles in the Sand"
John Powers

"Elegant Encounter"
John Powers

Sponsor of the Month

Paul's Photo

<https://paulsphoto.com/>



PPC News

<https://ppconline.com/>


PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA

**2024 Installation
and Awards Ceremony**

Sunday, January 21, 2024

4pm - 8pm

Bella Cucina
27911 Seco Canyon Road
Santa Clarita, CA 91350

\$55 per person
No Host Bar

Register at: ppconline.com



WEST COAST SCHOOL
PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA

WCS News

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



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PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA

JUNE 9-14, 2024

TUITION STARTS AT:

PPC MEMBERS \$1340.00

PPA MEMBERS \$1390.00

NON-MEMBERS \$1520.00

INCLUDES HOUSING



PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA



TIM MEYER

bayphoto.com

THE ESSENTIALS - LIGHTING AND POSING

Join Tim as the class will focus on the fundamentals of quality lighting and posing, emphasizing the basic elements of studio and outdoor portraiture. With style as a consideration and in a hands-on environment, Tim will illustrate how your choice of light shaping tools, metering, ratios, facial and body analysis, and posing work together to produce dynamic results and consistently high quality images.



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PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA



MICHELLE PENNINGS

FINE ART MASTERPIECE PORTRAITS - CREATION TO COMPLETION

Embark on a creative journey where Michelle will share her unique and innovative approach to transforming everyday items into captivating masterpieces. This class is for the photographer looking to discover new techniques and to expand your artistic horizons.

You will learn to harness the power of lighting to create dramatic effects and evoke emotions in your photographs.

Get ready to unleash your creativity, as you dive into the world of fine art photography and embark on an unforgettable artistic journey.



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SHARON LOBEL & KAREN NAKAMURA

MACRO PHOTO TO ART

Learn how to find, approach and photograph captivating insects in natural light. Sharon will teach you her flower, water drop & insect macro techniques.

Karen will teach you how to incorporate your images and turn them into pieces of art through editing or compositing. Take your floral images to the next level by designing a beautiful art piece with unique backgrounds using Photoshop techniques. You will also learn how to photograph flowers in the studio to match the light of your subjects.

Some of our little insect friends and waterdrops will be photographed in a studio setting. And, if nature is nice to us, we will be photographing butterflies hatching out of their chrysalis. We have a lot more in store so have your cameras, tripods and computers ready!



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NON-MEMBERS \$1520.00

INCLUDES HOUSING



PETE REZAC

HARD LIGHT, SOFT LIGHT, WINDOW LIGHT, STROBE LIGHT - BLACK & WHITE DONE RIGHT

Pete will help you secure the confidence to make your black and white portraiture sing showing you how to use LIGHT! Be it soft, hard, natural, or electronic! Lighting skills never go out of style, and there are so many styles than one to use! Pete will show you how to block and tackle light to make any subject it illuminates sing - especially in black and white (works for color too!)

Light doesn't care what light sensitive material it's hitting, so be it silicon or silver Pete will help you get the results you are after, and if you know Pete, you will have a TON OF FUN doing it.



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NON-MEMBERS \$1520.00

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PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA



MICHAEL COLLINS

PHOTOSHOP - ZERO TO SIXTY IN A WEEK

Learn the basics (and not so basics) of Photoshop in a week-long program. We'll work Hands-On learning the tools, actions, other techniques for speeding up your images snap, crackle and pop. Camera Raw, retouching, cloning, healing brush, keyboard shortcuts and many more ways to help build your skills. We'll show the easiest ways to remove people and objects from your image. How to composite, change colors of various things. We'll learn layers, masks, brushes, type tool along with tips and tricks to make it easy.



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The 12 Elements of a Merit Image

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

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>

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