



# December 2024

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



**2024 President John Powers**

*"Learn the rules like a pro, so you can break them like an artist."*  
Pablo Picasso

Greetings, PPLAC Members:

I have always admired this quote. Master the basics of your photography. As you become more familiar with the basics of photography you can then branch out and become more daring and creative. And that is always fun ... if not a little bit scary, too! We are here to help you, encourage you, and maybe even prod you some. Find the artist within you!

## **Important Notice:**

Our by-laws state that any recommended changes to the by-laws itself must be published two months in advance so this is the second month I am sharing the following information:

In January the membership of PPLAC must vote on any By-Law changes. One such by-law change was voted on and approved by the PPLAC Board of Directors during the September board meeting.

In **ARTICLE VII**, under **COMMITTEES: SECTION 1, Committees**, it states:

**1. The President shall, at the first Board Meeting after taking office, appoint all committees and Committee Chairpersons subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. The President shall be ex-officio member of all committees.**

## **B. Standing Committees**

**5. Nomination Committee (five (5) members).**

It is recommended to change the process in the By-Laws so that it is in keeping with recent practices and to eliminate the Nomination Committee (B.5.) altogether to keep it in alignment with the Standing Rules. Thus, the By-Law would read as follows and eliminate B.5. completely:

**1. The President shall select and appoint all board members subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. The President shall, at the first Board Meeting after taking office, appoint all committees and Committee Chairpersons subject to the approval of the Board of Directors. The President shall be ex-officio member of all committees.**

### **B. Standing Committees**

Eliminate **5. Nominating Committee (five (5) members)**

Now, on to our current events. We had two PPLAC Photo Reviews in November. We saw some fabulous photos from the *Day of the Dead* celebrations and the *Monterey Peninsula Adventure*. Also in November we had the last DPC of the year. Congratulations go to Angela Chen for her image, *America Takes Flight*, which captured Best in Show! Now, with excited anticipation, we await the cumulative outcome of a year's output: who will be the PPLAC Photographers of the Year, who will be awarded the first-ever PPLAC Photographs of the Year? You have to attend next month's Annual Open House to find out. It could be YOU!

Our PPLAC Outing for November took us to the Peter Fetterman Gallery where we were inspired by photographs taken by some amazing women in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Details are published within the newsletter here. Be sure to be on the lookout for more exciting PPLAC Outings and Adventures in 2025!

Finally, I trust everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving and I want to wish each and every one of you and your families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

See you at our Open House in Playa Vista on January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025!

See you at our events and remember, "Keep on clickin'!"

John Powers  
M.Photos.Cr., M-PPC, 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).

**No Meeting in December due to  
Holiday**

**January 23, 2025**  
**PPLAC Open House, Awards and  
Board Installation Dinner Celebration**

**February 27, 2025**  
**1st Digital Image Competition**

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

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

## **Stay Connected**

### **Facebook**

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

### **Meet Up**

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

### **PPC**

<https://ppconline.com/>

### **PPA**

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

Community Network  
with PPA

## **2024 Officers**

**President**  
John Powers

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

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

**Treasurer**  
Mel Carl

## **Special THANK YOU to our amazing 2024 Sponsors...**

*your support means the  
world to us!*

**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

**Sponsor Management Chair**  
Mel Carll

**Newsletter**  
Eleanor Gray

**Webmaster**  
John Grusd

**Parliamentarian**  
Nikki Washburn

**Event Photographer**  
Angela Chen

**Imagenomic**  
<https://www.imagenomic.com/>

**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>

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With warm appreciation  
for your membership,  
participation and most of  
all friendship,  
PPLAC wishes you a  
joyous  
Holiday Season!



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**The 12 Elements  
of a Merit Image**

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

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**MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

**PPLAC OPEN HOUSE / AWARDS /  
BOARD INSTALLATION IS  
COMING!**

**JANUARY 23, 2025**

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# **ATTENTION PPLAC MEMBERS!** **NEW RULE CHANGES!**

The PPLAC Board has made a few changes to the Standing Rules that you might want to know about! Some are purely procedural but others concern our Digital Photographic Competition.

The new DPC rules should make your lives just that much easier!

To view all of the rules, simply go to the PPLAC website at [pplac.org](http://pplac.org). They are located under the "Membership" tab and click on "Standing Rules".

The new rules are in **yellow**.

The rules only for the DPC are repeated under the "Photo Competition" tab. Click on "Competition Rules" The new rules are in **yellow**.



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## **The 2025 PPLAC BOARD OF DIRECTOR ELECTIONS WERE UNANIMOUS AS PRESENTED:**

**President  
John Powers**

**1st Vice President  
Liz Chalmers**

**2nd Vice President  
Roy Patience**

**Treasurer  
Mel Carll**

**Secretary  
Heather Dinkins**

**Congratulations to all!**

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## **NOVEMBER 2024 HIGHLIGHTS**

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**Digital Image Competition #4  
November 21, 2024**

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**Best of Show,  
Best of Category - Photojournalism  
"America Takes Flight"  
by  
Angela Chen**



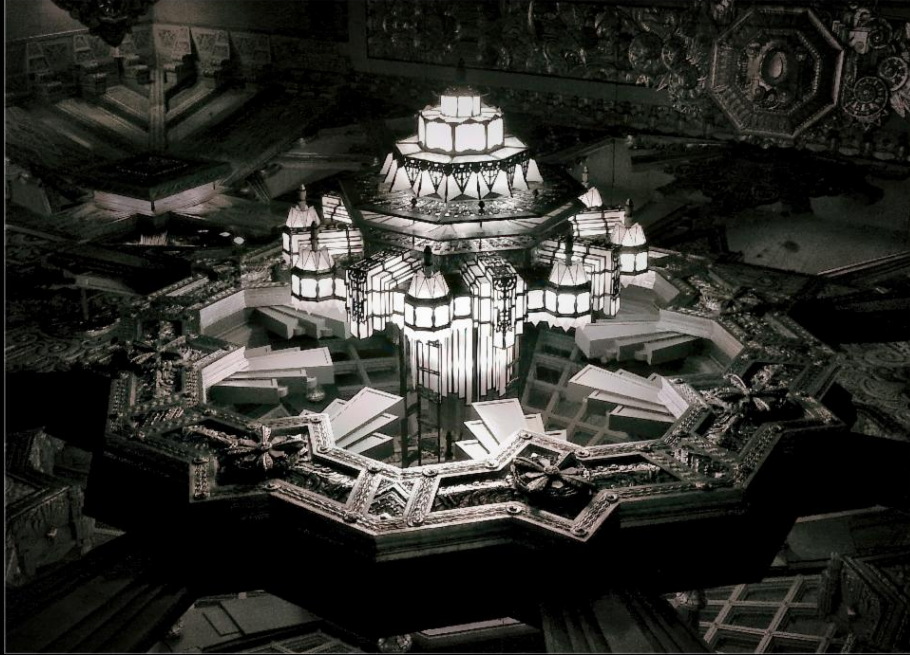
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**Best of Category - Landscape**  
**"Alien Landscape"**  
by  
**John Grusd**



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**Best of Category - Architectural**  
**"City of the Future"**  
by  
**Ira Mintz**



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**Best of Category - Nature**  
**"Dinner to Go"**  
by  
**Nikki Washburn**



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**Best of Category - Open**  
**"Lone Journey at Dusk"**  
by  
**John Powers**



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**Best of Category - Portrait**  
**"The Warrior"**  
**by**  
**Nikki Washburn**



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## November Outing Review

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**PPLAC OUTING - HER: THE GREAT WOMEN PHOTOGRAPHERS”**  
The Peter Fetterman Gallery, Santa Monica



*Pictured above: Liz Chalmers, Dave Grazier, Roy Patience, John Grusd, Heather Dinkins, Diana Lundin, Gary Parsons. Not pictured: Rob White*

On Saturday morning, November 23rd, eight of us gathered at the Peter Fetterman Gallery to view **HER: THE GREAT WOMEN PHOTOGRAPHERS**. This intimate exhibit featured some of the most influential female photographers of the 20th century. We also visited a diverse collection of other artist's galleries while in the Bergamot Station Arts Center. Our enjoyable afternoon ended with a delicious lunch at El Cholo!

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## **PPLAC Monterey Coastal Adventure**

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# PPLAC Adventure

## *“Monterey Adventure”*

### October 28<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024



Pictured above: Roy Patience, Greg Trainor, Albert Huen, Gary Johnson, Heather Dinkins, Jaye Pruettt, Rob White, Susannah Sofaer, Janice Trainor, Lyn Johnson, Ron Kaplan, John Powers, Tim Hintz, Gayle Corwin, Natalie Kahn, Alex Andrews, and “Hutch” Hutchison. And out in front, the one and only John Grusd

On Monday afternoon, October 28<sup>th</sup>, we gathered in Pacific Grove to spend the next four days photographing all around the Monterey Peninsula. We visited such locations as Point Lobos, the 17 Mile Drive, up and down the coastline, and also the Weston Gallery (see photo above). Each morning we were up before dawn to catch wonderful sunrises and out past dusk to work with amazing sunsets, and ideal iconic sites in between.

We will meet via Zoom on Monday evening, November 18<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM. All our members are invited to watch, choose their favorites, and have a grand evening!

John Powers  
President, PPLAC

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**PPLAC Adventure: "Monterey Peninsula!"  
The Winning Photographs!**

During the last week of October 2024, eighteen PPLAC and family members trekked up to the Monterey Peninsula where we photographed lovely sites in Carmel and Pacific Grove. The weather was perfect and the company stellar. Everyone had a grand time and some amazing photographs were taken.

Then, on Monday evening, November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 we held a PPLAC Photo Review to look at the 65 images we wanted to share. We discussed each image and then everyone voted for their favorites. The first place winner was John Grusd. In a rare outcome, Albert Huen tied with himself for second place. And third place went to Greg Trainor. John received a \$25 Amazon gift card and a \$40 Amazon gift card from PPLAC went to Albert for his second place tie and Greg received the \$10 Amazon gift card for third place. Congratulations to John Grusd, Albert Huen, and Greg Trainor. And also big thanks to all who participated with a special thanks to Roy Patience for running the Photo Review.



First Place: John Grusd



Second Place: Albert Huen



Second Place: Albert Huen



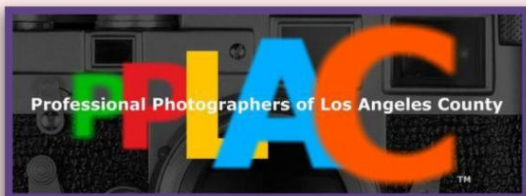
Third Place: Greg Trainor

John Powers  
President

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## **Coming Events! MEETINGS/WORKSHOPS**

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**January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025**

**5:30 PM**

# **Annual Open House**

**Theme:**

*Happy Chinese New Year!*



Sharpen your chopstick skills and join us for a fun night of food, games, and if we have time, maybe some PPLAC business like the installation of our new officers.

We will meet at:  
Center Point Clubhouse  
6200 Playa Vista Drive  
Playa Vista, California  
90094

(parking is below the structure in the garage)

**Details are forthcoming. Be on the lookout in the weeks ahead about costs, photo judging, etc.**

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## **Outings/Safaris/Adventures**

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*Stay Tuned for PPLAC 2025 Calendar*  
*Be sure to check [pplac.org](http://pplac.org) for updates*

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## **Photo Opportunities**

**Great locations to visit over the holidays:**

Descanso Gardens, [www.descansogardens.org](http://www.descansogardens.org)  
LA Arboretum, [www.arboretum.org](http://www.arboretum.org)  
LA Zoo, [www.lazoo.org](http://www.lazoo.org)  
So Coast Botanic Gardens, [www.southcoastbotanicgarden.org](http://www.southcoastbotanicgarden.org)

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**PPC News**

<https://ppconline.com/>



PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA

  
PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA

## 2025 Installation & Awards Ceremony

**Sunday, January 12, 2025  
4pm - 7pm**

**Azo Vino Wine Bar**  
678 S Citrus Ave. Covina, CA

**\$45 per person**  
Includes Dinner, Dessert & (1) Drink Ticket  
- Cash Bar -

For Reservations & Menu  
visit [www.ppconline.com](http://www.ppconline.com)  
(reservation required to attend)



WEST COAST SCHOOL  
PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA

# WCS News

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





# WEST COAST SCHOOL OF PHOTOGRAPHY

## June 8-13, 2025 Hyatt Regency | Valencia, CA

**SUZETTE ALLEN**  
Vital Video Skills for Photographers

**MICHAEL COLLINS**  
Photoshop - Zero to Sixty in a Week

**SCOTT DETWEILER**  
AI & Portrait Photography

**MICHAEL E. GORDON**  
Nature & Landscape Photographers Masterclass

**JOE GLYDA**  
Commercial Photography Demystified

**SANDRA PEARCE**  
Photoshop Painting with a Twist - Embellishing

**PETE REZAC**  
All Light Done Right

Join us in the sun-kissed paradise of Valencia for an unforgettable week of learning from industry leading instructors. Immerse yourself in a vibrant community of photographers and discover new techniques to elevate your photography skills. Our 2025 session promises to be even more exceptional than the last, with a lineup of renowned instructors and exciting new classes. Don't miss the opportunity to grow as a photographer and create lasting memories.

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## PPA News

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

Community Network  
with PPA

**CONNECT, LEARN. THRIVE**  
at the  
**PREMIER PHOTOGRAPHY CONFERENCE**  
**IMAGING USA**

**February 2-4, 2025**

**Dallas, TX**

visit [imagingusa.com](http://imagingusa.com) for information

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**JENNIFER HILLENGA**

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## KEYNOTE SPEAKER

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OPENING KEYNOTE  
SHOLA RICHARDS

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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