

## **Skills USA Photography Contest at NTC in Wausau, WI**

### **What will the student be doing?**

1. Students will arrive at the photography studio at NTC and the instructor will lead introductions and evaluate student equipment and skill levels. Past contests have included students with a wide range of equipment and skill levels from beginner to advanced.
2. Students will participate in a short photography lesson to make sure that every student understands the basics of exposure, camera controls and composition.
3. Students will join the instructor on a photo shoot tour of the campus to find interesting things to photograph. We will all travel to different locations and each student will be given 15 or so minutes at each location to find and capture images in 3 photography categories. These categories are: Still Life, Candid and Abstract Photography. Refer to the supplied evaluation rubric to see the definitions of each category and the criteria that will be used during evaluation.
4. Following the photography tour, students will be given time in a computer lab to download all of their images and sort through them to find their single best image for each of the 3 categories (3 Images Total).
5. Each student will save their 3 images in a specified location on a network drive for evaluating.

### **What will the students need to bring?**

1. Students are urged to bring their own camera and any necessary camera equipment. Make sure that you have charged batteries and an SD card with enough available storage space. Students who bring their own equipment may have an advantage because they are more familiar with how to control and use their camera.

The instructor will have 3 or 4 Canon DSLR's that students could use if they do not have their own adequate camera or if there is a malfunction. These cameras will be handed out on a first come first serve basis.

2. Students should come prepared with a strong understanding of the 3 photography categories (Still Life, Candid and Abstract Photography). It is recommended that you do an internet search for example photographs in each category. You do not know what you will find to photograph during the photo shoot tour, but it will be very helpful to understand what great photos in each category look like.
3. Some students in the past were somehow instructed to bring items such as: a resume, printed photographs, a photography portfolio, writing assignments, etc... There did not seem to be any consistency with these requirements because some students came with some of these things and some did not. If the skills USA organization wants ALL students to bring any of these items

or anything else, they will need to communicate that to everyone prior to the event. The instructor here at NTC will accept these items and include them in the evaluation process if so instructed by Skills USA.

How will student photos be evaluated?

1. Photos will be evaluated by the 2 graphics instructors at NTC.
2. The Skills USA Photography Contest Evaluation Rubric (Provided) will be used to evaluate each students images. The use of the rubric will result in a score out of 72 possible points. Students will then be ranked based on the point totals that they earned.