

# SkillsUSA State Photography Contest Outline

**Overview:** This outline contains the necessary information to prepare for the 2010 MD State SkillsUSA Photography contest.

## **Part 1: Written Test** (Time to completion: 30 mins)

Students will be tested on a wide variety of topics. 50 questions include areas on:

- a. Quality of Light
- b. Digital SLR Features/Functions
- c. Photo Basics
- d. Digital Imaging
- e. Portrait Studio Lighting

## **Part 2: Field Assignment** (Time to completion: 1 hour)

*(NOTE: Students supply Digital SLR & accessories)*

Students will go on assignment and capture images that relate to a “theme”. Students must demonstrate their ability to stay within the parameters with respect to:

- a. Location
- b. Theme
- c. Time limit
- d. Technical and artistic proficiency
- e. Students will choose 6 of their top images for judging. These images stay in digital format and are viewed digitally.

## **Part 3: Portrait Studio** (Time to completion: 20 minutes)

Studio lighting equipment is supplied by contest sponsor. Students will be tested on their knowledge of the portrait studio including:

- a. lighting patterns (standard)
- b. lighting ratios
- c. understanding of hand-held light meters
- d. camera settings
- e. cropping

## **Part 4: Trouble Shooting Digital Images** (Time to completion: 15 minutes)

Students must correctly identify common problems in the processing/printing of digital images (i.e. blooming, jpeg artifacts, noise, color fringing, etc...)

## **Part 5: Print Competition**

Students are required to submit 2 prints that will be scored by a panel of professional judges. Particular attention will be given to:

- a. the technical & artistic aspects of the image
- b. the overall impact
- c. MINIMUM SIZE: 11x14 or 154 sq in. image area mounted to 16 x 20
- d. If 11x14, use black or white matting. If 16x20, no matting necessary.

## **OVERALL POINT STRUCTURE**

|                                     |                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Part 1: Written Test . . . . .      | (200 points)       |
| Part 2: Field Assignment . . . . .  | (200 points)       |
| Part 3: Portrait Studio . . . . .   | (200 points)       |
| Part 4: Troubleshooting . . . . .   | (200 points)       |
| Part 5: Print Competition . . . . . | (200 points)       |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                       | <b>1000 points</b> |

## **CONTESTANTS REQUIRED ITEMS**

1. Digital SLR
2. 2 Memory Cards (1GB min)
3. extra camera batteries
4. On-camera Flash & light meters (helpful but not mandatory)
3. Camera's USB cable or Memory card adapter for downloading images to computer.
4. Computer loaded with school's available version of Adobe Photoshop
5. Jump Drive

Any questions, please contact the national technical chair

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