



Digital Mono HM, by Chris Baker. See more HMs starting on p.8

In Focus

January Program—Cranes Over Alabama

Presented By Sophie Pedzich

January 12, 2026 GigaParts Classroom, 6:30 p.m.

Sophie Pedzich from the International Crane Foundation will talk to us about the two types of cranes that migrate to Alabama each winter: the Sandhill Crane and the endangered Whooping Crane. She will discuss how to identify the two species, their life history, current and historic threats they face, and how you can help protect these beloved birds. This presentation will dovetail with our January outing to the Wheeler Wildlife Refuge in Decatur.

2026 Competition Topics

26-JAN-LEAVES/PETALS	22 JUN—PORTRAITS OF PEOPLE	24 AUG—STREET PHOTOGRAPHY
23-FEB-PATTERNS	27 JUL—OPEN (ONLY PHOTOS TAKEN AFTER 4/1/2026)	28 SEP—STILL LIFE
23-MAR-OPEN		26 OCT—OPEN
27 APR—CLOSE-UP/MACRO		23 NOV—ACTION
25 MAY—ARCHITECTURE		

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Outings and Workshops

Submitted By Paul Hauser

Saturday, January 17th we will meet at Wheeler Wildlife Refuge in Decatur at 1pm in front of the visitor center to photograph the Sandhill Cranes, The address for the refuge is 3121 Visitor Center Road, Decatur Alabama 35603. Gates close at 5pm. If the weather does not cooperate on the 17th, we will meet the following Saturday (24th) at the same time.

Saturday February 21, Chris Baker will be presenting a workshop on Lightroom editing. Bringing a laptop is optional.

Saturday, March 21, Ken Boyd with presenting a workshop on Photoshop editing.

Both workshops are from 9am to noon at GigaParts.

Officers of HPS

President: Chris Baker

Primary Competition Officer:

Julie Lumpkins

Digital Competition

Officer: OPEN

Competition Records

Officer: Eddie Sewall

Program Officer:

Steven Butler

Activities & Workshops

Officer: Paul Hauser

Publicity Officer:

Xavier Adams

Treasurer:

Bob Schmiedeskamp

Communications Officer:

Jay Bain

Historian: Tom Bryant

Exhibition Officer:

Connor McLeod

PSA Representative:

Lee Pratt

Non Board Positions

Co-Webmasters:

Joe Houle,

Michael Huettel

Assistant Webmaster:

Bill Farnsworth

Upcoming Photo Contest Deadlines

- January 6 - 2026 Sony World Photography Awards - <https://www.worldphoto.org/sony-world-photography-awards>
- January 9 - 2026 Siena International Photo Awards - <https://www.sienawards.com/en/sipa>
- February 22 - 2026 Heard Nature Photography Contest - <https://www.heardnaturephotographers.com/about-the-photography-contest-2026>

HPS is meeting at GigaParts on the second Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m., and on the fourth Monday, 6:30 p.m.

www.huntsvillephotographicsociety.org

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/399566463394251/> (closed group)

January 2026 Judge—Mary Beth Johns

Subject—Leaves/Petals

November 26, GigaParts (Old Burlington Coat Factory Building), 6:30 p.m.

Dr. Mary Beth “Bee” Johns has been the Associate Professor of Art Education for Athens State University in Athens Alabama for 13 years – working through the Alabama Center for the Arts in partnership with Calhoun Community College in Decatur Alabama. Dr. Johns received her Master in Art Education from The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa and her Ph.D. from The Pennsylvania State University. However, it was at the University of North Alabama that she learned to paint with acrylics on a large scale when working towards a Bachelor degree. Presently, Dr. Johns leads the Athens State art teacher education candidates through the Alabama State art certification program and teaches the cap stone classes at ASU associated with this degree. In addition to this she teaches a critique class where new artists learn about aesthetic philosophy and its implementation in studio practice. Prior to accepting her position at ASU, Dr. Johns was the museum educator for The Delaware Center for Contemporary Art, Wilmington; now known as The Delaware Contemporary - an art space that infuses contemporary art and creativity into the community through exhibitions and educational experiences. Currently, working out of the Alabama Center for the Arts Lowe Mill studio 2018, she has had the opportunity to engage the community again by allowing the public to view a practicing artist at work.

End of Year Competition Results

Judges—Joe Fikes, Eric Mittman, Jose Betancourt

	Color Digital (94)	Monochrome Digital (82)	Color Print (57)	Monochrome Print (56)
1st	Chris Baker	Chris Baker	Joy Henderson	Casey Johnson
2nd	Chris Baker	Jack Eidson	Barbara Staggs	Barbara Staggs
3rd	Chris Baker	Jane Reneau	Barbara Staggs	Barbara Staggs
HM	Susan Poston	William Farnsworth	Joy Henderson	Joy Henderson
HM	Susan Chi	Susan Poston	John Shriver	John Shriver
HM	Jack Eidson	Susan Chi	Henry Smith	Doris Leverett
HM	CT Chi	Jack Eidson	Emily Saile	Barbara Staggs
HM	Chris Baker	Jack Eidson	Casey Johnson	Barbara Staggs
HM	Chris Baker	Chris Baker		
HM	Chris Baker	Chris Baker		
HM	Casey Johnson	Chris Baker		
HM	Casey Johnson			

Best of Year 2025 Images



Color Print
1st place
by Joy
Henderson



Color Print
2nd place
by Barbara
Staggs



Color Print 3rd place
by Barbara Staggs

Monochrome Print
1st place
by Casey Johnson



Monochrome Print
2nd place
by Barbara Staggs

Monochrome Print
3rd place
by Barbara Staggs





Color Digital
1st place
by Chris Baker

Color Digital
2nd place
by Chris Baker



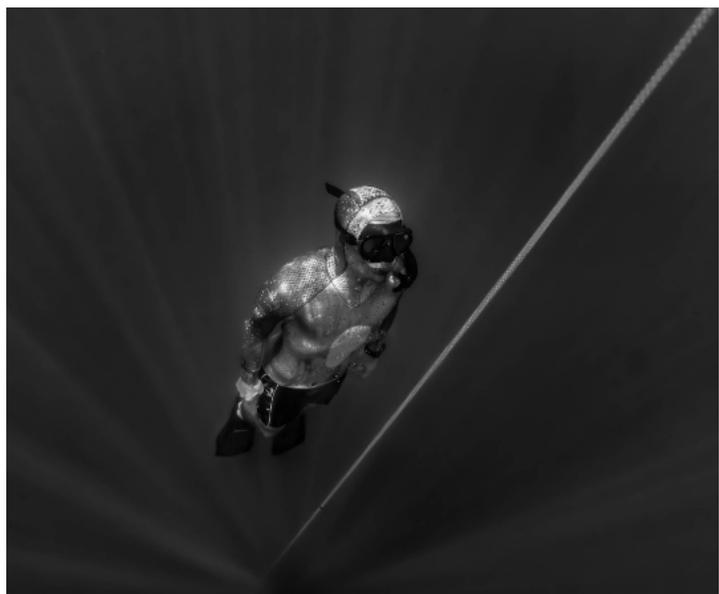
Color Digital
3rd place
by Chris Baker

Monochrome
Digital 1st place
by Chris Baker



Monochrome Digital
2nd place
by Jack Eidson

Monochrome Digital
3rd place
by Jane Reneau



Honorable Mention—Print



Casey Johnson



Emily Saile



Henry Smith



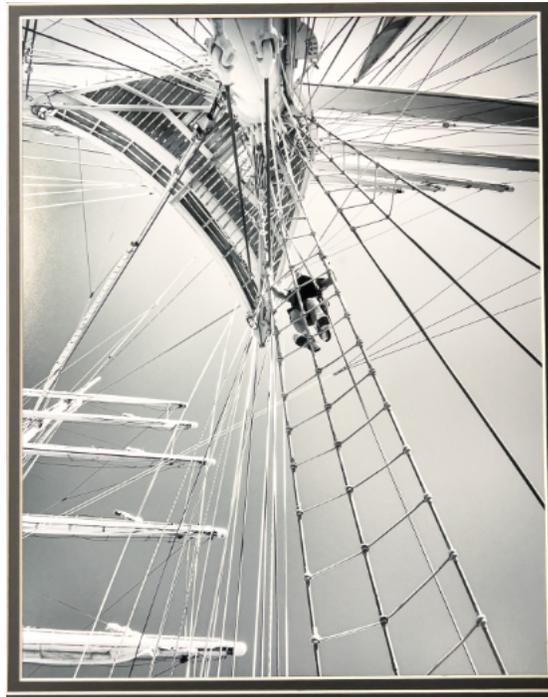
John Shriver



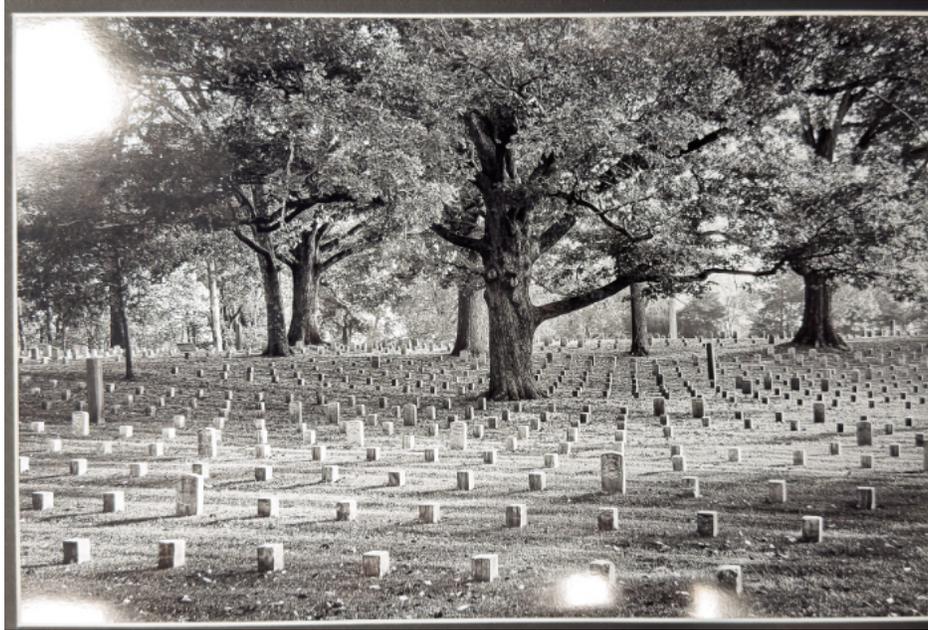
Joy Henderson



Barbara Staggs



Barbara Staggs



Doris Leverette



John Shriver



Joy Henderson

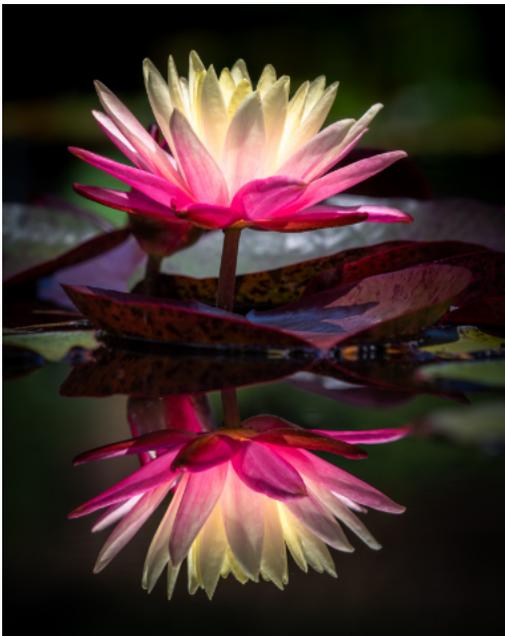
Honorable Mention—Digital



Casey Johnson



Casey Johnson



Chris Baker



Chris Baker



Chris Baker



C T Chi



Jack Eidson

Susan Chi





Susan Poston



Chris Baker



Chris Baker



Chris Baker



Jack Eidson



Jack Eidson



Susan Chi

Susan Poston





William Farnsworth