

Monochrome Print HM, by Mike Cook. See more HMs starting on p.12

In Focus

April Program—Cyanotypes

Presented By José Betancourt

April 13, 2026 GigaParts Classroom, 6:30 p.m.

Jose has many times been a judge and a presenter for HPS. At this meeting he will be discussing the history and process of making Cyanotypes. An alternative photographic process from the 1840's.

Jose is a Professor of Art, who teaches photography at the University of Alabama in Huntsville. He holds a BA degree in Photography from the University of South Florida and a MFA in photography from Hunter College, City University of New York City. Jose currently teaches classes in digital photography, experimental and historical photography and documentary photography. His art has been exhibited at the Tinney Contemporary art gallery in Nashville, the Tennessee Valley Museum in Tusculumbia, the Asheville Museum of Art in North Carolina, and the Baldwin Photographic Gallery in Murfreesboro, TN.



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Outings and Workshops

Submitted By Paul Hauser

April 25th we will be going to Old Car City in White, GA. Our group will be led by Cecil Holmes that day. The drive from Huntsville, depending on where you start, can range from 2.5 to 3 hours with a time change. Let's meet at OCC at 9:30 EST where we will have until 4pm to be on the property. There is an entrance fee of \$30. Please take the time to look at their website to see some visuals of the vehicles on the grounds. <https://www.oldcarcityusa.com>

For May we are going to the Sloss Furnaces in Birmingham on the 23rd. This is approximately a 2 hour drive from Huntsville. We will meet in the lobby of the Sloss Furnaces at 10am and be allowed to stay on the grounds until 4pm. There is no entrance fee for being self guided. Below is the link to the website to see the history and visuals of the grounds. <https://www.slossfurnaces.org>

Our June outing will be at the Huntsville Botanical Gardens on Saturday, June 13 with an alternate weather day for June 20. We'll meet in the lobby at 9:30am before heading out into the gardens. All skill levels are welcome. Any camera and lens combination will work as the Gardens has a variety of subjects to photograph (e.g. landscapes, flowers, butterflies, birds, insects). An entrance fee will be required for those who are not members of the Gardens. <https://hsvbg.org>

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

Webmaster: OPEN

Assistant Webmaster: Bill Farnsworth

Upcoming Photo Contest Deadlines

- April 15 - Northwest Tennessee Photo Club Spring 2026 Competition - http://nwtphotoclub.com/?page_id=134
- April 24 - 2026 Flow Trip Photo Contest - <https://flow.life/photo-contest>
- May 24 - 2026 Nature Photographer of the Year - <https://naturephotographeroftheyear.com/enter-contest/npoty-2025/>
- June 30 - 2026 Audubon Community Nature Center Contest - <https://www.gogophotocontest.com/acncphotocontest2026>
- June 30 - 2026 Nikon Wildlife Comedy Awards - <https://www.comedywildlifephoto.com/>

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.

[hpsphoto.org](https://www.facebook.com/groups/399566463394251/)

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

Outdoor Recreation Fair

From the Land Trust

Hi! I'm reaching out on behalf of the Land Trust of North Alabama. We want to invite the Huntsville Photographic Society organization to set up a table at our upcoming Outdoor Recreation Fair on Saturday, June 13th from 11a-3p. Our goal is to create a large, public gathering of information and resources related to outdoor recreation for individuals and families to learn more about getting outside. Please let me know who I can connect with at your organization to share more details. Hope you can make it!

Contact caroline@landtrustnal.org

New Webmaster Needed

Submitted By Chris Baker

Unfortunately, due to personal conflicts, the two new Webmasters we had recently secured can no longer support, so we are re-initiating our search for someone to take over the Webmaster duties for John Shriver. Experience with website design and Wordpress is preferred with an ability to troubleshoot. Website maintenance is critical to the function of our competitions and coordination of membership dues, so we are looking to identify a candidate as soon as possible and get them working with John. For anyone willing and able to take on this key position, please contact me at knc82099@me.com. A list of duties include:

- On the first of each month, prepare the webpage for uploading digital images for monthly competitions.
- On the third Monday of each month, prepare a webpage for judging of submitted digital images.
- On the fourth Monday of each month, prepare a webpage for presentation of the winning photos for that month, and relay information to those responsible for records and newsletter. Update the Awards listing.
- Work with the Treasurer to maintain records of membership and dues payment through PayPal.
- Work with the Treasurer to ensure that all plugins and hosting bills are paid.
- At the end of the year, assemble a webpage for End of Year judging, and then a webpage for presentation of EOY winners.
- Prepare webpages as needed for programs and exhibitions.
- Perform regular housekeeping of the website, ensure that all the webpages are up to date, and monitor the Calendar.
- Monitor input from the Contacts page.
- Maintain a regular backup of the website.
- Work with Bluehost as needed to ensure that the website functions and it is secure.

Photographer in Residence

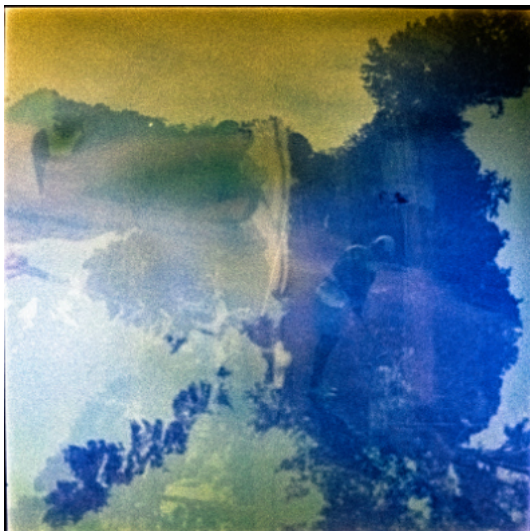
Accomplishment for Steven Butler

Steven was approached by Depeche Golf who are based in Germany to be their Photographer in Residence for their Alternative issue. In Steven's own words— "They originally found me from my golf cyanotypes on Instagram. I was given free reign to shoot whatever and however I wanted. I like to shoot mostly from a sense of play and exploration and I think that came out in the images. All of these were shot on film.

The black and white is a multi exposure where I photographed some golf balls and then golf clubs on a black backdrop and then a third image from a driving range session.

The super more colorful one is from hitting balls at the driving range with my daughter. After scanning in the images, I played with the RGB sliders in Lightroom to really just make the colors different.

The purple was an experiment to shoot every golf shot on one hole as a single frame. So whether it was 3 shorts or 6, every one is overlaid on top of each other.



Workshop Announcement *submitted by Brandon Black*

We have two photography workshops coming up later this year that may be of interest to club members. In June, we'll be in Big Bend National Park, focusing on desert landscapes, astrophotography, and working with the unique light and terrain of the region. In October, we'll travel to Colorado's San Juan Mountains during fall color, with an emphasis on capturing changing aspens, mountain scenes, and autumn conditions.

More details for each workshop can be found here:

Big Bend (June): <https://www.distantlightphotos.com/capturing-the-cosmos-june-26>

San Juan Mountains (October): <https://www.distantlightphotos.com/mountain-gold-and-milkyway>

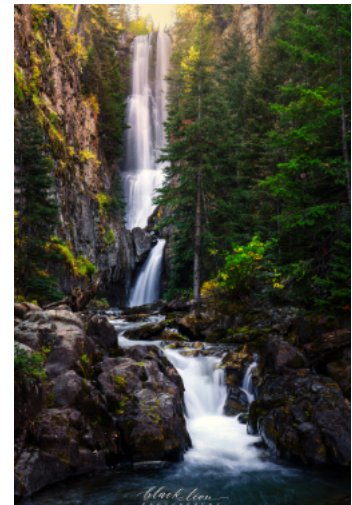
Club members can also use code HPSMEMBER for 10% off registration.

If you'd like more information, feel free to reach out directly by email, Facebook or on Instagram:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/brandonblackphotography

Email: blacklionphotographer@gmail.com

Instagram: [@blacklion_photography](https://www.instagram.com/blacklion_photography)



April 2026 Judge—Shaun Forester Subject—Close up (Macro)

March 27, GigaParts (Old Burlington Coat Factory Building), 6:30 p.m.

Shaun Everett Forester is a multidisciplinary visual artist and printmaker with an M.F.A. in Integrative Arts from Athens State University. His practice spans printmaking, painting, and drawing, with a strong emphasis on composition, visual storytelling, and technical craftsmanship. Shaun has exhibited widely, including solo exhibitions, and has received multiple awards and national recognition for his work. In addition to his studio practice, he serves as an educator and has taught at the university level, bringing a thoughtful and informed perspective to the evaluation of visual art.



Note from editor—the above is an AI generated distillation of Shaun's CV.

March Competition Results Subject—Open Judge—José Betancourt

	Color Digital (58)	Monochrome Digital (47)	Color Print (29)	Monochrome Print (25)
1st	Ahmed Nassar	Margaret Phillips	Mike Cook	John Shriver
2nd	Matthew Crowell	William Farnsworth	Mike Cook	Henry Smith
3rd	Margaret Phillips	Ahmed Nassar	Joy Henderson	John Shriver
HM	Ahmed Nassar	Susan Chi	Lara Deal	Mike Cook
HM	Susan Chi	Margaret Phillips	John Shriver	Mike Cook
HM	CT Chi	Casey Johnson	Ricky Pounders	Bob Kemper
HM	Casey Johnson	Barry Freeman		
HM	Brandon Black	Ahmed Nassar		
HM	Allen Gary			

Flower Photography Opportunity Submitted by Richard Thorn

"Greetings, I have a 3 acre Blueberry Orchard in Harvest, Ala. In about 4 to 6 weeks the berries will be in full bloom. It is a sight the behold. I also have two large rows that are full of lavender and wild flowers later in the Spring and Summer. In addition to this is an adjacent 4 acre hayfield. All of this presents opportunities for really nice photography in a natural setting. If any of your members would be interested please contact me. I do charge a fee as this is a working farm. Thanks for your consideration."

Contact: thorn_35810@yahoo.com

New Members

Liam Ayres
Evan Chaudhuri
Matthew Crowell
Brian Squibb

Points for the Year to Date

Name	2026 Points	2026 Wins
Margaret Phillips	18	5
Mike Cook	17	6
Ahmed Nassar	16	6
Christopher Baker	13	4
John Shriver	10	4
Tom Bryant	9	3
Susan Poston	9	3
Barbara Staggs	9	2
Casey Johnson	8	5
Joy Henderson	8	3
Susan Chi	7	3
Allen Gary	7	3
Charles Leverett	5	3
Emily Saile	5	3
Bill Farnsworth	5	2
John Dillingham	5	1
Eric Deylius	4	2
Jane Reneau	4	2
Matthew Crowell	4	1
Doris Leverett	4	1
Henry Smith	4	1
Mat Bevill	3	3
C.T. Chi	3	3
Julia Gary	2	2
Karl Hagler	2	2
Paul Hauser	2	2
Brandon Black	1	1
Kate Deal	1	1
Lara Deal	1	1
Barry Freeman	1	1
Robert Kemper	1	1
Ricky Ponders	1	1
Lee Pratt	1	1
John Stevens	1	1
Ed Townsend	1	1

2026 Competition Topics

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

March 2026 Images



Color Print
1st place
by Mike
Cook

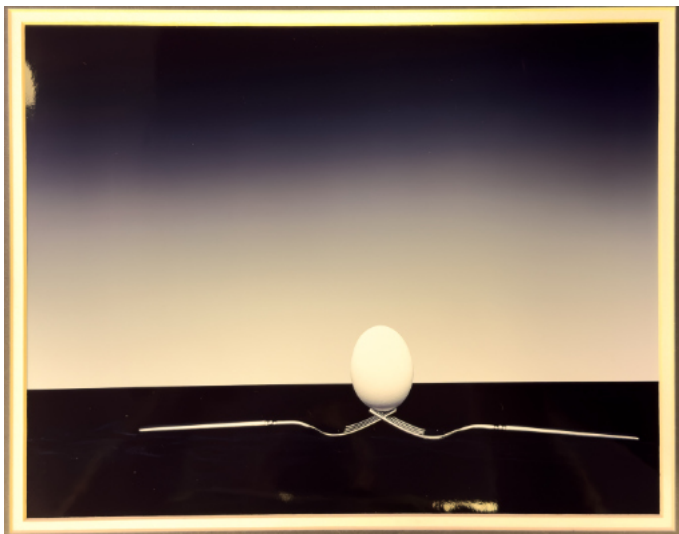
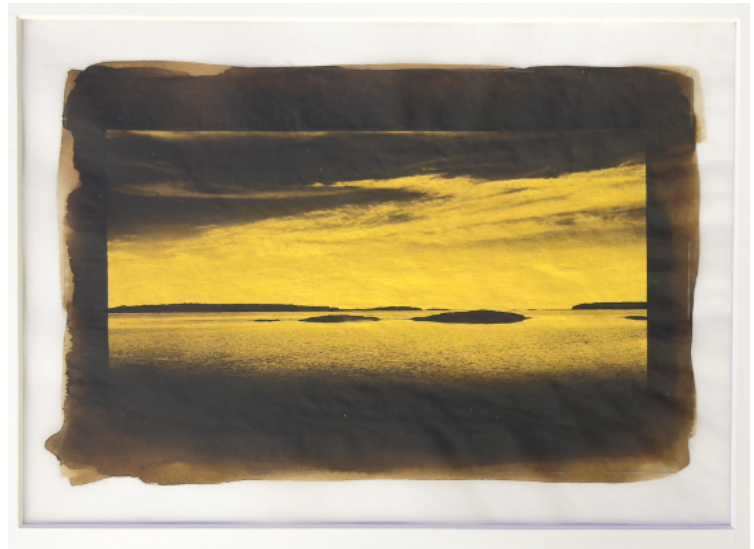


Color Print 2nd place
by Mike Cook



Color Print 3rd place
by Joy Henderson

Monochrome Print
1st place
by John Shriver



Monochrome Print
2nd place
by Henry Smith

Monochrome Print
3rd place
by John Shriver





Color Digital
1st place
by Ahmed Nassar

Color Digital
2nd place
by Matthew Crowell



Color Digital
3rd place
by Margaret Phillips

Monochrome
Digital 1st place
by Margaret Phillips



Monochrome Digital
2nd place
by William Farnsworth

Monochrome Digital
3rd place
by Ahmed Nassar



Honorable Mention—Print



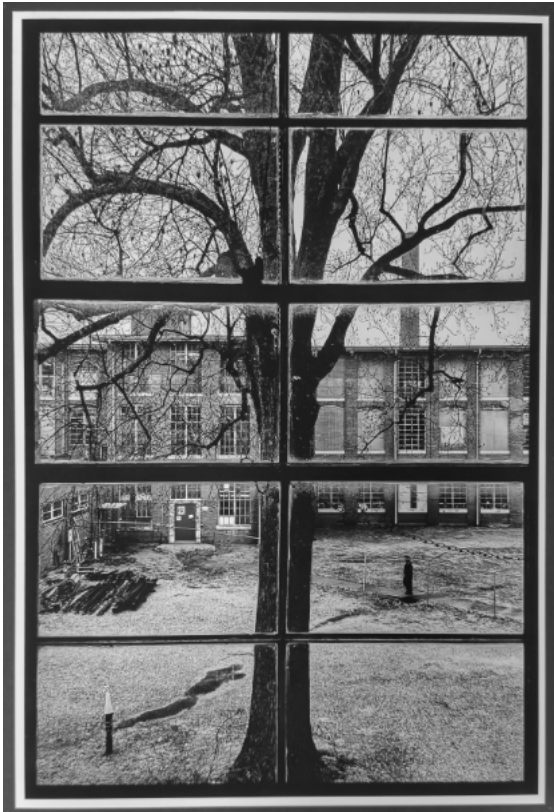
Lara Deal



John Shriver



Ricky Pounders



Mike Cook



Mike Cook



Bob Kemper

Honorable Mention—Digital



Ahmed Nassar



Susan Chi



CT Chi



Casey Johnson



Brandon Black



Allen Gary



Susan Chi



Margaret Phillips



Casey Johnson



Barry Freeman



Ahmed Nassar