



## Photography Middle School (STATE ONLY CONTEST)



### PURPOSE

To evaluate each competitor's preparation for employment and to recognize outstanding students for excellence and professionalism in the field of (still) photography.

### CLOTHING REQUIREMENT

#### **Class E: Competition Specific — Business Casual**

- A solid interpreting business appropriate shirt or blouse in a color contrasting contestant's skin for maximum visibility; black dress slacks or a knee length plain black skirt; black sheer or skin-tone seamless hose, or black socks and black dress shoes.
- Additionally, all contestants must remove distracting jewelry, bright colored nail polish, or otherwise distracting articles of clothing for the competition, as they impede judging ability and detract from the performance. Contestants' hair must be pulled back in a professional manner. Headwear that obstructs the contestant's facial expression must also be removed.

### ELIGIBILITY

Open to active SkillsUSA Washington middle school members.

### OBSEVER RULES

Observers will be allowed to view the performances in the presentation room provided space is available. No talking or gesturing will be permitted. No observers will be allowed in the assembly area. No member of the audience will be permitted to enter or leave the demonstration room while a contestant is signing. No member of the audience will be permitted to use cameras, video recorders or tape recorders.

## EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS

### Supplied by the technical committee:

- a. System for printing
- b. Portrait studio
- c. System for troubleshooting and color correction
- d. Judge's supplies for job interview section

### Supplied by the contestant:

Note: This is a minimum required equipment list. Any additional accessories are acceptable and up to the discretion of the student (e.g., on-camera flash, reflector, additional lenses, etc.). Remember that all equipment brought on the "field assignment" must be carried by the student and fit in shared bus seating (in essence, one medium to large camera bag).

- a. One DSLR or mirrorless camera with removable lens capabilities (If the competitor's camera does not have a removable lens, then it must have both a hot shoe for a flash to connect to and manual exposure mode.)
- b. Minimum: two batteries with charger
- c. Minimum: two 16 GB memory cards
- d. One speedlight flash with wireless transmitter (be sure they work together)
- e. One hand-held flash meter
- f. USB card reader or camera USB cable
- g. Computer with USB and/or SD card slot (laptop preferred). Please record the school's login password for the student.
- a. Adobe Photoshop (be sure Photoshop can open the camera's RAW files)
- b. Two images for Print Competition (see competition guidelines for requirements)
- c. One - 6' multiple-outlet power strip
- d. All competitors must create and submit online a one-page single sided resume. See "Online Submission Requirements" below for guidelines. In addition to the online submission, competitors must also bring a hard copy of their resume to the competition.

### Resume Requirement

All competitors must create a one-page résumé and submit a hard copy to the technical committee chair at orientation. Failure to do so will result in a -5 point penalty

### PROHIBITED DEVICES

Cellphones, electronic watches and/or other electronic devices not approved by a competition's technical committee are NOT allowed in the competition area. Please follow the guidelines in each technical standard for approved exceptions. Technical committee members may also approve exceptions onsite during the SkillsUSA Championships if deemed appropriate.

### Penalties for Prohibited Devices

If a competitor's electronic device makes noise or if the competitor is seen using it at any time during the competition, the competitor's scores may be removed.

## SCOPE OF THE COMPETITION

### KNOWLEDGE PERFORMANCE

The competition will include a test assessing knowledge of general photographic concepts.

### SKILL PERFORMANCE

The competition will include a series of hands-on performance activities assessing overall photographic mechanics and techniques.

### COMPETITION GUIDELINES

Note: The Middle School Guidelines follow the National High School \ Post-Secondary guidelines except for the exemptions listed below.

1. Knowledge Test:
  - C. Lens choices given a photographic situation (sports, jewelry, studio portraits, etc.)
2. Portrait Studio:
  - b. Light ratios (due to a variety of teaching methods, competitors will be given a "main" light aperture setting [e.g., f/11] and a stop difference for the "fill" light (e.g., two stops)
  - c. Use of a hand-held light/flash meter
3. Troubleshooting:
  - a. Chromatic aberration
  - b. b. Barrel distortion
  - c. c. Aliasing
  - e. Halos
  - f. Posterization
  - g. g. JPEG artifacts
  - h. h. Parallax

### Standards and Competencies

#### **P 4.0 — Apply the knowledge and skill needed to create a standard studio portrait or commercial image**

- 4.1. Show an understanding of proper lighting patterns on a subject's face in a head-and-shoulder portrait (e.g., split, Rembrandt, loop, butterfly, broad, short).
- 4.3. Demonstrate correct placement of main and fill lights.
- 4.4. Demonstrate correct lighting ratios by the setting of main and fill lights (i.e., main light = f/8 and fill light = f/4).

#### **P 6.0 — Show the ability to identify common problems in the processing and printing of digital Images**

- 6.1.2. Identify blooming.
- 6.1.3. Identify aliasing.
- 6.1.4. Identify JPEG artifacts.
- 6.1.8. Identify color-fringing.
- 6.1.9. Identify posterization.
- 6.1.12. Identify barrel distortion.
- 6.1.13. Identify halos.
- 6.1.14. Identify improper gamma.
- 6.1.15. Identify flash synch – too fast.
- 6.1.17. Identify perspective shift (keystoning).
- 6.1.18. Identify HDR (overdone).
- 6.1.19. Identify parallax.
- 6.1.21. Identify clogged printer nozzle.

#### **COMMITTEE IDENTIFIED ACADEMIC SKILLS**

The technical committee has identified that the following academic skills are embedded in this competition.

##### **Math Skills**

- Use scientific notation.