



Eastwood vs Victoria Camera Club
2020-21
Intermediate Division

Special thanks to Larry Breitkreutz
and his Scottish counterpart for
judging this competition

This friendly competition between the Eastwood Photographic Society of Glasgow, Scotland and the Victoria Camera Club celebrates its fifteenth anniversary in 2021. It was initiated by VCC former member Douglas Bain who moved to Victoria from Glasgow.

Each club submits thirty images, fifteen by novice/intermediate members and fifteen by advanced members. Each image is evaluated by two judges, one appointed by each club. The judges assign a mark out of 20 for each image and add their comments as well which adds another level of interest.

This contest has always been very competitive. Over the last fourteen years, Victoria has squeaked out victories five times, Eastwood eight times with one year resulting in a tie. It's a no holds barred competition, which means that anything goes. Here's your opportunity to submit your best two images for one of our most important and fun external competitions.

While there are no scores indicated in this document there are scores attached to each image. These scores are available to authors upon request. Please email externalcomps@victoriacameraclub.ca

There are no prizes or awards given out. It's all about club bragging rights! Don't forget to put it on your calendar for this season

The final score for 2020/21 was:
Intermediate - Eastwood 504 to Victoria 482
Advanced - Eastwood 499 to Victoria 503
Total: Eastwood 1003 to Victoria 985

Eastwood Wins! - Congratulations!



"Rainbow power"

author: Ken McLean

Canadian Judge

Strong story. B&W rainbow lacks impact, needs color. More contrast would strengthen the image

Scottish Judge

Very much a character shot. liked the tonal range of the black and white approach. Feel title took us in wrong direction. It is the face that is more important not the tee shirt. As not in colour the significance of the rainbow is lost and its powerful message. Pop colour if this is the most important aspect of picture. Wall is just distracting and overpowering as does not add to story. Also person looking out of pictures make the looker wonder what are they looking at which is generally not helpful.



"Autumn mist"

author: Scottish

Canadian Judge

Tranquil image. Photo would be strengthened with more attention to focus.

Scottish Judge

Trees are interesting in number and scale, although not vertical as sloping to right. Straighten this. The ducks are lost in the picture as the treatment is not correct for a landscape and the more vintage effect softens the whole picture. Also too light at the edges. Need a vignette to hold you in picture. The effect has reduced quality of the mist which is a pity. Just did not think treatment worked



"Lincoln sparrow on the lookout"

author: Alec Lee

Canadian Judge

Lovely crisp image. Perfect exposure. DOF well handled. Interesting background. Action would strengthen.

Scottish Judge

Nice nature shot. Lots of areas nice and sharp although bird is over sharpened. Background nicely diffused. Leaves in foreground to RHS need removed. Highlight to left of bird's head needs to be darkened down



"Need to give this up"

author: Scottish

Canadian Judge

Crisp image with good light and simple background. Hands tend to block the eye from moving into image.

Scottish Judge

Great gritty portrait. Composition good with Hands dominant. Need to lighten shadows to bring out detail in helmet and glasses. Reduce contrast slightly and work around hands with dodging and burning but these are minor point. I would prefer to see this taken outside with a complimentary background as not often do we see indoor cigarette pictures and background very boring. loved quality of light in hands and capturing the lighting up of the lighter



"Hanging on overhead"

author: Ian Clay

Canadian Judge

Crisp, clean action, well caught. Image would be stronger with some environmental content.

Scottish Judge

Well seen and position used to take picture very good. Often the Wheels are not moving when bike in flight yet here is a good bit of movement. The composition is strong. However version presented is not sharp. Picture does sharpen and needs lightened up in some shadow areas to bring out detail. For me sharpness was an issue



"Making memories"

author: Scottish

Canadian Judge

Very pleasing light drama. Long exposure creates softness in the water but unfortunately results in soft figures

Scottish Judge

liked treatment and composition. Felt this was very strong with movement in water and positioning of the people and what they are doing. Straighten pier as leaning to left, trim to above stone so bottom horizontal third at bottom of pier, trim RHS so mother on RHS vertical third. Reduce contrast slightly and lighten up shadows slightly, vignette corner and this will keep us in picture



"Somewhere in Iceland"
author: Lorna Scott, ACAPA

Canadian Judge

Interesting subject, well documented. Image would be stronger with some light drama.

Scottish Judge

Good composition and high technical standard. Needs sharpened a little to bring out mountains and selective dodging and burning to make the mountains and reflection pop out. I like waves, sky and the treatment of the foreshore. Just needs work to make it pop



"A good day"
author: Scottish

Canadian Judge

Emotion packed image. Would be stronger if subject had crisper focus.

Scottish Judge

Liked the whole style of picture and position of person and letterbox format . Told a story. Would have liked the horizontal light line above surfer toned down and where waves have reached beach lighten the curves to give some rim lighting and just gives more depth slight vignette will keep us in picture. whether more contrast required is maybe mute point. however selected lightening of the waves and darkening down of some of the blacks lift it for me . However this changes the subtle feel of picture hence maybe a mute point. Still worth a try as I think it makes it stronger



"Guitar solo"

author: John Clarke

Canadian Judge

Nice light drama on the face and front of guitarist. Microphone is very distracting.

Scottish Judge

concert photography is difficult and you need lighting. Camera position to side and behind is not helping. Too many areas are dark and if you title it guitar solo you want to show the solo being performed so need to be in front of the Guitar player capturing the movement and expression. You need to revisit concert shots. Whilst mikes are part of the performance the mike stand is cutting through everything and is dominant. . Need to rethink approach on this type of work and look at concert shots from small local gigs ato big arena concerts to see what needs to be achieved



"Milky way over the church of the good shepherd"

author: Scottish

Canadian Judge

Lovely capture of the Milky Way. Perspective on building seems odd.

Scottish Judge

I think this is good competent work and use of Church in foreground acts as a good foil to the milky way. There was probably a more exciting composition to be found using a lower angle and placing church in a different position. I understand the important thing was to get the milky way correct



"Sunflower"
author: Scottish

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| Canadian Judge | Lovely clean image with interesting background. Reduced exposure needed on left side of flower |
| Scottish Judge | Very good and treatment suits picture well. Remove horizontal lines at bottom and top and remove the green leaf back to stem which competes with sunflower head, makes it more abstract and balanced. Nice if more space at top for Flower head |



"Giraffes at Mt Kilimanjaro"

author: Jackye Mills

Canadian Judge

Wonderful light with good exposure and DOF. Fortuitous that one of the giraffes is facing the camera.

Scottish Judge

Competent landscape with giraffes nicely positioned and three of them which helped. The lighting does not give as much depth as I would have liked to see so it takes time between looking at giraffes and working through picture to Mountain. Has a feel of two elements competing with each other rather than complimenting each other. Ideally if you could work on middle ground area that may help connect the two parts of the picture



"Bosque del apache"
author: Kahsia Hartwell

Canadian Judge Every element in this image is well handled. DOF, composition, rule of odds, excellent light, right time of day

Scottish Judge I think the photographer has been caught out here. It is a nice landscape with good shadows. The tree and reflection would have been good on its own as main element of picture with mountains filling in background so I would have gone nearer the edge of the pond . The tree acts as a barrier and is very dominant so unable to enjoy the mountains and there is too much sky that is uninteresting so reduce this to a minimum. Lots of shadows and light which I liked however needs more work to make the whole image more contrast which would make mountains stand out



"Taking time to enjoy the flowers"

author: Pam Irvine

Canadian Judge

Good exposure, bright background provides color depth. Image would be stronger if the foreground were in focus

Scottish Judge

Too me it is a family snap shot. Yes moment has been captured. Background is so dominant and lighting is flat and boy too far to the right. Could have lost 50% of the picture from LHS. Needs better understanding of backgrounds and not just remember sounds when taken



"Uphill battle"

author: Maureen Reid

Canadian Judge

Good attempt at following a moving subject. Image would be stronger if the face were in focus.

Scottish Judge

Liked the motion and good overall technique and lighting . Sand or dirt needs toned down in front of bike and behind back of bike as distracting. It is not sharp yet it does sharpen up and when sharpened it just lifts the picture. We do not normally see panning right to left . Eye prefers to move right to left so this format is interesting although climbing hill with this treatment does not seem correct. Panning tends to create motion and speed. Going up hill you would be expecting to see effort yet boy looks quite static which again just does not seem correct



"Timeless"

author: Alison Poole

Canadian Judge

Well lit, crisp focus. Subject seems to be floating.

Scottish Judge

Technically well lit with reflection so I enjoyed this. Not so keen that it seems suspended in mid air. Title could have reflected this. E.g. floating time. Tighter crop would have helped as too much black space which does not add to picture for me. Nice technical work with lots of detail



"Yellow leaf road"

author: Scottish

adian Judge

Beautiful light and color. Composition would be stronger with more space between umbrella and distant people

ttish Judge

Nice autumn colours. I do not think umbrella helps create mood of autumn even if raining. Need to trim to left of lamppost right hand side. this removes distracting white buildings. on LHS trim to just left of double bollards . The vertical format work better although consider going in close on model so leaves are much dominant in the picture and reduce amount of branches above umbrella. Gives a tighter format and then matches the title well . Lighting too flat for me



"Eyes of a child"

author: Robert Barlow

adian Judge

Nice light modeling the face and providing a catch light in the eyes. Cluttered background distracts.

ttish Judge

Captured a moment of thought which is fine. However composition needs to be considered when taking a candid of a group of children and the other children are competing. They there a distraction. Even with darkening and lightening up areas the other children cannot be removed. Nicely seen . More work required on technique. May be better to actually pose the children



"The sentinel"
author: Scottish

Canadian Judge

Nice capture. Great light. Image would be stronger if the foreground were in focus.

Scottish Judge

Nice composition, lighting is good and background is not distracting. Tone down highlights to left of animal in background. Crop out some of the out of focus foreground and reduce contrast and highlights slightly to balance picture. LHS vertical third should be on end of nose. Just needs better balance



"Blue dasher"

author: Donna Christie

Canadian Judge Clean capture, light is beautiful, background color is complimentary to insect.
Excellent use of DOF

Scottish Judge Wings nice and sharp. Head slightly soft. Position good. Big bright spot behind
insect a major distraction although generally not a distracting background.
Highlights in head need removed. Also reduce contrast and highlights to balance
picture better



"Mountain hare yawning"
author: Scottish

Canadian Judge

Good exposure, pleasing background. Image would be stronger with a more complimentary pose.

Scottish Judge

Well captured. Pink sky competed with hare and blue sky colour felt wrong other wise a very good nature shot. Captured the moment well and the hare's pose ancoluring and detail is excellent



"Yulia"

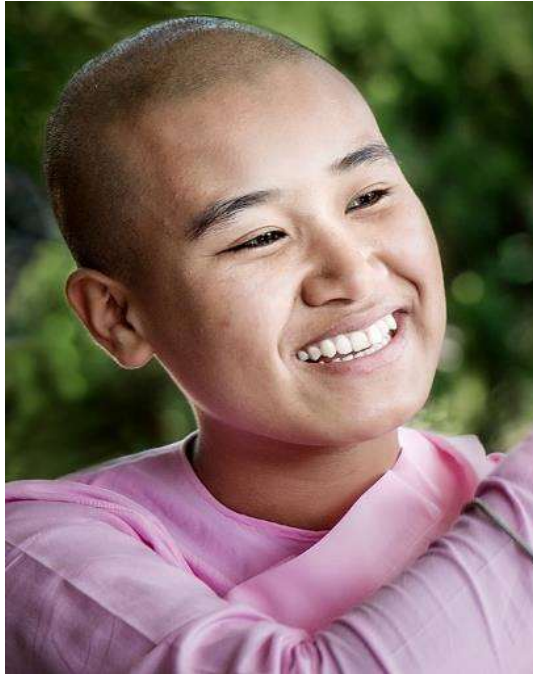
author: Scottish

Canadian Judge

Beautiful soft light. Romantic pose. Pleasing image. Could use a bit more exposure

Scottish Judge

There is was a story here. Pose good and some contemplation. I would have used a different title to reflect mood rather than using name. Liked the reflection just needs to be balanced. More detail in shadows and less contrast and highlights reduced would help picture. This would out detail in the back of the top and shoulder strap and see detail in hair. Position of hand good



"Pretty in pink"

author: Scottish

Canadian Judge

Nice crisp image. Good use of DOF. Image would be stronger with slightly reduced exposure on the face.

Scottish Judge

Candid shot of someone not engaging with photographer. For me a grab shot which needs to tell more of a story so whilst smiley, it is just a straight forward record shot of a person rather than a portrait. Exposure good. Background not distracting so has many positives in technique



"Concentration"

author: Judy Johnston

Canadian Judge

Nice light, good composition. More exposure needed to connect the hands and the rest of the body.

Scottish Judge

Hands particularly good and so is head. I would have liked some more detail and lighting on sleeve and jacket just to connect both. I know we want to create an atmosphere. There is however a disjoint. There is more lighting required to bring out depth to the picture which is missing



"James"

author: Scottish

Canadian Judge

Nice soft light with catch light in the eyes. More DOF so foreground hand is sharp would strengthen

Scottish Judge

For me a family snap. Has a look of the studio. The arms are too dominant so need at least toned down and the viewpoint is too high. Needs to be level with child's eye. At the moment all I am seeing is the head. I do not think you have captured the child who looks bored and uninterested.



"Rock form"

author: Scottish

Canadian Judge

Composition and DOF are well handled. Light is somewhat harsh, the strong shadow is distracting

Scottish Judge

Top class model for this type of work , fantastic lighting and composition. Not sure about the colour popping. Would have kept it to model only. Thought the whole photograph taking was top quality.



"Siskin"

author: Scottish

Canadian Judge

Lovely crisp image of this colorful bird on a soft, pleasing background. Action would strengthen the image.

Scottish Judge

Nicely caught, position and general composition good, background not distracting. In fact background very high quality. Bird is slightly soft on body feathers. Would have preferred for more of bird to be pin sharp



"Early morning fog"

author: Rea Casey

Canadian Judge Nice slanted sun rays. More contrast to bring out the trees would strengthen the image.

Scottish Judge nice atmosphere. Needs slightly more punch so lighten up mist and selectively darkening down shadow areas. Slight trim off the top and straighten trees as leaning to left. Liked the shafts of light. Just need to bring them out more



"Winter begins"

author: Scottish

Canadian Judge

Lovely capture. Great composition with the tree balancing the waterfall. Slow shutter softened the water.

Scottish Judge

Lovely landscape from a familiar location and viewpoint. Technically well handled and lighting very good. Lots of atmosphere and a feeling of being there . I would have trimmed a bit off top (15%) as I do not think all the sky is required.



"Spitting image"

author: Stephen Ban

Canadian Judge

Pleasant soft light. Focus is crisp. The reflection does not match the subject. Orange hand distracts

Scottish Judge

I really did not like title. Would have preferred say "reflection" as it would have captured mood and expression of model. Titles are really important to guide the viewer so do not think my comments on this are flippant or should be ignored. A good title can help the understanding of a picture and gain additional marks. That said the image itself is really good as I liked the treatment which gave it a dreamy reflective quality. Not so keen on dark space to left of model. Either wanted more detail or some more objects or environment in view in this area. Took your eye away from model. So you need to reduce this by trimming left to bring vertical third line on to eye. Very slight trim to right and you have a strong square format

A big thank you to all of our members for their participation and their fantastic images!

Images and authors in alphabetical order of image name	
Donna Christie	Blue dasher
Kahsia Hartwell	Bosque del apache
Judy Johnston	Concentration
Rea Casey	Early morning fog
Robert Barlow	Eyes of a child
Jackye Mills	Giraffes at Mt Kilimanjaro
John Clarke	Guitar solo
Ian Clay	Hanging on overhead
Alec Lee	Lincoln sparrow on the lookout
Ken McLean	Rainbow power
Lorna Scott, ACAPA	Somewhere in Iceland
Stephen Ban	Spitting image
Pam Irvine	Taking time to enjoy the flowers
Alison Poole	Timeless
Maureen Reid	Uphill battle