



The National Garden Clubs, Inc.

Invites you to participate in the Photography Division Competition of "Perfect Vision" A Petite Horticulture Specialty Show

**DIVISION III - SEEING IS BELIEVING**

Photo Entries accepted January 1 - March 1, 2020

Intended to simulate garden/gardening interest, photographic abilities, and other NGC goals and objectives. All exhibits must relate to horticulture, gardening, or NGC goals, objectives and/or initiatives.

**Class 1. Near-sighted - Close-up and/or macro**

**Class 2. Far Sighted - Landscapes, seascapes and dreamscapes of the mind**

**Class 3. Astigmatic - Depicting motion**

**Class 4. Color Blind - Monochrome image (MONOCHROME: an image black/white with grays, sepia or an image with a single hue with related shades, tints and tones.)**

**Definitions**

**Monochromatic - containing or using only one color:**

in **Black and White** : containing gray in various levels between white and black. in **Sepia**: brown hued images having no additional hues.

in a **Single Hue**: an image using only a specific color with its related degrees of lightness and values or tones and its related degree: of saturation or chroma – intensity.

**Competition Guidelines**

Contest is open exclusively to the members of the National Garden Clubs, Inc. Images must be the work of the exhibitor. There is no charge to enter the competition. You may enter no more than 2 images into the contest. Please title your images. Where feasible, please identify plant material with current scientific designation.

**Image Preparation Guidelines:**

Minimum resolution of 300 pixels DPI. Minimum file size: 1.5 MB; Maximum file size 5 MB (megabytes). Images may be enhanced by exhibitor to include cropping, filters, adjustments and or other techniques. Images may be in landscape, portrait, square, or panoramic format. Images must be submitted between January 1, 2020 and March 1, 2020 to <http://cgburke.com/ngc/> The committee will mount and display the top scoring images. Images will be displayed vertically at eye level on a neutral colored wall, display panel or stands. Minimum resolution of 300 pixels per inch.

**Judging Guidelines:**

Eligible for the Botanical Arts Photography Award. Additional Awards may be presented at the discretion of the committee. Judging will be by recognized photography judges: a jury will select the 6 finalists in each class. Final judging will occur before the show is open to the public by a panel of recognized photography judges/experts.

Scale of Points for judging is on Page 131 of the NGC Handbook for Flower Shows. The 24 highest scoring images will be displayed at the NGC Convention, Milwaukee, WI, May 12-14, 2020.

For more information contact: [perfectvision@ngc.com](mailto:perfectvision@ngc.com)



**Photography Criteria**

<b>Conformance</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Interpretation of Class Title</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Composition</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Artistry/Creativity</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Technical Achievement</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>Distinction/Impact (Wow Factor)</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>



# Class 1A Near-sighted Close-up & Macro

Entry 73-Within A Water Drop –  
DIANNE ROBERTS  
Garden Club of Madison, CT  
1<sup>st</sup>

NGC Botanical Arts  
Photography Award -  
to the highest scoring  
Blue Ribbon winner

Using the drops as lenses  
to put the blurred  
background flower into  
the foreground was  
fantastic! Great color  
contrast work





Class 1 A Near-sighted - Close-up & Macro –  
Entry 23 Elegance –  
Rochelle Darby, Sulphur GC, LA

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**2<sup>nd</sup>**

Elegance personified. Excellent choice for angle of view. Lighting enhances volume of the flower. Positive and negative spaces are handled with distinction.





## Class 1A Near-sighted

Close-up & Macro  
Entry 51 Perfection

Nancy Ann Binger  
Dix Hills GC, NY  
3<sup>rd</sup>

Well focused image with  
exciting color contrast  
between the flower (warm  
colors) and the background  
(cold colors)





## Class 1 A Near-sighted Close-up & Macro

Entry 44-Morning Violet After The  
Evening Rain

Nancy Reid, Reading GC, MA  
HM

A well composed image. The  
flower and the water drops  
are clearly in focus. The  
colors seem over saturated  
which limits distinction.



# Class 1 A – Near-sighted - Close-up & Macro

Entry 29 He Loves Me He Loves Me Not –

Linsey Duffy - Dell Rapids Area GC, SD

- The Intriguing angle of the crop accentuates the dynamic pattern. All parts of the flower are crisply focused, and properly lit so that there is detail in the highlight of which adds to its technical superiority.





**Class 1 A Near-sighted - Close-up & Macro  
Entry 32- Hydrangea  
Loan Tran , Catonsville GC, MD**

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- **A splendid macro, with a well-placed focal point and excellent choice of focal length**

## Class 1 A Near-sighted Close-up & Macro

Entry 50-Pastel Peony  
Kathleen Sybert,  
Hanover GC, PA

the softness and pastel  
tones are enhanced by the  
lighting. The patterns of the  
swirling petals enhances  
rhythm and depth.  
Some highlights lack detail







Class 1A  
Near-sighted  
Close-up & Macro

Entry 66 –Sunflower Swirl –

Linda Taft  
Anniversary GC, Greensboro,  
NC

Very interesting exploration of the geometry of the flower's core. The over exposed white petals draw the viewer's image out of the focal area as they are so light and bright, and this decentralizes your composition and detracts from the exciting geometric effect you have captured.



## Class 1B Near-sighted Close-up & Macro

Entry 65-Sunbathing Hawaiian  
Anole

-Deborah Wyght  
Oakley GC, Cincinnati OH  
1<sup>s</sup>

Excellent capture. Strong  
composition. Your exploration of  
the shadows gives volume to the  
lizard.





Class1B  
Near-sighted  
Close-up & Macro

Entry 68-SweetNector

Debbie Shaver,  
Dayton GC, TN

2<sup>nd</sup>

Lovely image, showing exploration of  
colors and their contrasts, and  
successful depth of field





Class 1B

Near-sighted

Close-up & Macro

Entry 3 –Hidden Future Butterfly

Deana Dossey Schafer

Violet Crown & A&M GC, Austin, TX

3<sup>rd</sup>

A well composed image, crisply focused, with balanced colors, and an artistic angle of view





## Class 1B Close-up & Macro

Entry 35-Large Flower Bee  
Foraging

Larry Moyer  
South Schuylkill GC, Pottsville PA  
HM

Great capture! The bee is clearly in focus, and the details are astonishing! The composition, with the bee placed above the center, conforms with the rule of thirds convention. The colors appear to be over saturated.





## Class 1B Near-sighted

### Close-up & Macro

Entry 54 Presby Iris Garden Montclair, NJ

Richard Pelikan

Rake And Hoe GC , Westfield, NJ

- This beautiful flower is competing for the viewer's attention with the other items in your composition. The subject in a macro or closeup image generally stands out against a softly focused background – which would have been achieved here by using a wider aperture and a precise focal length, so that the background would blur , enhancing the details of the flower and its rich colors.



Class 1B

Near-sighted

Close-up & Macro

Entry 6 *Asclepias curassavica*

& Swallowtail Butterfly

–CARLOTA MARIA PEREZ

FERNANDEZ - EL CENIZO, MX

A lovely butterfly on a colorful flower. The butterfly and the flower are in crisp focus. The background area at top (grey and black) is a distraction. A slightly higher point of view - framing the flower and the butterfly against only green as a background, would have a more impactful result as we could examine the insect and the flower more closely.



Class 1B  
Near-sighted  
Close-up & Macro  
Entry 13 Butterfly Below Buttonbush

- Janeen Grohsmeyer –  
Franklin GC, KY

Excellent capture, the photographer was positioned well to frame the butterfly and flowers against the gray clouds in the background.





Class 1B  
Near-sighted  
Close-up & Macro  
Entry 10 - Bumbling About

Page Steed  
Angel Fire GC, MN

A fine macro that is well composed, and artistically cropped giving us a dynamic angle of view. The striking colors and depth of field, enhance the impact. The framing and the focal point (on the bee) are properly handled.



Class 1B  
Near-sighted  
Close-up & Macro  
Entry 12-Butterfly And Orchid

SHARON BOLINGBROKE  
Milwaukee Art Museum GC, WI

Note: Judges considered this entry to have the BEST COMPOSITION

The combination of the high-key background and the vividly colorful and flowing orchids along with the silhouetted butterfly creates a very strong composition

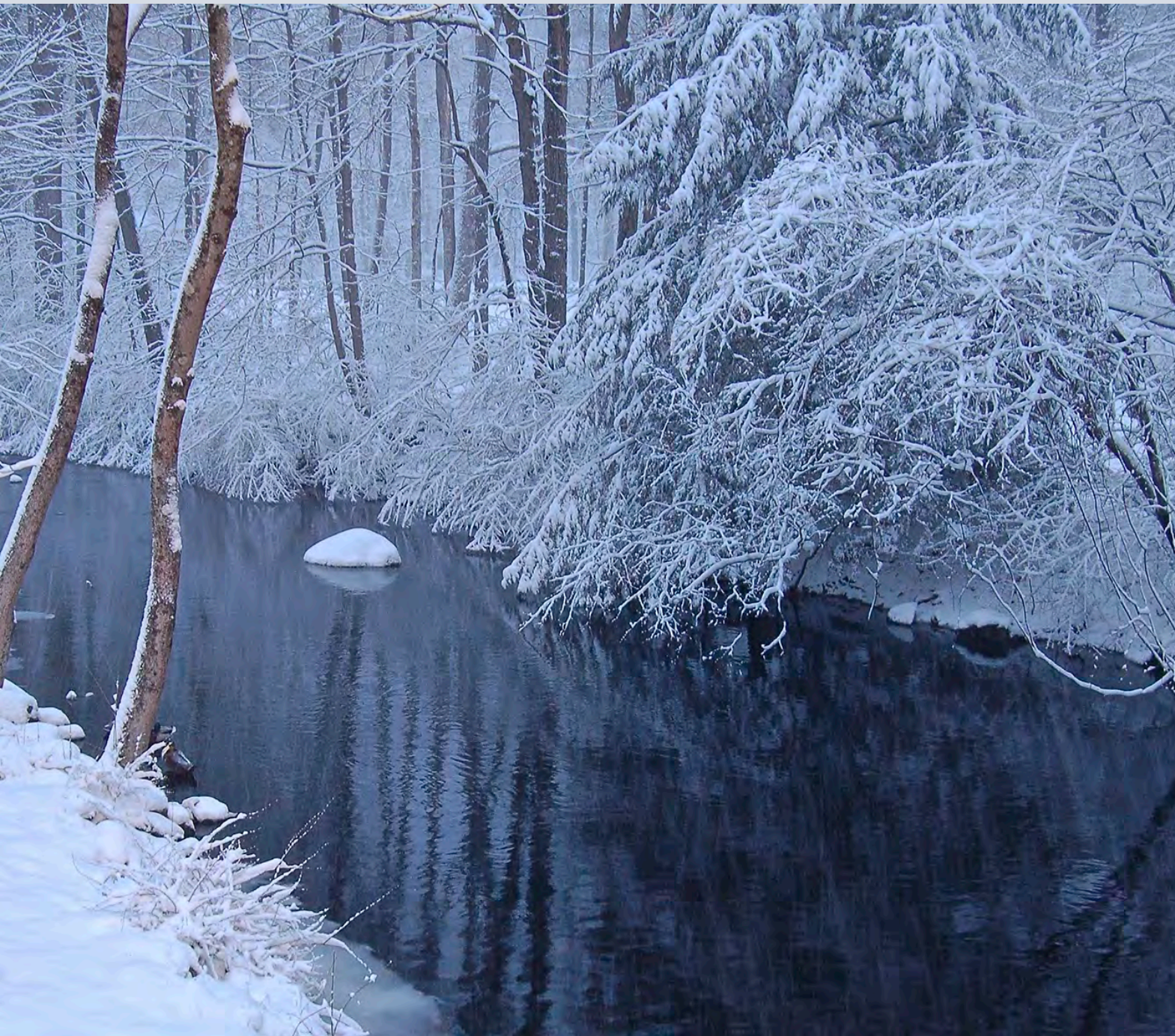


Class 1B Near-sighted  
Close-up & Macro

Entry 69 –Swinger

Linda Herdering  
Mountain Laurel GC, Accident, MD

You have captured an extraordinary moment. However, being at this safe distance from the bear, the potential of the scene and your camera's ability to capture it more dramatically was not fully explored.



## Class 2 Far Sighted Landscapes, Seascapes, Dreamscapes

Entry 96-Silvermine River

Penelope Ross

Fairfield GC, New Canaan CT

1<sup>st</sup>

Stunning! A Well-taken  
photograph, with well-  
balanced tonal values, and  
rich details despite a narrow  
color palette.





## Class 2 - Far Sighted Landscapes, Seascapes, Dreamscapes

Entry 92-Peggy's Cove Light House  
Halifax Canada

Richard Pelikan –  
Rake And Hoe GC, Westfield, NJ  
2<sup>nd</sup>

An interesting scene and creative composition. The angle of view, balanced colors and creative structure, result in a particularly fine image - All lines lead us to/point to the lighthouse.





Class 2  
Far Sighted  
Landscapes, Seascapes, Dreamscapes  
The Sea –

Michelle Mensinger  
Derry GC, NH  
3<sup>rd</sup>

The light – the brilliance, the brightness is captured! - you can see the humidity in the air. The image is well composed and the repeating triangles add interest, drawing your eye through the scene.





## Class 2 Far Sighted

Landscapes, Seascapes,  
Dreamscapes

Entry 91-

Peace And Solitude –

Margot Partridge

Rake And Hoe GC, Westfield, NJ

HM

The scene with its balanced colors,  
details in the foreground mid  
ground and background is well  
captured and creatively framed





## Class 2 - Far Sighted - Landscapes, Seascapes, Dreamscapes

### Entry 28-Harvest Moon

**Anne Green**

Greenwich GC CT & Mt Desert GC ME

Extremely creative concept. The scene is successfully distilled down to its minimal details. There is additional potential here. The photographer could have better explored the camera's features, such as aperture and shooting speed, to show the surface details of the moon.





Class 2 Far Sighted-  
Landscapes, Seascapes,  
Dreamscapes  
Entry 78- Crater Lake

Susan Andrews

Belgrade Bloomers GC, Bozeman  
MT

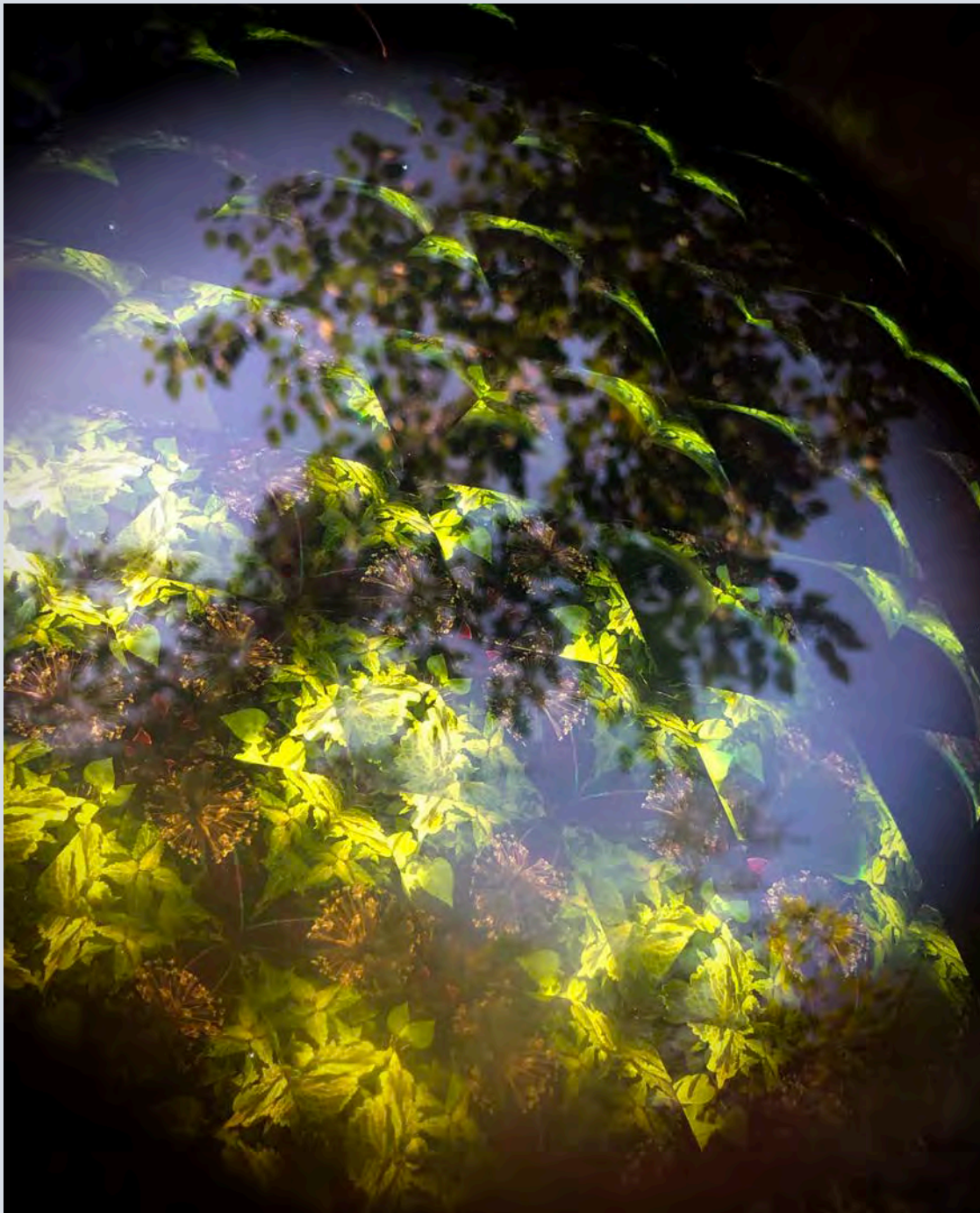
The scene is well captured and  
successfully framed, with  
depth of field and crisp focus  
throughout and well-balanced  
colors.



Class 2 - Far Sighted  
Landscapes, Seascapes,  
Dreamscapes  
Entry 84 Hemme Gardens -  
Lily Pond –

Sharron-Hemme  
Petoskey Area Garden Club,  
Inc., MI

Lovely capture, showing  
balanced colors, and strong  
structural interest  
throughout . The rocks in  
the background compete for  
the viewer's attention with  
the flowers.



## Class 2

### Far Sighted

Landscapes, Seascapes,  
Dreamscapes

Entry 104

Through The Looking Glass

Grant Kniedler –

Milwaukee Art Museum GC, WI

A very interesting and  
creative effect - the leaves  
of the plants look like  
birds flying. Vignette  
effect adds to the drama.



Class 2  
Far Sighted  
Landscapes, Seascapes,  
Dreamscapes

Entry 128-Framing A City

SUSANNA FUNK  
Dix Hills GC, Deer Park, NY

Note: Judges considered this  
to be the MOST  
CREATIVE/ARTISTIC entry

The significant creativity of.  
This scene is comprised of  
the very colorful red flowers,  
the monochrome leaves,  
and the vignette view of the  
city.



## Class 2 -Far Sighted Landscapes, Seascapes, Dreamscapes

Entry 13-January Full Moon

Christine Swanson  
Mt. Airy Garden Club, MD

Extremely interesting concept. The graphic technique used, makes an intriguing pattern, but the moon is over exposed and lacks detail.



Class 3

Astigmatic

Depicting Motion

Entry 11 Hummingbird In Flight

Loan Tran ,  
Catonsville GC, MD

1<sup>st</sup>

Excellent stop motion  
image! Good job with  
depth of field, with color  
balance and with contrast



## Class 3

### Astigmatic - Depicting Motion

#### Entry 116- Taking Flight

Kathleen Sybert,

Hanover GC, PA

2<sup>nd</sup>

You caught the moment with balanced colors, and correct shutter speed. if cropped more creatively to remove the excess of negative space in front of the subject, the impact would even stronger.





## Class 3

### Astigmatic

Depicting Motion

Entry 110 Hello Buddy

Grant Kniedler –

Milwaukee Art Museum GC, WI  
3<sup>rd</sup>

Interesting contrast between city and nature, good job with focal length, but pale colors (perhaps an inadequate white balance setting) limits the potential of the shot.







## Class 3 Astigmatic Depicting Motion Entry 108-Cranberry Waters

Anne Green  
Greenwich GC CT & Mt Desert GC  
ME

**Note: Judges considered  
this to be the MOST  
DISTINCTIVE**

The muted brown streaks  
throughout the scene add  
emphasis to the crashing  
tips of the wave in this  
very distinctive image.

## Class 3

### Astigmatic -Depicting Motion

Entry 115-Squawking In The Morning

Pien Nagy

Washington Valley GC, Branchburg NJ

HM

What a moment you have captured!  
The image is well focused  
throughout so that we can enjoy the  
details of the bird's feathers feet  
too. The bird is looking at  
us/communicating. Very good job  
with depth of field, color balance  
and contrast



Class 3  
Astigmatic  
Depicting Motion  
Entry 11-Snowy Egret Fishing

Deborah Wyght  
Oakley Garden Club, Cincinnati, OH

- **Beautiful picture, showing good technique, but the highlights on the bird are over exposed and do not contain data/details.**





Class 3

Astigmatic

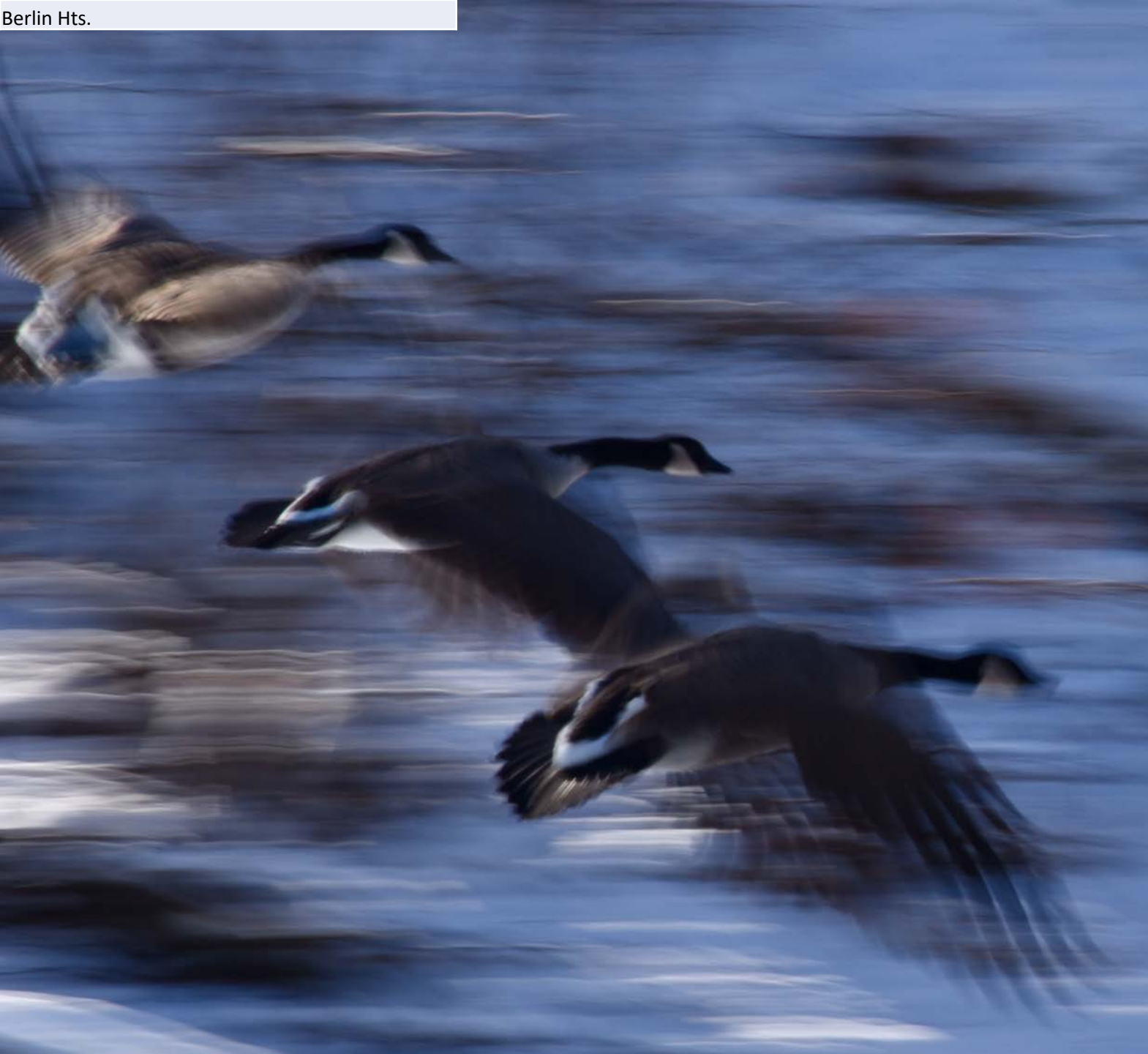
Depicting Motion

Entry 118-Waterfront Smokestacks

Marie Mueller

Pleasant Hills GC, Pittsburgh, PA

An extremely interesting effect, showing lights moving across the stacks.



## Class 3

### Astigmatic- Depicting Motion

Entry 119 Wild Geese Flying

Mary Rogers

Berlin Hts. GC, Wakeman, OH

The blurring of details on the flying geese enhances the sense of motion. The image appears to be overexposed/dark so we cannot see the details.



## Class 3

Astigmatic –Depicting Motion

Entry 139 - Rushing Water

Kathleen Marty

Boothbay Region GC, Trevett, ME

The rushing water of the stream and the stillness of the fallen leaves show us the contrasts inherent in the woods in autumn. The angle of view, looking down, flattens the scene and limits the creative potential.



## Class 4 Color Blind - Monochrome Image

### Entry 129-Gerbera Daisy

DIANNE ROBERTS Garden Club Of  
Madison, CT

1<sup>st</sup>

Splendidly luminous - expressing well  
the softness of the petals, their delicacy,  
supported by the most robust stem  
(dark tones)

This image is exceptionally well done:  
the use of light, texture, perspective  
and detail are “spot on”.





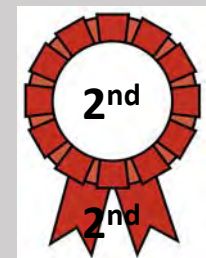
## Class 4 Color Blind - Monochrome Image

Entry 125- Curve Appeal

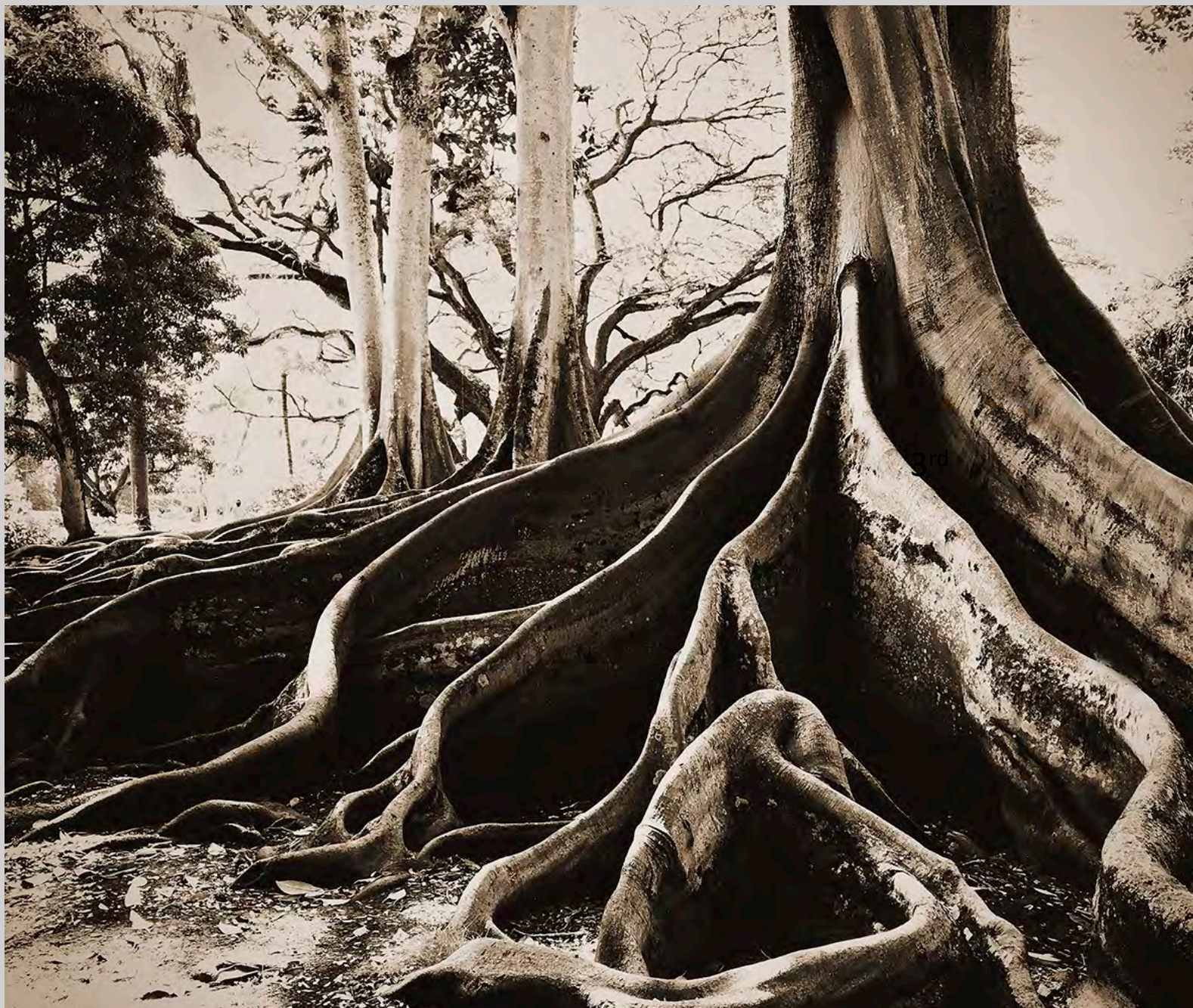
Rochelle Darby, Sulphur GC, LA  
2<sup>nd</sup>

Abstract and mysterious because of the angle of view

The light accentuates the tonal values and textures. Very 3 dimensional!







Class 4  
Color Blind  
Monochrome Image  
Entry 122-  
Allerton Garden Kauai

Penelope Ross  
Fairfield GC, New Canaan CT  
3<sup>rd</sup>

**NATIONAL GARDEN CLUBS President,  
Gay Austin's PRESIDENT'S CHOICE**

A very creative image showing sinuous rhythms and strong contrasts in the tonal qualities and values. Detail lacking in some of the shadows and lighter areas resulting in areas that appear to lack texture.



## Class 4 - Color Blind

Monochrome Image  
Entry 121-All Ears

Lori Lucas  
Community GC Of Hunterdon Co.,  
Whitehouse Station, NJ  
HM

- **The contrast between the lines and smooth areas on the leaf are captured successfully with clarity. The image appears to be over exposed. Dark, so that we cannot experience the finer details of the textures.**





Class 4 Color Blind -Monochrome Image  
Entry 137 Night Birch –  
Barbara Spellmeyer  
Rake & Hoe GC, Plainfield, NJ

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Note: Judges Considered this to be superior  
in Technical Achievement

- **Capturing the shapes, textures and tones of the birch's various peelings in relatively low light was an excellent technical achievement.**



## Class 4 - Color Blind Monochrome Image

Entry 140-Snow Covered Tree At  
Bradford Beach

RUBY KERR  
Milwaukee Art Museum GC, WI

Very successful work with the contrast, which shows us the hardness and dryness of the tree branches silhouetted against the sky. Dramatic angle of view, with the dynamic energy of the composition going from the bottom left to the upper right.

## Photography Competition Coordinators

Arabella Dane NGC Flower Show Committee

David Robson NGC Flower Show Instructor and NGC Plant America Chairman

Charlie Burke Past President Photography Society of America

## Special Thanks to our judges for selecting the Semi-finalists

- [Sara Salomon](#)
- [Sally DeWees](#)
- Vicki Saltonstall – GCA Photography Judge
- [Phyliss Meinke](#)
- Gay Estes – Former Chairman GCA Photography Committee



## Photo Competition Coordinators

Arabella Dane

David Robson

Charlie Burke

## Special Thanks to our Ribbons, Awards and Commendations Judges

- Crissie Cherry, IL, GCA Flower Show Chair and former GCA Photography Chairman
- Roy Killen, Australia, Photography Society of America Membership Chairman  
<https://www.roykillen.com/> <https://psa-photo.org/index.php?roy-killen-0119#ad-image-0>
- Eduardo Armamar – Brazil [http://www.prodigitae.com.br/site/sobre\\_nos/](http://www.prodigitae.com.br/site/sobre_nos/)
- Charlie Burke, PSA Past President
- Gay Austin, NGC President

