

Greater New Braunfels Photography Club (GNBPC) Score Sheet for September 2025

Judge: Leah Gray

Assignment Theme Photos - " *Water & Rain* " Scoring System: 3-9 pts

Image Title	Score	Comments
A Drop in the Fountain-David Love	4	The choice of subject is good, but work on isolating the subject for more impact. The buildings and surrounding do not add to the story.
A Sky Reflection in a Peaceful Little Stream-Sharlana Dillard	5	A good subject, nice repetition. The white reflections are distracting and draw our attention unnecessarily. Use a polarizer. The added frame is not needed.
A Watery Obstacle-Shelby Caesar	6	Nice movement and interest. The image appears to have a slight colour cast. We have a good low angle. Consider what you can do to improve. Cleaner background (assistant hold a white towel up behind?); Adding light (off-camera speedlight), A better story (more defined subject in the water). This image has potential. Re-shoot.
Abstract Splash-James Moseley	6	Interesting abstract with movement. Eliminate the distracting element on the left upper portion (branch?). Eliminate or tone down the white spots near the edges, as they lead us off the page.
An Afternoon on the Intercoastal Waterway-Sandy Gilbert	4	A pleasant day showing the theme (water). The story is not clear. The person is merging with the background. The birds are leading us away. Getting closer to your subject (person) would add interest.

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Bubbles In Bloom-Jackies Wise	6	An interesting image. The bubbles are fabulous. Work on getting all of the bubbles in focus if possible (focus stack?) as this would elevate this image. Working with this image, crop out the out of focus elements for a stronger image.
H2O with a Twist-Patricia Jones	7	A good effort. The background is clean and the elements work well. Glass is one of the most difficult elements to photograph because of the reflections. If possible, work in a windowless environment and use a large reflected light source. Good light and shadows on the lemon.
In the Rain-Horst Schoninger	4	There is a surreal element to this image. Is the fish the subject, or the wood behind? The rain adds interest, but there are many distracting elements in this image. Eliminating the top edge and darkening the rocks (difficult) would bring our attention back to the subject. The fish is not quite in focus. A good effort.
Lake Vibes-Cindy Korzekwa	4	A soft summer day – a good subject. The quality of the image is lacking. The image is washed out and doesn't have "black". Consider putting something interesting in the foreground (rocks, boat, person?) and crop out the vehicles on the right. This should change the horizon from middle.
Patriot Tears-Edward Zukowski	7	A good abstract with water elements. Darken the distracting reflection (or give it room). Eliminate the dark blob near the top with the red dots and any noise to create a stronger image.

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Rainy Day Reflections-Barry Armer	7	Good repeating pattern. Black and white works well. Bring back a little more detail in the larger white area – middle right.
Shark Tale-Becky Love	5	It's difficult to shoot through glass in low light. The subject is not quite sharp. The sharks are merging with each other. Wait for separation. The fish above add interest. Good attempt.
Sprinkle Your Heart With Love-Barbara Beversdorf	7	Lovely colours, repeating patterns and water droplets. The elements furthest away are not quite in focus, a minor flaw. The image is not quite balanced, as the green leaves are on all sides but the top with draws our eyes. A very good image with minor flaws. Re-shoot.
Washed in Color-Christiane Menelas	8	A delightful image. The rain drops make this image. Eliminate the vase, if possible, for more impact. There is a little detail lost in the red flowers, a difficult colour to photograph. Beautiful
Water Portrait-Craig Pellerin	7	A good idea. Eliminate the gray background element for more impact. The blue dot adds balance and interest. Definitely worth working on this image.

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A River in the Scottish Highlands-Sandy Gilbert	4	A good sharp image with great detail. The grey tones are very similar in most areas of the image. Lead the viewers eye through the river by lighting a path up the river. Consider darkening the elements on the sides of this path. Re-crop to include the top of the tree centre-right top– if possible. It is distracting.
Exploring the Terlingua Jail-David Love	4	Good tones, nicely handled, but the story appears to be a holiday snap. Consider how to arrange your model for the best story. Darken the ground slightly to ground your image and eliminate the sliver of sky.
Guardian of the Prairie-Jackies Wise	8	Great light in this creature’s eye, which draws the viewer directly to it. Consider lighting the trees slightly to avoid losing the shape of the horns. Crop down from the top to eliminate unnecessary space.
Honda Rune-Shelby Caesar	8	Beautiful clean lines with no distracting reflections. The diagonal is ideal and the black background works beautifully. The lightened spot towards the top draws our eye away from the subject and out of the image. Consider re-working this (good) element and letting the area darken at the edge to keep us in the frame.
Lone Star Legend-Christiane Menelas	7	Very nice close-up of this longhorn. The supporting cows in the background work well. Cutting animals off at the knees isn’t ideal, but it seems to work for this image. Watch the halos around the horns.

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Lover_s Despair-Craig Pellerin	7	A classic moment has been caught. The photographer's position in relation to the fallen man is a bit awkward. The tones are good and the lighting is great, as it should be.
Monument Valley-Horst Schoninger	7	A classic sight. The elements are nicely separated, but appear over-sharpened. The light is good. Consider darkening the foreground slightly to frame the main subjects.
Out to Sea-Patricia Jones	7	A good moment was caught with plenty of room for the boat to move into the frame. The tones are good. The water-line is not level, which becomes the main distraction. Getting a little lower and waiting for the boat to clear the reeds in the foreground (moving to the left if possible) would have given us a clear outline against the sky and a more pleasing image.
Pool Shark at Play-Becky Love	7	A great expression and moment has been caught. The quality of the image is lacking. The background adds to the ambiance, but is a little too distracting, especially the light behind the slats. The light is landing on the top of his head, and on the pool table edge (foreground) drawing attention to these areas. Consider darkening the background and leave the pool cue and balls as the brightest objects in the image with just a rim light on the pool shark.
Posing Lemur-James Moseley	7	Great bokeh isolates this subject. Leaving a little more room in front of the face (and top) would give this image more balance. The lemur appears a touch over-sharpened. Consider darkening the highlights in the background to improve the image.

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Running Free-Sharlana Dillard	6	There is a fabulous highlight in this horse's eye, with a good moment caught. The diagonal line in the background cutting through the horse's face is distracting, as is the fence on the lower right. Consider darkening the background to give a level (and lower) horizon and isolate the horse even more. Very good tones on the horse.
Some Beach Some Where-Barbara Beversdorf	7	The lovely light has been well caught. The foreground is interesting and leads us back to the clouds. The sky and foreground are given equal weight in this image. Which one is more important? The tones are all very similar in this image. Consider darkening the ocean slightly. The dark foreground is lovely. Lowering your perspective would have eliminated a portion of the ocean, leaving the foreground and clouds.
Under the Gazebo-Cindy Korzekwa	5	A nice subject. The quality is low, as there is banding in the sky. The photographer is not quite centered on the walkway of this image, which is distracting. A lower perspective would have separated the gazebo from the trees in the background.
Walk of Fame, Hollywood Boulevard, Los Angeles, 1987-Dennis Dragan	5	A good choice of black and white for this subject. The two subjects have been caught in slightly awkward moments in their stride and are out of focus. There is a person between them with dark hair that draws our attention. Consider taking out the black from the background elements.



“Photography is the culmination of planning, technique, vision, composition and perception, brought together in one instant – with a little (or more) editing.”

Leah Gray

About

I love photography. I adore the artistic and technical challenges that must be met each time one creates an image. To capture the vital presence of one's subject with care and

Having started out with sports photography many years ago, I explored the fast action and anticipation of the sport world before moving on to discover nature, macro, studio and other genres of photography. I love looking for new challenges. Contributing to my local photo club is a way to share my appetite for photography.

I was raised in Alberta and moved to British Columbia in 2010. Over the years I have photographed on three continents, capturing numerous award-winning images. Over the past few years, I have entered the world of International Photographic Salons (recognized by the Photographic Society of America and Federation Internationale de l'art Photographique). My images have reaped in excess of 800 acceptances and over 160 other awards including 19 gold medals and 6 Best-in-Shows.

I have photographs in several different collections including the BC Cancer Centre in Victoria and the Fort Rodd Hill National Historic Site as well as many private collectors.

- 19 Gold Medals, over 160 other placings and medals, and over 900 “acceptances” from Photographic Society of America competitions since October, 2017.
- 6 “Best-in-shows”
- Member of Canadian Association for Photographic Art (CAPA), Photographic Society of America (PSA), and the Sidney Camera Club.
- CAPA judge since 2021

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