

St. Catharines Photographic Club Variable Topics – 2015-16

Please note that the variable topics will be included with the Digital Clinic scoring for the 2015-16 season and will be used to determine the top aggregate score for the Digital Clinic program. The variable topics for the clinics will also be automatically entered in the previous Special Assignments competition with an award being presented to the maker with the top variable topic aggregate score.

Judges will be advised to consider the fit of the image to the topic when scoring.

Clinic 1 – Street Art (Graffiti)

Street art is visual art created in public locations, usually unsanctioned artwork executed outside of the context of traditional art venues. The term gained popularity during the graffiti art boom of the early 1980s and continues to be applied to subsequent incarnations. Stencil graffiti, wheatpasted poster art or sticker art, **pop up art** and street installation or sculpture are common forms of modern street art. Video projection, yarn bombing and Lock On sculpture became popularized at the turn of the 21st century.

The terms "urban art", "guerrilla art", "post-graffiti" and "neo-graffiti" are also sometimes used when referring to artwork created in these contexts. Traditional spray-painted graffiti artwork itself is often included in this category, excluding territorial graffiti or pure vandalism.

Research the genres of Street Art and its artists as you plan to make your images. Your images will capture the essence of the subject in its environment in an artful and expressive manner.

Clinic 2 – Emotions

Capture an image showing the act of an emotion, Examples are enthusiasm, gratitude, solitude, despair, sadness, joy etc. The primary subject of the image is the emotion that is being captured ... in other words a story telling image of the emotion being captured. ***The image title must include the emotion being captured.*** The judges will be asked to score taking into consideration how well the emotion is conveyed in the capture.

Clinic 3 – Compositional Geometry

When you think of composition in photography, what are the first things that comes to mind? Rule of thirds. Fill the Frame. Leading lines. Depth. Repetition. If you really stretch your skill, you may also think of perspective, angles, and color.

The world of artistic composition actually includes quite a bit more than you may think. Don't worry, it doesn't have to be complicated. Just like with the basic rules of composition, your eye will identify the other principles of composition, making your photos more dynamic than you thought possible.

The art of advanced composition is simpler than you may think. You only need to focus on one word: Geometry.

The "star" of your image will be a representation of a geometric shape! Rectangles, circles, squares, triangles, ellipses, polygons, arches, parallel lines, converging lines, curved lines etc.

Clinic 4 – Wine Country

The Niagara Region is one of Canada's premiere wine regions. Niagara's Wine Country comes to life in the spring but it doesn't stop there. With numerous festivals and industry happenings throughout the seasons there are a multitude of opportunities to make an image that captures the essence of "Wine Country"

Niagara's Wine Route is home to over 70 award-winning wineries. Niagara has earned an outstanding reputation for its wine industry. Your image will best tell a story of the Wine Country experience. The image must be made of a Niagara Region Wine Country experience.

Sharpe–Tester – Tribute to Tom Thomson

Thomas John "Tom" Thomson (August 5, 1877 – July 8, 1917) was an influential Canadian artist of the early 20th century. He directly influenced a group of Canadian painters that would come to be known as the Group of Seven, and though he died before they formally formed, he is sometimes incorrectly credited as being a member of the group itself. Thomson died under mysterious circumstances, which added to his mystique.

Thomson often visited Algonquin Park and other Ontario wilderness locations, which was to be a major source of inspiration for him. Some of his most famous works include *The Jack Pine*, *The West Wind* and *The Northern River*.

His paintings portrayed an appreciation for rugged, unkempt natural scenery, and all used broad brush strokes and a liberal application of paint to capture the stark beauty and vibrant colour of the Ontario landscape.

Thomson's art bears some stylistic resemblance to the work of European post-impressionists such as Vincent van Gogh and Paul Cézanne. Other key influences were the Art Nouveau and Arts and Crafts movements of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Your images will have inspired Tom Thomson and will be made in the likeness of his work.

Dave & Trevor Lindey – Digital Competitions