



Delaware High School Photography Contest

Tips for Better Images

The following tips are offered as suggestions for preparing images for the contest that will help get higher scores.

- Horizon Lines should be level, not tilted.
- Crop out distracting material when possible.
- Have good contrast in the image.
- Images should not be over sharpened or over saturated
- Buildings should appear straight (except for some wide angle distortion when the camera is pointed up or down).
- Have a main subject
- The main subject should be in sharp focus
- Do not have distracting elements at the image borders
- The photograph should be properly exposed (not too dark or light)
- Avoid blown out highlights (very bright spots or areas with no detail)
- Use a descriptive title/filename (NOTE: Judges will not see titles or maker's name during judging)
- Images will be disqualified if there are any identification marks (e.g. photographer's name) on the image
- Images must be properly sized – maximum of 1200 pixels on the long side (vertical or horizontal – whichever is longest). File size should not exceed 1.5 Mb.

Of course, creative considerations may mean that some of these suggestions may not be followed. In those cases, it is up to the photographer to determine what is best for the image.