

# VIEWPOINT | JUNE 2026

The Newsletter of the Photo Arts Club of Toledo

## Welcome to Summer!

Summer is finally here, and with it comes endless opportunities to create, explore, and capture the world through your camera lens. From colorful gardens and wildlife to festivals, vacations, family gatherings, and breathtaking sunsets, this season offers something inspiring for every photographer. We encourage all club members to get outside, challenge themselves with new subjects, experiment with different techniques, and most importantly, have fun creating images. Whether you're documenting cherished memories or creating fine art, remember that every photograph tells a story. We look forward to seeing the unique perspectives and creative work you'll bring back to share with the club this summer. Happy shooting!

## Volunteers Needed for Second Saturdays

We are looking for friendly club members to serve as Greeters during our Second Saturday Open House events. Greeters play an important role in helping visitors feel welcome while sharing information about the Photo Arts Club and our mission within the community. Responsibilities include opening the clubhouse, welcoming guests, answering basic questions, and helping visitors enjoy their experience while exploring our gallery and activities. If you enjoy meeting people and serving as an ambassador for the club, we would love to have your help. Your time and enthusiasm help create a positive first impression and support the success of our public events.

Register Here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044EADA62EA5FAC25-62939081-greeters>

## Garden Closure Reminder

Please note that the Garden will be closed to regular use on Thursday evenings during the 2026 Jazz in the Garden concert series. The closure dates are Thursdays, July 9 through August 27. To accommodate event setup, the Garden will close beginning at 1:00 p.m., with concert gates opening at 5:30 p.m. Members planning photography outings, meetings, or visits to the Garden should keep these dates in mind and make alternate arrangements if needed. We encourage everyone to enjoy the concert series and thank you for your cooperation during this popular community event.

**The Photo Arts Club welcomes the following new member!**

Sameer Joshi

## Downtown Toledo Color Walk

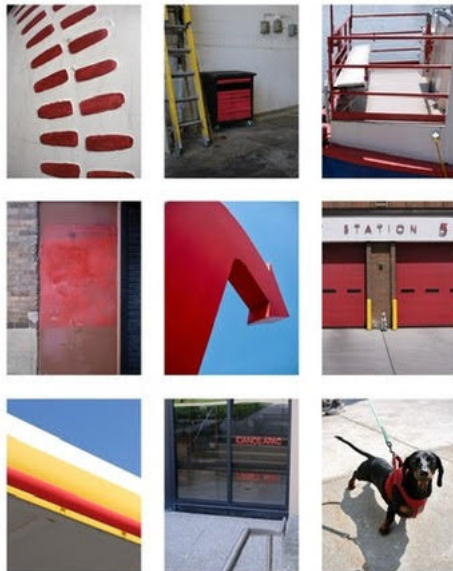
On Sunday, May 17, six PACT members met downtown, drew colors and went out in search of photographs on a beautiful spring day. The following collages are the product of the color walk.



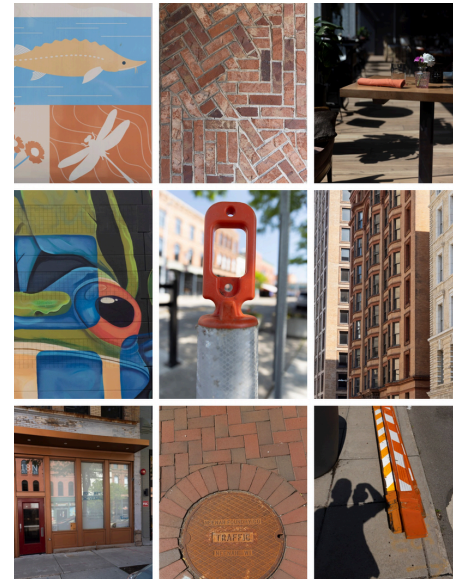
Kathy Fisher-Blue



Carrie Heller-Purple



Kayla Henderson-Red

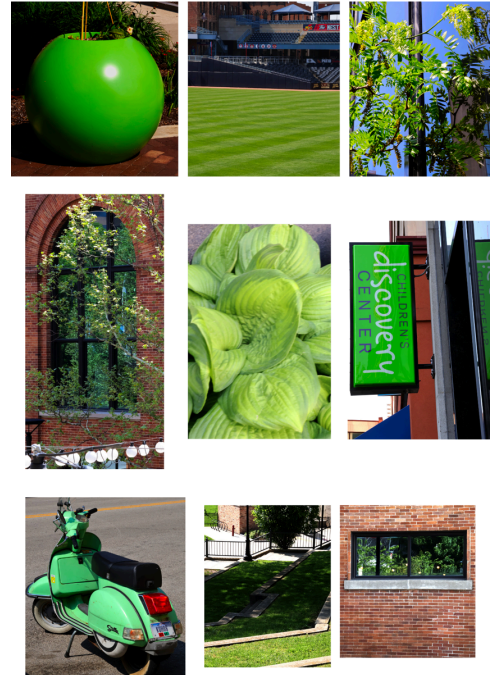


Jack Myers-Orange

## Downtown Toledo Color Walk



Isabelle Reeb-Yellow



Bob Wadas-Green

## June Lightroom Group Meeting

We will continue our exploration of Lightroom on Tuesday, June 16th, at 7 PM. This month we will continue to discuss your various editing workflows, and challenges you may be encountering. As with every meeting, our goal is to collectively solve any problems or issues you may be experiencing. If there is any particular issue you want us to research in advance, please drop an email to Chris at [boeselc@gmail.com](mailto:boeselc@gmail.com).

We look forward to another great discussion.

Ben Ayling and Chris Boesel

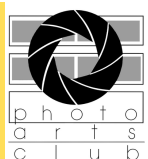
## A Couple of Photo Opportunities

The world's largest steam locomotive, "Big Boy" is on an eastern tour. It will be stopping in Fostoria, Ohio on Tuesday, July 14 for public viewing. For more information, open this link:

<https://www.up.com/about-us/history/steam/schedule>

Cleveland Memorial Bridge walk on June 27<sup>th</sup>.

<https://cuyahogacounty.gov/veterans-memorial-bridge>



## Behind The Shot: Cuban Crocodile Closeup

In March 2020, while the COVID shutdown was just starting, I was on a photo trip in Cuba. The focus of the excursion was the underwater beauty of the marine park called *Jardines de la Reina* (Gardens of the Queen). The saltwater crocodiles found in the marshy shallows are an attraction for visitors, who are allowed get in the water with them under strict conditions. Our group would take a couple of scuba dives on the pristine reefs in the morning and for two consecutive days we used the afternoons to snorkel with the crocodiles, with no more than two people in the water at a time.

On the first day I followed the advice of experts and used a rectilinear wide-angle zoom (16-35mm f4) behind a large dome. At the end of the day I had a selection of images I was happy enough with to consider changing to what I thought might be a higher risk – higher reward choice. Because it was possible to get very close to them, and because I thought emphasizing the teeth might make for a strong image, I switched to a fisheye lens (Nikon 8-15mm). During one outing I had a lucky moment when a sunbeam seemed to light up an eye that was clearly taking an interest in me.

### A problem and a solution

The water where these animals are found is green and murky with a lot of suspended sediment. I used dual strobes to control the light and add color, but those water conditions with strobes guarantee a significant amount of tiny distracting reflections known as backscatter.

Fortunately a great aid to underwater photography is now available in the form of a Photoshop plug-in: Backscatter Xterminator. I used it to re-process this image to give it a cleaner look. The water is still green and murky, but the reflective particles in the original image are nearly gone. The plug-in was developed from StarXTerminator, an AI tool designed for astrophotography.



--Rick Francis

Do you have a shot with a story to share for a future **Behind the Shot**? **We're looking for your stories!**  
Send your photo and story to [photoartsclubtoledo.news@gmail.com](mailto:photoartsclubtoledo.news@gmail.com).

## Summer Safety

With the start of the summer season, here are a few safety reminders for hot weather:

### PERSONAL SAFETY TIPS

1. When out and about and traveling to photo shoots, remember school is out and so are the kids. It's a good time to sharpen our driving focus.
2. Hydrate! For extended outdoor photo shoots or long hikes. make sure to start hydration 24 hours ahead. Carry and access water efficiently.
3. Wear loose clothing, protective footwear, wide brim hats, etc.
4. Sunscreen and sunglasses.
5. First aid for insects, ticks, sunburn, etc.
6. Be aware of the effect heat is having on you. Take cooling breaks, indoors if possible, or find shade.
7. If traveling with a partner or in a group, pay attention to others, watching for signs of the heat's impact.

### EQUIPMENT SAFETY TIPS

1. Transition photo equipment gradually from air conditioning to hot and humid environments. This helps prevent internal moisture issues and fogged lenses.
2. Plan gear storage strategies (i.e. insulated coolers, car trunk storage)
3. Web searches for advanced techniques for extreme heat exposure for photographer and equipment.



## What's Happening at the Botanical Gardens?

**2nd Saturdays Open House** - June 13; July 11; Sept 12; Oct 10; & Nov 14.

To volunteer as a greeter, please use the sign-up link:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C044EADA62EA5FAC25-62939081-greeters>

**June 2** - ROC meeting at 6 pm at the Toledo Artists Club.

**Toledo Festival of the Arts** will be Saturday, June 27, from 11 am to 6 pm, and on Sunday, June 28, from 11 am to 4 pm.

**Jazz in the Garden** returns this year with a shortened schedule. Starting Thursday July 9, 2026 the Gardens will be closed each Thursday at 1pm thru Aug 27, 2026. We will not be able to hold anything at the Clubhouse on Thursdays during this time.

**Heralding the Holidays** will be Dec 4-6, 2026. Watch for more information.

## Monthly Contest Assignments

June 2026: Something in your Home

December 2026: By Candlelight

July 2026: Water

January 2027: **Print** - A Pop of Red

August 2026: On the Shore

February 2027: Minimalism

September 2026: Trees, Woods or Forest

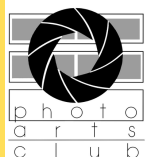
March 2027: Still Life

October 2026: Looks like a Haunted House

April 2027: Black & White

November 2026: **Print** - Hometown Highlights

May 2027: The Moon, full moon April 20th



## Monthly Contest Winners

The May print competition assignment was Architecture. There were 58 photos entered from 19 photographers. There were 48 Architecture photos, and in the Open category there were 10 photos submitted. Fifteen members participated in judging. May marked the second consecutive month that the number of photographs submitted exceeded any month in the previous two years.

The June contest assignment is “Something in Your Home.”



“Budapest Chain Bridge Parliament” by Neeru Biyani

Basic - 1<sup>st</sup> place  
Assignment: Architecture

## Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Seoul Starfield Library” by Neeru Biyani

Basic -2nd Place  
Assignment: Architecture

## Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Eiffel Tower Architect Stephen Sauvestre” by Bob Wadas

Basic, 3rd Place  
Assignment: Architecture

## Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



© Isabelle Reeb

“The forever floor” by Isabelle Reeb

Intermediate, 1st Place  
Assignment: Architecture

## Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“State Library Victoria” by Carrie Heller

Advanced, 2nd Place  
Assignment: Architecture

## Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Sydney Opera House” by Carrie Heller

Intermediate, 3rd Place  
Assignment: Architecture

## Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Chicago Water Tower, Foggy Morning” by Rick Francis

Advanced, 1st Place  
Assignment: Architecture

## Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Dr. Caligari’s Stairway” by Rick Francis

Advanced, 2nd Place  
Assignment: Architecture

## Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Commercial Building, 1836” by Jerry Lohman

Advanced, 3rd Place  
Assignment: Architecture

## Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Mischievous” by Sarah Werder

Basic, 1st Place  
Open Category

## Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Key West Butterfly House” by Christopher Wenzel

Basic, 2nd Place  
Open Category

## Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Angry Bird” by Sarah Werder

Basic, 3rd Place  
Open Category

## Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Are You Listening” by Isaiah Miller

Intermediate, 1st Place  
Open Category

## Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“School Corridor” by Jim Hagan

Advanced, 1st Place  
Open Category

## Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Morning Flight” by Jack Myers

Advanced, 2nd Place  
Open Category

## Monthly Contest Winners (con't)



“Sunday Morning” by Jerry Lohman

Advanced, 3rd Place  
Open Category

## Multiple Items for Sale by One Seller: High-Quality Canon Lenses & Seestar Smart Telescope

Haley McRitchie is thinning out her gear collection. All items are well-maintained and priced to sell. See below for details on each item.

### CANON RF MOUNT (Mirrorless)

#### Canon RF 1.4x Extender – \$550

**Condition:** Gently Used. Optics are clean; a perfect way to add reach to your compatible RF telephoto lenses.



#### Canon RF 24-105mm f/4-7.1 IS STM – \$300

**Condition:** Like New. The ultimate versatile travel lens. Compact, lightweight, and sharp.



#### Canon RF-S 18-45mm f/4.5-6.3 IS STM – \$300

**Condition:** Like New. Perfect compact kit lens for APS-C mirrorless shooters.



### ASTROPHOTOGRAPHY

#### Seestar S30 Smart Telescope – \$475

**Condition:** Still in Box (New/Unused - not pictured) Ready to go for anyone looking to get into smart astrophotography without the wait.

### CANON EF/EF-S MOUNT (DSLR or Adapted)

#### Canon TS-E 90mm f/2.8 Tilt-Shift – \$700

**Condition:** Used. A specialized lens perfect for product photography and portraits where perspective control is key. Mechanics are smooth.



#### Canon EF-S 18-55mm f/3.5-5.6 IS STM – \$75

**Condition:** Like New. The reliable "workhorse" kit lens with silent STM focusing for video or stills.



#### Canon EF 28-90mm f/4-5.6 – \$75

**Condition:** Used. A lightweight, affordable full-frame zoom lens.



**Location:** Toledo, OH

**Payment:** Cash, Venmo or PayPal preferred.

**Shipping:** Local pickup preferred

**Interested?** Send an email or text to Haley McRitchie with the specific item you're looking for!

**macritchie.haley@gmail.com or 419-351-9214**

## Upcoming Events and Meetings

**June 4, 7:00 PM:** Monthly Board meeting

**June 12, 11:30 PM:** June monthly contest closes

**June 13, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Open House

**June 16, 7:00 PM:** Monthly Lightroom meeting

**June 17, 7:00 PM:** June monthly contest meeting

**June 18:** July monthly contest submissions open, Assignment: Water

**July 2, 7:00 PM:** Monthly Board meeting

**July 10, 11:30 PM:** July monthly contest closes

**July 11, 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM:** 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday Open House

**July 14, 7:00 PM:** July monthly contest closes

**July 15, 7:00 PM:** Monthly contest meeting

**July 16:** August monthly contest submissions open: On the Shore

***Please refer to the website [Events Calendar](#) for Zoom links and more information. Note that some events will ONLY be visible when logged in!***

"To me, photography is an art of observation. It's about finding something interesting in an ordinary place. I've found it has little to do with the things you see and everything to do with the way you see them."

Elliott Erwitte  
b.1928 d.2023

## The Board of the Photo Arts Club of Toledo

President - Michele Kipplen - [michelekipplen@gmail.com](mailto:michelekipplen@gmail.com), 419-283-4616

Vice President - Ross Ellet [rellet17@hotmail.com](mailto:rellet17@hotmail.com)

Treasurer - Michele Ross - [mickey.ross1204@gmail.com](mailto:mickey.ross1204@gmail.com), 419-360-0712

Secretary - Cindy White - [cwphoto63@gmail.com](mailto:cwphoto63@gmail.com), 419-480-7485

Past President - Wennie Anderson - [wennieanderson120@gmail.com](mailto:wennieanderson120@gmail.com), 734-243-3346

### Board Members

Jack Myers - [jrmyers@roadrunner.com](mailto:jrmyers@roadrunner.com), 419-575-1558

Chris Boesel - [boeselc@gmail.com](mailto:boeselc@gmail.com)

Rick Francis - [rick.a.francis@gmail.com](mailto:rick.a.francis@gmail.com)

Jerry Lohman - [JerryLohman@outlook.com](mailto:JerryLohman@outlook.com)

Todd Grinonneau - [grinolot@yahoo.com](mailto:grinolot@yahoo.com)

Kayla Henderson - [kaylahenderson321@gmail.com](mailto:kaylahenderson321@gmail.com)

### Committees

Lightroom: Chris Boesel & Ben Ayling - [boeselc@gmail.com](mailto:boeselc@gmail.com), [b-ayling@onu.edu](mailto:b-ayling@onu.edu)

Studio Group: John Dillon - [jdillon356@aol.com](mailto:jdillon356@aol.com)

Competition Chair: Jack Myers - [jrmyers@roadrunner.com](mailto:jrmyers@roadrunner.com)

Website Chair: Rick Francis - [rick.a.francis@gmail.com](mailto:rick.a.francis@gmail.com)

Membership: Cindy White - [cwphoto63@gmail.com](mailto:cwphoto63@gmail.com)

Newsletter: Rick Francis & Bob Wadas - [rick.a.francis@gmail.com](mailto:rick.a.francis@gmail.com)

Decorating/Setup: Kayla Henderson - [kaylahenderson321@gmail.com](mailto:kaylahenderson321@gmail.com)

Reminder to members: we have returned to scheduling our Monthly Board Meetings on the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. The link to join the Zoom meeting is on the [Events calendar](#).