JCC: Judging Criteria

Every camera club is faced with two issue regarding contest judging. Most of their members fall into one of two groups
1. Those who are attempting to just take better images, in other words, the technical aspects of exposure, focus and cropping.
2. There are those who have "mastered" those issues and are attempting to go farther—to create art, to tell a story, to convey a feeling, to create images that stop the viewer and are recognized as special within the craft.

Generally, winning images should reflect an knowledge of the former and achieve some level of success with the lather. We would like everyone to learn from the process and use this as a tool to improve their images.

Generally, you may wish to consider three areas in judging our entrants. We do not going to reflect the many years experience of our judges in a few sentences. We just want to share our viewpoint.

1. The impact, the ability of the image to stop the page turner, this includes many possible aspects, including storytelling, originality, beauty, interesting and many others.
2. The composition, light, following the "proven" lessons from the masters, using techniques to focus attention in the image and keep attention in the image.
3. The technical aspects of exposure, sharpness/focus, saturation, tonal range, noise, over processing, over/under saturation, etc. etc.

The results of our competitions reflect the personal preferences of our judges. That is normal and we do not seek to either deny or change that. The Judge's opinion is final and not subject to review.