

Tidewater Camera Club Competition Score Sheet

Month/Year: December 2015

Theme: Sidewalk Photography

From 1-5 points for each score

Title	Comp	Impact	Tech	Total	Judges Comments
Love It	5	5	5	15	Love it! This is the consummate from the sidewalk people shot. Great story. Great composition and use of shallow DoF to eliminate any background distractions. Good enough to seem posed (which is fine). (Nit pick: on my monitor, faces are a tad bright. Is all the space at right necessary?)
Come Back Later	5	5	4	14	Fun shot and nice juxtaposition of sign, reflection and the man. A longer DoF might help keep him sharp.
Market District	4	4	5	13	Interesting shot. You probably don't need to include the entire stall. Perhaps try a different aspect ratio here - maybe vertical or square(?) to isolate the more interesting woman at right and the people behind her. Maybe crop to the woman bending over 'into' the frame. Or not.
Evening Break	4	4	4	12	Nice composition. Try using the levels adjustment layer in Photoshop to get the black and white points correct. Solid blacks are ok if the shadow areas are not important.
stretch for the run	4	4	4	12	Cute family portrait. You could even change the POV to get down to the kid's level. It's so hard to get little kids to stop moving just for the split second it takes to snap the shot! (see slight blur of kid at left.) For kids, use a fast shutter speed if you want to freeze them.
Victoria Secret	4	4	4	12	The position of the hands of the girl in blue nicely mimics those of the model in the poster. This is a good example of using juxtaposition if there's not much action. I'm not sure that changing your POV you would improve the relationship/juxtaposition of the girls to the poster. Unless you ask them to pose for you.
Harvard Square	4	4	3	11	You might want to move in closer or crop from top right to put a bit more emphasis on the man reading. (See Andre Kertész "On Reading".) Eliminate the water downspout at right which draws the viewer to it and out of the scene.
Paparazzi	4	3	4	11	(Does the club allow the addition of text and framing like this?) Fun shot but the text and framing does detract from the image. I'd also reduce the facial highlight. Don't worry if the background gets darker. It's not important and will act to emphasize the faces.
blues city café	3	4	3	10	Nice night shot. Unfortunate that pole at top leads viewer out of scene. Could you have moved to a different angle since the sign isn't moving and you have time to explore composition.
Boa For Sale	3	4	3	10	Good use of DoF and B&W conversion. If boa is subject, as per title, perhaps entire should be sharper.
café buskers	3	3	3	9	There are two, maybe three pics here - players at left, at right or through couple in foreground. Use short DoF to reduce distractions.

Ocean city	3	3	3	9	Ok, boardwalk - sidewalk (or pier). You might try recomposing (cropping) to position the woman at bottom left so that she becomes the start of a leading line that the viewer can follow into the rest of the scene.
bollywood in vincenza italy	4	2	2	8	You could crop in closer to the couple. With people, you should show some interesting action or portrait or humorous juxtaposition. (Nit pick: Be careful using ethnic statements unless you're certain. i.e. Bollywood infers the two are Indian.)
Flowers in the Rain	3	2	3	8	Try to keep the subjects sharp and use a shallow DoF to blur out background which can distract the viewer. Wait to see if they do something interesting. If not, move on.
Reading Market	2	3	3	8	What is the subject? Perhaps you could crop in to the man in the center looking as if he's overwhelmed by everything going on around him.
Waiting Waiter	2	3	3	8	The title references the waiter. So, you should give the viewer more of him. Crop in and reduce the highlight to really give him emphasis.
Bubbles	2	3	2	7	Could you have waited for bubbles to sink a bit lower so there isn't so much space between them and family? Street photography can require the fast shot or waiting for the "Decisive Moment" Also you might want to reduce the highlights in the faces - several techniques to accomplish this.
Off the Mississippi	2	3	2	7	Though not necessarily a concern in most "street" shots, you should level the background if it could be too distracting. However, if you crop in closer and compose as a portrait of the street performer, the unlevelled horizon will not be as jarring. Did you get a model release?
Ginas	2	2	2	6	Give this shot deeper blacks using the levels adjustment. And choose what you want to be the subject - the left side or the right side. Remember the "rule" of thirds and try not to put the line of the wall right in the center. You may use a higher ISO or shutter speed to reduce blur or camera shake.
highland ave	2	2	2	6	What is the story you're trying to tell? What is the subject? Perhaps waiting a bit for (or asking) everyone to look left as the sign says.
introducing the drag queen	5	5	4	14	Very good, humorous portrait! On my monitor the face seems a little bright. Did you get a Model Release?
Kids of Dar	5	4	4	13	Good socially conscious shot. If you lowered yourself to their level, you'll be amazed by the change in the emotional effect. It will be quite different. You might want to reduce the highlight on the shirt of the kid at right.
Occupied	4	4	4	12	Good example of a humorous street shot. You could crop in a little more. I don't think all the bikes are nec to get your point across And it would reduce the space at top. What's it look like in B&W?



Patriotic	4	3	3	10	You could probably crop a lot off the left. Try adding a bit more mid-tone contrast and find the black point using the levels adjustment. This might also look great in B&W (yes even the flag)
Street Dancers	3	3	4	10	Nice use of a slow shutter speed to show motion. If the couple is moving to the right, you should give them more room on that side to dance into. The guy looks like he really doesn't want to be there (I sympathize!)
don't back up	2	3	2	7	You probably don't need so much at the top. The subject is the car. Use the leading lines to guide viewers to it.
marching band	4	2	1	7	The composition of this shot is very good. Great use of leading lines, "rule" of thirds, even the placement of the man at right. The image could use a dramatic boost in global and mid-tone contrast. It is very washed out. You should also reduce the saturation.
Buster and Irene	2	2	2	6	You might try cropping in from top & left to highlight the subjects more. And perhaps wait until they do something or you find an interesting or humorous juxtaposition.
Dover Park	2	2	2	6	This is a nice quiet shot of a nice quiet neighborhood. Too quiet! What is subject? What is the story you're trying to tell? You might want to boost the mid-tone contrast, esp at left. Crop to the tree. You don't need what's to the left of it.
festival lunch	2	2	2	6	What is the subject? Increase the blacks by using levels adjustment layer.
halloween parade	2	2	2	6	Be careful of over-saturation. Look for some action (see woman at far left) or humor or an interesting juxtaposition. Tell a story.
Man on the street	2	2	2	6	(He's really on the sidewalk.) What are you trying to tell the viewer? Some of the background elements, such as the street signs at upper right and the man's face almost blended into the fence behind could distract the viewer. Is there a way to use the signs and/or the fence to create the story?
map check	2	2	2	6	Move closer. Use leading lines or some other compositional element, such as framing, to guide the viewer's eye to the couple looking at we assume to be a map. Without these elements the crowded scene becomes distracting.
Repurposed Firehouse	2	2	2	6	Is the subject the people walking by or the sign in the window? Try repositioning yourself to just get the part of the firehouse that has the sign and reflection. If you want to include people, wait until someone interesting walks by. Even try somehow to utilize the arrow sign at bottom left.
One Must Coordinate Ones Polka D	4	5	5	14	Very nice shot and technique. Since she is looking right, could you move her to the left a bit so she doesn't seem to be constricted by the right edge of the image.
The Limo	3	4	3	10	You could crop in from the right, you don't need all that space and reduce the saturation. Otherwise a nice shot from a gravel sidewalk(??)



summer day	3	3	3	9	Nice humorous shot of the guy NOT taking a pic of the two passing girls. Try boosting the blacks to increase the contrast. No comment on his shorts.
Three Umbrellas	3	3	3	9	Not every 'street' shot needs to be B&W. Sometimes color works better. If you don't want to use color, you might want to try working with the B&W adjustment layer, tweaking each color slider until you differentiate the gray tones that represent the different colors. This should produce more separation of subjects. Otherwise, if the intent is to make the viewer hunt for the third umbrella - never mind.
A dogs Life	2	3	2	7	If subject is dog, make sure it's sharper. Give him more space in the direction he's looking (a composition "rule"). You could blur out distracting background with short DOF. Try it in B&W
a walk with harry	2	2	2	6	I'm not sure what the subject is. Use the Burn tool to darken the central area to give scene more contrast.
goosetown	2	2	2	6	What is the subject? Does this shot tell a story. You might find something interesting in closer. Could the reflection be an element?
headless fashion	2	2	2	6	Potentially a fun juxtaposition Try moving to a different location, change the angle or use a shallow DoF so the "missing head" stands out and is not "hidden" in the bright background.
inviting retreat	2	2	2	6	Crop from the left to the tree and either blur out, using short DoF, or darken and increase contrast.