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1. General Contest Information

1.1: Purpose of Contest

To provide competitors with the opportunity to demonstrate, through practical and theoretical application, their skills and task knowledge in the Photography industry relevant to practiced skills, what is found in industry, and employment.

1.2: Objective/Description of event

The objective of this event is for competitors to produce a professional edition of photographs for a client (LDSB).

Competitors will be expected to

- Photograph Editing Test (image supplied)
- Photograph using a creative brief for a client
- Create a coherent collection of images.
- Practice professional and ethical standards
- Follow specific formatting and submission methods of digital media
- Submit a photo of reference to the chair by the specified deadline

1.3: Technical Committee

Chair(s): Katie Ohlke: ohlkek@limestone.on.ca

Judge(s): Constance Sheridan and Kayla Hanney

1.4: Contest Schedule

Date and Location: Thursday, February 26, 2026 – St. Lawrence College

9:00 - 9:30	Competitor Registration and Welcome (Cafeteria)
9:30 – 12:30	Competition
12:30 – 1:00	Lunch
1:00 – 3:00	Competition
4:00 – 5:00	Dinner (pizza provided)
5:00 – 6:30	Awards Ceremony (Gymnasium)

2026– Photography – Individual

*Competitors must be on time for their contest or may be disqualified at the discretion of the Technical Committee.

Closing ceremony: Thursday, February 26th hosted at St. Lawrence College at 5:30pm

1.5: Additional Information

Rules and Regulations:
- **No Generative AI will be allowed**
- This is an individual competition; all work must be original to each competitor.
- Adherence to safety standards during location changes during the event (PPE) will be mandatory, and competitors can lose points at the chairs' discretion for non-adherence.
- Competitors are to choose a photo that they think best represents them as a photographer, and shows their personal photographic/editing style, and submit by email, due one week before the competition. (Feb. 17) These photos will be displayed at the competition and should be content appropriate for young viewers.
- Reference photos should be 8" x 10" 300 DPI and submitted in a PDF format (for emailing).
- All photos of the event should be in full colour

The maximum number of competitors for this event is approximately 16 students (plus consideration of PC availability).

2. Skills and Knowledge to be Tested

2.1: Specific Requirements

The contest will have a rubric scoring system. The overall score will be the sum of the points awarded for each of the components. Points are awarded as the competitor/project successfully meets/completes certain performance criteria. Performance criteria are structured, when possible, to provide a range of tasks from easy to complex for each category.

Competitors must be able to:
- Take photos using a DSLR camera
- Edit using Adobe Photoshop / Lightroom
- Use proper file management techniques
- Follow a creative brief
- Adhere to safety standards
- Produce a cohesive edition of photographs
- Show efficient time management skills by adhering to the event timetable

Competitors will also be required to supply and wear an orange high visibility top (vest, T-shirt Jacket… ETC.) for the duration of their time in the field to mark them as a photography competitor.

3. Judging Criteria

Part 1: Personal Reference Photo (up to 5 marks)

Competitors are to submit a photograph that they think best represents them as a photographer and shows their personal photographic/editing style. **Reference photos are to be submitted via email to ohlkek@limestone.on.ca by 12:00pm on February 17th, 2026. Reference photos should be 8" x 10" 300 DPI and submitted in a PDF format (for emailing).**

Marks will be awarded for: (1 each)
- adhering to deadline
- correct formatting
- image content
- composition
- clarity

Part 2: A Portfolio of (6) Digital Images

This is a chance to curate a collection of your photography and impress the judges with your best work. A creative brief will be given the morning of the competition, providing information about the client and what style of photos are needed.

Marks will be awarded for:
- adhering to deadline
- correct formatting
- image content
- composition
- clarity

Notes:
- The subject matter of each image should vary and be diverse
- Portfolio images must be saved as instructed below on your USB flash drive before the commencement of the contest so they can be easily transferred to the judges' computers. You may want to bring a backup USB flash drive for safety
- Remember 1 of the images in your digital portfolio must match your print.
- Portfolio will be marked as a collective body of work.

3.1: Rubric

Criteria	Possible score
Personal Reference Photo	**/5**
Editing Test	**/5**
Portfolio Content	**/15**
Following Safety Standards	**/1**

Following Brief	**/7**
Correct Formatting	**/7**
Total	**/40**

Rule infractions will result in appropriate mark deductions at the discretion of the Technical Committee. Any disqualifications will be reviewed by the Director of Competitions.

3.2: Tie Breakers

There can be no ties – if the score is even after the contest, the Reference photo will be used as the tie breaker, and the Judges' decision will be final.

4.   Equipment and Materials

4.1: Supplied by Competitor

- DSLR Camera
- SD card and card reader
- Closed toed shoes (mandatory for entering competition areas)
- Long pants (mandatory for entering competition areas)
- Hair Tie back (mandatory for entering competition areas)
- Hard Hat (mandatory for entering some competitions areas)
- High-Visibility Vest (mandatory for entering competitions)

4.2: Supplied by Competition

- PC with Adobe Photoshop/Lightroom
- Competition Brief

4.4: Prohibited

- Cell Phones
- Personal Computers

5. Safety

5.1: PPE

Competitors will need to comply with different PPE standards based on where they choose to take pictures (i.e. If they are in the woodshop, safety glasses must be worn.). Photographers should be prepared to use:

- High visual clothing
- Safety Glasses
- Earplugs
- Closed toed shoes
- Long pants
- Hair tied back

5.2: Behaviors

Safety and respect are a priority at the Limestone Skills Competition. Any competitor can be removed from the competition site if safety standards are not met. This includes any inappropriate behaviors that can be deemed as unsafe practices with tools and equipment, general shop safety and the failure to wear necessary PPE or disrespect towards other competitors, judges, chairs or others within the competition site.

5.3: Equipment Knowledge

Competitors should have sufficient prior knowledge of how to use Adobe Photoshop and / or Lightroom and operate the functions of their DSLR based Camera.