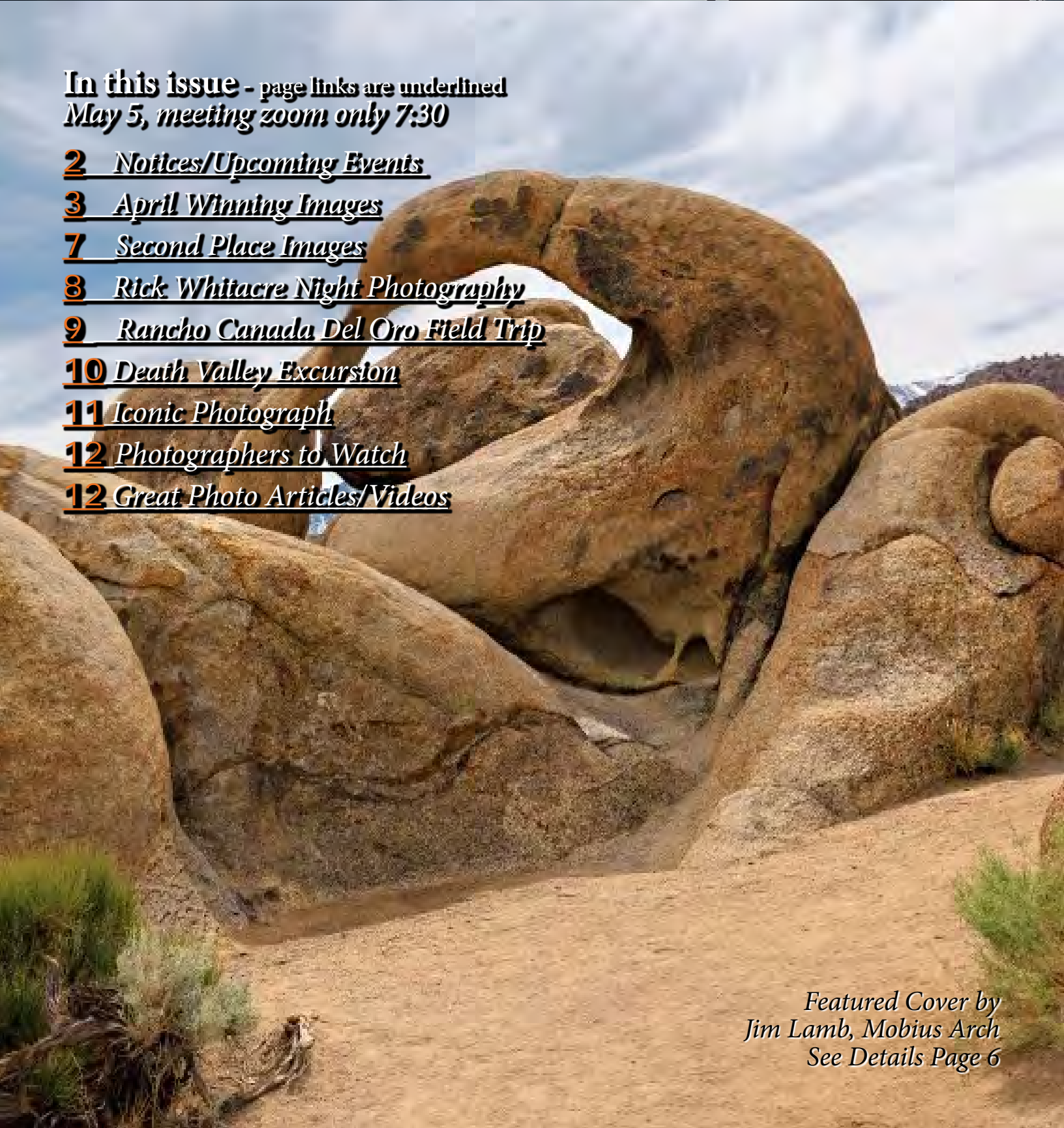




In this issue - page links are underlined
May 5, meeting zoom only 7:30

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*Featured Cover by
Jim Lamb, Mobius Arch
See Details Page 6*

Notices and Coming Events

See the [Calendar](#) on our web site for latest updates or details.

Next Competition - May 5, 7:30 Zoom Only

Submission Rules – Members may enter a maximum of two projected images. On months with prints, a maximum of three images may be submitted as three prints or a combination of prints and (up to two) projected images.

Our meeting judge for May 5th will be Tami (TJ) Campbell. She says, “I try to honor the maker by explaining what I see and giving helpful advice on improvements. I look for composition, visual impact, use of color/tones and technical exploration. Mistakes, which are inevitable, should be seen as learning tools to help one grow and become a better photographer.”

Categories for May- Besides the monthly categories of Mono and Color – the challenge categories will be Nature and Journalism projected.

Nature

Nature photography records all branches of natural history except anthropology and archaeology. This includes all aspects of the physical world, both animate and inanimate, that have not been made or modified by humans.

- Nature images must convey the truth of the scene that was photographed. A well-informed person should be able to identify the subject of the image and be satisfied that it has been presented honestly and that no unethical practices have been used to control the subject or capture the image. Images that directly or indirectly show any human activity that threatens the life or welfare of a living organism are not allowed.
- The most important part of a Nature image is the nature story it tells. High technical standards are expected and the image must look natural. . . . [MORE](#)

Journalism

- Images with informative content and emotional impact
- Reflecting the human presence in our world.
- The journalistic (story-telling) value of the image should receive priority over pictorial quality.
- Images that misrepresent the truth, such as those from events or activities arranged specifically for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography, are not eligible.
- The title should identify the activity (answer who, what, where, when and why) and complement the story as shown in the image and is restricted to 200 characters including spaces in this category.

Allowed editing techniques:

- Cropping, straightening and perspective correction.
- Removal or correction of elements added by the . . . [MORE](#)

Welcome New Member(s)

Marc Pupkin: Now that I'm retired from the printing industry, I have time to expand my creativity beyond the always convenient iPhone capture of family events.

I bought a new SLR, went to Kauai and had a great time shooting especially in the botanical gardens. Now my goals are to become more comfortable with the camera settings and learn to spot photo ops. I'm looking forward to taking part in Club activities and learning from members.

Print Competitions Schedule

Prints will be judged every other month along with projected. For the rest of 2025, prints will be judged in:

June - Journalism, Travel Monochrome, Color

August - Nature, Creative, Color, Monochrome

October - Travel, Creative, Color, Monochrome

December - Journalism, Nature, Color, Monochrome

Special Interest Group Links below

(Click on any SIG title for detailed information)

[Special Interest Group - Seeing in Sixes](#)

[Special Interest Group in Monochrome Photography](#)

[Special Interest Group in Photoshop](#)

[Special Interest Group - Novice Only](#)

[Special Interest Group - Bird Photography](#)

[Special Interest Group - Astrophotography](#)

[Special Interest Group - Eastern Sierra](#)



2016 Journalism Projected by Alan Levinson

April Competition Winners Tell Us How They Made It

Enwrapped, Tim Meadows, Monochrome Print ►

This image was made in the village of Caspar to the south of Mendocino, which is full of photogenic dilapidated structures. I chose a low, wide angle perspective to accentuate the building and tree leaning into each other. It was a rainy, dark day, so I decided to shoot a bracketed set to ensure that I had enough detail in the shadows. The resulting images were combined in HDR Efex Pro 2 and output using Dark 1 as a preset. I chose to convert to monochrome using Silver Efex Pro's High Structure Smooth setting, and did extensive healing to get rid of bright spots and other distracting artifacts.

Nikon z7, 24-200 lens at 28mm, f16.



◄ Pure Love in a Warm Embrace, Pam Perkins, Color Projected

This woman and presumably her granddaughter are members of the Munda Tribe who live in the isolated village of Dalijoda in the Indian state of Orissa. Their lifestyle is very primitive, and to reach the village we had to walk 3 miles through the jungle on a very hot day. Therefore, I carried my lightweight Q3 43 which is a new Leica full-frame, mirrorless camera with a 60 megapixel sensor and a fixed 43mm lens. This was a challenging photograph because the grandmother and the little girl were in a doorway which was hidden by a low thatched roof, making access to them difficult. But I was determined! With no time to check my settings and shooting from an uncomfortable angle looking up, I had to be quick because I knew I had little time before they disappeared. Surprisingly all three images made me happy.

Leica Q3-43, 1/250, f2.5, ISO 400.

April Competition Winners Tell Us How They Made It (continued)



◀ Oriental Lily, Irina Nekrasova, Monochrome Projected

The beauty of simplicity is easy to understand.

This was my starting point in converting an ordinary image in color into simple elegance in monochrome. Dodging and burning was done in Photoshop.

Canon 60 D, F 14, ISO 100, S 0.4 sec 75 mm

Fall Foliage Re-imagined, Mary Ellen Kaschub, Creative Print ▶

The original photo was shot in the fall in the beautiful Finger Lakes region of New York State. Although it was a pleasing photo as shot of fall leaves cascading down the trunk of an old tree, I decided to play with the image and used the mirror montage technique along with blending and filter treatments in Photoshop. My goal was to present fall leaves in an interesting and expressive way!



April Competition Winners Tell Us How They Made It (continued)

Egret with Frog, Tim Meadows, Nature Print

I made this image from aboard a mokoro, the dugout canoes used to navigate the waters of the Okavango Delta in Botswana. This was an area abundant with bird life, from herons to kingfishers and many in between. We happened upon an egret hunting frogs along the shore, and I was able to get a series of images showing the unlucky fate of the frog. Nikon Z8, 180-600mm lens at 600mm. ISO 1600, f6.3. Noise reduction applied using Topaz DeNoise AI.



Aloft, Bagan, Myanmar, Harlan Crowder, Travel Projected

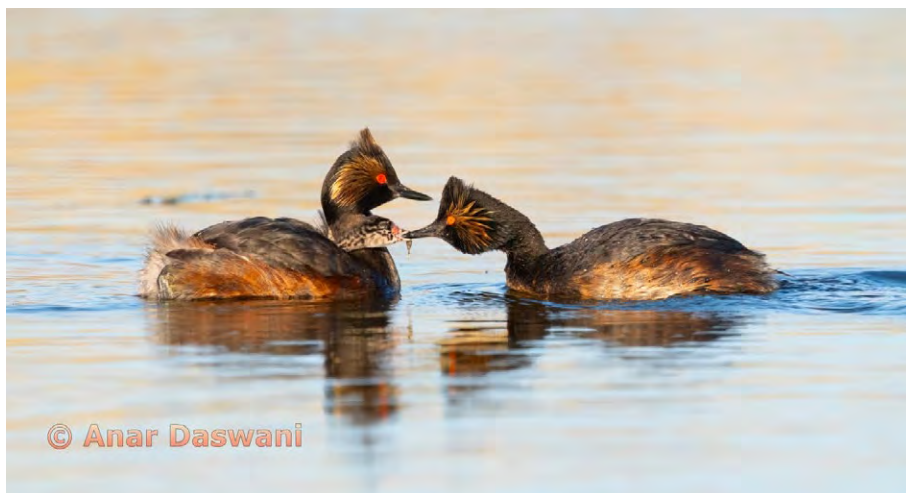
A thousand years ago the city of Bagan was the capital of an area that later became part of Myanmar. From the 9th to 13th centuries, more than 10,000 Buddhist temples, pagodas and monasteries were constructed on the Bagan plains. Today only about 2,000 temples and pagodas survive. Bagan is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The best way to experience the scope and splendor of Bagan is from above. We arose at 4:00 am in order to be aloft when the sun came up. There were several balloons in the air when I made my photograph. I managed to capture this moment just a couple of minutes after sunrise. Myanmar is a photographers dream. Splendid geography, ancient architecture, bustling cities, and warm, friendly people offer countless photographic opportunities. The Bagan balloon ride was the highlight of our visit, figuratively and literally. Olympus E-M5 | Lumix G Vario 12-35mm, f/2.8

April Competition Winners Tell Us How They Made It (continued)

Eared Grebes develop goldenish plumes ► behind their eyes during the breeding season. One parent hunts for fish to feed the babies, while the other carries them on their back, Anar Daswani, Nature projected.

Once their babies are born, Eared Grebe parents jointly take care of their young. Usually one parent will carry them on their backs where the babies can hide under the parent's feathers and keep safe from predators. I went to photograph them and tried my best to get as close to the water level as I could. Luckily, I managed to get this photo. I had a telephoto lens and my Sony a1 camera.



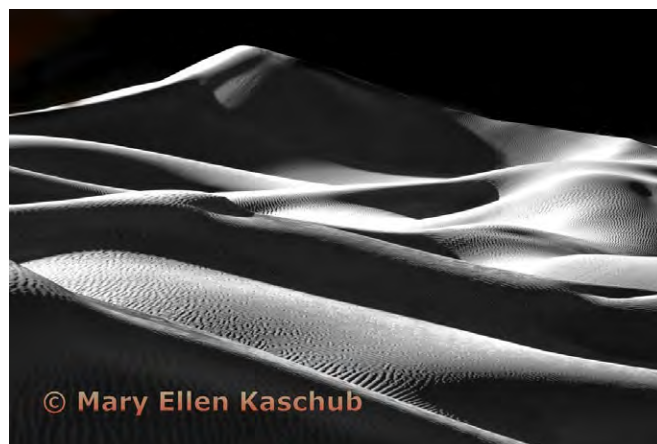
◀ Mobius Arch Alabama Hills CA, Jim Lamb, Color Print

After spending 5 days in Death Valley at a Landscape Workshop I spent 2 days at Lone Pine CA taking pictures of Mt. Whitney and The Alabama Hills. The Mobius Arch is a rock structure that is a part of the Alabama Hills. The Mobius Arch parking lot is about 8 miles from Lone Pine CA. The trail to the Arch is a 0.6 mile loop in and around large rocks, but an easy hike. The photo was taken on 3/28/2025 at about 2:00 pm. The lighting was bright (light clouds) and flat. I shot a number of images of the Arch and picked the final image after post processing.

Technical details: Camera Canon R5, lens Canon RF 14 - 35mm F4 L IS USM. Focal length for image 30 mm, 1/1000 sec at f 7.1, partial metering mode and ISO 250. Post processed using Lightroom Classic.

Printing Info: 12" by 16" image printed on 16" by 20" Epson Cold Press paper. This gave me a 2" white border around the image (no need for a mat board). The judge had positive comments regarding the border. The print was printed and mounted on 16" by 20" 2mm white styrene by Bay Photo. I had Bay Photo do the final color correction (you get a free reprint if they do it wrong). Overall, I was very pleased with how the image printed based on the lighting at the time the image was taken.

April Second Place Competition Winners



Rick Whitacre Night Photography Zoom

On Friday, April 4th, club member, Rick Whitacre presented “Night Tour of Yosemite and the Eastern Sierras” to the AAUW Armchair Travel Talk group. He showcased night images from locations including Yosemite Valley, Glacier Point, Olmsted Point, Tenaya Lake, Bodie State Historical Park, Alabama Hills, Owens Valley Radio Telescope, Bristlecone Pine Forest, and Death Valley National Park.

Rick discussed various types of night photography, such as Star Trails, Milky Way, Meteors, Comets, and DeepScapes, providing examples for each. He concluded with two of his most challenging images: Alamere Falls Milky Way and Day Into Night - Toroweap, both requiring long drives or hikes to remote locations and hours of careful positioning for exposure blending in Photoshop. He also presented timelapse videos for three of his DeepScope photos. [Link to recording is here.](#)



Star Circles in Yosemite at Olmsted Point on Highway 120 headed east from the valley.



A DeepScope image of Andromeda coming up behind El Capitan in Yosemite Valley



A DeepScope image of the Flame and Horsehead Nebulas from Lone Pine area with Mount Whitney in foreground.

A recording of the Zoom presentation is available in link above, though the first few minutes were cut off.



Meteors captured as they cross the Yosemite Valley night sky.

Rancho Cañada Del Oro Open Space Preserve Field Trip

by member Irina Nekrasova

This event was April 3rd. Rancho Cañada Del Oro Open Space Preserve in Morgan Hill area offers wildlife, wildflowers and natural landscapes. By the way, many participants at the last trip posted their images in the LGSCC website Gallery! Check it out! To find this Folder, please Login first. Go to Organization > Galleries > Field Trips 2025 folder > open Rancho Cañada Del Oro to see all the images posted.



Image by Eric Gray



© James Lamb



Zoom effect image by Irina Nekrasova

Death Valley Excursion



This event was not club sponsored but all attendees were LCSCC club members. Attendees were left to right: Jim Lamb, Peter Dileanis (my assistant), Paul Dileanis (me, workshop leader), Chris Cassell, Kent Bossange, Mercury Freedom, Rick Varley

From March 23rd to 27th, 2025, we embarked on a photography workshop of Death Valley. The workshop began with a pre-dawn hike to Mesquite Flat Sand Dunes where we captured stunning sunrise shots of the dunes illuminated by golden light. Later that day we explored Keane Wonder Mine, a relic of Death Valley's mining history.

A high point of the workshop was the visit to Badwater Basin, where new salt polygons were reforming after flooding the previous year. The intricate patterns formed offered many image opportunities.

At Zabriskie Point, we photographed the Milky Way and later captured the stunning landscapes and moods of the area in the changing light.

On the third day we made a return visit to Mesquite Flat Dune. Among the dunes, we discovered an ancient, dry lake with intricate mud patterns & wildlife footprints.

The final afternoon of the workshop found us in Rhyolite, Nevada. This ghost town near Death Valley offers a rich backdrop of history combined with photographic appeal.



Iconic Photo Back Story



Copyright: Arbindo Chattopadhyay

By Brian Galindo, BuzzFeed.com April, 2, 2025

The Winged Victory of Samothrace, an ancient Greek marble statue, was hidden in the Château de Valençay during World War II to protect it from Nazi looting. As part of the Louvre's efforts to safeguard its most precious artworks, the statue was carefully evacuated and concealed until the war ended. After the liberation of France, it was returned to the Louvre. At right is a photo of how it was put back into place atop the Daru staircase:

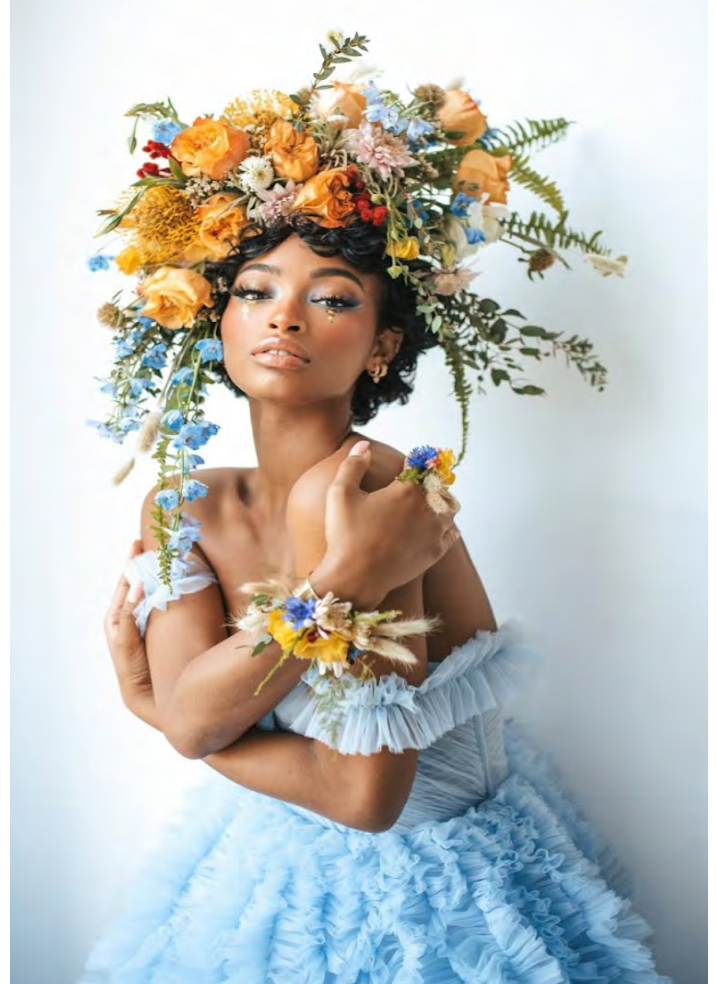


Pierre Jahan / Roger Viollet via Getty Images

Photographers to Watch— Kaci Moran

From <http://www.kacimoran.com>

Born and raised in North Carolina, wife to a handsome pilot, and mom to the sassiest fur baby. I fell in love with Photography hard and it ignited a passion in me that burns brighter with every session. Engagements, Graduations, or just because, it is so important to me that my couples have a memorable time at each session. I'm all about capturing the in-between moments, the stolen kisses, and the endless laughter. I want you to look back on these images, unable to wipe the smile from your face and remember exactly how you felt in that moment. Allow me the honor to capture your story so that you can relive it for years to come.



Great Photography Articles

Google AI Image Generation Tools - <https://www.techradar.com/i-tried-geminis-new-ai-image-generation-tool>

Content Authenticity Initiative - <https://www.thephoblographer.com/2025/03/10/content-authenticity-can-save-photography/>

Stunning Wildlife Moments - <https://www.canonwatch.com/how-ai-technology-is-changing-photography-and-how-canon->

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