Introduction to Basic Photography

Photo Assignment # 7: The Environmental Portrait

Due Nov 21

What is due?
1) 2 jpeg digital images, 2000 pixels on the long edge, placed in the Assignment_2 folder on our vico_1021_ws folder on our server at: smb://shared.ohio.edu/communication/viscom-classes.
2) Copyright & keyword metadata must be embedded in the two files.
3) A print from each of the two photos. Prints from uptown copy centers have poor photo quality and won't be accepted. Use the VisCom RIP photo printer. Note that the 2000 pixel jpeg file requested above will *not* be large enough to make the best quality letter-size print. See printing note below.
4) 300 pixel/inch digital "contact sheets" in jpg format showing 70 of your camera raw images. Place this also on our server space.
5) A signed parental model release if you photographed anyone under 18 years of age or someone photo-graphed in a private (non-pubic) place. A hard photocopy or JPG copy on the server is OK.

The Shoot:

This is an exercise to practice controlling and directing people for portraits. This portrait should also include the subject's typical surroundings to tell something else about them. Often a workplace setting is utilized for many environmental portraits. Don't be afraid to just ask.

You MUST shoot someone that you don't already know. Making strangers feel comfortable enough to be photographed is an important part of this assignment.

The two photos must be very different from each other. Do not submit nearly the same image twice. Completely different poses are requested, and shooting from another vantage point is the easiest way to do that.

Also, do not shoot children for this assignment. Learn to deal with the complexities of adult interactions.

Use Camera-Raw format on your camera. You'll convert the files to jpegs for file submission and make a print from the full-size file using Photoshop. Be sure to save this full-size print file, using a slightly differ-ent filename, in case a slight tweak is needed to the print.

Printing

Note that the small (2000 pixels) jpeg file typically requested for submission to the server *will be insuf-ficient for a quality print*. You must either print the original from Lightroom or open a full-size version of the file into Photoshop. This will contain many more pixels for sufficient print quality.

If printed from Photoshop, you will probably have to use the Image>Image size dialog box to reduce the printing dimensions (inches) to fit the 8.5x11 letter-size paper. When resizing, do NOT check Resample, or you might end up with too few pixels. When the picture fills the printing paper adequately (~10 inches on the long dimension), you should have a minimum of 200 pixels/inch resolution. Even more resolution may increase sharpness slightly - up to a point.

Note that on our printers, it is impossible to print to cut-edge of the paper. You must allow some margin, and most students allow about 1/2" around the picture area. Otherwise, part of your picture may be cut-off. The usual print size is therefore 10 inches on the long dimension for 11 inch long paper.

If you are using Photoshop CC, instructions for printing to the VisCom RIP are found at: http://www.ohio.edu/people/schneidw/2400/printing_photoshop_cc_4900.html

If you promise prints to your subject in return for their time, be sure to follow through on your promise.

Prints for this assighment are *due at the beginning of class*. There will be no printing allowed during class critique time.

Submitting the Files:
In the Assignment 7 folder, place the selected JPGs plus the PDF contact sheet named as follows:

Re-name your selected files as: LastName_FirstInitial_portrait_1.jpg
Examples: Jones_R_portrait_1.jpg   Jones_R_portrait_2.jpg

The jpg contact sheet, sized to hold 35 pictures max per page, would be named
Jones_R_portrait_contact.jpg

While the jpeg files are necessary to receive a grade for this assignment, the grade will be assessed on the prints themselves. Be sure that the prints are color-corrected and of high-quality. If an early print looks "off", make corrections in either Lightroom or Photoshop, then make additional prints until it's good. It sometimes takes practice to "see" the computer monitor in a way that matches a print.

Grading:
This set of photos is worth 100 points out of the 1200 total points for the class. Prints will be scored equally on technical and creative merits.