

# SkillsUSA Texas Photography Contest 2022

**Contest Chair - John Burrows**

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## Day 1

Orientation - At this time all contestants MUST be in attendance. Sponsors are welcome to attend but their attendance is not required.

Dress - Business Comfortable - Wear something that you can move and take pictures in (no sweats, joggers, or shorts) . A comfortable pair of shoes that you can walk around in for an hour.

Resume - You will submit a one page resume on day 1. Please ensure that your resume is complete and comprehensive.

1. Print Competition - This is your opportunity to show the judges your best work. These must be school-appropriate. Please size them to 11x14 or 10x15. Color or B&W will work. They need to have been taken in the past year. Tell a story, capture a moment, something compelling and technically sound. You will be judged on your creativity, technical work, lighting, focus, correct edits, matting and overall judges draw to the image.

DO NOT turn in a composite.

Images will be printed and matted before you attend the contest. The print size must be either 11x14 or 10x15. The matting will be 16x20 black matte with white core.

The backing will be a piece of black foam core secured all the way around on the matte. Use a double sided tape for this but not required. Do not use the hinge method.

Points will be deducted for scratches, pencil marks, curled or warped matte, or bent corners, etc.

DO NOT frame pictures

If one of your prints is also in the print competition please make a second copy so you are not worried about having it in two places at one time.

2. Written Test - This test has a series of multiple choice questions that cover some of the following topics:

History of Photography (iconic photographers and advancements in technology)

Exposure controls and their effects on images. Included is the Zone System.

Lens choices given a photographic situation (sports, jewelry, studio portraits, etc.)

General terminology

Photoshop

3. Troubleshooting - This test will be a matching test. The contestants will be given a series of images commonly found in the digital process and will be required to identify the problem in each image.

Equipment for day 2:

1. Resume
2. 2 prints
3. Pencil or pen

## Day 2

Dress - Business Comfortable - Wear something that you can move and take pictures in (no sweats, joggers, or shorts) . A comfortable pair of shoes that you can walk around in for an hour.

4. Field Assignment - You will be given 4 prompts and an hour and a half to photograph those prompts on location at the ABC center. You will be asked to format your memory card and please set your camera date and time correctly. The photos that are turned in should only be from the contest time. You will only use manual mode on your camera.

You will then be given time to edit those images using only sliders (global edits). No spot healing or manipulating. Color or B&W is allowed.

You will crop your image to fit either a 4x5 or 4x6 ratio. Do not resize the image. These will be turned in as jpeg images.

**Title this image Photo\_contestant# Prompt label** (This will be 4 images)

5. Conceptual Assignment - For this portion of the contest you will take those four images that you turned in and create a composite that tells a story. This needs to be cohesive and interesting. Make your selections clean, use layer masks, and most importantly tell a story.

**Title this image Photo\_Contestant# Conceptual**

6. Portrait Studio - You will be given the task to set up your light and a model to produce a specific lighting pattern on the model. The model will be provided for you. The lights and light trigger will also be provided. The lighting trigger will work on standard hot shoe\*. You will use 2 strobe lights; a main and a fill. You will be graded on lighting placement, exposure, camera & lights settings, model placement and pose, the submitted image and the lighting diagram that you draw (backdrop, lights, model, label main and fill, and camera placement). No edits on the image submitted will be allowed.

**Title this image Photo\_Contestant# Portrait**

\*If the camera you bring does not have a hot shoe the trigger will fit on you will be provided with a Canon dslr with no instructions.

7. Digital Editing - This part of the contest will test your ability to see what was done to an image and recreate it with the images provided. You will be scored on your ability to adjust color, make selections, adjust sizes, add shadows, use layer masks, work non-destructively, text, and more. The original will be done in Photoshop if you are using another program to do your edits it may be more difficult for you.

**Title this image Photo\_Contestant# Recreate**

8. Commercial Studio - You will be given the task to photograph a product for a specific company for an ad. This will be an image submitted straight out of camera with no edits. Contestants will have access to three continuous lights, a product and some props. Contestants will be judged on the image only. The following criteria will be used to evaluate the image: Product placement, Lighting of product, Clarity of product name,

Use of props, Overall creativity and impact of image

**Title this image Photo\_Contestant# Commercial**

Equipment for day 2:

1. DSLR or Mirrorless camera
2. Lenses
3. Computer
4. Memory card

5. USB
6. Any other camera accessories you want to use

### **Day 3**

Dress - Contest attire - SkillsUSA white polo, black slacks/skirt and black shoes. No red jacket is needed.

9. Interview - Contestants will be given an interview to assess their communication skills and overall job readiness. Have your resume ready for the interview. Each Contestant will be given a time slot. Once the interview concludes they are finished and can leave the contest area. Interviews may be conducted virtually. The interview will be for an entry level photography job. The specific job will be given to the contestants on day 1.

Equipment for day 2:

1. Resume

