

UECPC Project: Develop a Body of Work

Most serious photographers specialize in one type of photography, whether it is landscapes, macro, portraiture, nature, sports – the list is endless. Rarely do they venture from their comfort zone and try other types of photography. If they do, they are rarely satisfied with the images produced. Our club's Photo Challenge is designed to stretch us monthly by providing themes which may fall out of our normal realm of photography.

But what should we do with all of our really great photos? At the September 07 meeting, Justin suggested we start a project in which members can work on a theme, or portfolio, throughout the year, and then share it at the August meeting. Since most members felt that was a great idea, a new project has been born!

We are asking members to create a portfolio of their work that can be presented at the August 2008 meeting. There are no parameters to this project as we want everyone to make this project their "own". We've listed a few guidelines regarding portfolios; it's up to you to decide how to proceed with this project. There will be no judging, scoring or any other competitive measure in this project – just the opportunity to create a body of work you are proud to share with others.

A portfolio is a photographer's resume, so it should contain only your ABSOLUTE BEST work. Prints should be of the highest quality.

Generally speaking, a portfolio is designed around a specific theme or purpose, but it could also be a collection of your best work. It provides you with an opportunity to present your photography in a context that you have chosen.

A good portfolio consists of:

- 10-20 images.
- An artist statement that defines the theme of the portfolio, what you want to do with your photographs and what you want people to take with them after viewing your work.
- Title list of the photographs.
- A cover image that is representational of the portfolio as a whole.
- A decent, practical and respectable case.

In the October newsletter, there will be a more detailed article on developing a portfolio. In the meantime, get out and starting shooting!!