

TYGERBERG PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY

SET SUBJECTS 2025

Please note that only images taken in a rolling 12 month period prior to the competition month are eligible for submission into the Set Subject category

Please adhere to these rules, as any image entered into the set subject without EXIF data, or where the EXIF data shows the image to not meet this criteria, will not be judged and scored.

JANUARY: TABLE TOP

Table top photography is one example of still life photography. It is a genre of photography used for the depiction of inanimate subject matter, typically a small group of objects. This gives the photographer more leeway in the arrangement of design elements within a composition compared to other photographic genres, such as landscapes or portraits photography.

The photographer has total control over the elements.

Lighting and framing are important aspects of still life photography composition.

MANIPULATION IS ALLOWED

FEBRUARY: PATTERNS AND SHAPES

Patterns can be found everywhere – in nature and man-made constructions. They are made up of repeated objects, shapes, or colours and whether they're random or ordered can be very pleasing to the eye.

Textures are repetition of patterns, creating a uniform texture. Those patterns can be everything from curves to straight lines. When working with curves, circles and shapes, consistency in size and shape is what is important.

MANIPULATION IS ALLOWED

MARCH: HIGH KEY

High key photography is a lighting technique that creates bright, evenly lit images with minimal shadows. It typically involves using a lot of light to fill the scene, which results in a clean, soft, and airy aesthetic.

The overall image will have very few, if any, dark tones, giving it a light and uplifting feel. This style is commonly used in portrait photography, product photography and commercial advertising to evoke a sense of positivity and clarity.

High-key lighting is achieved by using soft, diffused light sources and ensuring the background is also well-lit.

MANIPULATION IS ALLOWED

APRIL: MINIMALISM

Minimalist photography is a type image-making that relies on simplistic compositions, heavy use of empty space, and elimination of clutter, and can be encapsulated by the quote “less is more”. Minimalist photography is often captured early in the morning, sunrise or dark at night.

Minimalist photography often pays attention to one single subject in its composition, using nature as its background.

MANIPULATION IS ALLOWED

MAY: MONOCHROME

Monochrome is a black and white image. A black and white work fitting from the very dark grey (black) to the very clear grey (white) is a monochrome work with the various shades of grey. A black and white work toned entirely in a single colour will remain a monochrome work able to stand in the black and white category. A black and white work modified by a partial toning or by the addition of one colour becomes a colour work (polychrome) to stand in the colour category.

MANIPULATION IS ALLOWED

JUNE: SCAPES

A genre intended to show different spaces within the world, usually vast and unending. Scapes cover the depiction of scenery such as mountains, valleys, rivers, forests, cities, etc. where the main subject is a wide view with its elements arranged into a coherent composition.

MANIPULATION IS ALLOWED

JULY: ICM

ICM is a photographic technique where you move the camera as the image is being taken. One example of this is panning. ICM can also be presented as an abstract type of image where nothing is **intentionally** sharp

MANIPULATION IS ALLOWED

AUGUST: NATURE / WILDLIFE

Nature photography is restricted to the use of the photographic process to depict all branches of natural history, except anthropology and archaeology, in such a fashion that a well-informed person will be able to identify the subject material and certify its honest presentation.

Wildlife photography is further defined as one or more zoological or botanical organisms living free and unrestrained in a natural or adopted habitat. Wildlife is not limited to animals, birds and insects. Marine subjects and botanical subjects (including fungi and algae) taken in the wild are suitable wildlife subjects, as are carcasses of extant species

NO MANIPULATION ALLOWED

SEPTEMBER: STREET PHOTOGRAPHY

Street photography records un-posed scenes in public spaces. The primary subject is people and/or symbols of people, at rest or in motion, alone or with others, going about their everyday activities.

NO MANIPULATION ALLOWED

OCTOBER: MACRO / CLOSE UP

This is extreme close-up photography where the subject is usually very small, where the size of the subject in the image is greater than actual life size

NO MANIPULATION ALLOWED

NOVEMBER: THE COLOUR ORANGE

The subject can be anything that appeals to you. It may be because you like the colour Orange, the shape or lighting on it, or even the patterns that have been created.

Just because others do not photograph something different doesn't mean it's not a good subject. So, let your creativity come out and surprise us.

MANIPULATION IS ALLOWED