

# 2025 PEI, Skills Canada Provincial Photography Competition

April 01, 2025 – 8:30 am to 12:00 pm

## Contest Description

Welcome to the 2025 Skills Canada Photography High School Level Competition. During this three-hour event, each competitor must create and submit five **(5)** images. Within this timeframe, participants are expected to expose, post-process, name, save, and submit all images. It is essential that each student uses each image only once. Any incorrectly submitted image will be disqualified, and all decisions made by the judges are final. The competition begins at 8:30 AM with a brief orientation. This session will give students the chance to get organized and ask any questions before starting.

## Competition Location and Registration Link

- **Holland College** – Photography and Videography Department (**Room 28W**)
- Located in the Charlottetown Centre, West Wing, on the Basement Level
- **Registration Link:**

## Organizer's Contact Details

- Jean-Sébastien Duchesne (JS)
- Holland College, Photography and Videography Instructor
- Email Address: [jduchesne@hollandcollege.com](mailto:jduchesne@hollandcollege.com)
- Office Telephone: 902-566-9551

## Equipment (provided by student)

- Digital camera (**DSLR or mirrorless**)
- Camera lens or lenses of the student's choice
- Memory card (**format in-camera prior to competition for best results**)
- Camera battery (**fully charged**)
- Card reader (**required if you are using a memory card other than an SD card**)
- Tripod (**optional**)
- Reflector (**optional**)
- External "Speedlight" type flash (**optional**)
- Lighting gear: LED, strobes, etc. (**optional**)
- Transmitter and receiver for operating speedlight or strobes off camera (**optional**)

## Equipment Provided by Holland College (limited amounts)

- iMac workstation (Competitors are welcome to use their personal laptops as well.)
- Large studio space with various backgrounds
- Lenses, tripods, reflectors and other miscellaneous equipment will be provided based on quantities and availability.
- **For further details**, please inquire with the Holland College Instructor using the provided contact information above.

## Contest Description

### Orientation Information:

- **Competitor Orientation Date and Time:** Tuesday April 02, 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.
  - **Essential Resources:** A pen and paper to take notes.
  - **Model Requirement:** Competitors must bring a person to the competition to serve as their model for Part 2 of the competition.
  - **Documentation:** A printed copy of the competition document or easy access to an electronic version.
  - **Technical Readiness:**
    - If you're bringing your own computer to work on, make sure it is fully updated and in good working condition. Verify that its technical specifications can efficiently handle large files in photo editing software.
    - **Recommended:** Ensure that your editing software is updated to its latest version for optimal performance
  - **Important Camera Settings Verification:** Your camera's internal date and time must be properly set prior to the start of competition.
  - **Competition Zone:** All photographs must be captured exclusively within the specified area, as outlined during orientation, and within the competition hours from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
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### Part 1: Mystery Object (1 photograph)

#### Objective:

- Create a photograph featuring a **mystery object** revealed at the start of the competition.
- Competitors are required to feature the mystery object prominently, either as the main subject or as a significant contributing element to the primary subject of their photograph.

#### Requirements:

- The unlimited use of photo editing software is permitted.
- The photograph must be taken **within the designated competition area** (as defined during orientation) and during competition hours (**8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**).
- The final photograph must be submitted in **JPEG format** (1920px on the longest edge).

#### Naming Convention:

- Ensure that the final photograph is named in the following format:  
**Lastname\_part1.jpg**

#### Preparation for Part 1:

- Practice adapting quickly to incorporate **unexpected elements** into a photograph.
  - Refine your skills in adjusting exposure, white balance, and focus to quickly adapt to different lighting conditions.
  - Experiment with background selection and lighting for **creative impact**.
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## Part 2: In Camera, No Editing (1 photograph)

### Objective:

- Competitors must produce a single photograph featuring a model.
- Each competitor is responsible for bringing their own model, who **must be a person**—this can be a classmate, friend, or family member. However, the model is not permitted to assist in any way; **they can only quietly follow your directions.**

### Requirements:

- Competitors are encouraged to bring props and creatively use clothing, hair, and makeup to style their photograph.
- Competitors may utilize **any available lighting sources**, including natural daylight and artificial indoor lighting. They can also use flash, strobe, or LED lights, but these must be provided by the competitors themselves.
- The photograph is required to be captured in RAW format, **not in JPEG.**
- No editing, cropping, or post-production is allowed for this photograph. The use of photo editing software is **strictly prohibited.**
- The final photograph must be submitted in **RAW format.**
- It's important to be aware that the file extension for your submission will vary according to the brand and model of the camera you use. For instance, it may be \*.CR2 for Canon, \*.NEF for Nikon, or \*.ARW for Sony.
- All photographs must be taken **within the designated competition area** (as defined during orientation) and during competition hours **(8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)**.

### Naming Convention:

- Ensure that the final photograph is named in the following format:  
**Lastname\_part2.RAW** (your RAW postfix)

### Preparation for Part 2:

- Examine the camera's **histogram** information carefully to ensure proper exposure.
  - Practice using various lighting setups (natural, artificial, flash, strobe, or LED) to control mood, highlights, and shadows.
  - Experiment with composition, framing, and angles to create an engaging and visually balanced photograph. Consider the rule of thirds, leading lines, and symmetry.
  - Plan and gather props, clothing, and makeup in advance to enhance the mood or story you wish to convey.
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## Part 3: Personal Project (3 photographs)

### Objective:

- Create a **series of three related photographs** that share a common theme, to be displayed as a unified collection.
- The theme for these images will be disclosed **two weeks prior to the start of the competition.**

## Requirements:

- The unlimited use of photo editing software is permitted.
- All photographs must be taken **within the designated competition area** (as defined during orientation) and during competition hours **(8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)**.
- Each final photograph **must have** the same **aspect ratio** and **orientation**, meaning they must all be either horizontal or vertical, with identical pixel dimensions in both width and height.
- The 3-photograph series will be assessed as a unified collection, **presented left to right** in the order of their respective numbers, for viewing, judging, and scoring.
- All final photographs must be submitted in **JPEG format** (1920px on the longest edge).

## Naming Convention:

- Ensure that all final photographs are named in the following format:  
**Lastname\_part3\_01.jpg**  
**Lastname\_part3\_02.jpg**  
**Lastname\_part3\_03.jpg**

## Preparation for Part 3:

- Once the theme is disclosed, brainstorm ideas that can effectively unify the three photographs into a cohesive series. Consider visual elements such as mood, color palette, storytelling, or recurring subjects.
- Explore storytelling through composition by experimenting with backgrounds and their relationship to your subject.
- Practice creating small photo series with a beginning, middle, and end, or with a repeating motif or visual element that ties the images together.

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## Submitting your files

Once you have completed all the required tasks outlined in the Contest Description section above (all three parts), place **all five (5) final images** in a single folder on your computer's desktop. Name this folder using your first and last name only. Do not create any subfolders; simply save your five (5) images directly into the main folder. The competition organizer will collect your entry shortly after the competition ends. By the end of the next school day, an email announcing the winners (**Gold, Silver, and Bronze**) will be sent to all high school teachers whose students participated.

**Important Note: All files must be submitted no later than 12:00 p.m. on April 01.**

## Assessment Breakdown

POINTS BREAKDOWN		
Point 1	Mystery Object ( <b>1 image</b> )	10
Point 2	In Camera, No Editing ( <b>1 image</b> )	10
Point 3	Personal Project ( <b>3 images</b> )	10
Point 4	Entire Portfolio ( <b>5 images</b> )	10
<b>Total</b>		<b>40</b>

TOPIC/TASK	CONTEST SPECIFIC RULES
Food and beverage	<p>No food shall be consumed in the photography competition area.</p> <p>Liquids (i.e., Coffee, water) are allowed if they are in a thermos or a sealed bottled.</p>
Image Submission	<p>You are only allowed to use an image once.</p> <p>Pictures must be submitted as JPG or RAW as indicated in the project document.</p> <p>The date and time must be set accurately in the menu of your camera.</p> <p>Incorrectly submitted images, and images that fail to meet the criteria and or circumvent the spirit and intent of the competition will be disqualified, and all judges' decisions are final.</p>
Use of External Images	<p>The use of <i>any</i> external images not created by the competitor during the competition (including <i>but not limited to</i> graphics, text, stock, logos, etc.) will not be permitted for <b><u>any use</u></b> in the competition unless otherwise noted in the contest project document.</p>
Artificial Intelligence (AI)	<p>In adherence to the principles of fair competition and authenticity, the use of any form of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools is prohibited in assisting with image creation. This includes AI tools that generate, insert, or modify images, whether partially or entirely, and which were not created by the participant themselves. Our primary concern is to ensure that all submitted images are a genuine representation of the participants' own work.</p> <p>The judging panel retains the right to request access to the raw files associated with any submitted image. This step may be taken in cases where doubts arise, regarding the involvement of AI tools in the image creation process.</p> <p>If an image is identified to contain elements that were not captured by the competitor, it will lead to the disqualification of that image from the competition. All judges' decisions will be final.</p>