
Local iQ 2008 Photo Contest Winners

Thursday, 07 August 2008

Contest draws a multitude of photographic work from local visionaries

INTRODUCTION BY KEVIN HOPPER

The assignment: "Local Color."

The response: immense.

Local iQ's Second Annual Photo Contest received a huge response from local photographers, both amateur and professional. As expected, submissions ranged from beautiful New Mexican landscapes to colorful graffiti murals painted on dingy Downtown alley walls. In all, we received upwards of 300 entries from close to 100 photographers, resulting in the gargantuan task of sorting through a mountain of pixels to pick out a handful of compositions that best captured the idea of "local color."

You may be asking why then, did our panel of judges settle on a black and white photo of a local fighter in a gym. Oddly, grand prize winner Ryan Garcia submitted a color version of the same photo, which was initially passed over. However, after seeing the image in grayscale, our judges had a completely different response. Sure, there is no actual color aside from black and white, but culturally, the image is bursting with "color," not to mention the intriguing, gripping interaction between subject and lens.

Local iQ would like to sincerely thank all of the photographers that submitted their work to the contest. We are disappointed that more of the great images submitted to us couldn't make it to print. But thanks to electronic publishing, additional honorable mentions are included here. We encourage our readers to vote for their favorite photos by posting a comment online. To post a comment, scroll to the bottom of this page and click on "Discuss this article." We look forward to reading your responses.

FIRST PLACE: BY ALLEN MAESTAS

SECOND PLACE: BY ALBERT J. MARTINEZ

THIRD PLACE: BY IOANNIS (YANNI) BATSIOS JR.

HONORABLE MENTION: BY PE PRESTON

HONORABLE MENTION: BY SHARON SPERRY BLOOM

HONORABLE MENTION: BY RICK LUJAN

HONORABLE MENTION: BY JOEL LUSK

HONORABLE MENTION: BY RAINE KLOVER

HONORABLE MENTION: BY CLAUDIA CIELENSKY

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