

Judge's Statement – Millrace Photography Contest 2016

I was honored to be asked by The Photographers Guild to be the judge for the 2016 Millrace Photography Contest. It was an enjoyable and educational experience for me. I appreciate the friendliness and professionalism of everyone at The Guild.

A photograph can be many different things: a document, a personal memory, an immediate connection with a unique set of visual circumstances, a celebration of light, color and strong design. I found all of the above being showcased in this year's field of entries.

Judging art and photography is always a subjective process. The photos I selected range from those which show a very sound sense of design to those which present the ever-varied grandeur of nature to those which celebrate a very personal subject or moment. I am particularly drawn to photographs which re-incite our curiosity and perhaps challenge the norms of what a photograph can or should be. Clearly, there is tremendous talent and genuine inquisitiveness about photography represented here.

Tom Grove

Mr. Grove taught art and photography in the Elkhart Community Schools for 40 years. He received his B.S. from Ball State University and his M.A. in art education from the University of Illinois. He has studied the photography collections at the MOMA, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the International Center of Photography, the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Tate Britain and Tate Modern, The British Museum and the Serpentine Gallery, and in Los Angeles at the Getty Museum and the Peter Fennerman Gallery, among others.

Mr. Grove has mounted four one-man shows of his photography: "***Let There Be Light,***" "***Pictures of Pictures,***" "***Japan: Lost and Found,***" and "***Person, Place, Thing.***"