

Photo: _____

Date: _____

TVCC Critique Night—Critique Form

Directions: Use the categories below to assess the aspects of your chosen/assigned photograph.

TECHNICAL

- **Exposure:**
- **Focus:**
- **Depth of Field:**
- **Lighting/White Balance:**

COMPOSITION

- **Centered vs. Rule of Thirds:**
- **Fore, Middle and Backgrounds:**
- **Cropping/Framing:**
- **Diagonals, S-Curves, Etc:**
- **Leading Lines:**
- **Dark vs. Light Area:**
- **Balance:**

VISION

- **Logic:**
- **Purpose:**
- **Clarity:**
- **Emotional Impact:**
- **Dynamic:**
- **Provocative:**
- **Creative:**
- **Unusual:**

CRITIQUE THE TECHNICALS

- **EXPOSURE**—How could the photographer prevent this problem in the future?
- **FOCUS**-- Is the main subject in focus? Is it sharp focus, or a "soft" focus? Is the focus appropriate for the situation?
- **DEPTH OF FIELD**—Is the DOF shallow or deep? Does the DOF work in this shot, or should more (or less) of the photo be in focus?
- **LIGHTING/WHITE BALANCE**—Is the light soft or harsh? Does the type of lighting enhance or detract from the things in the photo? Is the white balance set correctly? Is there a yellowish, orangish, or greenish cast to the photo?

CRITIQUE THE COMPOSITION

- **CENTERED VS RULE OF THIRDS**—Is the main subject in the center of the frame? Is it on a third? Somewhere else? Does the chosen composition work, or could they have done something differently?
- **FORE, MIDDLE AND BACKGROUNDS**--(Most applicable to landscape photos) Does the photo contain all three? If not, do you think it would be better if it did?
- **CROPPING/FRAMING**-Is there wasted empty space in the photo? Should the crop have been tighter? Is it cropped so tightly that important parts of the photo have been cutoff?
- **COLOR/TONAL RANGE**--What type of colors do you see? Did the photographer use a lot of primary colors? Secondary? Complementary? Are the colors too vivid? Not vivid enough? If you are looking at a B&W photo, is there a true black, true white, with a large tonal range in between, or is the photo too "gray"?
- **DIAGONALS, S-CURVES, ETC**--Did the photographer make use of any visually-interesting elements, such as diagonal lines or S-curves?
- **LEADING LINES**--Do the lines and overall composition make you want to look deeper into the photo? Is your eye drawn into the photo, or out of it?
- **DARK VS LIGHT AREAS**--Are there too many bright areas? Too many dark areas?
- **BALANCE**--Is the photo "balanced"? Would it be better if there were other objects or other light/dark areas in the frame to improve the balance? If the photo is off balance, is there a reason for it?

CRITIQUE THE VISION

- **LOGIC**--Is the arrangement of the visual elements effective for the image's purpose/story?
- **PURPOSE**--Is there a strong center of interest, pattern or design?
- **CLARITY**--Is it simple, yet complete and without distracting elements?
- **EMOTIONAL IMPACT**--The vital element for a truly great image, making it unique and memorable.
- **DYNAMIC**--Does it grab and keep your attention? Does it have the 'wow' factor?
- **PROVOCATIVE**--Does it excite your imagination, or create a strong emotion in you?
- **CREATIVE**--Does it show a familiar subject in a new, unusual and yet effective way?
- **UNUSUAL**--Does it show a very unusual subject in an effective way?