

Yearbook
SUITE
EXTRA

100+ GREAT
YEARBOOK
PHOTOS

THAT CAPTURED OUR
ATTENTION AND WHY

Walsworth yearbooks

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YEARBOOK PHOTOS

THAT CAPTURED OUR ATTENTION AND WHY

Photographs make a yearbook a yearbook. People look at the photos before they read the copy. The images used will set the tone of each spread. After all, there wouldn't be much to look at without the photographs depicting the year's events.

Photos are a critical part of the yearbook, but it's not as simple as saying, "one, two, three, cheese!" Truly great yearbook photographs use many different elements to capture a moment.

In this book, we've gathered more than 100 amazing photos that caught our eye during our annual spring photo contest. Each image includes an explanation of why it's a good photograph.

As you browse, think about ways you might want to use these styles or techniques. Use this book as a learning tool and a source of inspiration.

PHOTO TERMS

Here are some of the characteristics that make up great photographs. We will be talking about them throughout this book.

ACTION SHOT The photo shows a subject or object in motion.

ANGLE The photo was taken from a good vantage point. This can be eye level, but taking photos from high or low (a "bird's eye" or "worm's eye" view) can make them more interesting.

BACKGROUND The area farther away from the photographer

BOKEH An effect caused by blurred lights in out-of-focus areas; could be created by out-of-focus Christmas lights, rain drops or distant streetlights

CANDID The photo wasn't posed. This is a great way to show emotion and relationships between two or more people.

CATCHLIGHT Reflection of light in a subject's eye, which adds depth

CENTER OF INTEREST Point or feature that draws the eye's attention

COMPLEMENTARY COLOR Colors that are opposite each other on the color wheel, creating contrast in the image

CONTRAST The difference between highlights and shadow in an image

DEPTH OF FIELD The balance that exists between in-focus and out-of-focus zones. If only a small zone is in focus, that's called shallow depth of field. A large zone kept in focus is called wide depth of field.

EXPOSURE The light “captured” in an image. It changes in various light settings, and is controlled by the camera settings. If the exposure wasn’t correct, the image will be overexposed or underexposed.

FILLED FRAME The subject fills the entire frame of the photo.

FOCUS How clear and sharply defined an image is. In-focus images are sharp and well-defined, while out-of-focus images are blurry. Different parts of a photo can have different focus.

FOREGROUND The area closer to the photographer

FRAMING This is a compositional technique in which the center of interest is viewed through something else. The most effective frames are natural, often created by slightly out-of-focus objects or people in the foreground.

GRAYSCALE A range of monochromatic shades, also referred to as “black and white”

JUXTAPOSITION Two objects placed side by side for contrast or comparison

LEADING LINES These are lines within an image that lead the eye to another point into or out of the image. The lines can be made from arms, stair railings, power lines, fences, bridges or a shoreline.

MATTE A finish that reflects light in a diffused manner

PHOTO TERMS

CONTINUED

REPETITION These are lines or shapes in a photo that reoccur within a photo, creating a pattern.

SELECTIVE FOCUS This technique creates visual emphasis by making either the background or foreground sharper.

SHARPNESS The degree of an image's clarity, in terms of focus and contrast

SILHOUETTE A dark image outlined against a light background

**VANTAGE POINT/
POINT OF VIEW** This is the place and position from which a photographer takes a photo to create a more interesting image.

RULE OF THIRDS If you were to divide an image into nine equal sections (like a tic-tac-toe board), the focal point falls where the lines intersect. Putting the subject slightly off center makes the image seem more dynamic.

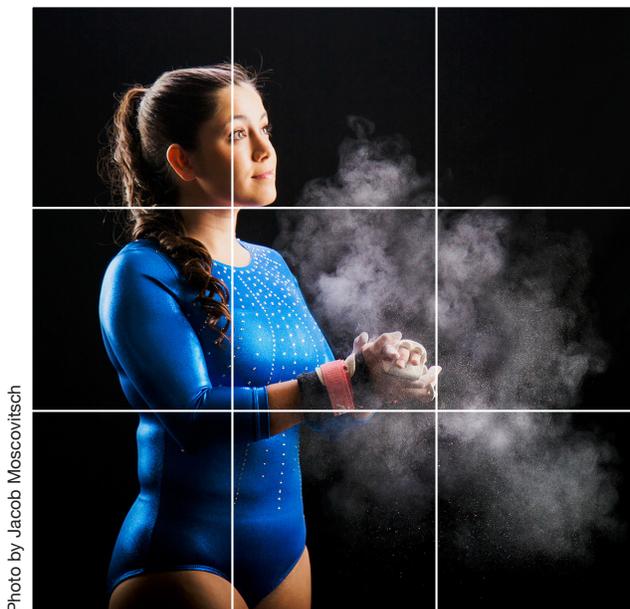


Photo by Jacob Moscovitsch

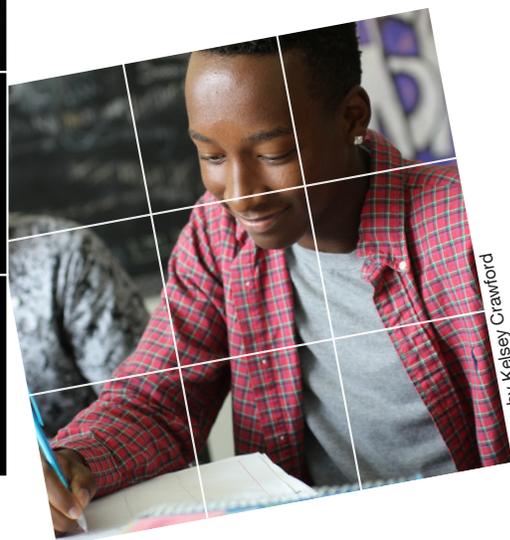


Photo by Kelsey Crawford

SINGLE PERSON SHOWCASING REFLECTION

An image of one person reflecting on the project or activity in which they are engaged.

TWO PEOPLE SHOWCASING RELATIONSHIP An image of two people showing the nature of their relationship, such as friendly, competitive, family or romantic.

GROUP INTERACTION An image of three or more people and the dynamics or moving force of their behavior together, such as players in a game, fans in the stands, or students at a play rehearsal, a science lab or community service.

WHITE BALANCE A setting that adjusts the color temperature of light, so objects that are truly white appear white

ACADEMICS

Don't assume academic photos have to be boring! The photos in this section highlight some of the amazing activities happening in class. From flaming science projects to pottery wheels, there's plenty to capture.

ACADEMICS

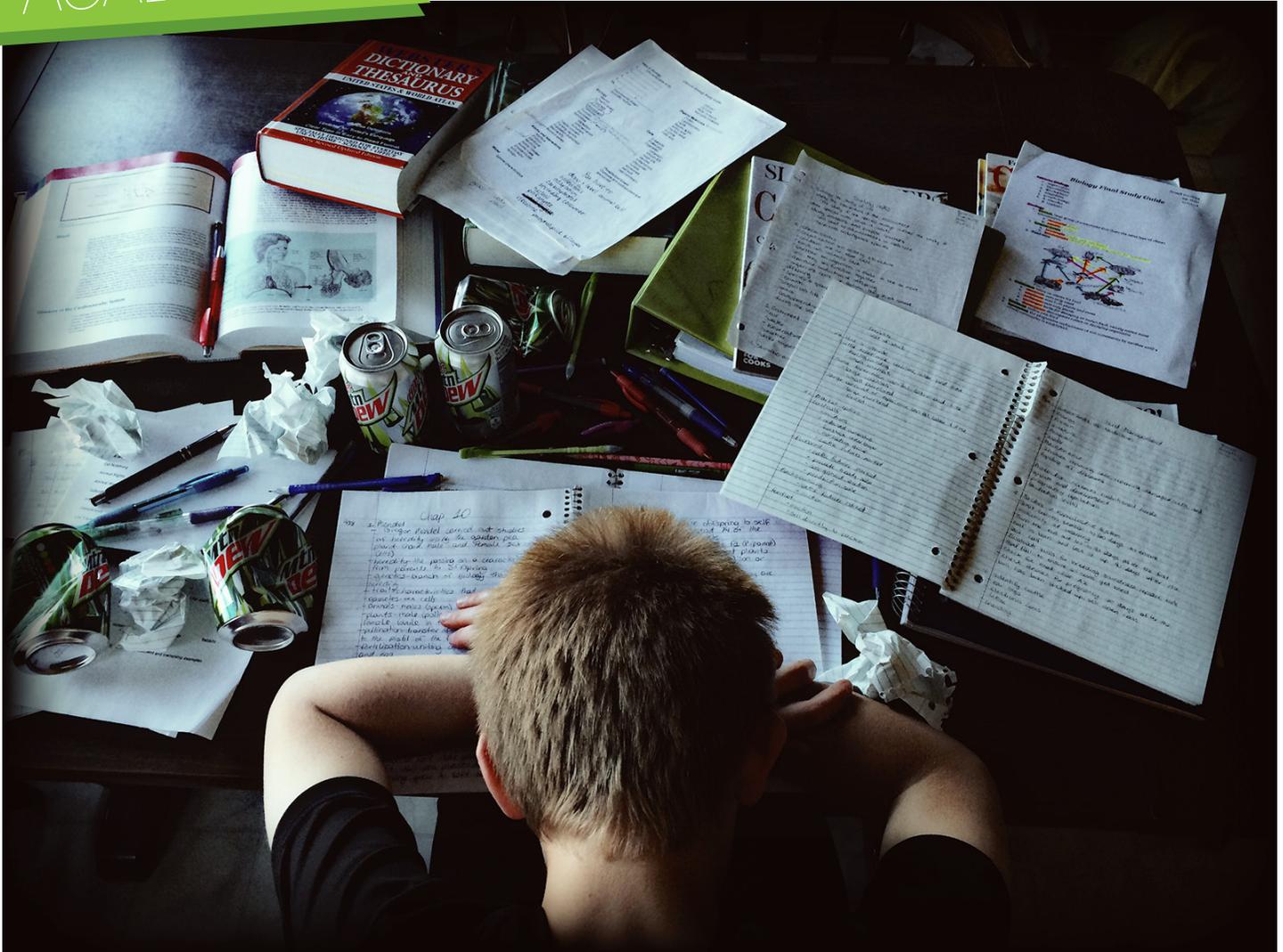


PHOTO BY BRANDI BUESKING

Academic life can be stressful, and this photo showcases a student on the brink of a meltdown.

The use of contrast increases the emotion in this photo, which is a good example of "single person showcasing reflection."

The photographer chose a storytelling vantage point and followed the rule of thirds.



This student is so engrossed in her art project, she has no idea her photo is being taken. That may be why the photographer was able to capture it from such a unique vantage point.

The subject's art project frames her eye and mouth, making the eye-level angle the perfect choice for taking the photo. This photograph is a good example of selective focus, with the project in focus and the artist slightly blurred.

PHOTO BY CHELSEA SALINAS

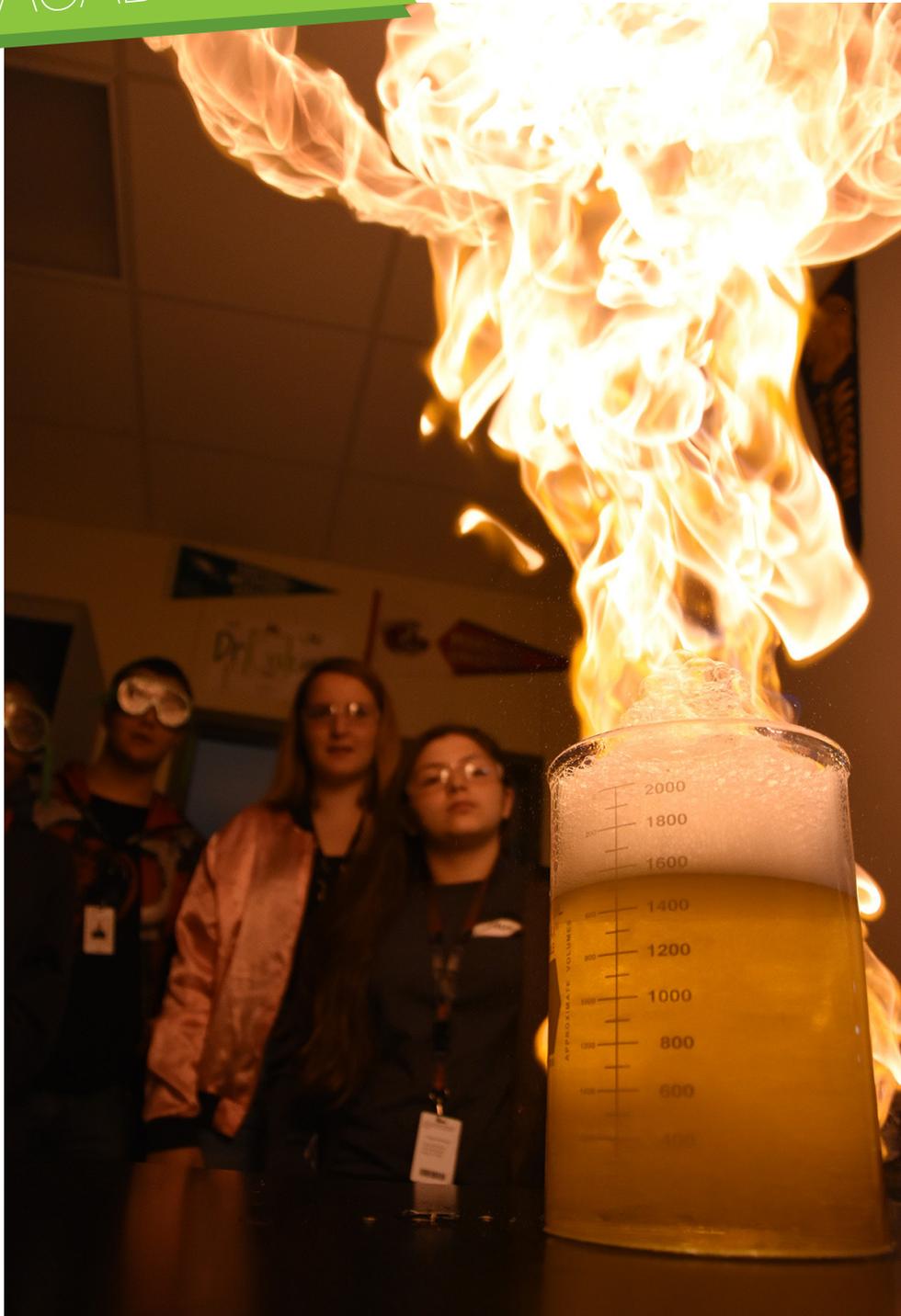


PHOTO BY TRINITY TILLUNG

The play between light and dark makes for a very dramatic photo! This captivating photo uses the bright light in the center as contrast to the dark surroundings. The student is focused on the intense task at hand. It's difficult to take photos in low-light situations, so this showcases the photographer's skill.

The photographer got down to a low angle for this photo, which gives you a new perspective.

ACADEMICS



Wouldn't you love to be in this science class! The students are completely focused on the flames and not paying any attention to the camera.

The vantage point makes the column of flames look enormous. This is a good example of using depth of field, with the science experiment in focus and the students blurred in the background. It also follows the rule of thirds.

PHOTO BY ERIC JUAREZ

ACADEMICS

Worlds of wonder await at the library, as shown by this student absorbed in her book while the books in the background create repetition.

This photo uses the “single person showcasing reflection” rule. The vantage point adds interest, as the photographer got low to the ground. Good contrast and color round out the appeal of this photo.



PHOTO BY BRANDI BUESKING

ACADEMICS



PHOTO BY MARY KRESS

The student observes her project with a serene face in this bright and vibrant photo. The beakers in the foreground create repetition. The light cast on her face creates contrast with the darker background.

The photographer followed the rule of thirds, as her eyes land right where the gridlines would intersect. This photo also demonstrates depth of field.

ACADEMICS



PHOTO BY JACOB MOSCOVITCH

A great academics photo shows learning in progress. School work can sometimes be difficult and tedious, but this image shows that learning can be fun and even a bonding time with old or new friends.

The depth of field, vibrant colors and framing also make this photograph great. It follows the rule of “two people showcasing relationship.”

ACADEMICS



PHOTO BY KELSEY CRAWFORD

Here is a perfect example of what the correct exposure can do for a photo. The photographer calibrated everything properly for this well-composed photo. In addition to good exposure, this photo also demonstrates depth of field and use of the rule of thirds.

The two most visible students have smiles on their faces. Even though they're in class, we know they're happy to be there.

ACADEMICS



PHOTO BY LEAH FORSBLOM

You can feel the student's intense concentration in this photo. She is hyper-focused on her project and seems to be unaware her photo is being taken.

The photographer followed the rule of thirds, and made use of selective focus. The fuzzy foreground, with the student in sharp focus, showcases the depth of field.



PHOTO BY MEGAN BELL

This class looks fun. The photographer captured the photo from a good vantage point, with the subject's hands framing his face. The use of selective focus and depth of field work well to highlight the subject.

The colors in the bubble add a fun element to this picture.

ACADEMICS



PHOTO BY JOSE ROMERO

Libraries are a great place to find repetition, and the photographer made use of it with the bookshelves in the background. This photo also follows the rule of thirds, with the smiling student and the shelf end almost perfectly dividing the photograph.

The photographer used good exposure and created a good depth of field by keeping the subject in focus and the books in the background slightly blurred.



PHOTO BY MARYANN JOHNSON

Fire can be tricky to photograph, but it makes for some interesting images! This student's hands appear to glow as a mushroom cloud of flames erupts in front of him. Despite the fire in his hands, he's staying calm and almost smiling – a great reaction to capture. The reflection behind him makes this photograph even more interesting.

Low-light situations can create difficulty, but the photographer did a fine job of using correct exposure.



The line of students hard at work on their art projects creates repetition within this photograph. The photographer lined up the image to follow the rule of thirds, used good exposure and kept the first student in focus.

PHOTO BY SHELBI HERBECK



PHOTO BY ALYSSA VUILLEMAN

You can tell at first glance that this student isn't afraid to look a little goofy. Her expression is fun as she tries to figure out what's happening to her hair.

This photograph follows the rule of thirds and shows good depth of field by keeping her in focus and the Van de Graaff generator blurred. However, capturing the student's face at exactly the right moment really makes this photo stand out.



PHOTO BY ABIGAIL VALDEZ

Another great photograph where the expression improves the photo! This student is fascinated by what she sees in the microscope, and her partner can't wait to look, too. This candid two-person shot showcases a relationship.

The photo fills the frame and the exposure is good.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Capture students in action! From drama club to marching band to ROTC, clubs and organizations offer ample opportunities to photograph students doing something they love.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS



PHOTO BY ABIGAIL ANDERSON

This photograph really turns up the drama! The students on stage are completely absorbed in what they're doing – and the main student's face is full of expression and emotion.

The rich colors pop off the page, from the vibrant green of her costume to the bright red dress and gold throne against the purplish blue of the wall.

Despite the low light, the photographer managed to get good exposure. The photograph showcases excellent depth of field and follows the rule of thirds, with the main subject lined up where a line would fall on a tic-tac-toe grid.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS



PHOTO BY ABIGAIL ANDERSON

Planning makes perfect, and this photographer had to plan ahead for this photo. This image was taken from a great angle. The stop action captures the dancer's silhouette in the middle of a great move.

The location puts the student's body in line with the rule of thirds, while the shadow is perfectly outlined against the curtain in the center. The three spotlights create repetition.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS



PHOTO BY AMBER CROMER

This photo shows just how hard this JROTC group is working by showing each person's facial expression and sweat from their labor.

You can almost feel the sun beating down on them just by viewing this photograph.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS



Although this photo was taken on a busy street, the photographer has captured a private moment. The young person front and center is in focus, while the flowing water remains out of focus. This is a good action shot that portrays emotion.

The lighting in this image is darker, but the subject still stands out.

The photographer added a filler or tint, bumped up the contrast, and took the saturation down to make the photo appear more matte. This won't work for most photos, but adds to the feel of this one.

PHOTO BY JOHNNY MIN

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS



PHOTO BY ELISABETH NEELY

There's no question of whether the singer is "belting it out." It's clear she's giving it her all. She stands out against the rich purple light of the background.

The subject stays in the spotlight, as the leading lines created by the lights behind her direct the eye straight to her.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

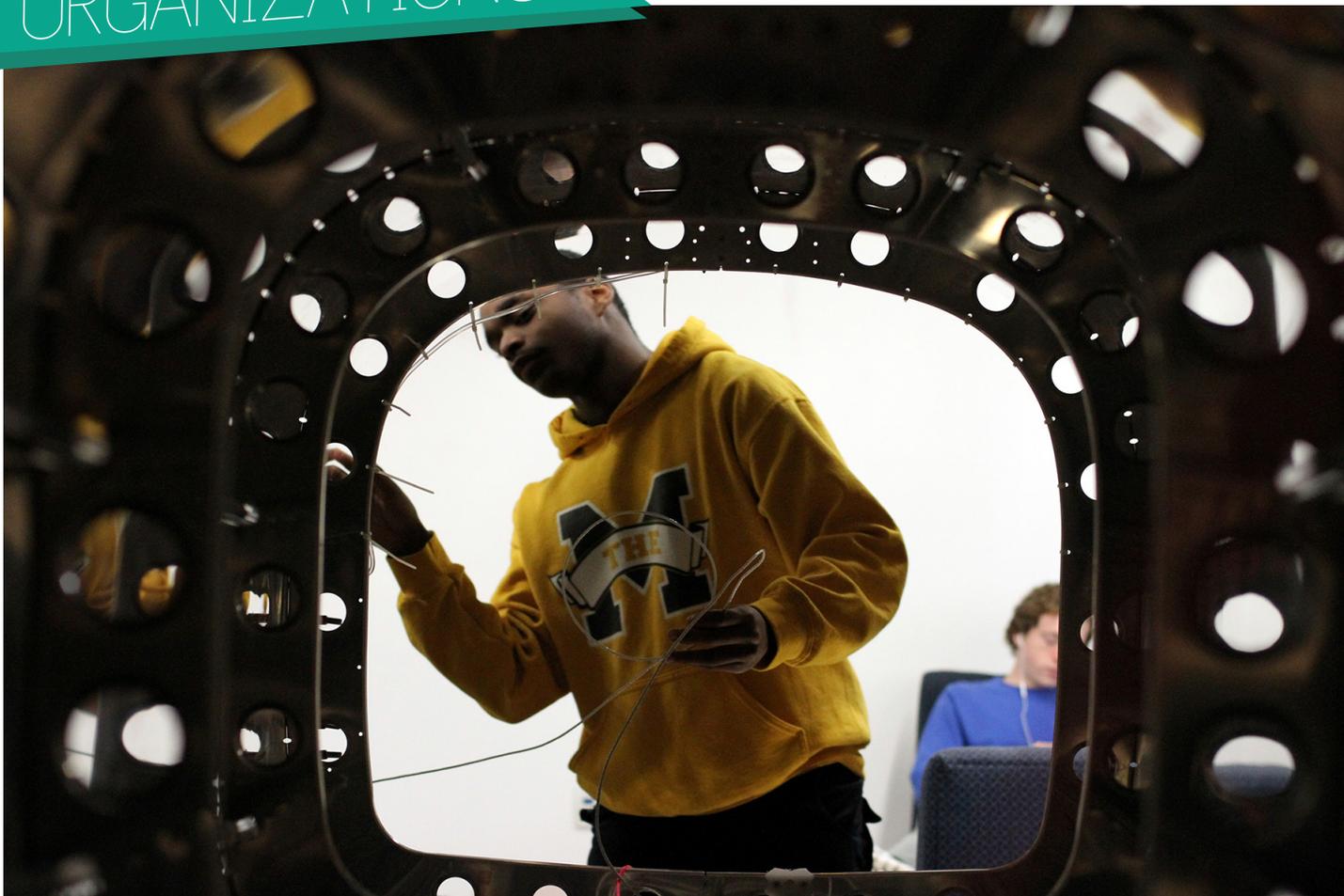


PHOTO BY ISAAC PHILLIPS

What a neat project and a perfect source of framing for this photograph.

The photographer used the structure to highlight a student working on a project. The circles on the frame also create repetition.

If they'd taken this photograph from a different vantage point, it would have been a very different, and likely less interesting, photo.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS



PHOTO BY EMILY WHITE

What a great way to capture a gorgeous sunset.

The drum major stands out against the vibrant sky, standing at attention before the band. The dark tree line and people below contrast sharply against the orange and purple of the sky.

This photo follows the rule of thirds, both horizontally and vertically. The clouds in the sky create leading lines toward the drum major.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS



PHOTO BY POX YOUNG

This is not a team to mess with! The photographer has taken what could have been a standard team photo and turned it up a notch.

Posing the students below a bridge adds interest and creates repetition in the background. Their intense expressions let you know these students take their sport seriously.

The whole team is posed well, with the center's hands appearing to span the width of the bridge – the basketballs she's holding touch opposite columns.

This photo is a good example of composition and exposure.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Something good just happened! There's no question, with so many smiling faces.

These exuberant students are all facing the field and cheering. Your eye is drawn to the student front and center, whose face and posture convey pure excitement.

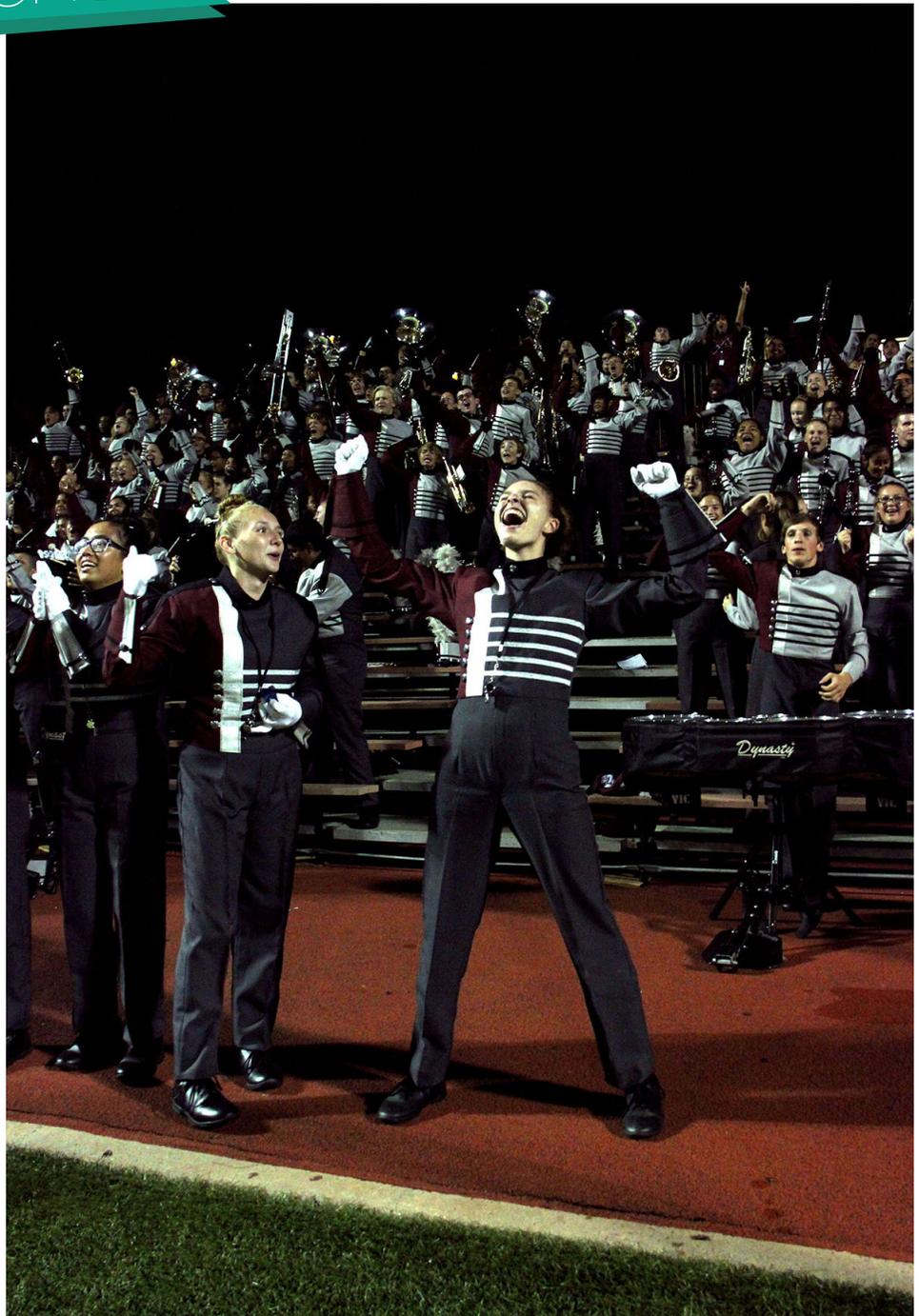


PHOTO BY JUSTIN PILGREEN

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS



PHOTO BY LEYLA DAVYDOVA

The tack-sharp focus makes this photograph great. You can easily see the joyful expression on this student's face while the lights reflect off her saxophone, which stretches to the top of the photo and fills the frame.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS



PHOTO BY NELLY MARTINEZ

You can't help but wonder what's going on in this photograph. This student's serene face stares out from the camera, framed by her green hair and colorful adornments.

The lights catch her from the side, bringing out her eyes. The red on her lips echoes the red on her cape, and all the bright colors stand out against the subdued background. The light on her face creates good contrast against the dark space around her.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS



PHOTO BY NIKOLE COST

Repetition, repetition, repetition!
Marching band photographs offer great opportunities to use this technique.

In this photo, every member of the band is standing straight, their instrument held high, with their eyes on the drum major. In addition to the repetition created by their uniforms, this photograph follows the rule of thirds.

The photographer also used good exposure and great depth of field.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Another excellent example of repetition, the cello players are lined up and the curves of their instruments follow each other. These students are focused on the conductor. Their hands and the bows they use to play the cello are all in the same position. The photographer has frozen this moment in time.

Another technique used to make this photograph excellent is the rule of thirds.



PHOTO BY ALYSSA VUILLEMAN

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS



This image brings an unexpected twist to a band photo. Not only is the student hanging upside down, the photographer got low to the ground for a “worm’s eye” shot. The blue of their uniforms pops against the dark night sky.

It’s a unique and fun image that really captures the student’s expression and lets you know he’s not afraid to have some fun with his drum.

PHOTO BY EMILY KOHRING

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS



PHOTO BY MARY SCOTT

These young rabbits are putting their all into this performance – and it's evident in this photo. They aren't holding back. The photographer captured the front student as she belts it out, and her enthusiasm is echoed on the faces of the students behind her.

This photograph is made even better because it follows the rule of thirds, while the fence and bleachers create repetition in the image.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS



This unique vantage point creates a truly interesting photo. The photographer took it from the end of the piano, allowing us to see the singer's face straight on. She's really into her song and her expression is visible from two angles, with her face reflected in the piano lid.

The photographer's vantage point also creates leading lines with the piano strings, which point right at the student and draw your eye to her face.

PHOTO BY JACOB MOSCOVITCH

FEATURED FOR FUTURE TRAINING

These photos give you a glimpse into the life of the student featured. Focusing on one student allows you to showcase their personality or skill set. These photographs create a sense of intimacy with the students being photographed.

FEATURE OR PORTRAIT



PHOTO BY ASHLEN POWELL

This photo turns up the drama. The dancer holds her pose against a background of dry ice. The silhouette and shadowed face, paired with the smoky haze around her, give this image an almost mysterious feel. The high contrast and exposure add to this.

FEATURE OR PORTRAIT



This photograph has a mystical feel, providing the illusion that the student being photographed has magical powers! The powdery substance falling from her fingertips creates a smoky effect. The effects behind her and on the ground add to this. Her bright hair stands out against otherwise muted colors.

This photo is well-lit, and a good example of the rule of thirds. It would be less appealing if she were dead center.

PHOTO BY RYAN BARRETT

FEATURE OR PORTRAIT

Watch out, Gene Kelly! She may not be singing, but this photo shows a student dancing in the rain and having a great time.

She's got a megawatt smile as the raindrops fall around her. The lights hitting the wet pavement behind her create interesting reflections in the background and a desired bokeh effect. Bokeh is a Japanese term for the aesthetic quality of a photo's out-of-focus areas.

This great photo serves as a reminder for other photographers to use caution when photographing a subject wearing black in a dark black-and-white picture.



PHOTO BY RYAN BARRETT

FEATURE OR PORTRAIT



PHOTO BY KARLI SHOOP

The photographer has captured an intense moment – as you can see in the subject's face. The helmet creates a frame that makes you look straight at her eyes, where you can see catch lights.

The photographer used depth of field well – her face and helmet are in focus, with every paint chip visible on the shield. The crowds and fence behind her are out of focus, keeping your attention on her.

The exposure is good, which brings out every detail – right down to the freckles on her face.

FEATURE OR PORTRAIT



PHOTO BY JOEY PLATANIA

This photograph is all about juxtaposition of the eras. It's a well-lit, nicely exposed photo with a vintage feel. The repetition of lights on the left leads you to the student. The older-style camera, classic style of his glasses and yellowed newspaper add to this antique feel.

However, the clearly visible newspaper headline showcases a significant current event from the year. His face reflects the seriousness of the events – it would have been all wrong if he were smiling.

FEATURE OR PORTRAIT



PHOTO BY JACOB MOSCOVITCH

It's clear from this image that the photographer has an excellent grasp on the technical rules of photography. It's well-lit and the student is in perfect focus, with good contrast and vibrant colors. It follows the rule of thirds.

This is an excellent example of composition. There's a balance between the dark, empty background and the details visible around the student. The lighting and shadows showcase good contrast.

The lighting in this vibrant photo, combined with the rich blue of the leotard, makes the student pop off the background. The cloud of talcum billowing from her hands adds interest to the image.

FEATURE OR PORTRAIT



PHOTO BY AARON MASON

This photo tells a story. Who does the student have in mind as he draws that heart? Why is he awake at what appears to be sunrise?

The vantage point of this photo makes it great. Looking through frosted glass adds drama. The texture on the glass adds to the feel of the photo.

The colors are interesting, with the shadows appearing blue on his face in contrast to the orange and pink light of the sun behind him.

Even though he's backlit, with a barrier between the camera and the student, we're still able to make out his features. His face is serene, while the heart he's drawn frames his face.

FEATURE OR PORTRAIT



This is an intriguing concept that was turned into a very interesting image. It makes you contemplate the student in the photograph and what's happening.

The lighting works with the lit, dripping candle on the student's finger to create a dramatic, yet reverent, feel. You can't help but wonder what he's thinking.

On the technical side, the saturation is good, as well as the focal point on his face and the flame.

PHOTO BY AARON MASON

FEATURE OR PORTRAIT

This could have easily been just another senior photo, but the photographer took it to the next level. The vantage point is interesting. Shooting from a low angle makes you focus on the student's fingers as he plays the saxophone.

The decision to keep the saxophone in focus when the student is more out-of-focus highlights his passion for playing the instrument, as well as the fine details and matte sheen on the saxophone.



PHOTO BY DELILAH OCHOA

FEATURE OR PORTRAIT



The white-on-white of this photo makes the student's face stand out. The bright white of her outfit and the background provide great contrast to her skin tones while the red in her hair adds a pop of color.

Her oversized glasses and beads along with clothes that blend her whole body into her surroundings, combined with the portrait filling the frame, creates a sense of being "larger than life."

This photograph also showcases the photographer's technical skill with exposure and white balance.

PHOTO BY PAULE OUEDRAOGO

FEATURE OR PORTRAIT

With her face half in light, half in shadow and her intense focus on something in the distance, it's evident that there's depth to this student. This is an excellent example of "single person showcasing reflection."

The combination of water, city and sky in the background add interest while following the rule of thirds. The background remains out of focus, while the sharp focus on the student keep your eyes on her.

Her classic sweater and the matte overlay create a unique, almost vintage feel.

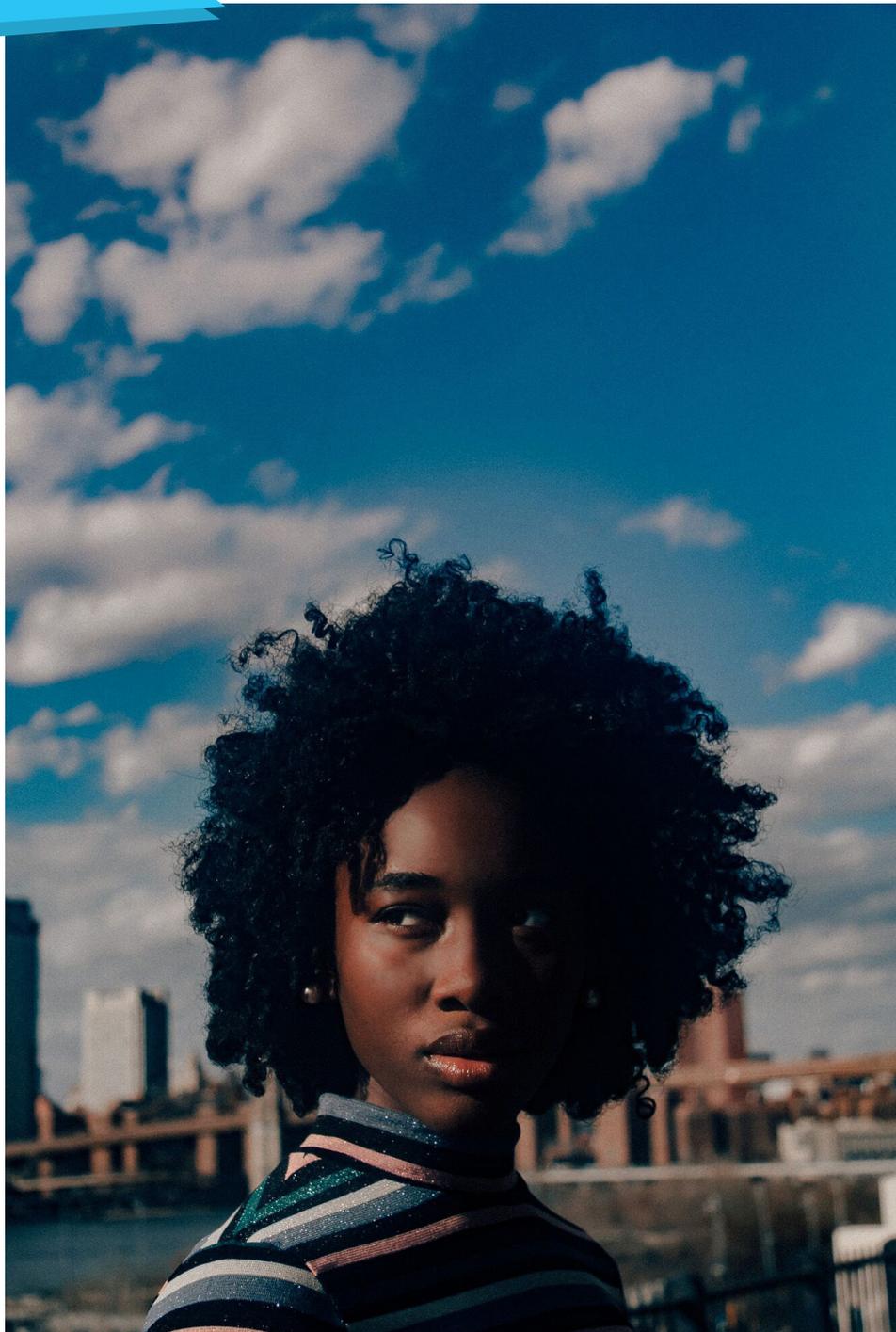


PHOTO BY PAULE OUEDRAOGO

FEATURE OR PORTRAIT



This is a fun way to take a portrait. This well-lit, brightly colored photo pops. The student's blue uniform is complementary to the orange in the background.

This is an excellent example of flash photography. Using the flash outside at dusk helps bring out the colors of the sunset in the background.

The photographer made use of stop action, and captured the student right as his leg was held in a way that follows the lines of the net.

PHOTO BY RYAN BARRETT

FEATURE OR PORTRAIT



PHOTO BY BRANDY HENNON

Although we only see this single student against a dark background, you can learn a lot about him in this portrait.

His red uniform pops against the dark background.

The selective focus takes this photograph to the next level. His fist is out of focus while his face is in sharp focus. The photographer even captured the catch lights in his eyes.

FEATURE OR PORTRAIT



PHOTO BY TAMAH MINNIS

The use of paint and black lights make this photo interesting. It's a very vivid image and brings a unique perspective to the studio. The student looks like a character from a fairy tale.

The black light creates a neon effect and makes the colors pop off the screen against the black background. Her hair almost looks like smoke.

FEATURE OR PORTRAIT



PHOTO BY TAMAH MINNIS

This photo captures the motion blur of the spinning ball on the basketball player's hand, while keeping the athlete himself in focus. The player's facial expression shows he knows his way around a basketball, as he can focus on the photographer's directions and not the trick he is performing.

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Younger photographers can produce outstanding images. These photos capture middle school and junior high students in all aspects of their academic life. At football games, in science class and simply having fun with friends, these excellent photographs give a glimpse into their lives.

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL



PHOTO BY AUDREY KATE SCHABEL

The student's expression reveals the effort required to complete the task ahead of her. The photographer captured her in the intense moments before she vaults. The depth of field in this photo is excellent and puts the focus on her. The blurred stands in the background create repetition, which makes her stand out.

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL



PHOTO BY SEOOYON YANG

The sharp focus on this group of students highlights the candid moment as they laugh and chat over lunch, unaware their photo is being taken.

The excellent exposure brings out every detail in this image, right down to the wisps of hair blowing in the breeze.

The bright color, excellent contrast and sharp focus come together to make this a great photo.

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL

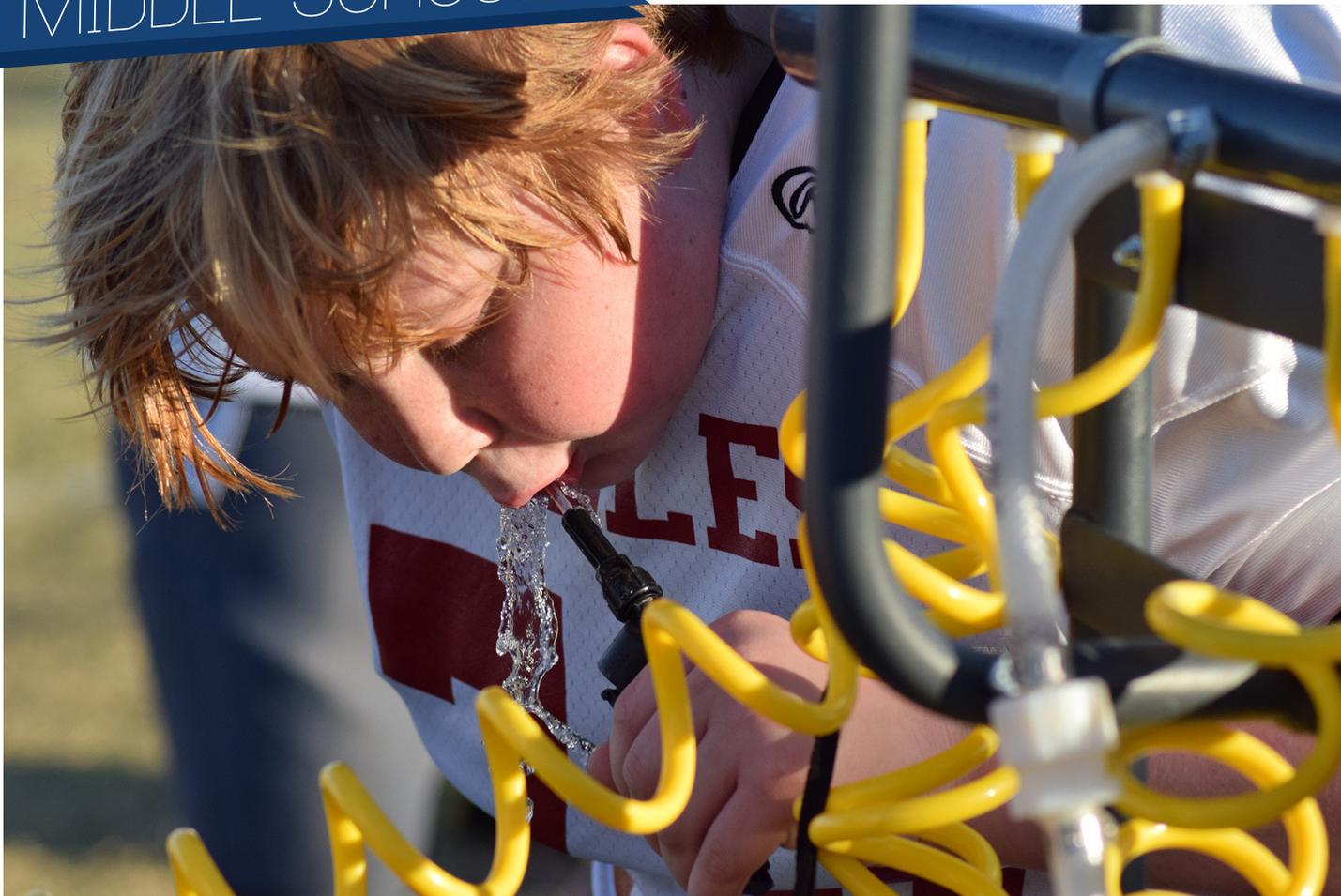


PHOTO BY BROOKE DE LA FUENTE

This stop-motion image captures a moment in time, with the water spilling from the student's mouth. The light hits his face, which is sharply in focus. The photographer kept the equipment in the foreground out of focus, which creates excellent depth of field.

Following the rule of thirds makes this photo even more appealing.

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL



PHOTO BY REESE MINNETTE

This picture is full of blues and yellow! They echo each other in every corner of this image.

The photographer's vantage point makes this photo great. She got low to the ground to capture this student's face as she concentrates. This photograph captures the feeling in those last seconds before the starting whistle blows.

The stand frames the student, drawing your eyes to her face. She remains in focus while the rest of the image is blurred, creating good depth of field and keeping your eyes on her.

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL



PHOTO BY LAURA PURINGTON

School can be fun and this candid photograph shows it! Everyone in this image is focused on the game they're playing, and their expressions make it evident that something interesting just happened.

The caution tape creates a frame, drawing your eye to the three students in the center. Taking this photo from an angle lower to the ground gives it an interesting vantage point.

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL



PHOTO BY GRACIE HEWAT

The photographer captures a great moment as these students gather in a huddle, building themselves up before a big meet.

The "worm's eye view" and the closeness to the subjects gives this image an intimate feel. The circle of students fills up the frame and creates a frame around the center subjects.

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL



PHOTO BY KAYLEY CALDWELL

This student is having a great time in her science class! Everything in this academics photo portrays a sense of fun – from the smoke pouring from the beaker to the expression on her face. The action of the smoke follows the rule of thirds, as well as the student's face.

The poster with the word "science" in the background adds a nice touch – so we know exactly what class she's in.

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL



PHOTO BY LAUREN REUTIMAN

This fun and colorful photo shows this student having a great time! The splashes of colored powder across her face and shirt hint at the reason behind her joyful expression. The excellent exposure brings out those colors, which pop against the rainy scenery. The depth of field keeps the focus on her face and brings out the water droplets on her glasses.

The photographer followed the rule of thirds, which draws your eye right to her big smile.

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL



PHOTO BY FRANKIE BASIRICO

What a great way to showcase teamwork! You can tell from the first glance that these two are completely focused on achieving a goal.

The beams of the activity course frame the pair, while trees in the background create repetition. The photographer also made good use of depth of field, which keeps your eyes on the students.

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL



This photo shows that science class doesn't always have to be serious. The photographer captured a moment where students are being a little goofy while conducting an experiment. The in-focus bubbles add to the playful effect.

Photographing students with goggles on their face can be difficult, so the visible eyes of the student on the left are a nice touch.

PHOTO BY SARA COULSON

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL



PHOTO BY SPENCER HOWE

The photographer did an excellent job of capturing this team as they celebrate. The players are sharply in focus and their facial expressions let you know how excited they are.

The school color green is echoed throughout the image.

The excellent exposure brings out every detail. It follows the rule of thirds, which draws your eye to their enthusiastic faces.

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL



PHOTO BY LAUREN GRAHAM

This stop-action photograph freezes the water droplets in the photo, while the player stares out with an intense look in his eyes.

The exposure brings out the rich colors, and the depth of field adds interest. The photographer followed the rule of thirds, which makes you look right at the player's eyes.

The sharp focus on this player's face brings out every detail, from the water droplets to his freckles.

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL



PHOTO BY LAUREN GRAHAM

Sometimes a picture can tell a whole story. The players are excited, while the scoreboard behind them lets you know that they're getting pumped up – the game hasn't started yet.

The photographer made use of depth of field by keeping sharply in focus the front player, whose finger stretches to the top of the frame.

The cheerleader behind him adds a fun touch to the image, as well as being able to see the school name on the scoreboard and the school mascot name on his jersey.

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL



PHOTO BY LAUREN ROCHE

This student is intensely focused on the task at hand – and the composition of this photograph highlights that concentration. The selective focus adds to that intensity, with the flame out of focus and the student's face sharply in focus.

The photographer got down low for an interesting vantage point, which further helps to keep the focus on the student's face.

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL



PHOTO BY ELIZA HAPGOOD

This is an excellent example of a photo capturing group interaction. The two students in the foreground create a frame around their peers.

The depth of field is excellent, with the five students facing the camera sharply in focus and their teammates out of focus.

JUNIOR HIGH OR MIDDLE SCHOOL



PHOTO BY ELLA MCCANN

Cheer is full of motion, and this photograph captures some of it. This stop-action image shows a group of cheerleaders in the middle of their chant. The photographer even captured their hair as it bounces.

The front cheerleader is sharply in focus, with the others out of focus. Their uniforms almost create repetition in the background.

SCHOOL SPIRIT

We've got spirit, yes we do! There's no doubt that the students in these photographs are proud to be a part of their schools. In pep rallies and sports games, school colors abound and enthusiasm is abundant.

SCHOOL SPIRIT



PHOTO BY SERGIO DIAZ

Energy radiates from this image. This is a great example of group interaction. Every face displays acute excitement as they cheer on their team.

The mass of yellow in the background, mostly apparent in their shirts, makes the student front and center really stand out in his white and blue outfit. That blue is echoed throughout the rest of the photo.

SCHOOL SPIRIT



PHOTO BY BRIANNA WILLIAMS

These students are really invested in the action happening on the field in front of them. Their school pride is evident in their enthusiasm and the school colors radiating throughout this photo, right down to the trim on the center student's overalls.

The photographer used depth of field to make the front row of students really pop.

SCHOOL SPIRIT

What a nail-biter! We know from the cheerleaders' expressions that they're worried about what is happening on the field. Making this photo black and white adds to the intensity by accentuating shadows and giving it a dramatic feel. It even makes the cheerleader in front stand out more.

Following the rule of thirds draws your eye to the cheerleader in front, and the depth of field draws focus to all three. The excellent exposure and contrast add drama to this powerful photo.



PHOTO BY ALLISON SPENCE

SCHOOL SPIRIT



PHOTO BY EMILY CASTRO

This fun photo is full of color. The deep blue shade of the sky echoes the blue painted on the students' chests, arms and faces. The red in the foreground really pops against that blue.

The crowd is in focus – especially the students in the front. The out-of-focus flag in the foreground creates depth of field, while the bent flagpole draws your eye to the student in the center.

The many flags flying in the background create repetition and the excellent exposure adds drama.

SCHOOL SPIRIT



PHOTO BY JOON WOO LEE

It can be difficult to take good photographs in a gym, which makes this one especially impressive. The hands in the air and the excited faces create energy in a fairly monochromatic image. The rule of thirds and depth of field keep the focus on the students.

The color and white balance are very good. White balance, especially, is tough in the gym. Adding a matte overlay makes the image even more interesting.

SCHOOL SPIRIT



PHOTO BY KATHRYN WANG

What a fun way to photograph a large crowd! Taking it from the side, instead of straight on, makes this photograph more interesting.

The confetti and smoke above the crowd add a fun touch, while the togas in front bring a repetitive look to the stands. Being able to read the wording on the press box adds to the appeal and sense of school spirit.

SCHOOL SPIRIT



PHOTO BY JOHN YAEGER

This photo is all about the angle! By getting low to the ground, the photographer made these fans seem huge as they stretch their arms to the top of the frame.

The red and white school colors show up throughout the entire image while the expressions on these students' faces show just how excited they are.

SCHOOL SPIRIT

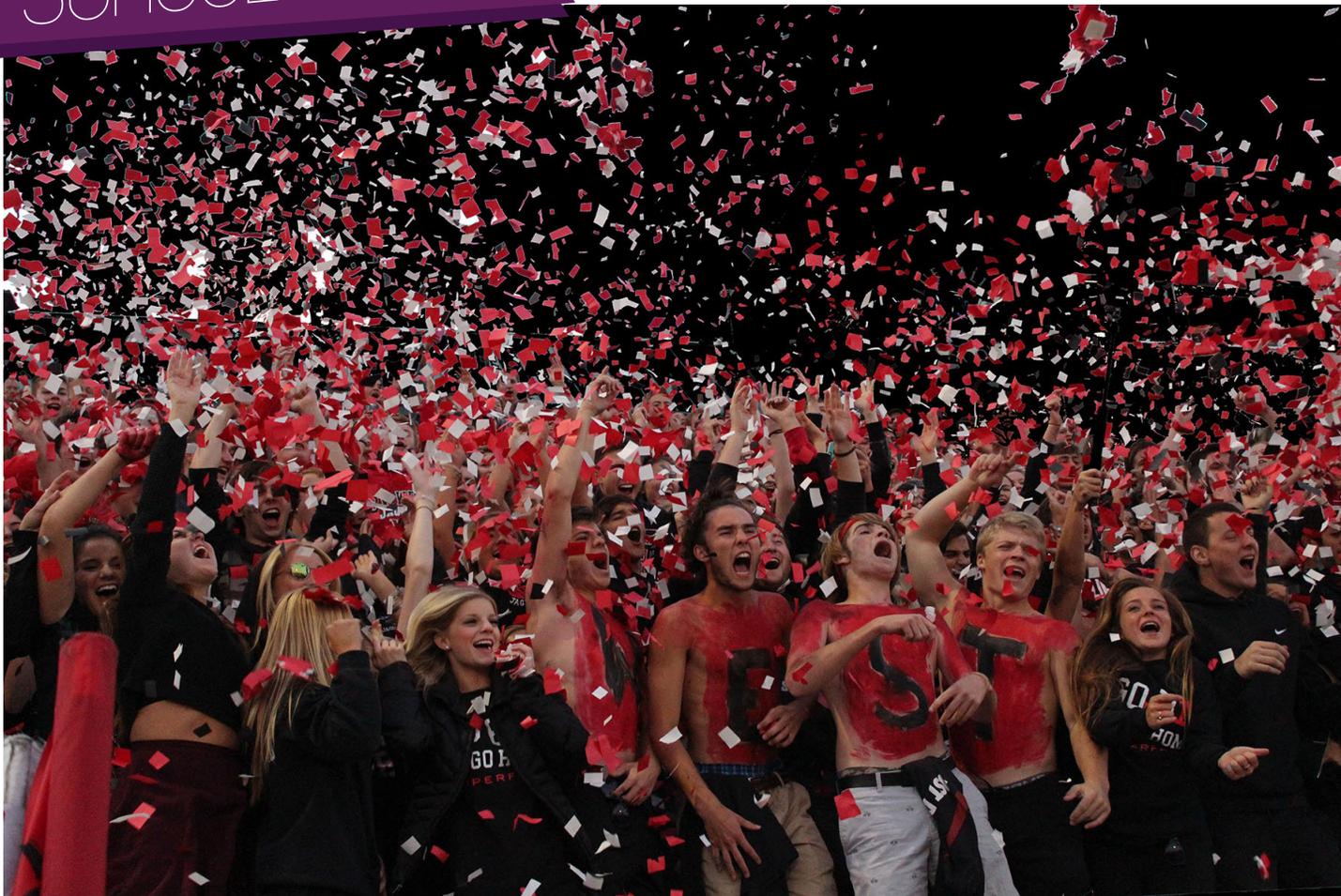


PHOTO BY JULIA HUEBERT

These students are having a great time! Their school colors show up in every corner of this frame, and there's no question of whether they have school spirit.

The confetti makes a fun statement against the dark background.

SCHOOL SPIRIT

Who's got spirit? This guy!

He appears to be letting out a battle cry as he leads his team into the stadium.

The green body paint adds fun to the photo. That green is echoed throughout the entire photograph, from the flag he carries to the uniforms of the players and the bright green letters on the screen behind him. The excellent exposure brings out those colors.

His upraised arms and the flag fill up the entire frame, making him seem larger than life.



PHOTO BY KARA DRY

SCHOOL SPIRIT



PHOTO BY JOSE ROMERO

The photographer has frozen a moment in time with this image. These dancers are so perfectly posed, you almost expect to see strings holding them up. The matching uniforms, hair and jewelry echo the synchronicity of their movements.

It can be difficult to achieve good exposure in a gym, but the photographer did an excellent job. The photograph is also made great by the focus – the front line is sharply in focus, with the students and stands behind them out of focus.

SCHOOL SPIRIT



PHOTO BY LORAGRACE BING

Silhouette photos can be tricky, but the photographer did a great job with this image. The sun outlines the crowd, while the flags pop against the vivid sky.

The bright orange and blue of the vivid sky contrast sharply against the dark crowd. The confetti floating above the crowd adds a fun element.

SCHOOL SPIRIT



PHOTO BY KATIE KUHLMAN

The cheerleader front and center is obviously very invested in her team. The circle of her smiling peers creates a frame and repetition at the same time.

All of this draws the eye back to the center student, who has the most intense expression of the whole group.

This is a great way to show group interaction.

SCHOOL SPIRIT



PHOTO BY CIERRA STARK

These three students are *really* into their team. Their facial expressions are so intense, you can almost hear the screaming crowd!

The photographer's vantage point makes this a great photo. You're staring straight into the eyes of the front student. His face is in focus while his pointing finger and the background are out of focus, showcasing depth of field. The rule of thirds also helps draw your eye to his face.

Orange shows up all over this image, from the foreground to the back and the bottom left corner to the upper right.

SCHOOL SPIRIT



PHOTO BY VI LE

These dancers pose, waiting to begin their routine in this technically excellent photograph. The photographer combined several elements.

The front dancer falls along the rule of thirds. The dancers' arms create repetition and leading lines, making you want to follow the line back to the end.

The depth of field keeps it interesting, with the front dancer in sharp focus and the rest out of focus.

The contrast and exposure help take this image to the next level.

SCHOOL SPIRIT



PHOTO BY JACOB MOSCOVITCH

The student front and center is feeling a lot of emotion – and he's not afraid to express it! The photographer has kept him in sharp focus as he "lets it all out," while the crowd behind him is out of focus. The energy seems to emanate from him into the group of students behind him.

The white balance and exposure are excellent, which can be tough to do in a gymnasium.

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION

This section is full of students caught up in the moment. They're pushing to finish the last stretch of the cross country course, dodging opponents as they go in for the layup, poised above the water of the pool, and celebrating a big win. Full of stop-action and candid moments, sports offers a lot of fun possibilities for photographers.

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION



PHOTO BY ALEYAM MARIA VELAZUQEZ

This image is full of action! The student front and center is suspended in mid-air as he runs toward the camera. The flag he's carrying stretches to the top of the frame and is evenly spaced from the school flag flying behind it. The lion behind them also helps fill the frame.

The color yellow pops all over the image – including in the lion that reaches to the top of the photo. The matching uniforms of the players create repetition in the lower half of the frame.

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION



PHOTO BY ALLY BUNCH

This is a dramatic take on the common yearbook photo theme of “players running onto the field.”

The smoke adds a theatrical feel. The saturation was taken down, which increases that sense.

All of these elements play up the intensity on the students' faces as they run out of the tunnel, ready to conquer the opposing team.

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION



PHOTO BY ARIELLE WIEDENBECK

This photograph is all about juxtaposition. We see the exuberant, celebrating team on the court. Behind, in the stands, is a somber and disappointed crowd who obviously supported the opposing team.

This is a good action shot and caught many of the team members mid-jump. The photographer achieved a good white balance, which can be difficult in a gym.

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION



The unique vantage point of this underwater photo makes it truly excellent. It's cropped perfectly, with the swimmer's hand at the lower left of the frame.

The depth of field keeps that front hand out of focus, with the swimmer's face in focus.

The leading lines created by the lane dividers guide the eye to the swimmer's face, which falls along the rule of thirds. The end marks in the background create repetition behind him.

Underwater photos can be tricky, but it's nice that they don't allow for any "dead space." The light and water create patterns throughout the entire image.

PHOTO BY ARIELLE BADER

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION



PHOTO BY MICHAEL PROVENGHI

The suspense! This unique stop-action shot captured the coin toss mid-air. All eyes are focused on the small spinning disc.

The photographer got low to the ground for an interesting vantage point. The circle of players creates a frame, while making it easy to see the faces of the players and the referee. It's also easy to distinguish the opposing teams because of the good color and exposure.

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION



PHOTO BY ALLISON SPENCE

This does not look like a team you'd want to mess with. The dry ice gives a dramatic, powerful effect to the photo while simultaneously drawing your eye to the players. The linked arms of the students in the foreground lets you know they support each other.

This photo follows the rule of thirds and has great depth of field. Being able to read the mascot name on their uniforms adds a nice touch to the photo.

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION

This touching, powerful photo showcases the relationship between the players and the people supporting them from the stands.

The depth of field keeps a sharp focus on the front pair, while their position is echoed by the out-of-focus pair behind them.

The photographer filled the frame, with the players at the bottom and their mothers at the top.



PHOTO BY ERIC JUAREZ

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION



PHOTO BY JUSTIN GARZA

The players tense with anticipation as the hockey puck drops to the ice. The photographer captured that moment right before the action begins.

The exposure and focus are good, which makes it easy to see every detail of this busy image. The depth of field keeps the players, referee and hockey puck in focus while the fans behind them are out of focus.

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION



PHOTO BY KARA DRY

The spotlight on these wrestlers highlights the pressure they're feeling to win the match. It's reflected in their expressions of concentration.

The depth of field is good, with the wrestlers in sharp focus while the referee in the foreground is blurred. This was an interesting vantage point to choose, and it worked well. The referee frames the students in this unique take on a wrestling photo.

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION



PHOTO BY LAUREN ROOK

This weightlifter is accomplishing a challenging task, and his expression lets you know how difficult it is. You can almost feel his pain.

The entire room is watching, and the face of the student immediately behind the weightlifter lets you know how impressive his feat is – whether his jaw is dropped in awe or he's shouting encouragement.

The bar stretches from one side of the frame to the other, while the student in front fills it from nearly top to bottom. This photo was taken from slightly off-center, which helps keep your eye on the main student while providing a good view of the crowd. The depth of field keeps the front two competitors in focus and the onlookers out of focus. Although it can be difficult to achieve good white balance and lighting in gymnasiums, this photographer succeeded.

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION



PHOTO BY MARCUS ADRIAN LAGUISMA

This action shot catches the swimmer right as he's starting his dive – freezing him just fractions of a second before he hits the water.

The long line of his leg and body pushes your eye toward the center of the frame. The photographer also took advantage of the leading lines created by the pool lanes.

Capturing both the pool and the sky fills the image with shades of blue.

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION



PHOTO BY ADRIAN PEA

This photo is vibrant and intense! This action shot freezes him mid-yell. His face is full of emotion and the photographer even caught his hair as if flies forward.

The depth of field keeps the main student in sharp focus, allowing you to see every detail on his face and uniform. The school name displayed across his chest adds a nice touch.

He stands out even more because his is the only face in the frame – everyone behind him is facing away from the camera.

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION



PHOTO BY NICHOLAS KNIVETON

This photograph makes for an interesting take on a swimming photo.

The line of the swimmer's body follows the rule of thirds, which is pleasing to the eye. The lighting and angle add drama.

The vantage point is excellent. The light behind the swimmer and the ripples of water radiating out around him create a frame.

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION



PHOTO BY JENNY CROSBY

The photographer captured every minutia of the action at this critical moment in the game. The sharp focus freezes every detail clearly – you can even see specks of the dirt flying in front of the slider's hand.

The runner's body follows a line created by the rule of thirds, while all the action as his hand almost touches the base occurs where an intersection would be – all of these are where the lines of the rule of thirds occur and the eye is drawn to naturally.

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION



PHOTO BY BRANDY HENNON

What a story this picture has to tell!

The photographer made the front runner's face a focal point. His expression and the shoe in his hand let you know he won't let anything stop him from winning the race. The neon shoe pops against the dark red of his uniform.

The depth of field keeps the focus on the front runners, and conveys that those behind are less important to the scene.

The lead runner's body falls along the rule of thirds.

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION



As the player in blue flies through the air, going in for the shot, his opponents try to stop him. They're suspended in motion, with intense looks on their faces.

The composition is excellent. Their bodies fall along the rule of thirds, which draws the eye. The beams in the background, and the left player's arm, create leading lines right to the basketball.

The depth of field keeps the players in sharp focus, while the crowd behind them is visibly out of focus.

The white balance is excellent, which is a tough achievement in gymnasiums.

PHOTO BY LIAM SULLIVAN

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION

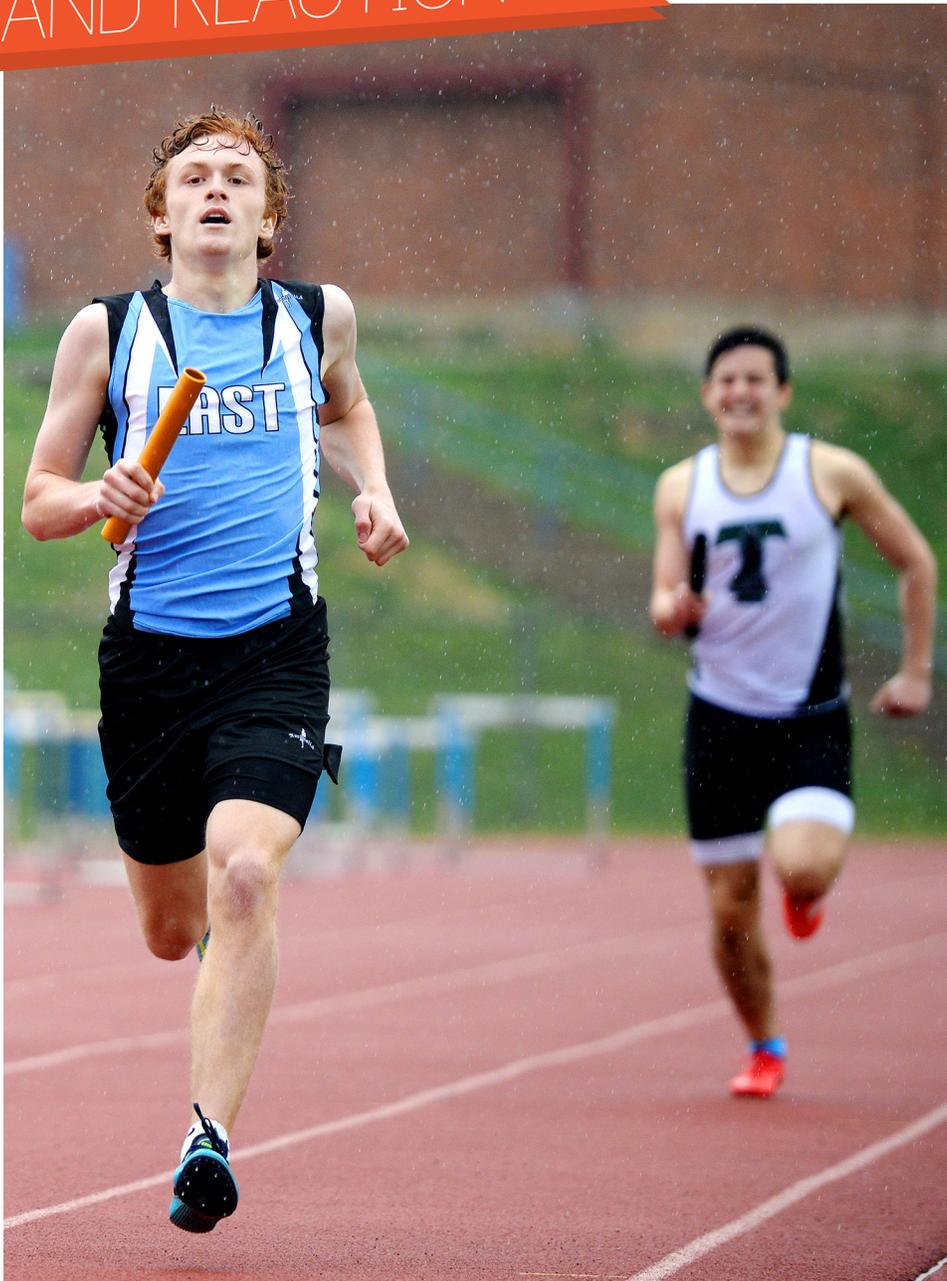


PHOTO BY LIAM SULLIVAN

What a fun, dramatic take on a swimming photo! The dark background, sharp contrast and intense lighting give this image a feeling of intensity. She's poised on the board, about ready to begin her race.

The sharp focus brings out every detail, right down to the water droplets on her skin.

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION



This extremely well-exposed action shot captures a very specific moment in time.

The front runner's foot hovers above the track, and even the individual raindrops are frozen as they fall from the sky.

The depth of field keeps the front runner in sharp focus, while the orange baton pops against his light blue uniform.

PHOTO BY EMILY KOHRING

SPORTS ACTION AND REACTION

This must be an intense match! Their expressions show how hard they're working to win. Their bodies fill up the entire frame.

The sharp focus keeps every detail in focus, even the patterns on the bottom of his shoe. The photographer used depth of field to keep the focus on these two.

This is another example of good white balance in a difficult gym environment.



PHOTO BY RAE THIEMAN

STUDENT LIFE

This category gives yearbook photographers the chance to show what students are doing away from school. Some activities that may not be safe enough for school – like motorcross – can create some truly interesting photographs.

STUDENT LIFE



PHOTO BY ALEX BROOKS

As the student zooms across the desolate landscape, mud splatters up behind the motorbike. The sunlight catches those splatters.

Between the haze of mud and the empty, mountainous background, this image conveys a sense of drama.

By following the rule of thirds, the photographer makes your eye want to follow the path this student is taking across the frame.

STUDENT LIFE

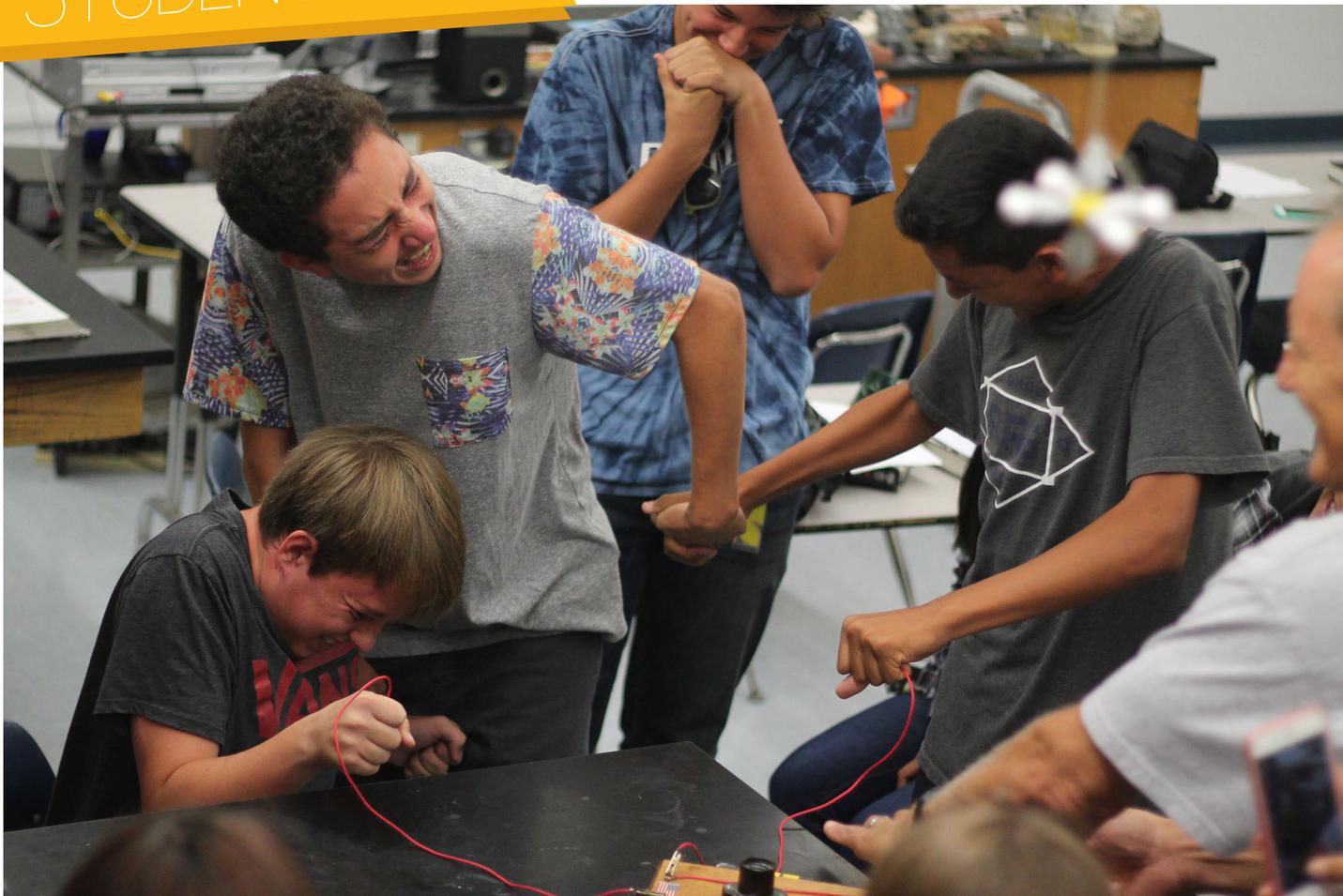


PHOTO BY AMANDA SAVARESE

The faces in this photo tell you everything. These students are experiencing a new or strange sensation, but the smiles let you know that it isn't too painful.

The students taking part in this activity are in sharp focus, while those in the foreground are blurred – creating depth of field. This keeps the focus on the four main students.

The teacher to the side and the students at the bottom of the frame create a frame around them. The circle they've created makes your eye naturally follow it.

STUDENT LIFE

Living in a cold climate certainly has some benefits for photographers! The effects created by the light hitting the ice and snow in this photo make for a really neat photo.

The light hits the sculpture, creating a funky effect. The ice shavings billowing out around it catch the light.

The light shining through the ice hits the sculptor's face, and accentuates the ice and snow layered over the student's jacket, pants and hat.



PHOTO BY JOHNNY DUNLOP

STUDENT LIFE



PHOTO BY CHRIS WAGERS

The painter is intensely focused on her work, with her face in perfect profile.

The photographer took a low-light situation and used it to create a really neat photo. The lighting hits the painting and artist, creating a dramatic feel.

The paintbrush actually touches the canvas and she's intensely focused on her work, which draws your eye up along her paint-flecked arm to the painting itself.

The angle, vantage point and spotlight all put the focus on her and her creation. She is in sharp focus, while the out-of-focus orchestra behind her creates depth of field.

STUDENT LIFE



PHOTO BY ETHAN LOVELESS

The photographer had some fun with a fisheye lens for this photograph. You can tell from the curved look of the stairs, walls and columns. The brick walls create repetition throughout the image.

The photographer got low to the ground, which emphasizes the skateboarder's height as he flies through the air.

STUDENT LIFE



This spooky photo directs your eye to the front student. Her eyes frame her face and lead your eye to it. Her eyes sit at the “crossbar” of a rule of thirds diagram.

She is in sharp focus while everyone behind her remains out of focus.

The photographer caught her mid-action, with her hands out and her hair flying behind her. Her eerie expression and makeup play well off the “blood” spatters on her sash and on the students behind her.

PHOTO BY REBECCA GRINKER

STUDENT LIFE



PHOTO BY KARA DRY

The bright white clothes in this image stand out in sharp contrast to the night sky. The photographer's white balance is perfect.

The students carrying the board create a frame around the center student, leading your eye right to his face.

The photographer got low to the ground for a more interesting angle, which makes it possible to see the faces of the three central students. It's also a good example of lighting, which can be difficult to properly capture at night.

STUDENT LIFE



PHOTO BY AMY WREN

This shot is wide open, which lets you see every detail of a very wild and colorful scene.

It's a fun candid shot – nobody is focused on the camera and they're all intent on what's happening.

From the front students in orange battling to win, to the students in green engrossed in the competition, to the student in yellow in the upper right doing – quite frankly, we have no idea what's going on with her, but we're intrigued – you want to look all over this photo.

Their bright, vibrant clothing creates pops of color all over the frame and the vantage point keeps it interesting.



PHOTO BY SADA FLORES

This fun tug-of-war photo shows the action from a different angle.

The vantage point makes your eye follow the rope down the line of competitors. The focus is on the group as they interact, laughing and pulling together.

The excellent exposure brings out the bright colors and details – you can even tell that some of them have recently been splashed with water.

STUDENT LIFE



PHOTO BY KATHERINE LINGER

Your eye is automatically drawn to the front student. Not only is she positioned in line with the rule of thirds, but her vivid red hair and green coat pop against a dreary winter background. The vibrant colors are brought out by the excellent exposure.

The photographer kept the focus on her and the rest of the frame out of focus, creating depth of field.

The white balance is good, which is critical in a photo with this much white.

STUDENT LIFE



PHOTO BY ALEXANDRIA FLIGEL

What a fun action shot! The photographer got down to the kids' level and captured this image as the line of jump ropers was suspended in the air. Taking this photo from a low vantage point accentuates their airborne positions. You can clearly see the kids' gleeful expressions – there's no question whether they're having fun.

The good exposure brings out the bright colors of the walls behind them.

STUDENT LIFE



PHOTO BY MADISON OLSEN

The water splashes out around the two central students, who are having a blast. The light hits the droplets and almost forms a halo around them.

This is an excellent example of two people showcasing a relationship. They have no idea they're being photographed, which we can tell from their unselfconscious, smiling expressions.

Pink pops all over the image – from the shirts on them and the students behind, to the bright pink of his sock in the lower left corner, to the water balloon remnants on the ground and even on their fingernails.

STUDENT LIFE



PHOTO BY NIKOLE KOST

This is a great silhouette photo that really plays up the contrast. The full outline of the dirt bike and rider are visible – standing out in sharp contrast against the sky. The photographer captured it a few inches above the ground, which makes for a more interesting photo.

This is an artistic way to showcase a student taking part in an activity they can't do on school grounds.



PHOTO BY JENNA SHELTON

This fun photo shows a student having a great time. The photographer got low to the ground for an interesting vantage point. This keeps the student's face in full view and makes it easy to see his excited expression.

The excellent exposure brings out the bright colors of the blue tarp and the green grass behind it. The focus is sharp on the main student, creating depth of field. This also lets you see every detail, like the bubbles coating his face and the reflections visible in his sunglasses.



PHOTO BY VENUS GUTIERREZ

These students are having a great time and being goofy. This fun photo is all about the vantage point – it would have been a totally different photo if the photographer had been standing instead of low to the ground. The angle keeps their faces in view, and adds interest by keeping the red barn behind them in view, which complements the blue sky nicely.

The exposure and lighting are great, and the colors look awesome.

STUDENT LIFE



PHOTO BY EMILY KOHRING

The exposure and white balance are both perfect in this photo – an impressive accomplishment for a photo taken in a gym!

The tack-sharp focus brings out the details of the student on the left – right down to his freckles.

All the school insignia visible in this photo adds a nice touch. The mascot name on the cup is legible and both students are wearing shirts with school logos.

STUDENT LIFE

A riot of color and pattern make this a very artistic photo of an artistic student. It gives the viewer some insight into her life and how she spends her time.

The composition is excellent. It keeps this busy photo in balance, but doesn't leave any dead spots. The lighting is great and helps bring out the multitude of colors visible within the frame. The point of view adds interest.

The paint tubes in the lower left corner even serve as leading lines, drawing your eye back to the student.



PHOTO BY STEPHANIE MORRIS

STUDENT LIFE



PHOTO BY SINEAD CHANG

Talk about a face in a crowd! The photographer found a spot high above the group. This neat vantage point helps convey just how busy the scene below is.

What really makes this picture is the center student – he looked up at just the right time. While everyone else is enthralled by what’s happening at the table and around them, he stares out of the frame.

The crowd creates a frame, drawing your eye to his face. The chaos also emphasizes his calm, almost skeptical expression.

STUDENT LIFE



PHOTO BY JACOB MOSCOVITCH

This fun group shot plays with light and color! The green and blue lights keep the background interesting. The crowd-surfing student's blue stands out and complements those blue spotlights, while his foot creates a flare effect.

All the raised arms lead your eye to the raised student, while his left arm also stretches toward the top of the frame.

You can see a lot of faces in this photo, which lets you know the group is having fun.



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