

PRESIDENT'S COLLECTION

2025

Storytelling Photography

OBJECTIVE

Students analyze award-winning yearbook photography and emulate a President's Collection image to improve storytelling, composition and intentional shooting.

MATERIALS NEEDED

- President's Collection Photography video
- Access to [President's Collection Gallery](#)
- Student devices
- Cameras or phones
- Digital or physical notetaking materials

PART 1

INTRODUCTION (10 MINUTES)

Play the Photography video in full.

While watching, students will record:

- What makes these photos feel different from average yearbook photos?
- What moments are being captured?
- What do you notice about distance, angle and timing?

PART 2

GALLERY ANALYSIS (15 MINUTES)

Students explore the President's Collection gallery page and zoom in on featured images.

In small groups, they select one photo to emulate.

They must identify:

- The moment being captured
- The subject's emotion
- The camera angle
- The distance from the subject
- The background and framing

PART 3

PHOTOGRAPHY PRACTICE (30 MINUTES)

Students leave the classroom in pairs or small groups with their photo inspiration in mind.

Rules:

- Do not copy the exact scenario
- Mimic the angle, distance and type of moment
- Focus on capturing authentic interaction or peak action
- Shoot multiple variations

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PART 4

CRITIQUES (15 MINUTES)

Students return and select their strongest image.

In groups, they place the reference image and the image they took side by side on the screen.

Groups discuss:

- What worked?
- What fell short?
- What would you change if you shot it again?

Require specifics:

- Too far away?
- Missed peak action?
- Distracting background?
- Not enough emotion?