2022 Juried Pinelands Photography Exhibit Finalists Biographies

Get Home Before Dark... **by Andrew Adams**
Andrew Adams is an educator with a passion and appreciation for nature. More often than not, he comes home from the Pines smelling like bog mud and covered in sugar sand. He hopes to bring awareness of how special the Pine Barrens are through the use of his lens where he captures wildlife, landscape, and astrophotography. He credits much of his inspiration and technique to the outstanding artists that contribute to the social media group - Bog Iron Outdoors. He also is grateful to his partner for cleaning up the pine needles and checking for hitchhikers upon his return from 'the woods'; he couldn't create without her infinite patience! His favorite area to photograph as of late is the Forks.

Marsh Grass **by Mitchell Anolik**
Lilies and Tree Reflection **by Mitchell Anolik**
I am a retired Physician and active fine art photographer who has been passionately devoted to photography for the past 30 years. I love to explore the intersection of lines, shapes, texture, and light. Artistically, I believe in the principle that "less is more". I have been photographing the USA, Europe, and Iceland in search of raw, unspoiled nature and landscapes. Last year, to my delight, I discovered the incredible joy of wandering through the Pine Barrens encountering its beauty and its wild and natural qualities.

Morning Has Broken **by Sara Ascalon**
Keeping a Vigil **by Sara Ascalon**
One with the Trees **by Sara Ascalon**
Lane Ends, Merge Right **by Sara Ascalon**
I am a former creative marketer and New Yorker who became a statistic in the economic downturn of 2008. With the loss of my career came a loss of purpose and identity and a relocation to South Jersey. Photography became my redemption during the rebuilding. It gave me a creative outlet and allowed me to enter a wonderful new social circle. It drove me to seek out new subjects and explore the region surrounding my adoptive new home. The wonders of the Pineland wilderness and its inhabitants are a key part of that rejuvenating exploration. If you asked me to identify myself today, I'd be hard-pressed to remember my former life. I am a photographer and, dare I say, Jersey Girl.

Obelisk **by Alain Baburam**
Matchsticks **by Alain Baburam**
Born in Tokyo, Japan, Alain later moved to the USA where his parents bought a house in the Pine Barrens. Eventually, he went to college in New York City, where he began to miss the scenes of nature. He would move out of the city, after 17 years, to devote more of his life to landscape photography.

Winter Pines **by Stephen Behrens**
I caught the photography bug several years ago. I enjoy capturing beautiful scenes and annoying friends and family.
While nature, in general, is my favorite subject, the Pines in particular, are my favorite. They are my sanctuary.

Roots **by Anita Bhala**
My photography focuses on capturing and interpreting the artistry of our natural world. Nature provides me with an escape from both minor day-to-day troubles as well as the major travails of 'civilization.' I tend towards close-up views rather than broad expanses.
The serenity of nature, be it animals, trees, or water, calms and enriches my life. The more time I spend in nature, the greater my appreciation of the nuances of everyday life. Nature brings me peace and joy. The New Jersey Pinelands National Preserve is a unique treasure trove of raw beauty and rare habitats. It is a critical expanse for preserving our natural heritage.

Out Exploring **by Matthew Cipolloni**
Touch the Sky! **by Matthew Cipolloni**
I picked up photography about 16 years ago. I always wanted to take pictures of nature and I finally had enough money to buy a decent camera, so off to the pines I went. I always felt comfortable in the pines. Like I belonged there. I love the feeling of being relaxed and taking my time and not trying to keep up with the daily hustle. The Pine Barrens provide this perfect escape for me. It allows me to express my photos the way I see them. I see the beauty of the pines for what it is. Quiet but yet full of life. The life I can embrace. The life I can relate to. From misty morning sunrises over a foggy bog, or spectacular sunsets over the Mullica River or simply walking the many trails the Pine Barrens have to offer, I always have my camera by my side. We are blessed.

Peeper in the Pines **by Robert Cunningham**
Photography is important to me to document nature in the overdeveloped state of NJ. As a naturalist, it's important to have a feel for the phenology of our flora and fauna and notice short-term or long-term changes that happen. I try to introduce people to nature through my photography and have them appreciate something as small and unnoticed as a curly-grass fern or tiny orchid, to something as majestic as a bald eagle or peregrine falcon.
I love photographing in the pines as it's one of the most intact ecosystems in the state. Most of the true Pine Barrens forests and swamps are free of the many invasive plants that plague so many natural areas. Things like pine barrens treefrogs, scarlet bluets, whippoorwills, and bog asphodel are just a few of the many unique things that we need to conserve and make sure are always protected from development and the threat of offroad vehicles.

Whitesbog #2 **by David DesRochers**
My passion for nature photography was sparked by a trip to Glacier National Park in the summer of 2000. Exploring this stunning wilderness area inspired me to spend the last 21 years studying the art of photography and traveling the world to witness and capture the wonders of our natural world. I am a member of the North American Nature Photography Association and an Associate Naturalist with The New Jersey Audubon Society. Over the past 17 years, I've developed several photo workshops and lectures including the New Jersey Audubon Digital Photography Workshop Series held monthly each year from September through May. I have also shared my knowledge writing articles for photography magazines and my photos have been published in books, magazines, and on calendars.

Toad-ally Awesome **by Barbara Dimakos**
I am a wife, mother of three, and grandma of four. We moved to Tabernacle 18 years ago. I enjoy gardening, sewing, crafting, and taking pictures of my grandchildren. When the Pinelands Preservation Alliance announced the photo contest with the Pinelands as the subject, it was an easy decision to submit a few photos. My yard alone has provided a treasure trove of subjects. I have a lot to learn about photography, but now that I am retired, I'll have more time to learn.

Enter The Pine Barrens **by Melissa Eden**
I have loved taking photos since my first camera, a Kodak 126 given to me at eleven in 1979. I didn't know why, but I will say in those days a roll of film had 12 or 24 exposures. Each exposure was important, or you'd be wasting. That thinking sharpened my senses; it caused me to value each shot, to look forward to seeing them, to relish the great ones, to want to preserve and frame them, which has never changed. It must be love, and love is important.

The Pine Barrens are an integral part of my fiber. I have been living in the reserve for the majority of my life. Photographing it came out of my love of beauty, and the amount of time I spend there for my pleasure and health mentally, physically, emotionally, and spiritually. I'm a full nature lover, largely inspired by my experience growing up in Ocean County. Always outdoors, you grow to need it. I always loved the woods and the shorelines. I have been blessed to have enjoyed hiking in the pines with my children because it was free for thirty years! Now, as an empty nester, often hiking alone, photography in the pines has been my companion, pastime, and passionate hobby. I've had the pleasure of finding FB groups of people like me. This has further enhanced my enjoyment/love of photographing all the endless forms of beauty and wonder to be found in the pine barrens and sharing them with others.

Waiting for Rain: Pine Barrens Tree Frog **by Robert Ferguson II**
The Sixth Sense: Eastern Hog-nosed Snake **by Robert Ferguson II**
Skulking Yellow: Prairie Warbler **by Robert Ferguson II**
The New Jersey Pine Barrens have intrigued me for the entirety of my life. The habitat, the colors, the smells, the Northern and Southern-affinity flora and fauna colliding together in harmony; the place is mysteriously beautiful. Locating animals is frustratingly intoxicating, but tremendously rewarding. The bottom line is I'm addicted to the Pinelands and could wax poetic for days... I have forever been a believer of **conservation through education,** even before I really grasped the idea. I've also always been a share-junkie. The two fit together perfectly. I live to share my experiences with the world. I live to bring people closer to nature. I, of course, live to be in nature, myself! I want to bring the natural world to people's computer screens and household walls, in hopes that it motivates them to get out and enjoy it themselves. This is a critical time in our history here on Earth. The world has changed many times over, but never on such a grand scale has it changed directly by the human species. We are at a turning point and the future looks bleak for a high percentage of our species. I've always felt that if you aren't part of the solution, you are part of the problem. Photography is one way to make a difference and get people excited about the natural world around them. Here's the truth:

"People protect what they love." - Jacques-Yves Cousteau

Just Trash Talking **by Anthony Ferraina**
My name is Anthony Ferraina, age 67 born and raised in New Jersey. I graduated from Stockton College in 1976. I am retired from the finance and accounting field after 42 years. Photography always held my interest even as a young boy. The stillness of the forest or the wings of a soaring bald eagle kept my attention. I find peace and tranquility in nature and can

get lost in it for hours. I enjoy taking photos of nature and wildlife in the Pinelands. I picked the Pinelands as a subject since I live in the Pinelands, have access to all the beautiful forests, lakes, and streams, it just made sense to photograph my local area. People have asked me, you must travel all over the tri-state area to get your images, I simply tell them it is all here within a 30-mile radius. Enjoy what you do and do what you enjoy.

Red-Bellied Beauty (Northern Red-Bellied Turtle) **by Keara Giannotti**
Amanita Gothic (Amanita persicina) **by Keara Giannotti**
Pinecone Poser (Eastern Fence Lizard on Pitch Pine) **by Keara Giannotti**
Keara R. Giannotti is a naturalist, environmental educator, and the director of Camp Creek Run, a nonprofit 50-acre camp and nature preserve dedicated to connecting children and the natural world within the Pinelands National Reserve. She's spent her whole life exploring the Pine Barrens, yet feels she's barely scratched the surface of this mysterious, humbling, and unique ecosystem, which is a constant source of inspiration, magic, and solace for her, as it is for so many. She enjoys using photography to study nature, documenting intimate, macro details of plants, animals, and fungi that she uses for reference to continue her own studies, as well as educate others. A natural science mentor of hers once described her pictures as "All the details of the world, and not a devil in them", a turn of phrase she admired at once for its poeticism, but also for how perfectly it illuminates her point of view and educational philosophy: life gets more beautiful the closer you look and the more deeply you investigate it. She loves pondering those tiny details and shares her musings and pictures on Instagram: https://Instagram.com/Keara.Giannotti (these posts are also embedded on her website www.LetsGoGetLost.org).

Peeping Peeper **by Shawn Glass**
Hypnotic Timber **by Shawn Glass**
As a child, I spent many hours playing in the woods of South Jersey, reading nature books, and picking up whatever bugs and "critters" I could find. As a young adult, for some time I assumed that New Jersey had less to offer in terms of biodiversity than most of the country (and the world.) I was wrong! I began exploring the Pines in earnest about 7 years ago and haven't looked back. Each time I encounter one of the many unique plants or animals fostered by this environment is exciting. I started taking photos of them, both to re-live those moments for myself, and to share them with others. I want people who live here to know that they don't have to watch a TV program or travel across the world to see beautiful landscapes and amazing creatures - they are right in our "backyard" if we take the time to find and appreciate them.

Another photographer I respect said simply, "I fell in love with it, because it makes me stop a little longer when I see something interesting or beautiful." I thought that was a great way to convey the appeal and why, as a hobby, it is so fulfilling. I hope to 'stop a little longer' in the Pinelands for many years to come.

Mullica Maple **by Rafal Goraczniak**
Between Seasons **by Rafal Goraczniak**
Haiku **by Rafal Goraczniak**
Edward Abbey once said, “A man on foot, on horseback or on a bicycle will see more, feel more, enjoy more in one mile than the motorized tourists can in a hundred miles.” For me, photography does exactly this thing. The camera is like a break, that helps me slow down to engage more deeply with where I am in space and time. From the Pine Barrens of New Jersey to the high desert of the Colorado Plateau, I find inspiration in what is often overlooked, the simple things that are hidden in an intimate landscape. In my work, I strive to create unique but realistic images with a surreal twist; photographs that offer visual metaphors for thoughts and feelings, rather than simply record the reality surrounding me.

Pinelands Pitcher Plant **by Donna Hoffman**
I was born in Maryland but, I have lived in Burlington County, NJ for the last 54 years. My husband, children, and I have spent the last 30 years living close to the Pine Barrens in Medford. During my career as a dental hygienist, my weekends were spent working in the garden. I enjoyed taking pictures of my flowers and of the birds and animals passing through my yard. These photos were shared by my family and friends. It wasn’t until after my retirement that I found a hobby in photography. While I still love to capture bright blooms in my garden, I have found my love for nature expanded by hiking and exploring the many trails of the Pine Barrens with my two Labrador retrievers. New and wonderful subjects can always be found as the seasons change. For me, photographing nature is like a treasure hunt. Success is when I capture that perfect image of the flora or fauna that is abundant in the Pine Barens

Three Cedars **by Tom Jenkins**
Canada Geese - Franklin Parker Preserve **by Tom Jenkins**
Whitesbog Lilly **by Tom Jenkins**
I discovered photography when I was in grade school, making contact prints from negatives taken by my father. This grew into a passion that continued through high school, where I was a yearbook photographer. Eventually, though, the camera took a back seat to career and other things in life. But I never completely lost interest, and when I picked up a digital camera several years ago and realized I had a darkroom in my computer, my enthusiasm returned.

Since then, I've mostly photographed birds, but in recent years I've discovered the unique stark beauty of the New Jersey Pinelands that for me, at least, is very challenging to capture in a photograph. I work mainly with digital equipment but occasionally use vintage medium format cameras with black and white film.

Welcome to the world... **by Bill LeConey**

Born and raised in Camden County NJ, a love for the outdoors was instilled in me at a very young age. I was fortunate enough to be surrounded by family members who were avid outdoorsmen. Deep in the pines, countless miles down a sugar sand road, my family owns a quaint, cinderblock cabin. As a child, I spent countless days there exploring the pygmy pines and notorious cedar swamps with my father, grandfather, and uncles. The ticks and chiggers, unfortunately, were also part of the package.

Those early childhood memories continue to be the driving force behind my love for the outdoors. If you spend enough time in the woods or on the water, you will experience things that may only happen once in a lifetime. Photography has provided me with an avenue to bring those rare moments back to life and share them with others. Ultimately, the draw for me is that every day's different, you just never know what you'll see.

I consider myself a wildlife photographer, who has recently found my niche capturing moments on the water. My photography has been featured in On The Water Magazine, and in product ads for New Jersey's premier fishing outfitter, Tackle Direct. I can normally be found anywhere from the Wharton State Forest to the backwaters of Cape May County. If you're looking for pictures, contact me!

Ominous **by Patricia Migliore**

My journey in photography began in 1970 when I first picked up a camera to do the yearbook photos at the American School in Israel where I was attending. I was so hooked that I soon took my first class in a darkroom at the University of Haifa. The infatuation never left me and carried on to a career after getting a degree in commercial photography. In the late 1970s and through the 1980s, I was a staff photographer for Prudential Insurance in Newark NJ, doing executive portraits, conference coverage, annual reports, large format negative retouching, and photos for their in-house publications. From the early 90s to the present, I've worked as a freelancer, covering conferences, doing portraits, covering religious ceremonies, doing website photos for businesses, and headshots for professionals. As I slowly phase out of my working years, I am getting out to shoot more for myself, which is bringing me right back to the infatuation I first found. Looking after three little grandsons helps to balance things out.

Island **by Jay OBrien**
Misty Sunrise **by Jay Obrien**
Nature photography began as a way to relieve stress and anxiety after a life-changing situation. As time went on I wanted to improve, and learn. I started reading and studying works of other photographers. I began attending workshops, seminars, and lectures. Being a lifelong resident of Philadelphia, I heard of the Pinelands, but never visited or researched the area. After relocating to Rio Grande, NJ in 2018 my curiosity got the best of me. I visited several locations on my own but never felt that I was getting to the heart of the Pinelands. After attending several of Rich Lewis' workshops I discovered the real beauty of the Pinelands. I have had images published in Nature Photographer Magazine, Inner Reflections Calendar, Arizona Highways magazine, and serval other publications and websites.

Reflections of Twilight **by Susan Powell**
I am a lifelong resident of New Jersey and picked up photography in High School. For me, photography is capturing that moment in time that might otherwise be lost or overlooked and viewing the details in an image in different ways; either to see the story or interpret an image in your own way. I live in central Jersey and usually find myself photographing areas near the Shore. Not being local to the Pinelands, it is always worth traveling to the area because the landscape is beautiful to explore during different times of day, under different conditions, and during different seasons. No trips are ever the same!

Oswego Afternoon **by Louis Rissland**
Photography is for me, an extension of a developing awareness for all that is in the natural world. Its importance is the stronger relationship it creates with the spaces and places I visit. A deeper connection, heightened awareness, active participation, increased observation, greater appreciation… these are just some of the gifts I receive from photography. I take no credit; I owe it all to the beauty of nature and its relationship with photography. As a subject, I have often picked the Pine Barrens, due to its uniqueness of habitat and quite solitude. The choice of trails, streams, and lakes seems endless. I'm still learning about the Pine Barrens, and isn't that a gift as well, a vast natural environment with much to still explore!

Seeing Double **by Susan Rogozinski**
My name is Susan Rogozinski and I live in Millville, NJ. My day job is as a graphic designer with Rowan College at Burlington County, but my true passion is when the workday is done and I can get out to take some photos! Through the years, I have learned that photography is the best therapy I can give to myself. When I witness a beautiful sunset, there's a rush that flows through me, filling me with joy. Capturing it with the camera (or, mainly, my cellphone)

is my way of marking that moment for my ever-aging, and getting-kind-of-forgetful, brain. I've been asked why I don't print/sell my work... I'd much rather be out shooting photos! The Heislerville area of the Delaware Bayshore is one of my absolute favorite places for photographs, and it's pretty wonderful that it's part of the Pinelands. I am addicted to wide-open skies and reflections, and I'm able to capture both every time I'm out. I visit East Point, Thompson Beach, and Matt's Landing frequently... but it's different on every visit, due to those wide-open spaces in an area most wouldn't even consider as Pinelands territory!
You can find me on Instagram @suerogoo624 to check out a little more of my love for the Pinelands, captured along the state's southern bayshore.

Majestic **by Jeff Sayre**
For years, Forsythe Wildlife Refuge in the Pinelands has been my “go to” place to photograph birds virtually any time of the year. “Majestic” was shot there as a tern hovered in the air just before diving for a fish. I was very pleased with the painterly look of the photo. I hope you enjoy it too. Jeff brings a deep appreciation to nature photography. He finds it a source of inspiration. As Jeff describes it, "the beauty of nature inspires, and I feel is our Creators’ greeting card. I find great joy in capturing this incredible beauty and sharing it with others. Even though I love to take all kinds of photographs, my greatest love is shorebirds, particularly egrets, ospreys, herons and terns."
Locally, Jeff’s works were twice featured at juried Grounds for Sculpture Focus on Photography exhibits. Six of his works have been accepted into the prestigious “Eyesights” competitions by the Guild of Creative Arts in Shrewsbury New Jersey, with two taking first in their groups (macro and black and white). Further, over the years six of Jeff’s entries have been selected in the Pinelands Preservation Alliance Photo competitions.
His passion has been recognized more widely, as he received wide recognition, winning awards in various national and international competitions, by the Photographic Society of America (PSA), the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, and the NJ Marine Science Consortium. Also, two of Jeff’s works were accepted by the Wilmington International Photography Exhibit, involving entries from thirty-three countries.
Says Jeff, "I invite others to enjoy nature's beauty through my photographs. Taking memorable photographs is a blend of skill and pure luck. Skill with the camera, editing, and the printing process, but also luck, with being at the right place, at the right time, with the right light, to capture something magical."

Sugar Coated Pines **by Janet S Schmidt**
I have always loved photography, both taking and looking at pictures. To me, it is a bit of magic to be able to capture a time, a place, a feeling, and a way to invite others to view my window to the world. Some of my most prized possessions are old family photos and I still have almost every photograph I have ever taken, beginning with my first Instamatic camera. Photography to me is not only a picture but also a way to create a connection. I moved to the Pinelands 10 years ago from Bergen County, New Jersey. While walking and exploring, I love to photograph the natural beauty and diversity of the Pinelands. To me, the Pinelands are a living museum filled with a unique environment, history, and culture. I hope to be able to express this to others through my photographs.
I am very pleased that my photograph, Sugar Coated Pines, has been selected for the Pinelands Preservation Alliance's 2022 Pinelands Juried Photography Exhibition.

Pakim Pond No. 3 **by David Seals**
Cranberry Bog Sunrise **by David Seals**
The Fog of Batsto Mansion **by David Seals**
Bass River Cedars **by David Seals**
The Passage **by David Seals**
As a middle school band director, professional musician, and father of 4 musicians, my life has been filled with sound. Photography gives me the quiet and peace that is missing from my daily life. The whispering of the pines gives me a sense of calm and hours pass by like minutes while photographing the intimate landscapes that can only be found in the Pinelands.

Cutie And The Gentians **by John Stritzinger**
Quiet Convergence **by John Stritzinger**
I love being in the moment. Photographing takes me there. After taking photos, I also enjoy the craftsmanship and artistry of post-processing, editing, and polishing an image to share. In each of these distinct ways of being I find my creative self, and photography provides me with both. I have taken a mostly self-taught route to photography. My interest grew - from casual documenting of family-and-travel events while pursuing a career as a creative technologist - into a lifelong passion and never-ending study now that I am retired. Photographs in my portfolio are quite diverse and reflect my joy in experiencing a wide range of subjects and places. Outdoors calls me – travel, architecture, and especially landscapes. I am most at home when out walking in nature.
The Pinelands have beckoned me to return more than once. To me, its flatness of still water and overgrowth and straight dirt tracks give a sense that the land is humming. I feel a resonance builds from these natural surroundings, or so it seems to me, listening to the wind,

watching ripples across a pond, hearing birds circle and call. When making long exposure images in this landscape, I have come to savor the time after opening the shutter. I pause and become absorbed in the scene. When the shutter closes, I like to imagine that the resulting photograph records a murmur of the exchange between me and what is seen.

Helonias **by David Taylor**
Schizaea **by David Taylor**
Twayblade Queen **by David Taylor**
I'm an amateur photographer that loves exploring the Pinelands and hope my photos are able to create some awareness. It's fun when you're miles deep and come across a plant or place that looks like it could be from another world and not New Jersey. Photography allows you to capture that and show other people what kind of wild things are still out there. Who knows, maybe someone sees something that helps them get out the door to explore it for themselves.

Whitesbogs Milkyway **by Johanna Vasicek**
I am primarily a nature & landscape photographer, who is always looking for new places to photograph, as well as new skills to learn. I am originally from Michigan but have been living in NJ for about 25 years now. I have always loved taking pictures. However, about 7 years ago, I decided to get my first DSLR to take my love to a higher level and started learning all I could. Skills, like working on composition, shooting techniques, and editing. I found after many visits to my home state of Michigan how much of it that I had taken for granted while living there. I decided I needed to get out and start exploring New Jersey. That was when I started hiking and exploring the Pine Barrens, camera in hand. The Pine Barrens is a beautiful and mystical place to visit. There are so many different types of ecosystems you never know what you will see to photograph in your travels. I love to bring the beauty I find to others. People who may not be able to visit on their own or may not even be aware of all the beautiful locations in the area. I always hope my photos inspire people, but at the very least maybe bring a smile to their face or even a wonderful memory.

Standing Still **by Melissa Willhouse**
Melissa Willhouse is a South Jersey native who has developed a lifelong passion for photography and the environment. Currently pursuing an MS in Environmental Science and Policy, Melissa appreciates the beauty of the natural world and the need to conserve it. Photography is important to Melissa as it is a creative means of telling meaningful stories, and the Pinelands are a very special place for Melissa as her family has inhabited the area for decades - her aunt is the Chief of the State Park Police and was the first Cranberry Princess at the first Cranberry Festival. Melissa penned a research paper about how human activity helps

or hinders biodiversity in the Pine Barrens and participated in PPA's Life Science Field Training Institute in Summer 2021. Digital storytelling is her true passion, and her goal in life is to inspire the same love for the environment that she harbors.

Pinelands Cranberry Harvest **by Diana Wind**
Photography with good camera equipment is harder than I expected. A good camera can only take good pictures if you know how to use it. I'm grateful that my husband, Harry, also enjoys photography and has been patient in teaching me over the years. Sharing this hobby is special to me. Photography can tell a story and preserve images of people and places in time. My late Father, Ted Mehl, inspired me too. I love his black and white photos of Haven Beach at sunset; and, portraits of his mother and my late mother, Junetta. I will forever treasure those captured memories. The Pinelands photography competition motivated us to make several visits to explore and discover areas located within the Pinelands. It has been wonderful to discover such beauty and learn about the importance of conservation and cranberry farming in the NJ Pinelands.

Golden Mist **by Patricia Worley**
Foggy Overlook **by Patricia Worley**
Snowy Owl Preening **by Patricia Worley**
My love of photography and the Pinelands go hand in hand. Each serves as an outlet for my creativity and a means by which I can share the importance of the natural world with the viewer. My accepted images in the Pinelands Photo Exhibition are the perfect example of how the two concepts blend. The golden light and the gentle mist rising on a cool fall morning is a reminder that time is fleeting, and one needs to take the time to enjoy life. The solitary Snowy Owl sitting on a snow fence on Island Beach State Park reflects the changing climate and how fragile our environment truly is. No matter how often I venture into the Pinelands, there is always a story to share through my photography. As a nature and wildlife photographer, I feel fortunate to call the 1.1 million acres of the New Jersey Pine Barrens my home. Pat Worley lives in a log cabin in Medford Lakes with her husband Rob. Their daughters, Samantha and Katie were raised to appreciate the beauty and fragility of the world around them.

Other featured finalists include…
Dennis Abriola
Jillyan Bechtold
Jessica Borden
Michael Burkhauser
Shawn Burns
Karen Crisfulla

Ann Darlington
Daniel D'Auria MD
Aleja Estronza
Audrey Geddes
James Gunardson
Matt Hunsberger
Donald Kanzler
Stephen Leibrock
Lynn Padwee
Randall Richard
Yuri Rodriguez Muniz
Yuming Zou