

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PERIOD: \_\_\_\_\_

## THE ELEMENTS OF PHOTOGRAPHY NOTES

### WHAT IS PHOTOGRAPHY?

#### COMMUNICATION AND CONTENT ARE THE FOUNDATIONS OF PHOTOGRAPHY.

- AT BEST, PHOTOGRAPHY STRIVES TO CONVEY "THE TRUTH."
- IT INFORMS, EDUCATES AND ENLIGHTENS US.
- IT GIVES US A GLIMPSE INTO OUR PRESENT & PAST.
- IT IS A VISUAL CHRONICLE OF THE HUMAN CONDITION.
- IT JOINS US IN SHARED EXPERIENCES WITH THE REST OF HUMANITY.

#### LIKE WRITERS, PAINTERS & MUSICIANS, PHOTOGRAPHERS ARE STORYTELLERS TOO.

- PHOTOGRAPHERS HAVE THEIR OWN SET OF TECHNIQUES THAT THEY USE TO TELL THEIR "STORY."
- WE CALL THESE TECHNIQUES THE "ELEMENTS OF PHOTOGRAPHY."

### THE "ELEMENTS OF PHOTOGRAPHY" ARE...

#### ELEMENT #1 •THE USE OF LIGHT

- WE CAN DESCRIBE LIGHT IN THREE WAYS:
- THOSE CHARACTERISTICS OF LIGHT INCLUDE...

#### •DIRECTION OF LIGHT

FRONT LIGHT, CHARACTERIZED BY:

SIDE LIGHT, CHARACTERIZED BY:

REMBRANDT OR  $\frac{3}{4}$  LIGHT, CHARACTERIZED BY:

TOP LIGHT, CHARACTERIZED BY:

BACK LIGHT, CHARACTERIZED BY:

BOTTOM LIGHT, CHARACTERIZED BY:

#### •COLOR TEMPERATURE OF LIGHT

COLOR TEMPERATURE IN IMAGES CAN BE DESCRIBED AS.....

\_\_\_\_\_ OR \_\_\_\_\_ OR \_\_\_\_\_

#### •THE DIFFUSION, OR "QUALITY" OF LIGHT

THIS IS DETERMINED BY HOW \_\_\_\_\_ OR \_\_\_\_\_ THE EDGES OF SHADOWS ARE.

## **ELEMENT #2 •USE OF SHUTTER SPEED TO CONVEY MOVEMENT**

THERE ARE THREE TYPES OF SHUTTER SPEED TECHNIQUES.

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ WHICH STOPS ALL MOTION.
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ IN WHICH THE CAMERA MOVES WITH THE SUBJECT AND CREATES BLURRED STREAKS IN THE BACKGROUND.
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ IN WHICH THE BACKGROUND IS IN FOCUS, BUT THE SUBJECT BLURS AS THEY PASS THROUGH THE IMAGE.

## **ELEMENT #3 •DEPTH OF FIELD / USE OF APERTURE FOR SELECTIVE FOCUS**

THERE ARE 2 TERMS USED TO DESCRIBE DEPTH OF FIELD

1. \_\_\_\_\_ DEPTH OF FIELD –FOREGROUND AND BACKGROUND ARE IN FOCUS -USED TO GIVE A SENSE OF CONTEXT TO THE PHOTOS.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ DEPTH OF FIELD –FOREGROUND IS SHARP, BACKGROUND IS IN FOCUS, USED TO REMOVE DISTRACTING ELEMENTS FROM BACKGROUND.

## **ELEMENT #4 •COMPOSITION -PLACEMENT OF OBJECTS WITHIN THE FRAME.**

COMPOSITIONAL TECHNIQUES INCLUDE THE USE OF:

LINE, REPETITION OF SHAPE, RULE OF THIRDS, SPOT, UNUSUAL ANGLE, USE OF NEGATIVE SPACE, UNUSUAL PERSPECTIVE (A FRESH WAY OF SEEING THE COMMONPLACE)

JUXTAPOSITION OF SIZE AND SHAPE....

COMBINING FOREGROUND AND BACKGROUND OBJECTS TO TELL THE STORY

## **ELEMENT #5 •CAPTURING MOMENTS -EMOTION BRINGS PHOTOS TO LIFE**

PREPARATION

ANTICIPATION -WORKING UP TO THE PEAK MOMENT

REACTION

## **ELEMENTS SUMMARY**

•WHETHER YOUR PHOTO IS A PRIZE WINNER OR SOMETHING SHARED ONLY WITH FRIENDS VIA YOUR SMARTPHONE, EVERY INTERESTING PHOTO UTILIZES ONE OR MORE OF THESE “TOOLS” OR “ELEMENTS OF PHOTOGRAPHY.”

•YOUR CHALLENGE IN THIS CLASS IS TO SEE IF YOU CAN UNDERSTAND AND MASTER THESE TECHNIQUES -AND INCORPORATE THEM INTO YOUR IMAGES TO CONVEY YOUR VISUAL MESSAGE IN AN INTERESTING WAY.

