

Spring 2024 Mentor Profiles

There are many things to consider when choosing a mentor- the first and most important is availability. When you sign up as a mentee, you do need to consider when you are available, and whether it coincides with your mentor of choice. Second, location- our club members cover a large area, so consider the location your mentor lives in. If a mentor lives in Lorain County, and you, the mentee lives in Ashtabula, don't assume the mentor is coming to you. Many travel all over the area, some not at all, especially if working on studio projects. Third, what genre of photography does that mentor work in and cover? You can learn from anyone in any genre, but those interested in photographing birds probably should not become the mentee of a food photographer. There are other limiting factors, those three are the first to consider.

CPS Mentors are volunteering their time and expertise -This is not a paid position. The qualification to be either a mentor or mentee is that you are a current member. Please keep in mind that the mentor designs and runs their own program. How often they meet, and where is up to the mentor. How many mentees they will work with varies- the mentor makes that decision. Once you request and are assigned a mentor, you are expected to show respect for their time and talent. In other words, show up. Mentees who do not show up are often taking the spot of someone else who would have loved to be there.

More than anything else, plan to have fun, create beautiful photos, and make new friends! Scroll down for a profile of each mentor for the Spring 2024 Mentoring Round.

Angeli Persons



City- Maple Heights

Availability- Weekends and evenings

Accepts- beginners

Camera- Nikon, Leica, Panasonic

Photo Interests- Street Photography

Activity Level-walking



I've been a photographer for 10+ years. After several years of focusing on Landscape and Macro, I finally found my passion for street photography. I've always enjoyed meeting new people, and capturing unsuspecting moments in time which will never be captured again. We will focus on candid street photos which often tell a story or show emotion. We will also capture street portraits. My goal is to assist you in becoming comfortable and to blend into the environment.



Kris Bosworth



City- North Olmsted

Photo Interests- General

Accepts beginners

Availability- Weekdays until 5/18,
then some Saturday mornings

Camera -Fuji, Sony, Canon

Activity level- indoor, outdoor,
walking



Because of my extensive history in helping out with the Fundamentals class, I have become aware that some students may not have achieved a working knowledge of their cameras by the end of the class. My time with mentees will be devoted to giving a firm grasp of the basics through instruction and practice on actual subjects. The objective is to bring the mentee to the level of an intermediate photographer. We will shoot at mostly park locations including waterfalls. I live on the west side but am open to other locations within a reasonable distance if there is a particular interest. Weather permitting there will be a night shoot in Cleveland. Normally I spend 4 to 5 sessions of about two hours each, but there is flexibility here. Most shooting can be done with a kit lens, but I can help you with any lens you may have. The only other equipment needed is a tripod and a shutter release.



Kim Wasielewski



City- Strongsville

Accepts beginner and intermediate

Camera- Nikon

Availability- Tues, Thurs, Fri morning, Weds, all day

Photo Interests- people and portraits

Activity Level- indoor, outdoor, walking



I am not super technical though I know more than I did when I started 9 years ago. I believe the best way to learn is to get out there and shoot. My main focus is people and even when I am in a setting where we are supposed to be capturing nature, I will gravitate toward the people. I want to also empower you to use your speed lights inside and outside. My super powers are: getting strangers to pose for me, setting up really cool field trips, and explaining things in a non-technical way. My hope is to set up an outing every other week and do a photo review every other week. So we will meet weekly alternating in person and virtual. I have 2 Saturday field trip dates for special events May 4 and May 18, we will talk about that on our first meetup.



Omar Jefferies



City- Cleveland

Availability- Saturday morning

Accepts- Beginner, Intermediate, Advanced

Camera- Canon Mirrorless

Activity level- indoor, outdoor, walking

Photo Interests- Architecture, Fine Art



My goal as a mentor is to help mentees photograph and edit architecture and cityscapes in a fine art way. I focus a lot on composition, creative camera techniques and editing.



Erich Botzki



City- Parma

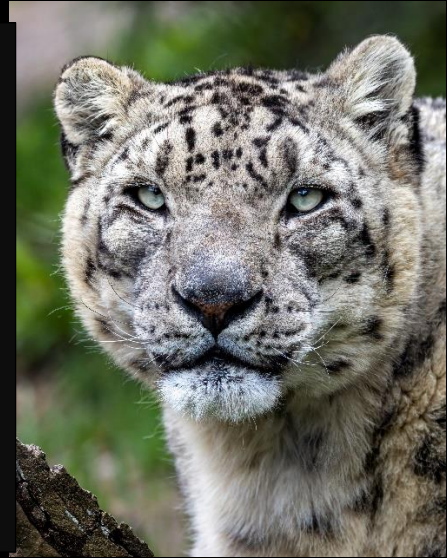
Availability- Weekends,
Sunday morning, Thursday
evening

Camera- Canon mirrorless

Photo Interests- Unique
animals in human care

Activity level- indoor, outdoor,
hiking

Accepts- beginners



I have been taking pictures for about 15 years, though not as seriously as I have been the last 4. I will travel anywhere for a good picture - especially for my passion for unique animals in human care. I am a well-versed zoo photographer and excited to share the tips and tricks that I have learned. My plan is to go to the Cleveland or Akron Zoo every other week on Sunday mornings when they open for a few hours and then having online Image reviews for final edited images on the following Thursday night. Also, we will be going to the CPS back the wild field trip and a trip to Majestic Meadows Alpaca Farm.



Brian O’Riordan



City- Brecksville

Availability-Flexible

Camera- Nikon, all accepted

Photo Interests-
Composition,
Communication, Creativity

Accepts- beginner,
intermediate



I enjoy working with mentees to improve their technical and observational skills; and also to anticipate how others might view their images. We may discuss how planning, technique, post processing, and imagination can combine to create images that effectively capture and communicate whatever it is that you wish to convey to the viewer. I use both one-on-one discussions and field trips depending upon mentees’ interests and needs, and frequently suggest “homework” or shooting assignments which can contribute to the learning process. I have been a member of CPS for fifteen years, a mentor for as long as the program has been in existence, and have judged competitions for other clubs in the area.



Dave Ciborek



City- Munroe Falls

Availability- Flexible
(retired)

Accepts beginners

Camera- Sony mirrorless

Photo interests- Outdoor,
mostly nature-large and
small, people

Activity level- outdoor,
walking



I retired from teaching 12 years ago. At that time, I took up photography as a creative outlet. I took lessons at CPS and immediately began taking advantage of all that the club has to offer. Being outside with my camera helps me attune to the wonder that surrounds us. Join me to take a walk in the woods, visit a garden, the zoo, or a special event like the Civil War reenactment at Hale Farm.



Bruce Orr

City-Old Brooklyn, Cleveland

Availability- weekends,
some weeknights

Photo interests-nature
wildlife and landscapes,
fairs, travel, cityscapes,
architecture

Accepts- Beginners,
Intermediate

Camera- Canon, Fujifilm

Activity level- outdoor,
walking, hiking



I've been involved with photography as long as I can remember. My grandfather was a wonderful travel photographer, which is where I draw my inspiration. The transition from film and the darkroom to digital has been exciting and as much as I loved the analog world, the digital world has proven to be a wonderful bridge, combing old school techniques with ever changing technology. I enjoy all types of architecture, people, sports and some still life. The type of sessions I like to hold are informal and free flowing. Find a place, set out and learn as we go. The overall flow would be one week, we take photos and the next we meet up to review. I think it's import (but not necessary) to have some type of project in mind; a picture for the den, gift, photo-book - anything that will help give focus.



Karen Isaac



City- Northfield

Availability- weekends,
some weeknights

Photo Interests-Nature,
birds and flowers

Accepts- beginners

Camera- Nikon

Activity level- outdoor,
walking, hiking



I have loved photography since I was young. Growing up I had several cameras that I took everywhere- documenting friends, family and vacations. Before I had my first child, I took some classes and used a Minolta film camera. My husband would come with me & write all my settings down on a clipboard! I set my hobby aside when my son was growing up. I joined CPS a few years ago. After taking some classes, I joined a group with Bruce as my mentor. After taking some classes, I joined a mentorship group with Bruce as my mentor. I love nature shots, birds and flowers.



Please note that Bruce Orr and Karen Isaac will mentor together as a team.

Amy Sancetta



City – Chagrin Falls

Availability- Some weekdays and Saturday

Photo interests- Nature, Features, Sports, Photojournalism



Camera- Nikon mirrorless

Accepts- beginner, Intermediate, Advanced

Activity level- outdoor, walking



I am a retired 30-year staff photographer with the Associated Press. This workshop is to help you with your sports photography, though I've always contended that being a good sports shooter made me better at everything else. I covered many Olympic Games, Super Bowls, Masters, and more; the 9/11 attacks in NYC, the Oklahoma City bombings, and politics. I loved shooting features. I won the Pulitzer in 1993 and was the AP's and Sports Photographer of the year in 1992. This workshop is about timing, anticipation, storytelling, and imagination. It will primarily be on the East side, depending on sports schedules.



Natalie Souza



City- Solon

Availability- Flexible

Accepts- Beginner, intermediate, advanced

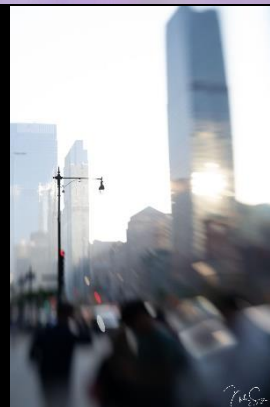
Camera- Nikon

Photo Interests- ICM, specialty lenses

Activity level- indoor, outdoor, walking



Currently, I am working on my own project and would like people to join me in photographing various landmarks of Cleveland and the surrounding area. I am interested and can show how to do various ICM techniques as well as doing basic adjustments in LR and PS that will complement a particular type of images. Additionally, I enjoy using specialty lenses including the Lensbaby Sweet 50 Pro and can show how to use it not only to photograph macro-objects but cityscapes and people, as well.



Gary Wood



City- Cleveland, WestPark neighborhood

Availability- Weekday mornings and evenings, some weekends

Camera- Panasonic LUMIX

Accepts- intermediate, must have telephoto lens

Photo Interests- Nature with a concentration on birds

Activity level- outdoor, walking, hiking



I have been photographing nature since 1977 with a concentration on birds for 6 years. We can photograph birds doing many different things in the parks and preserves of northern Ohio.



Rick Mills/Dennis Wert



City- Westlake and Medina

Availability- Saturday morning

Camera- Nikon

Accepts- beginner, intermediate

Photo interests- Architectural, Landscape, Cityscape, cars, waterfalls, nighttime (blue hour)

Activity level- outdoor, walking, climbing



Photography has been out interest for many years, and we are long time members of CPS. We have taken the Fundamentals of Photography and Photoshop classes, attended many field trips and served as mentors for several years. We shoot Nikon but any camera is ok, but please know how to adjust shutter, aperture, ISO and self timer. Lighting, composition, and depth of field are only a few of the elements to be discussed and demonstrated. As a team we look forward to helping you learn your camera and improve your photography. Will need camera manual, tripod, and if you have them, Circular polarizer and Neutral density filters.



Dennis and Rick mentor as a team.

Beverly Kenworthy

City- North Ridgeville



Availability- Sunday morning, occasional weekdays

Accepts- Beginner, intermediate, advanced.

Photo interests- Travel, birds, landscape, wildlife

Camera- Nikon mirrorless

Activity level- outdoor, walking, hiking, climbing.



I stole my husband's Nikon SLR 40 years ago. I became interested in still photography as we traveled more, and have extensive video experience, both shooting and editing. I shoot Nikon, but all brands are welcome. For the spring round, we will concentrate on landscapes-big and small, long exposures, and will continue the focus on birds. How to get that shot when you carry the wrong lens. I joined CPS in 2018 and have mentored since then. I currently serve as CPS treasurer and admin the mentoring program.

