

INSPIRED

by the Masters

By Kristie Clattenburg

Black and white photos adorned easels lining the Legacy Center, which housed a full house of guests waiting to hear Ken Basile, the 2018 keynote speaker for the Eighth Annual Art in Nature Photo Festival. Ansel Adams, Edward Weston, Imogen Cunningham, Paul Sexton and Minor White made up the special exhibit *Ansel's America: The Photography of Ansel Adams*. Basile spoke on these photographers and their works, detailing how Salisbury University came to acquire these amazing works of art.

Earlier in the day, the walls of the Championship Gallery began filling up with entries from two countries and 10 states. Youth, amateur and professional entries totaling 948 photographs were displayed throughout the weekend and judged on Saturday night. Basile, prior to his keynote speech, walked through the gallery lined with photographs and awarded one photograph the title "Most Ansel Adams-like." The winner was Scott Kasden of Trophy Club, TX, with his photo *Star Trails over "the Mittens."* Kasden was awarded a National Park pass. In addition to Basile's keynote speech, there were a number of well-attended lectures, workshops and field sessions. Some of those leading these events were Brian Zwit, Joe Scukanec, Kevin Fleming, Jay Fleming, Paul Biederman and Dave Campbell. Topics ranged from night photography to landscapes, macro/close-up photography to focus stacking and much more.

The judges for 2018 were Edwin Remsberg of Remsberg, Inc.; Andrew Tawes of Outdoors Delmarva WBOC; and Alan Wycheck of Alan Wycheck Photography. Judging began at the close of doors Saturday at 5 p.m. and rolled into the night. The Grand Champion for 2018 is Kathrin Swoboda of Vienna, VA, with her photo *Wait for Me*. Beamie Young of Dickerson, MD, won Best in Division for Professional with her photo *Audubon Pose*. Best in Amateur Division was won by Jerry amEnde of Wilmington, DE, with his photo *Tree Swallow Fight*. Seventeen-year-

old James Stokes of Newark, DE, won the Youth Division with his photo *Golden Eyes*. As always, the people had their pick: the People's Choice Winner was *The Fox in the Tree* by Russell Taylor III of Laurel, DE.

The weekend was filled with photography and art lovers roaming the Ward Museum for not just the competitors' works on the walls of the galleries and the beautiful sculptures throughout—but also with admission for the galleries sponsored by Value Carpet One—but also to see the special exhibit of *Ansel's America: The Photography of Ansel Adams*, which was included in the wristband pricing with lectures and workshops. Guests and competitors that spent the day at the museum were treated to a different food vendor each day. Thank you to all of those that entered, attended and volunteered.

If you missed a lecture or workshop, please watch our education page on our website; classes are offered throughout the year on all kinds of art forms. Also watch for updates for the Ninth Annual Art in Nature Photo Festival where we will have another special exhibit and are introducing two new rotating categories:

- Rotating Print Category – Humans in Nature. This is an open category for professionals, amateurs and youth. Show us your best photo(s) where humans are in nature. This includes humans and animals, humans and landscapes, humans interacting with any part of nature. This category will be eligible for Grand Champion.
- Online Rotating Category – Online submission only for the category of Nature vs. Man. This is an open category for professionals, amateurs and youth competing together. Show us your best photo(s) where nature has reclaimed something man-made, or, that was impacted by man in some way. Like Smart Device, this category is currently ineligible for Grand Champion.

Get your cameras ready. Submissions will be accepted starting July 1, 2019. Are you the 2019 Grand Champion?

