FOUNDATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY SKILLS LESSON 1

COMPOSITION REFERENCE SHEET

Composition  How the elements of a photo are arranged.

Rule of Thirds  A basic compositional structure of a photograph. You can take any image and split it into 9 sections by using 2 vertical and 2 horizontal lines.

Framing  The technique of drawing attention to the main focus in the photo by blocking or surrounding other parts of the image with something in the scene.

Positive Space  Any section of the photograph that stands out. This could be the main focal point, along with other noteworthy areas of detail in a photograph.

Negative Space  Parts of an image that don’t attract as much attention, surrounding the positive space and accentuating the main subject.

Brainstorm  Technique for the initial production of ideas or ways of solving a problem by an individual or group in which ideas are spontaneously contributed without critical comment or judgement.

Digital Format  Anything in electronic form including photos, images, video, audio files, or artwork created or presented through electronic means; a gallery of artwork viewed electronically through any device.

Image  Visual representation of a person, animal, thing, idea or concept.

Elements of Visual Art  (see separate reference sheet)