2025 DSBN REGIONAL
PHOTOGRAPHY
SKILLS CHALLENGE SECONDARY LEVEL SCOPE

CHAIRS:	Darryl Block Governor Simcoe darryl.block@dsbn.org Dan Ricci Westlane dan.ricci@dsbn.org

PURPOSE OF THE CONTEST:

To test, evaluate and educate competitors in the necessary skills needed to compete in today's real and ever-changing world of photography. For more information about the OTSC, visit: www.skillsontario.com/index.php/en/competitions/otsc

EVENT DETAILS:
Date: Wednesday February 26, 2025
Time: 8am-3pm
Location: Niagara College • Welland Campus

ENTRY: Students must register online at 2025 Skills Challenge Registration Form with all the required information completed to be eligible to participate.

SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE TO BE TESTED:

- **Photographic Eye -** Focus on composition, cropping, use of visual elements, and general creativity/recognition of overall aesthetics.
- **Digital Capture in RAW or JPEG** - Ability to capture images that are sharp/in-focus.
- **Post Production** - Editing, colour correction, retouching and manipulation of images.

SAFETY REQUIREMENTS:
Safety is a priority at the Skills Ontario Competition. Please be sure to review safe practices before students participate in the photoshoot portion of the competition. **At the discretion of the judges and technical chairs, any competitor can be removed from the competition for the submission of inappropriate subject matter.**

EQUIPMENT, MATERIALS, TOOLS, AND SUPPLIES:
If you have any questions about the requirements, please email the committee chairs (see above).

Equipment Supplied by the Competitor or School:
- Computers
- Digital Camera (DSLR or Point and Shoot) and SD cards
- Camera Accessories (ie. flash, tripod, batteries, etc.)
- Card Readers if necessary

Equipment Supplied by the Organizer/Committee:
- iMac computers to edit
- Software (Adobe Photoshop)
Note:
-NO PHONE APPS are to be used for the editing portion of the competition
-Adobe Lightroom and Photoshop stock/original factory software is only allowed to be used. No presets, plugins etc are permitted.
-Students must use the provided computer by Niagara College. No personal computers are allowed.

Digital Portfolio *(this is completed and submitted <u>before</u> the day of competition)
The Digital Portfolio is to be 10 of your best images in digital format. The photos are to be JPEG files, correctly formatted to a maximum of 2000 pixels wide for on-screen viewing. **These files will not be printed**. This digital portfolio will be shared via Google Drive and presented to the judges. **See further info on the last page.** Please ensure at least 4 of the photos from the digital portfolio are in colour.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Digital Portfolio - 10 images (8 must be colour)
- Will be completed <u>before</u> the competition
- Images must be no older than 1 year old from event month (February 2024)
    ● the subject matter of each image should vary, and be diverse
    ● creativity, editing and quality
    ● consistent and clear representation of your personal style
    ● See criteria similar to "Photography Series" below***
	30

Digital Production on-site editing Test (Adobe Photoshop)
- To be completed <u>during</u> the competition
    ● complete image - colour temperature correction, white levels and
      black levels, contrast, saturation, colour shift
    ● quality of retouching and image clean-up
	20

Photography Series (Photos Taken Day of Competition) * - 7 edited images**
- To be completed during the competition (applicable to theme provided)
    ● the theme will be provided on the day of DSBN Skills Challenge
    ● the series is to be edited and processed in the format specified on the day
      of the competition
 	
Visual and aesthetic criteria
    ● Composition, framing and choice of viewpoint
    ● Background
    ● Design elements and principles
    ● Appropriate application of photographic and/or manipulative techniques
    ● Visual impact composition
    ● Visual elements - cropping, depth of field, use of light
 	
Technical criteria
    ● Exposure Focus/sharpness
    ● Depth of field
    ● Colour and/or tonal rendition
    ● Contrast
    ● Lighting
    ● File Management
 	
General characteristics
    ● Originality
    ● Subject impact
    ● Interest
    ● Style
    ● Photographic vision
    ● Emotion/Mood/Feeling
	50

Total	100

ENTRY:

Maximum of 2 students per school, please. Students must register online at
https://technological-skills-challenges.dsbn.org/ with all of the required information
completed to be eligible to participate.

TEACHER'S ROLE:
Instructors are expected to acquaint their student participants with all of the enclosed
guidelines. Teachers may not assist the competitors during the challenge. Thank you.

* DIGITAL PORTFOLIO SUBMISSION (<u>PRIOR</u> to competition):
**A Google Drive folder will be shared with the competitor by Dan Ricci or Darryl
Block on Feb. 27th (the day before the competition) for digital portfolio
submission. Teachers will also be emailed on Feb. 27th to remind their students
to upload their digital portfolios into this shared folder. Thanks!**
**** Each competitor will be given a number by their coordinator upon registration
at the location and will be judged anonymously during the competition.**