

					JUDGING		
SEQUENCE	STAR RATING	TITLE	Firstname	Surname	SCORE	AWARD	COMMENT
1	2	Beauty of India	Mags	Vosloo	11	Gold	For a 2 Star this has been very nicely handled - pose is good. Eyes are nice and sharp and good balance between the highlights and shadows. Picture has been spoilt a bit with the colour choice of the border, although at 2 star I have not penalised you for this. I think that this picture does not need a border ***
2	2	Guarding the streets	Jan	Lens	9	Silver	That's a lovely face full of character. Details are nice and sharp and I like the tight crop. Nice catchlight in the eyes. Unfortunately the shiny highlights on the face are a bit too distracting - tone down those highlight area a bit through selective processing. Note: There is no Metadata on this picture and that could be a problem if Westville query when this picture was taken. ***
3	2	Lone Ranger	Mags	Vosloo	11	Gold	Nice - you have captured this side profile well with sufficient detail in the face. I feel that this picture would be better without a border ***
4	2	Mountain man	Jan	Lens	8	Silver	You have captured an interesting face and the details are nice and sharp. Conversion to mono works well. The eyes are a bit dark could have been lifted a bit. Unfortunately the aspect ratio does not look correct - possibly this was broken during post-processing, or possibly because a vary short focal length lens was used - but this face does not appear natural. ***
5	3	Beauty and the Beasts	Meleney	Naik	11	Gold	Well managed, and the model captures your attention even though there are some quite strong distracting items in the picture. The details on the face are really well handled and are nice and sharp You have also managed the light on the model well, and the sky is also nicely managed.

6	3	Daydream	Cornelia	Appel	9	Silver	Details on the face are nice and sharp, but sadly the emphasis in this picture is on the flowers. The face needs a little bit more light and saturation to draw the attention, but sadly one can't see the eyes - even they are focussed on the flowers. The background is also a little distracting.
7	3	Eginile	Cornelia	Appel	12	Gold	A really nice effort - detail on the face is good. Catchlight in the eyes is also good and draws attention to the eyes and the face - which is what you want. Well done.
8	3	Keeping an eye on the prize	Marna	Roelofse	11	Gold	Stunning picture and you are drawn into those great big eyes. Really well captured. Only one minor criticism - some more saturation would bring out more colour to the face and eyes, and perhaps the picture could be cropped in a bit. ***
9	3	Laughter is the Best Medicine	Meleney	Naik	8	Silver	The 2 models clearly enjoying some humour. I find that the background is a bit overpowering and distracting (particularly the leaves on the left of the picture - they add no value), and I feel the picture could have been cropped a bit tighter to exclude these distractions. This is more of a 'family-snapshot' than a portrait. ***
10	3	Serval Relaxed over a log	Marna	Roelofse	8	Silver	Well spotted and makes for an interesting portrait. Unfortunately it is just not sharp enough around the eyes, and there is strong shadows over the eyes and under the chin.
11	4	Chelsea	Denise	Harvey	9	Silver	This is a lovely picture that has been let down slightly in post-processing. Tone down some of the highlights on the nose, cheek, and forehead, and lift some of the shadows slightly, and this could have been a gold. Conversion to mono has worked well. ***
12	4	Contemplation	Tracey	Rhodes	10	Gold	A nice side-on portrait catching the profile. The hand is a bit too dominant in this picture - tone down the highlights on the hand, and pull back some of the shadow on the lower half of the face and this would be great. ***

13	4	drawing hand	Liesl	Couperthwaite	4	Bronze	I would like to commend this author for trying something different - but unfortunately this doesn't work. Portrait photography is about capturing the personality, identity, soul, and emotions of a person or persons - and unfortunately this photograph does not capture WHO she is only WHAT she is
14	4	I see you	Tracey	Rhodes	8	Silver	Quite a sweet portrait picture of young Sunelle - but let down again by a border that is too bright, and has been broken - my eye is automatically pulled to the bottom left corner where the border has been broken. ***
15	4	sketching	Liesl	Couperthwaite	3	No Award	Similar to the previous comments - Nothing in this picture is actually in focus. At 4 star - this will get punished.
16	4	Sunelle	Denise	Harvey	11	Gold	Lovely picture - the eyes are sharp and sparkling and the smile is just gorgeous. Some of the highlight areas on the forehead, cheeks and nose could be toned down slightly ***
17	5	Airfield Model	Ronelle	van den Heever	9	Silver	Lovely picture that would have been improved with a tighter crop around the model. Whilst this picture would have been great for the newspaper article - the topic here is portrait, and needs to focus more specifically on the model. ***
18	5	Attitude	Roger	Fanner	11	Gold	Wonderful picture - and truly giving attitude. Love it! 2 minor issues - (1) the forehead is a bit bright and can be toned back a bit so it is less bright, and (2) the border! If you have a coloured border, then it must not be competing with the subject for brightness and attention - tone the colour back so it is less visible. Note: There is no Metadata on this picture and that could be a problem if Westville query when this picture was taken. ***
19	5	Biker Girl with Harley 5097	Terry	Burne	12	Gold	A blonde and a Harley - what more could a man want? Great depth of focus throughout. The bright bits on the chrome are very well handled, super full the frame image showing true Harley attitude.

20	5	Boojie	Roger	Fanner	10	Gold	Lovely pet portrait - the eyes and whiskers are nice and sharp - and the cat's face is nicely framed. 2 issues again - (1) the large white area bottom right is a bit too bright and almost loses the detail, and (2) the border! Same story as before - the border must not be competing with your subject for attention. It came close to dropping this picture to a silver ***
21	5	Bursting With Happiness	Maxi	Holder	5	Bronze	Sadly - the focus is on the tip of the nose, and the eyes are badly out of focus. I suspect your choice of lens has let you down here (10-22) - it means you have to get in very close and this is not great for portrait photography. That background has also not done you any favours.
22	5	Danger	Leon	Heyes	12	Gold	Stunning image - nice and sharp where it matters (no pun intended) and your eyes are drawn to the snakes eyes which are really sharp. 1 minor comment - that rather bright green blob in the background right could have been taken out in post-processing - and I wonder if cropping in closer to remove the out of focus area front and right would have made this even more stunning? ***
23	5	Leon 4537	Terry	Burne	13	Merit	Fantastic portrait. The mono conversion is superb, the light is spot on (no pun intended). The detail in the face is great. Well done.
24	5	Move On This Does Not Concern You	Maxi	Holder	5	Bronze	I am not sure if this picture was severely cropped - but there is very bad noise and artefacts in the background that are highly distracting. Again - I suspect that your choice of lens (10-22) has not helped in capturing this subject well.
25	5	Ms Top Gun	Ronelle	van den Heever	10	Gold	A pleasant picture. Light on the model's face is well handled. I feel for the category "Portrait", you could have cropped tighter around the model to make the model more significant in the picture. ***

26	5	Rock Monitor	Leon	Heyes	10	Gold	An eye-catching picture. Subject is well separated from the background. Unfortunately whilst the scales just above and to the left of the eye are really sharp, and the eye itself is quite sharp, the area just below the eye seems to be quite soft and that is quite a dominant part of the picture. Also - the light is coming from the top-left of the picture and part of the eye is in shadow - it is a pity that the light was not coming from the top right as I think that would have become a great shot. It is however still quite a dramatic picture.
27	5	Somewhere over the rainbow	Heidi	Taylor	8	Silver	An interesting and different approach. Unfortunately, the detail on the face is not really sharp, and the bright area of the ear gives a second point of focus and is distracting, as well as the bright area ahead of the eyes which is also a bit distracting. I feel this picture would be better by cropping it just in front of the ear, and toning down the bright wall area just in front of the eyes. ***
28	5	The world out there	Heidi	Taylor	7	Silver	Another interesting approach and attempt to try something different. Unfortunately the flames at the bottom, and the wave at the top dominate this picture and I can barely see the face in the middle of the picture. There is simply not enough detail in the face.
29	6	Abigal the Farmers Daughter	Vicki	Street	No Score	DQ	A great portrait picture and would have scored really well - except it was taken outside of the allowed timeframe for this Westville Challenge. It is however the standard that we need to aspire to in order to beat Westville.
30	6	African Queen	Vicki	Street	No Score	DQ	Another great portrait picture and would have scored really well - except it was taken outside of the allowed timeframe for this Westville Challenge. It is however the standard that we need to aspire to in order to beat Westville.