

LPS InFocus

Loveland Photographic Society
Monthly Newsletter

December 2023

Loveland
Photographic
Society

Club Meetings

Club meetings are hybrid in-person plus Zoom; the Photo Review Session is online only. **Note the new meeting links; no pass code is needed.**

Saturday, December 9

Saturday Photo Chat

Loveland Panera Bread
1550 Fall River Drive, Loveland
8:30–10:30 AM

Monday, December 11

Monthly Club Meeting

Trinity United Methodist Church
801 Cleveland Avenue
Social time 6:00 PM
Meeting 6:30–8:30 PM

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/93226580276?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/93226580276?pwd=eWxtbVYzTGpWbWlYY3lsdGNwbWZRdz09)

[j/93226580276?pwd=eWxtbVYzTGpWbWlYY3lsdGNwbWZRdz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/93226580276?pwd=eWxtbVYzTGpWbWlYY3lsdGNwbWZRdz09)

Monday, December 18

Photo Review Session

6:30–8:30 PM

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/95087721084?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/95087721084?pwd=eXlIMndWenQyaCt6WUUV6RmppenlWdz09)

[j/95087721084?pwd=eXlIMndWenQyaCt6WUUV6RmppenlWdz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/95087721084?pwd=eXlIMndWenQyaCt6WUUV6RmppenlWdz09)

Tuesday, January 2

LPS Board Meeting

Perkins Restaurant
2222 W. Eisenhower, Loveland
6:30 PM
Open to All

DECEMBER MEETING

The December meeting will feature an exhibition of member photos, a fundraiser raffle, a critique by an outside judge of the month's "Best Of" image competition, and dessert and coffee. Because this meeting is geared especially toward members attending in person, the only part of the meeting that will be open for viewing via Zoom will be the comment session by the guest judge. Members are requested to bring a dessert item that will serve 6-8; coffee will be provided. Please be sure to come whether or not you are able to bring anything to eat. Spouses are welcome.

J.R. Schnelzer, a past president of LPS and current president of the Photographic Society of America, will be emceeing the festivities.

For the raffle, tickets will be sold at the meeting for \$1 each or 12 for \$10, accepting cash or checks made out to Loveland Photographic Society. During the evening, ticket holders will place their tickets in bowls next to the various donated items; put all of your tickets in one bowl or distribute them to multiple choices. At the end of the meeting, drawings will be held for each raffle item; the holder of the selected ticket wins the item. Ticket sale proceeds will go to the club; unsold items will be returned to the donor or taken to ARC. The raffle is open to members and non-members.

Hearing in-person comments by a highly qualified guest judge is both an interesting and helpful opportunity, as the LPS judges during the year seldom have time to write comments on all of our monthly competition images. Although the competition photos at the December meeting have already been scored during the year, this also demonstrates a different perspective offered by a different judge.

Please join us for this festive end-of-the-year celebration.



LPS Board of Directors ELECTED OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

— ARDETH CARLSON

VICE PRESIDENT

— RICH KREBS

TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP

— TIM HITCHCOCK

SECRETARY

JERRE JOHNSON

CHAIRPERSONS

PROGRAMS

—TIM KATHKA

—RICH KREBS

— RUTH SPRAIN

COMPETITION

— JEFF STEPHENSON

WEBMASTER

— MIKE TESKA

MENTOR

—MIKE WILCOX

PSA REPRESENTATIVE

LISA SCHNELZER

SCHOLARSHIPS

— RUTH SPRAIN

NEWSLETTER

— ARDETH CARLSON

FORUM DIRECTOR

—INGRID JACOBSON

GREETING HOST

—BILL LUNDQUIST

LPS InFocus

The e-Newsletter for the
Loveland Photographic Society

Mailing Address

P. O. Box 7604 • Loveland, CO 80537

Public Facebook Page

[https://www.facebook.com/
LovelandPhotographicSociety/](https://www.facebook.com/LovelandPhotographicSociety/)

Members Only Facebook Group

[https://www.facebook.com/
groups/237033251716/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/237033251716/)

Submitting Pictures for the Monthly Competition or Photo Review Session

- Log on to the LPS website
- Mouse over the **Competitions** dropdown on the Home Page.
- Select menu item:
Submit images to a Competition
- Select the Competition category or the Third Monday Photo Review
- At the bottom of the screen, click on **Upload images into the Competition.**
- Then click on the button **Select** which will open a window on your computer to select an image.
- Click on **Save Images and Proceed to Edit Page.**
- Type in a title and click on **Save any changes and return to original page.**
- You can replace any photo, up to the submission deadline, if desired.

The monthly competitions allow a single image per category. The photo review session allows up to three images.

Member Print Exhibition

- *Only members may participate*; each member may submit up to 2 prints. Dues must be paid by 12/3.
- Prints should be no smaller than 8x10; any medium accepted.
- Members submitting large framed images are encouraged to bring a display easel.
- Pre-registration for the exhibition required, no later than December 4, at: ardeth.carlson@gmail.com
- For the display, provide a 4x6 label with your name and image title; can include address of your photography website
- Bring prints to the church between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Monday, December 11.

LPS Raffle

- Donated items can be tangible, such as a framed print, camera bag, photography book, handicraft, or home decoration, or intangible, such as an hour of mentoring, a one-day photo shoot, or a painting class. (These are just examples.) The item does not have to be photography-related.
- Bring raffle items to the church between 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Monday, December 11.

If any members are able to help with setup of the print exhibition and raffle items at any time on December 11 between 12 and 5 p.m., please email Ardeth Carlson.

New Eyes for Photo Editing

BY RUTH SPRAIN, PROGRAM COMMITTEE

At recent meetings, members voiced that they wanted more hands-on experiences through LPS. An opportunity for trying out your photo editing skills and learning from others will come in January, February, and March.

To get us started:

From December 4 through January 4, members are invited to submit 1 or 2 unedited photos that have a lot of potential for editing. To submit the photos, go to the LPS website, under Competitions>Submit Images to a Competition, and select the #1 New Eyes folder. Submit your JPEG photo or photos as you usually do, with the image title as name_title.jpg. (For example: Sprain_My Garden.jpg.)

A committee will look at all the submitted photos to choose about 6 photos for members to edit. The committee is looking for photos that are the most rewarding for others to edit that are in a variety of genres (landscape, portrait, architecture, etc.). Photos that are not selected will be saved for future editing sessions.

In January:

The 6 selected photos will be put into a One Drive account. The January LPS newsletter will include the link to the One Drive account where you can download any or all of the photos for editing.

Each member can edit and revise the images in any way you choose. Be as realistic or creative with the images as you want by trying out new techniques.

Each member is allowed to submit 1 to 3 edited images by February 5 on the LPS website, under Competitions>Submit Images to a Competition, and select the #2 New Eyes Edited folder.

At the February LPS meeting on February 12:

All the edited images submitted by members will be shown for the February program. The presentation time will include comments about editing and group discussion.

At the March LPS meeting on March 11:

Several experienced LPS members will explain and demonstrate their editing of photos.

Hope you join the editing experience by submitting your photos and trying your hand at editing.

SERVICE

Find Your Way to Serve

We are still looking for someone to take on the role of publicizing our club. Currently Jerre Johnson sends a notice of our club meeting to Loveland's Reporter-Herald newspaper to be included in their meeting notes section, and Ardeth Carlson oversees the Members-only Facebook group, watching for requests to join and creating posts with information about the upcoming meeting topic, etc. We also have a public Facebook group. Having one person who can keep up with social media content and can come up with other ways to boost our presence in the community would be welcome.

Another helpful volunteer job is someone to run a video camera at the meetings so those attending via Zoom can see the speakers during the business portion of our meetings and introduction of the speaker. Currently the view is limited to where the laptop camera is pointed, and it is difficult to maintain it to a position that will capture anything other than the background cabinet and stage curtain!

Invitation to Submit an Article

The newsletter editor is always looking for material that would be of interest to our members for future issues of InFocus. There are many subjects for which you can share your expertise or experiences, such as post-processing techniques, camera equipment, and great locations to shoot.

If you aren't confident in your writing ability, the editor will help polish your article for publication. Contributions by LPS members will help this newsletter be relevant and of value to our readers. Send your ideas or articles to ardeth.carlson@gmail.com.

A Big Thank You to Outgoing LPS Officers

All members of Loveland Photographic Society owe a huge vote of appreciation to Tim Hitchcock, who stepped in to fill the office of Treasurer in 2023, which was essential for the survival of the club. Tim guided us through the financial year and kept us going at a time when it is difficult to fill important roles in an all-volunteer organization.

We are also grateful to Jeff Stephenson, who volunteered to serve as Competition Chair for 2023. Jeff has negotiated a time of diminishing numbers of LPS judges and the implementation of the new system of competition groups.

LPS Officers for 2024

At the November meeting, the slate of candidates for Loveland Photographic Society elective offices for the 2024 year were elected unanimously. President Ardeth Carlson, Vice President Rich Krebs, and Secretary Jerre Johnson will continue their roles; the new Treasurer/Membership Chair is Jen Lammey, who only joined LPS this year in February. There will be an opportunity to get acquainted with Jen in next month's newsletter!

Also new to the LPS Board is Rob Huffsmith, who will be taking over the role of Competition Chair for 2024.

Discussion Topics

Webmaster Mike Teska has recently updated the Club Meetings forum for members to share ideas of topics or possible hands-on activities for future LPS monthly meetings, respond to the topics that have already been posted in that forum, or add additional suggestions for ways to set up an activity. Subscribe to the topic to receive updates when new posts have been added.

Share Your Thoughts: Future LPS Meetings

The Program Committee members, Rich Krebs, Ruth Sprain, and Tim Kathka, work hard to schedule speakers and presentations for our club meetings. This involves trying to find speakers who have the availability to attend a meeting and are willing to do so for a small honorarium of \$50 and which include topics the committee hopes will be of interest to LPS members.

Before the Covid pandemic, meetings were only held in person, but the use of Zoom to provide attendance online has continued after health restrictions were lifted. This has made it possible for speakers to make their presentations online and has eliminated the necessity for them to be able to come to a meeting in person. It has also meant that in cases where the presentation is a webinar, our members don't have the opportunity to ask questions or interact with the speaker.

Much interest has been expressed for having hands-on activities at some of our monthly meetings. During discussion at the October meeting, suggestions included doing setups at meetings for macro, still life, portraiture/portrait lighting, and street photography. In order to carry out these ideas, it is necessary to have volunteers who can help set up and guide an activity. If you have an area of expertise you can share or know of presenters with topics you believe would be helpful and of interest to the club, the Program Committee would like to hear from you.

To share your thoughts about future LPS meetings and what you would like to see, contact Ruth Sprain of the Program Committee: rsprained@comcast.net

Be sure to read the information on page 2 about the planned activity at the February and March meetings.

Competition Corner

December Competition

Competition Categories

Open Projected

Travel

Enter previous Monthly Topic in Open

Submission Deadline

Before Midnight, Monday, December 4

Please keep the judging criteria in mind:

Impact and Viewer Interest—"Wow" factor is the nebulous quality where an image "pops." This subjective aspect of judging should not preempt the technical or composition aspects of an image.

Composition—Good composition is a pleasing arrangement of the elements in an image. There are many guidelines for good composition that judges may consider.

Technical Quality—This includes sharpness, focus, color, tonal scale, contrast, appropriate depth of field and other qualities. Consideration is also given for the effect the photographer was trying to achieve such as high key, multiple exposure, or selective focus.

Monthly Topics—The subject matter should be related in some manner to the topic. While there are no formal deductions or penalties, judges may reduce their overall score if they feel the image does not align with the monthly topic. With that said, creative interpretation is encouraged.

Open Projected—The image must begin as a photograph. From there, it is up to you. Any photograph may be entered in the Open Projected category.

January Competition Groups

Participation in a group is determined by the average of the member's 9 previous LPS competition scores. Because the photos entered in the December "Best Of" competition have already been scored by LPS judges during the year's competitions, the scores given by the guest judge will not count in the score averages for January, so the groups for January have been determined by the averages after the November competition:

Group 5—Kevin Burkhart, Ingrid Jacobson, Tim Kathka, Laurie Paulik, J.R. Schnelzer, Lisa Schnelzer, Ruth Sprain, Jeff Stephenson, Mike Teska

Group 4—Jenny Anderson, Gerald Baumann, Max Coopwood, Robert Huffsmith, Ed Ogle, Alan Schuppan, Bob Smith, Michael Wilcox

Group 3—Ardeth Carlson, Kevin Clarke, Kevin Fettig, Kurt Flock, Marvin Froistad, Tim Hitchcock, Jerre Johnson, Rich Krebs, Bob McDonnell, Octavio Noda, Dan O'Donnell, Josemaria Quera, Dave Van Riper

Group 2—Wayne Snodderly

All other members will compete in Group 1 until the member has 9 submitted images that reach an averaged score for a different group. An individual member's competition group might vary from month to month.

2024 Competition Topics

Rob Huffsmith will be assuming the role of LPS competition chair in January. Members are invited to submit suggestions for monthly topics for 2024. Send to: rhuffsmith2@gmail.com.

"The "Best Of" Competition

As is traditional, the photo competition for December features a "reprise" of images that have been submitted in LPS competitions during the year. Although these images have been judged by an LPS judging panel in the month in which they were entered, they will be scored separately by a guest judge.

The photo entered in the December competition must be the same one entered during the year and cannot be altered to make perceived "improvements" or changes based on the LPS judges' comments, if any. The photograph should be entered in the same category as previous, i.e. Open, Nature, or Travel. Photographs that were previously entered in a monthly topic or monochrome category should be entered in the Open category in December.

The judge will be able to view and score the entries prior to the December meeting and then will provide comments on each photo during the meeting. This is a prime opportunity for members to observe what experienced photography judges look for in an excellent image and for competing members to get feedback on their competition photographs.

The guest judge is being provided by the Photographic Society of America; more information about the guest judge will be posted on our Members Facebook page in the next few weeks.

New Members

We are happy to welcome a new member,
Jim Roode

LPS November Best of Show

All competition photos and scores can be viewed on the LPS website under Competition Results. Check the box "Display All."



BOS Travel, Group 5
Lisa Schnelzer



BOS Open, Group 5
Jeff Stephenson



BOS Topic, Group 5
J.R. Schnelzer



BOS Topic, Group 4
Michael Wilcox



BOS Travel, Group 4
Ed Ogle



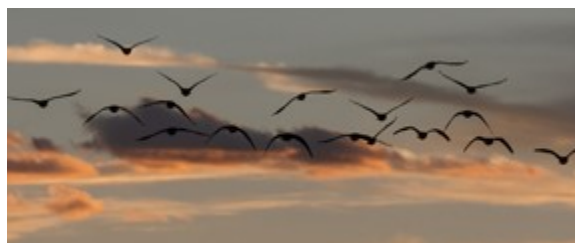
BOS Open, Group 4
Alan Schuppan



BOS Topic, Group 3
Bob McDonnell



BOS Travel, Group 3
Kurt Flock



BOS Open, Group 3
Dan O'Donnell



BOS Open, Group 2
Wayne Snodderly



BOS Topic, Group 2
Wayne Snodderly

LPS November Award of Merit



AOM Open, Group 5
J.R. Schnelzer



AOM Topic, Group 5
Mike Teska



AOM Travel, Group 5
J.R. Schnelzer



AOM Open, Group 4
Gerald Baumann



AOM Topic, Group 4
Josemaria Quera



AOM Travel, Group 4
Alan Schuppan



AOM Open, Group 3
Kevin Fettig



AOM Topic, Group 3
Kevin Fettig



AOM Travel, Group 3
Dan O'Donnell

PSA Interclub Competitions

LPS is a member club of the Photographic Society of America and has been participating in three divisions of interclub competition: Nature, Print, and Travel. There are three rounds of competition per season, with deadlines on November 15, February 15, and April 15.

LPS members who are interested in having their photos considered for our club's submissions to a PSA interclub competition can contact the LPS rep for more details. Photos are now being collected by the reps for the November round.

NATURE DIVISION:

Dan O'Donnell, LPS Rep
djod@me.com

Nature Division (ND) image guidelines can be found at <https://psa-photo.org/page/nature>. Dan is looking for images that illustrate an interesting behavior or a unique point of view, not just a landscape or wildlife that is in good focus! Storytelling is an important part of the image. Maximum image size is 1400 x1050 pixels.

PICTORIAL PRINT DIVISION:

Lisa Schnelzer, LPS Rep
lisaschnelzer@gmail.com

The five image categories in the Pictorial Print Division (PPD) are: Small Color, Large Color, Small Monochrome, Large Monochrome, and Creative Altered Reality. For further information regarding submissions, contact Lisa.

TRAVEL DIVISION:

Rich Krebs, LPS Rep
rkrebs318@gmail.com

A definition of a travel photo and a PDF of the Travel Division (PTD) guidelines can be found at <https://psa-photo.org/page/photo-travel>. Rich is collecting images for 2023-2024 now and would like images that show characteristic features of a place or a people. Image size should be a maximum of 1400x1050 pixels.

Interclub Photos Needed

The LPS reps for the PSA interclub competitions are asking for members to submit photos for round 2, which has a deadline of February 15. Their contact information is on this page. Since LPS is a member club of PSA, the photographers do not need to be individual members of PSA.

Photographers who have a photo submitted in a PSA interclub competition must have a signed release form on file. The signed release is valid for three years from the date of signature, after which a new signed release must be submitted to continue participating in interclub competitions. Members do not need to sign a separate release form for each of the divisions in which LPS participates; PSA maintains a list with the expiration date of participants. The signed release forms are obtained by the LPS reps, who will contact a member who submits a photo but does not have a current release.



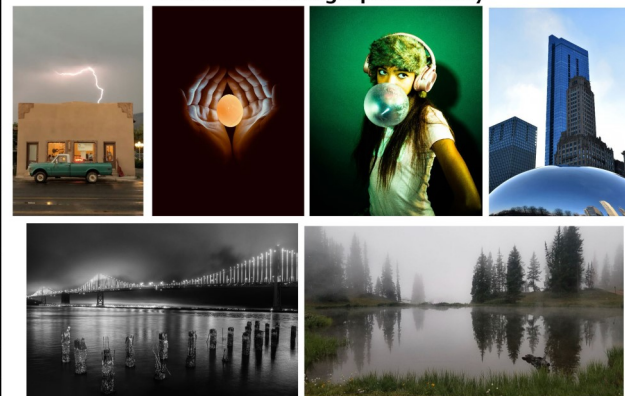
Reasons to Join PSA

An individual membership in the Photographic Society of America is an excellent bargain for photographers seeking to improve their photography skills. PSA offers free online photography courses, study groups, mentorships, and the opportunity to compete individually in the PSA divisions of Nature, Travel, Pictorial Print, Projected Image, Photojournalism, and 3D. In addition, the monthly PSA Journal is available online for download. Educational webinars on a variety of subjects can be viewed at any time.

A new Colorado chapter of PSA has now been established. Most chapters meet several times during the year, and the meetings may be a few hours or day-long, with a presenter, workshops, seminars, or photography outings. Chapter membership is available for those who are individual PSA members.

15th Annual Northern Colorado Youth Showcase 2024

Loveland Photographic Society



WHO: High School Students
WHAT: Enter digital and/or print photos for competition in 6 categories
WHERE: Get details from your art or photography teacher
WHEN: Deadline for entries is Friday, March 1, 2024
WHY: Prizes given to winner in each category and Best Senior Award

Sponsored By:



Jax Mercantile in Loveland, CO

Youth Showcase

Young photographers in Northern Colorado high schools have had the opportunity for many years to submit their photos for the LPS-sponsored youth showcase competition and receive prizes and recognition both locally and internationally when winning photographs are exhibited at the annual PSA Photo Festival. All of this is thanks in major part to Ruth Sprain, who heads the Youth Showcase Committee and is the liaison with the PSA Youth Showcase. If you know any of the photography teachers at area high schools, be sure they know about the LPS competition and can encourage their students to submit entries.

Saturday Photo Chat

The Saturday Photo Chat, formerly known as the “Bull Session,” is an informal get-together of photographers to talk about places to photograph, gear, photo software, and almost anything about photography.

This has been an ongoing activity for many years, headed by long-time LPS member Bill Standerfer. The meetings are on the second Saturday of the month at 8:30 AM at Panera on east Highway 34 in Loveland. If you have any questions, contact Bill at billstanderfer@outlook.com.

Third Monday Photo Review

An excellent way to get feedback on your photos and for experienced photographers to share their knowledge is to participate in the Monday Photo Review sessions, which occurs via Zoom on the third Monday of each month. Participants are allowed to submit three photos no later than noon of the session day. The review is mentored by Mike Wilcox, who welcomes and encourages comments and suggestions by all participants. Many members have reported that they have received a greater knowledge of photo techniques and also found it helpful to see their photos in the eyes of other photographers. Because judges of the monthly competition most often do not have time to offer critiques on all of the competition photos, the third Monday review provides that helpful aspect of improving our craft.

Click on the link on page 1 of the newsletter to join the Zoom meeting.

Your Ideas & Suggestions

If you have ideas for newsletter articles for future issues of InFocus or upcoming events to report, you're always welcome to share those with the editor. Send suggestions, inquiries, or written articles for consideration to the editor: ardeth.carlson@gmail.com.

LPS Membership

Although LPS welcomes guests to our monthly club meetings, there are benefits to joining as a member. If you like to see how your images fare in competition, you can submit up to 3 photos each month in our club competitions; you also have the opportunity to have an image submitted in the PSA interclub competitions. If you hate competitions (!), the club is also a great place to meet other photographers, get critiques and comments at the Third Monday Review sessions, find photo-op events and activities, and watch the recordings of meeting presentations. You might enjoy organizing and leading field trips or participating in them. You can also meet up with LPS members at the monthly Saturday morning Bull Sessions.

Your membership dues also fund our annual Youth Showcase, which encourages photographers from our northern Colorado high schools to pursue the art of photography and provides them with an opportunity to have their images displayed with national/international exposure at the annual PSA Photo Festival.

Board meetings are open to all members. If you are interested in seeing how your leadership team tends to club business, you are welcome to attend. Information is on page 1 of the newsletter.

LPS Speaker Recordings

As a reminder, LPS meeting presentations have been recorded and posted ever since the start of COVID and are available to view at any time. You can find links to the videos on the LPS website; when you **login**, go to **Membership>Resource Links>Videos**. Most of our speakers have graciously allowed us to record their presentations as long as they were made available to LPS members only. Please *do not share* these links with non-members unless they are marked as shareable in the list.

Photo Opportunities on the LPS Website

Log in to www.lps.cc as a member

🔗 Click on *Discussion Forums*

🔗 Scroll down to
Upcoming Photo Opportunities & Events

🔗 Click on
View Topics

If you would like to receive notifications with the latest activity at the forums, you will need to subscribe to the forums of your choice.

Share your photos and keep in touch with LPS when you join our Facebook group **Members of Loveland Photographic Society**. You must be a current member to join the group.



JOIN THE CLUB

If you are reading this newsletter as a non-member and would like to join the Loveland Photographic Society, go to the main page on the www.lps.cc website and click on **Membership > Join or Renew**. Annual dues are \$45.

December Events & Photo Opportunities

11/18–01/01 Winter Wonderlights

Chapungu Sculpture Park, Centerra in Loveland

Over 200,000 holiday lights plus illuminated African stone sculptures and 30-minute music and light shows every night. Special programming, the inflatable igloo stage and local vendors will be onsite during Winter Wonderlights LIVE nights, offered during select weekends. Free.
<https://visitloveland.com/winterwonderlights>

11/17–01/07 4:30-9 p.m. Blossoms of Light

Denver Botanic Gardens, 1007 York Street

Celebrate the holiday season at Blossoms of Light®, a dazzling and ever-changing display of light and color. For more information:
<https://www.botanicgardens.org/events/special-events/blossoms-light>

12/2/23–1/7/24 Zoo Lights

Denver Zoo, 2300 Steele Street

80 acres, with animated light sculptures, nightly ice-carving exhibitions and festive seasonal treats. So there's a good chance you'll get to encounter an elephant, enjoy a tall boy with a giraffe or say hello to a hippo. Prices and schedule at
<https://denverzoo.org/events/zoolights/>

12/4 Loveland Ugly Sweater Bar Crawl

Downtown Loveland—probably most participants would be happy to show off their spirited holiday apparel!

12/8–12/23 5-9 PM Garden of Lights

The Gardens on Spring Creek, 2145 Centre Avenue, Fort Collins

Whimsical half-mile loop filled with glowing grapevines, towering flowerbeds, dancing color blossoms, and other imaginative displays made of hundreds of thousands of glittering lights!

Adults and Children 12+: \$10

Children 5–11: \$5

Children 4 and Under: Free

For dates and times, see the schedule:

<https://www.fcgov.com/gardens/garden-of-lights>

Downtown at Night

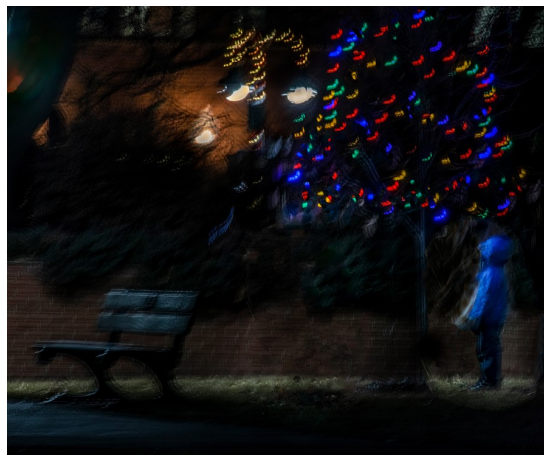
December is a wonderful time to take your camera downtown at night in any of our Northern Colorado towns. Take advantage of the holiday street lights, the lighted shop windows, and fun outdoor events like horse-drawn carriages and tuba concerts! These photos were taken in Loveland and Fort Collins in the past couple years.

Photos © Ardeth Carlson



3.0
f/16
ISO 500

1/25
f/11
ISO 3200



1.0
f/200
ISO 500

3.0
f/18
ISO 250



1/100
f/6.3
ISO 1250

