Photography Tool List
Missouri SkillsUSA
State 2023

CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS:
Black Pants and Red SkillsUSA polo, comfortable shoes

Contest Logistics:
Date: Thursday, April 4th
Time: Before 3:00 p.m.
Details: Turn in mounted photographs to the STC Information Center/SkillsUSA Registration Desk
Date: Friday, April 5th
Time: 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Pre-Contest Meeting Location: MDG Aviation Building – Room 4 & 5 – STC (3)
Contest Location: MDG Aviation Building – Rooms 4 & 5 and the Paint Room – STC (3)

This is a minimum required equipment list. Any additional accessories are acceptable and up to the discretion of the student (e.g., on-camera flash, reflector, additional lenses, etc.). The technical committee supplies systems for Printing, Portrait Studio, and Job Interview sections. Remember that all equipment brought on the "field assignment" must be carried by the student and fit in shared bus seating (in essence, one medium to large camera bag).

1. Provided by the technical committee:
   a. System for Printing
   b. Portrait Studio
   c. Judge's supplies for Job Interview section

2. Provided by the competitor:
Note: This is a minimum required equipment list. Any additional accessories are acceptable and up to the discretion of the student (e.g., on-camera flash, reflector, additional lenses, etc.). Remember that all equipment brought on the "field assignment" must be carried by the student and fit in shared bus seating (in essence, one medium to large camera bag).
   a. One DSLR or mirrorless camera with removable lens capabilities (bridge or compacts not accepted)
   b. Minimum: two batteries with charger
   c. Minimum: two 16 GB memory cards
   d. One speedlight flash with wireless transmitter (be sure they work together)
   e. One hand-held flash meter
   f. USB card reader or camera USB cable
   g. Computer with USB and/or SD card slot (laptop preferred). Please record the school's login password for the student.
   h. Adobe Photoshop (be sure Photoshop can open the camera's RAW files)
   i. Two images for Print Competition (see guidelines in "Scope of Competition)
   j. One 6' multiple-outlet surge protector

k. All competitors must create a one-page resume to submit online. See "Resume Requirement" below for guidelines. **Additionally, and as part of the competition, competitors will submit a hard copy of their resume at orientation.** Competitors must create a one-page resume to submit online.

KNOWLEDGE PERFORMANCE

The competition will include a written knowledge exam that assesses the overall photographic knowledge through a series of multiple-choice questions. This will be completed prior to State Championships.

SKILL PERFORMANCE

The competition will include a series of hands-on performance activities assessing overall photographic mechanics and techniques.

COMPETITION GUIDELINES

1. **Written Test:** The test has a series of multiple-choice questions that assess photographic knowledge. Topics covered include: *This portion will be completed prior to arrival at home school.*
   a. History of photography (iconic photographers and advancements in technology)
   b. Exposure controls and their effects on images
   c. Lens choices given a photographic situation (sports, jewelry, studio portraits, etc.)
   d. General terminology
   e. Photoshop tools, workflow, processes, etc.

2. **Field Assignment:** The assignment evaluates the competitor's creative ability and adherence to competition guidelines. Competitors are sent around campus to capture images based on a theme chosen by the technical committee. Competitors will then choose their best images and apply global edits and light editing before producing contact sheet for judging. Scoring is based on:
   a. Technical: exposure and focus control
   b. Creative: overall use of composition, lighting, impact, etc.
   c. Level of editing (edits must be global in nature and must not be overdone)
   d. Competitor's adherence to time limits, location and theme

3. **Portrait Studio:** Students will be evaluated on their use and understanding of studio lighting (strobes). Scoring is based on, but not limited to:
   a. Standard studio portrait lighting patterns (e.g., split, hatchet, Rembrandt, loop, butterfly, broad, short, etc.)
   b. Interaction with the model and posing quality

4. **Commercial Studio:** Due to the varying nature of subject, students' commercial images will be evaluated on the final photograph. Judging is based on, but not limited to:
   a. Product placement
   b. Lighting of product
   c. Clarity of product name

    d. Use of props
    e. Overall creativity and impact of image

5. Digital Editing: Competitors will be given images to manipulate in Adobe Photoshop. This competition evaluates the student's knowledge of professional editing techniques, including, but not limited to:
    a. Selections and refine edge
    b. Layer masks and adjustment layers
    c. Green screen extractions
    d. Color correction
    e. Resizing layers
    f. Correct naming and formatting

6. Print Competition: Competitors must submit two prints produced before the competition in any category of their choice. Prints will be on public display and must not contain any questionable content including but not limited to: drugs, sex, violence, illegal activity, etc. All work must be original. Image manipulation is optional. Students may be asked to demonstrate or explain how they accomplished their final image, to prove they actually did their own work.
Prints must adhere to the following criteria:
    a. Print size must be an 11"x14" or 10"x15"
    *b. Both prints must be mounted to a 16"x20" black foam core board (1/4" thick) with a 16"x20" black over matt. *(the foam core board will not be a requirement for state, students may use a matt board)
    c. Each print must have a label placed on the back upper middle section that includes the following information:
        1.) Competitor number (given at the competition)
        2.) Cell phone number
    d. Prints must be brought to the Registration Table before 3 pm (Thursday, April 4th, unless otherwise announced.

9. Job Interview: Competitors will be interviewed to assess their communication skills and overall job readiness.

Print Pick-Up:
Date: Friday, April 5th
Time: 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Location: Information Tech Center - Library/Info Center - STC

Contest Coordinator:
Dorothy Loges
School: 417-345-1460 ext. 7201
Phone: 417-425-3295 (cell) text if necessary
Email: Dorothy.loges@bisonpride.org