

Children are naturals for candid photos



MONTE NAGLER

Earlier, I've written about the ways of photographing children, possibly the most photographed of all subjects.

Today, I'm going to give you some more tips on how to capture these precious times of childhood on film.

Children are made for candid, so let's begin here. The unplanned and unexpected provide the opportunity for that exceptional photograph of your child. Candid allow your child to

be spontaneous and do his or her own thing, resulting in positions and facial expressions that are a reflection of their own personalities.

This shot of 3-year-old Brooke Rigert does just that. It goes beyond a mere likeness of her. It brings out her vibrant personality.

I used a 135mm telephoto lens to keep my distance yet still fill the frame. My shutter speed was fast enough to stop any sudden motion and the aperture was large enough to blur out what could have been a distracting background.

I let Brooke do her own thing, peering through the rails on her deck. Her attention span with me was short, so in a matter of seconds she wasn't aware that I was there



Picture of childhood: Three-year-old Brooke Rigert of Farmington Hills strikes a spontaneous, natural pose for Monte Nagler's camera. By getting low and using a telephoto lens to fill the frame, Nagler gives impact to this delightful portrait.

Aides at DIA vote officers

The volunteer committee of the Detroit Institute of Arts met May 21 to elect new officers and honor its longtime members.

Sam Sacks, DIA director, was the featured speaker.

Kay Duncan of Bloomfield Hills, completing her first term as volunteer committee chair, conducted the morning business session, which included special recognition for people celebrating 15, 20, 25 or 30 years of service. She was elected to a second one-year term as volunteer committee chair.

The new executive committee includes Judi Lapp of Birmingham, first vice-chair; Dorothy Cartwright of Westland, second vice-chair; Bernadette LeBlanc, Riverview, recording secretary; Vivienne Cooper, Detroit, corresponding secretary; and Terry Hand, Farmington Hills, treasurer.

Last year the 513 active volunteer committee members gave 58,814 hours of service to the museum. This represents an increase of 3,500 hours of service over the previous year.

For details about joining the volunteer committee, call the museum's auxiliary services department, 833-0247. The museum is open 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday-Sunday.

Figure class set

The Paint Creek Center for the Arts offers a two-session figure drawing workshop for adults from 1-4 p.m. Wednesdays, July 22-29, at the center, 407 Pine, Rochester.

Learn to draw the nude figure more confidently. Reservation deadline is Wednesday, July 15. For details, call the PCCA at 651-4110.

and a natural expression resulted.

Notice how I positioned myself on her level for a more pleasing perspective. Too often, people shoot down on children, resulting in unflattering angles. By getting low, you'll greatly improve your pictures.

Try pre-determining exposures and even pre-focusing so that you won't be fussing with the camera controls when that magic expression crosses your child's face.

What's the best lighting? Overcast skies as shown here. The light is soft and natural on Brooke's face, with no harsh shadows and squinty

eyes. If it should be sunny, position yourself so that the child's back is to the sun and use fill flash to brighten the face.

If indoors, try natural light from a window. You may need a faster film but window light is beautiful and you'll capture a special mood in your shot.

By photographing children properly, you'll be able to record the spirit of youth that your family and friends will enjoy for a lifetime.

Monte Nagler is a professional photographer based in Farmington Hills.

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This Tudor style home, built by James W. Jenkins III, is truly superior in both quality and design. Very seldom does a home like this come on the market with such spacious elegance. This beautiful home is located in one of the finest communities on Orchard Lake. There are 5 bedrooms (the master is located on the first level), 4 full and 2 one-half baths, a living room, formal dining room, three fireplaces, library, 2nd floor family room or activity center, a fully finished walk-out lower level which has access to the swimming pool, patio and Orchard Lake. There is a 2-car garage and first floor laundry with cabinets and a built-in ironing board. Other features: Lenox gas forced air furnaces, power humidifiers, electric air filters, central air conditioning, 9' ceiling.

For additional information or a private showing please contact **Linda Friedman, 332-2525**

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