



Ambassador Photographer

Pillar: STEAM

When you've earned this badge, you'll know how to capture your vision of the world in photographs.



Ambassadors will follow these steps to earn their badge:

1. Explore the power of photography. (Discover)
 - a. Discover the impact photography has had in culture.
 - b. Photography is visual storytelling. What stories are told?
 - c. Read about those who make photography their life.
 - d. “A picture is worth a thousand words.” Research and find a photo that, for you, is worth a thousand words. Write about what you see, feel, imagine and the story the photo tells for you? Share with a friend or family member. Listen to learn about what the photo says for them. Is it the same or different?

2. Focus on composition – shoot five landscapes. (Discover, Connect)
 - a. Take a photo. If you take it with your phone, make copies of it so that you maintain an original.
 - b. If using a phone, go to your camera settings and try this:
 1. Turn on the grid (put the focal point of the photo where lines cross. Move the focal point to different crosses on the grid and see where you like it and how it changes the look and feel of the photo you are taking.)
 2. Set your speeds at 1080p at 30 fps and Slo-mo at 1080p at 240 fps if this is an option.
 3. Prioritize Faster Shooting.
 4. Once you have settings you like, take pictures by getting on the same level as the subject. For example, if you take a picture of a child or pet, get down on the floor to their eyelevel. If you photograph something tall, try to make yourself taller by using steps, a ladder or chair.
 5. Try to get close to the subject. Try not to use zoom. This will make the picture clearer. You can zoom in and crop as necessary when you edit it later!
 - c. Using photo enhancing software or the edit feature on your phone to make changes. Play with the Exposure, Brilliance, Highlights, Shadows, Contrast, Brightness, Black Point, Saturation, Vibrance, Warmth, Tint, Sharpness, Definition and Vignette. Try some filters if you have them. Try making several new versions of the original. How “artsy” can you make it? Can you enhance it to look “better” than the original?

3. Focus on light – shoot five portraits or still lives. (Discover, Connect)
 - a. Study these pictures: <https://photografeed.com/famous-still-life-photographers>, <http://estherpurnellas.blogspot.com/p/still-life-photography-is-taking.html>, <https://onlineonly.christies.com/s/photographs-classics/afghan-girl-1984-56/12409>, <https://www.npr.org/sections/pictureshow/2013/10/01/227871549/national-geographic-celebrates-125-years-of-photography>



- b. Can you recreate the photo and its feel? Use only what you have around you. Challenge your artistic self. The photo will be the same look and feel, but an interpretation of your own.
 - c. Pick a subject. Take the photo. Change the lighting by adding a lamp or similar source of light. Move the light source around and take more photos with the subject staying the same in each picture. How does moving the light change the look and feel of the picture?
4. Focus on motion—shoot five action shots. (Discover, Connect)
 - a. Things to try to capture motion in photography:
 1. Use a slower shutter speed.
 2. Be careful with lighting. A slower shutter speed lets in more light. Consider slightly dimming lighting where you can.
 3. Stabilize your camera. Consider a tripod to keep the camera still.
 - b. Try to use your camera to capture a burst as the motion is happening. When the motion begins, hold down the button, then do not let up until the motion is complete. Go into the burst and choose a group of photos that show the motion in a sequence. Use the editing features above to make the photos look the way you want!
 - c. Practice Panning. Take bursts and move along with the subject.
5. Tell a story with photography. (Take Action)
 - a. Develop a theme. Take a series of pictures that adhere to that theme. Use this to tell a story you want others to see. Then make a display or gallery of sorts and share the story with others.
 - b. Gather inspiration from these.
 - c. Examples of themes can be but are not limited to: being a Girl Scout, signage, cold, New Year, my city/town, my class, people you meet, heroes, family, happiness, everyday beauty, a hike/walk, games, work, or feelings.

Be creative and choose a theme that is personal and meaningful to you and/or your peers. Use your imagination and creativity to make a statement, reveal a personal truth, spread joy, share gratitude, or show frustrations.

When you're finished: Congratulations, you have earned your badge! You can purchase online at <https://www.girlscoutshop.com/AMBASSADOR-PHOTOGRAPHER-BADGE>



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