



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 3, 2013

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**TEXAS HIGH SCHOOL COMMERCIAL PHOTOGRAPHY STUDENTS
EARN NATIONAL PHOTO CONTEST AWARDS**

Texarkana, TX – Three talented Texas High School Commercial Photography students have been named top high school photographers in the 2013 Photo Contest, co-sponsored by Jostens and Wolfe's Camera. This nationally acclaimed, annual competition recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of student photographers.

The students are among 80 winners selected from more than 5,000 contest entries submitted by high school, junior high and middle school students, nationwide. Photo contest submissions were judged on composition, artistic merit and technical qualities, as well as the ability to convey a compelling story.

Eight categories were featured in this year's contest: Academics/Community Service, Graduation, Illustration, Portrait, Sports: Athletes in Action, Sports: Sidelines and School Spirit and Student Life/Activities.

Mackenzie Phillips, Senior, was awarded Fifth Place in Academics/Community Service for her photo "Cow Eye."

Haley Rushing, Senior, was awarded Third Place in Student Life/Activities category with her photo "United We Stand" and received an Honorable Mention for "Twinkle Toes" in the Illustration category.

Senior Caroline Prieskorn received two Honorable Mentions in the Academics/Community Service category for her photos "Officer Friendly" and "Shop with a Cop." Prieskorn was an award recipient last year making her the only Commercial Photography student to be awarded in two consecutive contests.

All winning students have their images featured in the Jostens Photo Book for 2013 that can be found at http://issuu.com/jostens/docs/2.0_jostens_photo_contest_2013.

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The Texas High School Commercial Photography program, under the direction of Clint Smith, was established in 2007 to not only teach students how to create photography, but to also expose them to multiple career paths through the photographic arts. Students enrolled in the program, receive training in photojournalism, portraiture, digital imaging and commercial photography. They learn the basics of photography, commercial composition, print making and finishing.

Students get hands-on experience by photographing all school related and district events for us in school and district publications and meet the challenges of real-world environment by producing a photographic product that is marketable to commercial and media outlets.

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