

# INSPIRED

APRIL 2023 | ISSUE 123



FEATURING THE 2022 AMBASSADORS

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL CHILD PHOTOGRAPHERS





*Top 100 Image by Emily Cummings of Ten Little Bluebirds*



### WE LOVE OUR COMMUNITY

The National Association of Professional Child Photographers is a member-based association representing and promoting the community of professional child and family photographers. NAPCP provides a valuable platform for seasoned veterans and rising professionals alike to share their experiences, hone their craft and raise their professional visibility.

Cover Image by Jaye McLaughlin of Jaye McLaughlin Photography LLC

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## TO OUR BELOVED NAPCP COMMUNITY

Happy April! We hope you’re enjoying the warmer weather as we settle into spring. This is the season of renewal and growth, and we hope you fully embrace all the opportunities the month brings. We invite you to take a moment to refresh and re-energize – and join us in celebration of our talented community of photographers who impact us each month with their passion, imagination and creativity.

This month, we are featuring our 2022 NAPCP Ambassadors. Many thanks to all of you for your service this past year and for bringing our photographers together from all around the world. We wouldn’t share in the success and connections we do without this talented group!

Our featured article for April is “The Art of Birth Photography” by Lisa Weingardt of Little Loo Photography. Lisa is a Master Photographer in the Birth category and captures the raw emotion and vulnerability of the birth experience. These photos remind clients of their strength and beauty—especially during such an emotional state.

Submissions for Master Photographer Certification in the Maternity category will open on May 8. Have questions about what to include in your portfolio or about the Master Photographer program? Check out the latest Marketing Monday replay all about certification in our NAPCP Member Community on Facebook.

This month we featured “Negative Space” images and were truly moved by the submissions. May’s theme is “Light”—don’t forget to submit your photo by May 1.

Curious to hear more about what made Elevate 2023 so impactful? Stay tuned for some big announcements about new educational content.

Stay inspired!

The NAPCP Team

## Your “To Do” List

### APRIL 2023

#### ☐ SUBMIT YOUR “LIGHT” IMAGES

*Submissions are now open for the May issue of Inspired Magazine. Have an image you’d like to see published? Visit [napep.com/contribute-to-our-magazine](https://napep.com/contribute-to-our-magazine) to submit it for consideration by May 1st.*

#### ☐ UPDATE YOUR NAPCP PROFILE

*Looking for something to do with your downtime? Login to your NAPCP account and make sure your profile is up-to-date!*

#### ☐ WATCH A MARKETING MONDAY REPLAY

*Do you want to learn more about Master Certification or Reels and TikTok, but you weren’t able to make it to the last few Marketing Mondays? Check out the re-plays in our NAPCP Member Community on Facebook!*

### MAY 2023

#### ☐ APPLY FOR MASTER CERTIFICATION

*Master Certification in the Materntiy category will open May 8th! Don’t miss the opportunity to increase your marketability to clients. Want to learn more? See page 64 for more details.*

#### ☐ STAY TUNED FOR NEW EDUCATIONAL CONTENT

*Weren’t able to make it to Nashville to see these amazing speakers in person? Elevate 2023’s content was so invaluable for all small business owners, we wanted to make it available for everyone! Stay tuned in the coming months for some big announcements and additional educational content!*





## APRIL CANNON

I love to tell a story with pictures. I want in to be as unique as the people in front of me are. The imperfect is perfect and that is what I want in front of the camera! My main focus is family shoots where they are interacting with each other and the environment around them. I do love maternity and especially lifestyle in a clients home where they are surrounded by their story!

*What was the most beneficial or exciting part of bringing together photographers in your area?*

I have loved meeting other photographers this year in my area. I am able to put faces with names and help boost their business in the ways they want it to go!

*What has been your biggest challenge been as a photographer throughout the years?*

Comparing my work to others. Being a part of NAPCP has helped me to celebrate others work rather than compare.

I am so happy to be an Ambassador and represent NAPCP - I love their mission which aligns with my business goals. I just can not put into words how much it has meant to me to be a part of this community!

“







## CAROLYN ANN RYAN

I am a Charlotte, NC, portrait photographer and owner of Carolyn Ann Ryan Photography. I specialize in photographing families and high school seniors and have a vibrant, bright style filled with sunshine and giggles. I have been a NAPCP member for over ten years, a NAPCP Ambassador since the program started, and awarded the 2020 NAPCP Photographer of the Year.

### *What's the best piece of advice you could give to someone who is just starting out?*

Try to avoid "Gear Acquisition Syndrome" (aka GAS). I first heard that term from Zach Arias at a conference and I think it is a great representation of how we invest in our businesses in the early years. We all love new tools and gadgets, but try to put yourself on a budget from the beginning and consider how important each purchase is to your overall bottom line. Focusing on purchases that will either help you increase your revenue or save you time can help minimize spending on unnecessary items.

I love being able to refer potential clients to other photographers when I am unavailable, and I want to know that I am putting those leads into good hands.

“







## ERIKA HOLIFIELD

Hi My name is Erika Holifield and I am a family and high school senior portrait photographer based out of Fort Mill, SC.

### *What was the most rewarding part of your experience as a NAPCP Ambassador?*

Seeing photographers come together and not treat each other as competition has got to be the most rewarding part. I loved creating functions where photographers could break down all barriers, allowing them to form meaningful and productive relationships with one another.

### *What's the best piece of advice you could give to someone who is just starting out?*

Find a few different photographers you admire and learn from them. Everyone has something great to offer and by picking up bits and pieces from different photographers/business owners is a great way to form your own style and set yourself apart from the crowd.

My biggest accomplishment to date has got to be winning 3rd place in the Inspired Gallery event! I have been attending this beautiful event for the past few years and to see my print on the wall with a “winning” ribbon on it was a dream come true.

“







## HEATHER DAVIDSON-MEYN

Do your memories live on in photos? Mine do. Photos are my memories, my souvenirs of life, my captured moments. If I don't have a photo of it, it didn't happen. My passion is creating authentic and natural portraits of people and printing them to enjoy every day and to provide tangible memories for future generations. Images of us and our loved ones are the legacies we will one day leave behind - if not the only legacies, then at least the most poignant ones.

### *What's the best piece of advice you could give to someone who is just starting out?*

Be unapologetically yourself! Show up as YOU and you will attract the clients that are right for you. Offer services and products you love to offer the most, and stay true to your vision and ideals. Work hard and provide your clients incredible experiences, images and products, but at the same time, honour yourself and your chosen profession by charging your worth and respecting yourself.

To run a business you have to put marketing and pricing structures in place to attract clients who will pay you what you need to be paid to take a fair salary as well as cover your many expenses.

“







## JAYE MCLAUGHLIN

I'm a photographer and mom of four in Pelham, NY -- just north of NYC. I've been photographing families and newborns at home for 12 years and have been building and engaging with my local NAPCP community for almost as long! My photography superpower is helping families relax into their normal selves so that I can freeze the kinds of moments they most want to remember.

### *What's the best piece of advice you could give to someone who is just starting out?*

I always advise people to start with a clear idea of what balance they want to strike between their businesses and the rest of their lives. Running your own business can be a runaway train == we entrepreneurs are always brimming with ideas, the execution of which can take over your life. It's easy to lose sight of WHY you started the business in the first place. If one reason was the desire for flexibility and to be available to your children as they grow, don't wait until they're grown to realize you've sacrificed that in favor of chasing your entrepreneurial dream.

Scheduling out real, in-person time with local photographers has been a game changer for me. Creating and maintaining those relationships has kept me sane!

“







## JULIE HAMLIN

Hello! I am the owner and photographer behind Sacred Sage Photography, based out of Albuquerque, New Mexico. I focus primarily on all aspects of family photography, including immediate and extended families, newborns/children, maternity, birth, and lifestyle. In addition, I photograph graduating seniors, couples/engagements, the occasional wedding, and tend to have quite a bit of headshots/branding photography within my company as well. On the personal side, I am married to a wonderful man named Alan who supports each and every one of my dreams, and we have an amazing son named Lucca!

### *What's the best piece of advice you could give to someone who is just starting out?*

From a photography standpoint, I would give the advice to constantly take photos and keep your camera with you at all times! To educate yourself on understanding the basics of your camera, manual focus, exposure triangle, etc... Even ask your friends and family to be your subjects if you are trying to build a portfolio. Be patient. Building a portfolio and a business takes time, and oftentimes many years! Take a business course. Understand what you need to start your business. Have a consistent social media presence that represents your voice as an artist then take that to building a website. Get business cards made and give them to people. Be your biggest advocate and don't stop. Once you begin to get established, I highly recommend affiliating yourself with communities such as NAPCP. Gaining master certifications in genres that you are passionate about will put you ahead of your competition.







## KIM BELVERUD

Kim Belverud is an award-winning and published photographer who specializes in family, couples, and maternity photography. She started her business in 2017 and strives to capture candid, authentic moments during her sessions. Her hope is to bring more truth in her visual storytelling. Kim is a military spouse and when she's not capturing family connections with her camera, she spends time with her husband and three children in beautiful San Diego.

### *What is your biggest accomplishment to date?*

Hands down, my biggest accomplishment was when I received the recognition of being the 2021 NAPCP Photographer of the Year. I set intentions to achieve this goal and then worked hard to accomplish it. It was a commitment I made to myself, and it was such a wonderful validation that I could set a goal, stay focused and work hard for it, and then achieve it. The benefits of it have really made such a positive professional difference. It has given me the confidence and freedom to take my business to another level.

Celebrate your wins, stay focused on your own path without feeling the need to compare yourself to others, and find a community of photographers that will cheer you on during the good moments and support you through the challenging ones.

“







## KIMBERLY TANK

Hi! I'm Kim; wife, mother, photographer, artist, and teacher. I'm a lover of the ocean, books, and chocolate. After moving to Florida in 2021, I've been building my business with more focus on capturing my clients underwater or at the beach as often as possible. I strive to capture my client's personality as well as create works of art they are happy to display in their home.

*What's the best piece of advice you could give to someone who is just starting out?*

Finding a mentor or coach can be super helpful in getting off to a great start. You're worth the investment and so is your business!

*What has been your biggest challenge throughout the years as a photographer?*

Moving and starting over in a new state. I had to get to know my area and community before I could figure out where my ideal clients might find me. Between getting back to blogging more regularly and getting myself out in my new community, I'm finally booking my ideal clients and am excited to see what this year brings!

Being an Ambassador has helped me meet other NAPCP members in the area and have the chance to meet other local photographers and share about NAPCP with them and build community.

“







## KRISTIN MERCK

I live in Pittsburgh with my husband, two kids (11 and 13) and our two dogs. I am in my 11th year as a photographer and I can't imagine doing anything else! My focus is on growing families, from maternity, newborn, milestones kids and the whole family. My main goal is to make my clients look and, most importantly, FEEL amazing and be able to see themselves as we see them, especially moms and tweens. I feel that our job is much more important than many people think it is, so I am constantly learning how to make myself better so that I can better serve my clients.

### *What's the best piece of advice you could give to someone who is just starting out?*

The best advice I can give to a new photographer (or even a seasoned one) is don't compare yourself to other photographers, whether style, pricing, or anything else. You are you and you should do what makes YOU happy and fulfills your needs, because it will show to everyone around you. I have to keep telling myself this as well, because it's hard! But I've recently started making a real effort to try and be totally different so that I can stand out, and that challenge has been wonderful.

Less is more, and you can really put your focus on the things you do offer to make sure they are the best.

“







## LENA ANTARAMIAN

I am a wife and a mom of 15 year old twin girls (Hormones!) and an adorable 5 year woodle named Franny. I am located in Ridgewood, New Jersey, right outside of NYC and have been a family photographer since 2008. My photography style is lifestyle with a touch of fine art.

*What's the best piece of advice you could give to someone who is just starting out?*

Figure out what your pricing should be from the very beginning and don't let your competition dictate your pricing. Yes, you should be aware of what the going rate is in your area but just because someone in your area charges X does not mean that you need to charge the same (or less!). Figure out how much you need to make and set your prices accordingly. No matter how much you love photography and how thrilled you may feel when people want to pay you money to do what you LOVE to do, this is a business and you are in it to make money and you should be compensated accordingly for what you do.

I think one of my biggest accomplishments was placing in NAPCP competitions. The sheer volume of work and the amount of talent of photographers who submit for NAPCP competitions is absolutely amazing and being selected among such an incredibly talented group is pretty awesome.

“







## RENEE STENGEL

Over the last few years I have developed a crazy passion for Underwater Creative Portrait Photography. I have fallen madly in love with creating amazing Underwater Art. I have an obsession with all things water - and my brand has developed and is thriving around precisely everything that brings me joy in life: water, art, and interacting with incredible people.

*What's the best piece of advice you could give to someone who is just starting out?*

The first rule of being an artist - you must CREATE. Too often I see new photographers allowing the overwhelm of starting a new business get in the way of the WHY. We are artists. We create. That is who we are. I firmly believe that while business knowledge, education and organization are incredibly important aspects of our role as Photographers, our creativity and artistry is VITAL to our joy, fulfillment and ultimate success in this industry. There are business opportunities all around us, but each of us as an artist has something unique and amazing to bring to the world. We can't let the overwhelm of learning to run a business dwarf that light!

I've been a photographer for, literally, decades. Underwater Photography opened the window for me to become an Artist.

“







## SHEENA MAGNESEN

Sheena Magnesen Photography is a natural light, lifestyle photographer located in Naperville, Illinois documenting family, maternity and newborn sessions.

*What's the best piece of advice you could give to someone who is just starting out?*

Research other photographers in your area, open an official bank account and get registered!

*What was the most beneficial or exciting part of bringing together photographers in your area?*

Seeing some of the most warm and kind faces frequently and being able to “talk shop” with others that actually understand.

*How has your business changed in the last few years?*

By me letting some of the stress and worry go. “It’s okay to say no if the client doesn’t gel with me, it’s okay to not have my calendar booked...”

My biggest accomplishment to date is being published in an international publication for families!

“







## SHELBY FINKELSTEIN

Simply Shelby Photography is an award winning, on-location boutique studio specializing in modern baby, children, family, maternity photography. Owner and photographer, Shelby Finkelstein, uses only natural light and believes in taking a more “lifestyle” approach to her photography. Shelby’s style is PERFECTLY IMPERFECT. Being a mother of three has inspired her playful style and ability to connect with her subjects. Shelby is best known for her simple yet artful style as well as providing an enjoyable experience for all her families. As a true custom photographer, Shelby offers only the highest quality of photographic products and will assist you in deciding the best way to show off your new family art!

*What’s the best piece of advice you could give to someone who is just starting out?*

Seek a willing mentor and remember that having a successful business is based on both talent and business savvy.

Running a successful business and being the best mom I can be to our three children can often be challenging. Thankfully I have found so much support in our local community of photographer moms. It really does take a village!

“







## VIRONICA DAWSON

As a model, actress, and dancer turned photographer, I bring a unique perspective to my work, capturing modern, lifestyle portraits of people. My background in the arts has given me an eye for detail, composition, and lighting that allows me to create beautiful and meaningful images. When I'm not behind the camera, I can usually be found in the kitchen experimenting with new and tasty recipes for my four children. I also enjoy practicing ballet and competitive swimming, which help me to stay grounded and creative. Based in Charlotte with my husband and family, I specialize in capturing candid and authentic moments that tell a story. Whether it's a family portrait, engagement shoot, or branding session, I strive to create images that are both beautiful and meaningful. With my unique background and passion for photography, I am committed to providing my clients with an exceptional experience and timeless images that they will treasure for years to come.

### *What's the best piece of advice you could give to someone who is just starting out?*

The best piece of advice I could give to someone just starting out in photography is to practice, build your portfolio, network as much as possible, and seek out guidance when needed. With hard work, dedication, and a willingness to learn, you can build a successful career as a photographer.







## WILLY WILSON

I am a portrait photographer based in Denver, Colorado. I tend to think of myself as an artist whose medium is photography. Or maybe my medium is people! My work is focused (pun intended) on people in all stages of life and work. I love to make photos indoors, outdoors, in the hot, in the cold, and in the water. I love helping others lean into their creativity as photographers and artists.

*What was the most beneficial or exciting part of bringing together photographers in your area?*

I'm not biased or anything, but there is no better community than photographers. We love to connect, we love to help each other. There is endless possibility in this world of photography and the more friends you have in the business, the more you expand. Photographers help each other with everything. We all want to see each other succeed. I love my photographer friends!

*What is your biggest accomplishment to date?*

As a photographer? Well duh, Photographer of the Year is a little (HUGE) feather in my cap.

I have been letting work go that doesn't interest me. I used to feel like I had to say yes to everything that paid me money, and now I'm choosing to pass those jobs along. It is so freeing!

“







# THE ART OF BIRTH PHOTOGRAPHY

AN ARTICLE BY LISA WEINGARDT

What if we could capture life's most impactful and emotional moments, the birth of our children, to hold and revisit again and again? What if these images took us back to those irreplaceable moments and reminded us of how it FELT? They could remind us of our strength and beauty and how those in our birth space supported and held us. We could see how our spouses or partners looked at us, revisit those first emotions, and sit in the details that become fuzzy and faded over time. This is the beautiful art of birth photography.





Birth photography has evolved and gained popularity as more images are shared online and on social media. Yet, when communicating with others about what birth photography looks like and what it is, I am often met with strange looks and curious comments about why anyone would document that.

Navigating such intimate and emotionally charged spaces carries weight and responsibility. The goal is to tell these stories authentically while capturing beauty in often challenging light and tight spaces. I will guide you through overcoming these challenges by learning to see storytelling elements by creating intentional compositions and capturing unique perspectives. By existing in the birth space professionally and respectfully, we can provide our clients with images that can take them back, help them process, and even bring healing. Let's dive into ways to help us approach birth stories with intention!

Birth is messy, raw, unpredictable, intimate, and vulnerable. Beauty is present in every birth story, whether at home, birth center, hospital, or in the operating room. Each is unique and special, and worthy of documenting. Birth is full of storytelling layers, beautiful emotions, and intimate connections.







## SEEING THE STORY

I believe there is a reason why we share our birth stories with others. It is a time when so much more than our babies are born. All the anticipation and life experiences come together during these moments to create new, richer, deeper versions of ourselves. I would argue birth is the most life-changing moment we experience. There is so much to process during a time when our bodies, minds, and souls have experienced much; reliving and retelling our birth stories can be our way of processing these moments. By capturing these moments, we can create a more complete and authentic representation of the birth, helping clients to relive the experience and process it in their own way.

To capture our client's birth stories, we must first get to know them better. Questionnaires and face-to-face meetings are great ways to learn more about our client's wishes, experiences, and fears. I require both from all birth clients before their 36th week. Talking in person helps everyone feel more comfortable with each other on delivery day, and I've also found that clients tend to open up much more about fears and past experiences that may affect their birth stories. In addition, these communications help me enter each birth space with intention, knowing what types of moments are most important to them and what types of moments might elicit fear. This helps to approach each birth through a storytelling lens and hone in on meaningful moments. These communications also build layers of trust, which is vital during such a vulnerable time.

Past experiences can have a significant impact on our client's birth story. For example, a mother whose infant has been whisked away immediately after birth in an emergent situation might experience great fear and emotion in those moments after birth. Awareness of these fears can help us see the emotion and story in these moments more clearly.

Constantly looking for supporting details and moments helps to tell their story more completely. Details such as the fetal monitor, clocks within the space, physical touch, pull-backs of the birth space, room numbers, baby warmers, support teams, and personal details in the room can add important elements to their story.





## COMPOSITION AND PERSPECTIVE

There are challenges to navigating the birth space. For example, our clients can be in unflattering positions, such as lying flat on their beds, and are often physically exhausted. In addition, birth spaces are often tight, and hospitals, in particular, can be full of medical equipment, making it challenging to capture flattering perspectives. However, experimenting with different angles and perspectives can add beauty and emotion to our captured images.

Quietly changing positions in the room while looking for flattering perspectives helps to see which angles are best. Don't be afraid to move around the space respectfully; ask staff for assistance finding the best positions. Involving them by asking permission goes a long way in gaining their trust and respect.

When clients are in the midst of the emotions and the exhaustion that often accompanies births, they aren't fully aware of other elements in their birth space. I love capturing those moments, such as their partner's expressions and perspectives they might not have seen because of their position in the birth space. Your position in the room is vital in capturing these moments. Including pull-backs and setting yourself to be able to capture beautiful perspectives. Even slight position changes up and down or side to side can greatly impact images.





“

*I would argue birth is the most life-changing moment we experience. There is so much to process during a time when our bodies, minds, and souls have experienced much; reliving and retelling our birth stories can be our way of processing these moments.*







## EMOTION AND CONNECTION

Birth is the full spectrum of emotions. The challenge can be capturing these moments without being obtrusive or interfering. Emotion can be found even in quiet and in-between moments. These are also moments we want to allow our clients the space to sit and get the rest they need. Being aware of your client's emotions and body cues and honoring these moments can help us to capture them more authentically. Even in challenging moments and struggles, there is beauty to be found and the ability to do so respectfully. I quietly capture a few images of these moments, then step back or away to honor their space. These moments are often helpful in our client's processing of their birth experience.

Knowing history and personalities, we can get a feel for the connections most important to them. Many of my clients request images of their partners during these emotive moments, and these requests help me in knowing where to position myself in the birth space. Again, moving quietly and respectfully in the birth space helps to capture different emotions and perspectives.









FINAL THOUGHTS

An essential part of approaching these spaces and seeing your client’s birth story is not carrying your experiences and biases into your client’s birth space. It is sometimes difficult, especially if we’ve experienced birth traumas in the past, but so crucial in honoring our client’s unique birth experiences. Birth photography involves learning to honor each family’s birth space and story by learning how to exist in these spaces without taking away from their story. It also helps us to see their story more clearly.

Approaching the birth space requires trust from our clients and the birth community. Existing in these spaces professionally and respectfully also honors our client’s birth stories. Building strong relationships in the birth community helps us to be welcomed into birth spaces. As a professional, I work under a code of ethics that I provide to families and healthcare providers to know I can be trusted in these sacred spaces. Working respectfully and professionally in these spaces, not only helps in being welcomed but also creates a better birth experience for your client.



featured artist



*Lisa Weingardt*

Business: Little Loo Photography

Website: [littleloophotography.com](http://littleloophotography.com)

Instagram: [@littleloophotography](https://www.instagram.com/littleloophotography)

MEMBER





# INSPIRED

## LIGHT | MAY 2023

NAPCP's monthly Inspired themes celebrate outstanding images from members and non-members, on an ongoing basis. We can't wait to see your "light" images for our upcoming issue in May. These monthly themes aim to give professional photographers ample opportunities to show off their work and have it published in print! Visit [napep.com/contribute-to-our-magazine](https://napep.com/contribute-to-our-magazine) for more information on how to submit.

*Submissions Close May 1st*



THE  
NEGATIVE  
SPACE

ISSUE

APRIL 2023







MEMBER

**Gear:**

Nikon D750 | 35mm  
Ikelite Underwater Housing

**Settings:**

f/2.8 | 1/2000 | ISO 400

**Business:**

Renee Stengel Photography

**Website:**

[reneestengelphotography.com](http://reneestengelphotography.com)

**Instagram:**

@reneestengelphotography

## Renee L Stengel

I am a huge proponent of the use of negative space in art. For me, it gives the viewer room to breathe, room to imagine and to let their imaginations run wild, room to embrace the mystery...

”



MEMBER

## Alicia Liebel-Berg

**Gear:**

Nikon D780 | 35mm

**Settings:**

f/1.4 | 1/1600

**Business:**

Studio Bismillah

**Website:**

[studiobismillah.com](http://studiobismillah.com)

**Instagram:**

@studiobismillah

## Corey Nimmer

**Gear:**

Nikon D750 | 50mm

**Settings:**

f/10 | 1/200 | ISO 100

**Business:**

Corey Flint Photography

**Website:**

[coreyflint.com](http://coreyflint.com)

**Instagram:**

@coreyflintphoto



MEMBER





*Molly Garg*

*Gear:*  
Go Hero Black

*Settings:*  
f/2.8 | 1/1250 | ISO 100

*Business:*  
Molly Garg Photography

*Website:*  
[mollygargphotography.com](http://mollygargphotography.com)

*Instagram:*  
[@mollygargphotography](https://www.instagram.com/mollygargphotography)

*Lisa Foy*

*Gear:*  
Sony 7M4 | 24-70mm

*Settings:*  
f/2.8 | 1/160 | ISO 160

*Business:*  
Lisa Foy Photography

*Website:*  
[lisafoyphotography.com](http://lisafoyphotography.com)

*Instagram:*  
[@lisafoyphotography](https://www.instagram.com/lisafoyphotography)



*Gear:*  
Canon EOS RP | 35mm

*Settings:*  
f/5 | 1/200

*Business:*  
Jacenta Grover Photography

*Website:*  
[jacentagroverphotography.com](http://jacentagroverphotography.com)

*Facebook:*  
[/jacentagroverphotography](https://www.facebook.com/jacentagroverphotography)

*Jacenta Grover*

This image was created after taking a workshop and it is one of my proudest images. The lighting, the posing, the fabric tossing. To me, this image is perfect.







MEMBER

## Karen Kahn

This was my sixth time photographing two and a half year-old Blake. At the end of the session, during which she eagerly walked into the calm ocean up to her waist with complete awe and glee, I asked her mom if she always does this when they go to the beach. Her mother laughed and said this was her first time seeing the ocean! Blake's joy could not be contained, and I am so grateful to have captured a glimpse of it during the session!

The negative space of water surrounding her created this magical scene... a wee fearless child first meets the ocean with such intense curiosity and excitement.

”

### ***Gear:***

Canon EOS 5DS R | 24-70mm

### ***Settings:***

f/5 | 1/400 | ISO 200

### ***Business:***

Looking Up Photography

### ***Website:***

[lookingupphoto.com](http://lookingupphoto.com)

### ***Instagram:***

@lookingupphoto



MEMBER

## Monica Conlin

### ***Gear:***

Canon 5D | 35mm

### ***Settings:***

f/2 | 1/400 | ISO 400

### ***Business:***

Monica Conlin Photography

### ***Website:***

[monconpix.com](http://monconpix.com)

### ***Instagram:***

@monconpix

## Kristin Merck

### ***Gear:***

Sony a7R4 | 85mm

### ***Settings:***

f/4 | 1/80

### ***Business:***

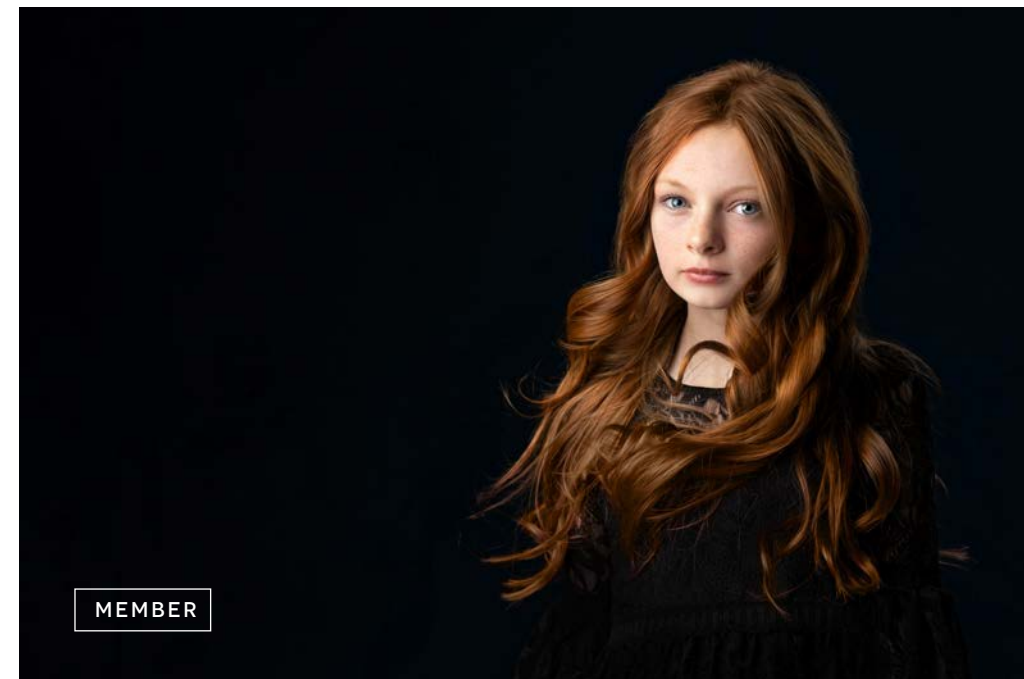
Kristin Merck Photography

### ***Website:***

[kmerckphotography.com](http://kmerckphotography.com)

### ***Instagram:***

@kmerckphoto



MEMBER





MEMBER

# Samantha Nunes

Fatherhood. My father is a father to only daughters. He loves us full heartedly. As a child he would lift us up above the world. This father is lifting the body of his tiny daughter up to the sky and looking up at her. She is his. His entire world. The way in which this image was caught brings about the tenderness in fatherhood and the joy of being a daughter.

\_\_\_\_\_”

**Gear:**  
Canon 5D Mark IV | 50mm

**Settings:**  
f/4 | 1/250 | ISO 100

**Business:**  
Sterling Reverie Photography

**Website:**  
sterlingreverie.com

**Instagram:**  
@sterlingreverie



# Katrina Taggart-Hecksher

**Gear:**  
Canon 6D | 35mm

**Settings:**  
f/2 | 1/250 | ISO 125

**Business:**  
Kat Jones Creative

**Website:**  
katjonescreative.com

**Instagram:**  
@katjonescreative

featured artist

# E.J. Dilley

MEMBER

**Gear:**  
Nikon Z6ii | 35mm

**Business:**  
EJ Dilley Photography

**Website:**  
ejdilleyphotography.com

**Settings:**  
f/2.5 | 1/2500

**Email:**  
ej@ejdilleyphotography.com

**Instagram:**  
@ejdilley

I wanted to push this family into the sky. It was the end of the session on a cold fall day. The family was from out of town and were adventuring in the mountains of Colorado, making memories. This composition just felt like a representation of the kind of fun we have here in the great outdoors. Sometimes it’s uncomfortable climbing up mountains, and sometimes it gets cold, but the best of us are still smiling as we head back to the car.

\_\_\_\_\_”



# Master PHOTOGRAPHER

## — MATERNITY —

SUBMIT YOUR PORTFOLIO  
AND GET CERTIFIED!



Get your portfolios ready! Master Photographer Certification in the Maternity category opens May 8th! Maternity photography certification will give you the credibility you need to sell your services to clients and will open up many doors for you, professionally. Whether that means having a reason for raising your pricing or going out and getting more commercial work – consider this a stepping stone to making that happen!

Unlike our photography competitions, Master Photographer Certification is not about having images that are “Best in Show.” Maternity photography certification verifies that you are a master of your craft, that you have consistent work, and that parents and businesses that hire you know what to expect.

### PROGRAM DETAILS

Submit a portfolio of 25 images. The objective is to demonstrate your skill and mastery as an artist who can shoot in a variety of different settings and situations, exhibiting mastery of the specific niche of maternity photography.

One of our evaluators will score your portfolio and you will be notified if you pass or fail. Upon passing your review, you will be rewarded with a NAPCP Certificate of Mastery in the maternity category. You will also receive a special emblem for use on your website and on social media, to help you promote your business to clients.

## Master Certification for the Maternity category opens May 8th!

For more details and information on how to apply for Master Certification, log in to your NAPCP account and click on the link under “resources”.





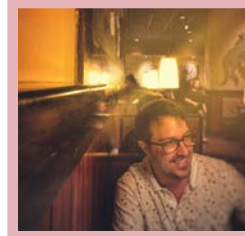
ALISON BELL



APRIL CANNON



CAROLYN ANN RYAN



DIOGO LOUREIRO



EMILY CUMMINGS



HEATHER  
DAVIDSON-MEYN



HEATHER EIJZENGA



HELENA GOESSENS



JAYE MCLAUGHLIN



JEN VALLINA



JILLIAN FAULKNER



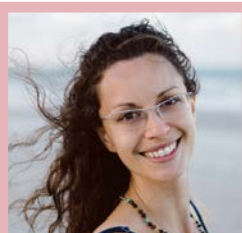
JULIE HAMLIN



KAMI VANOUS



KARA POWELL



KIMBERLY TANK



KRISTIE BRADLEY



KRISTIN MERCK



LENA ANTARAMIAN



MONICA ALVAREZ



OCTAVIA ELEASE



PAM BELL



REANNA NEGRON



RENEE STENGEL



ROBYN SCHERER



SHEENA MAGNESEN



SHELBY FINKELSTEIN



VALERIE EIDSON



WILLY WILSON



# Welcome, Ambassadors!

## SAY HELLO TO THE 2023 NAPCP AMBASSADORS!

A big congratulations and warm welcome to our 2023 NAPCP Ambassadors! Our Ambassadors work hard to build thriving communities of artists on a local level.

By fostering connections and conversations, NAPCP Ambassadors enable the compassionate collaboration that is a hallmark of the NAPCP vision.

Our Ambassadors held their first Gatherings of 2023 last week! Do you want to join in the fun next time? Our second week of NAPCP Gatherings in 2023 will take place September 11th through 17th. Check out [napcp.com/napcp-gatherings](https://napcp.com/napcp-gatherings) for updates on events in your area. Want to connect with someone sooner? Check out [napcp.com/napcp-ambassadors](https://napcp.com/napcp-ambassadors) and reach out to your local Ambassador for more information about NAPCP!



*Congratulations*  
WEEKLY FAVORITES WINNER



**Pam Bell**  
of Pam Bell Photography, Inc  
*Weekly Theme - "Vibrant"*

*April 2023*  
**#NAPCPINSTAFAVES**



*Tag #NAPCP on Instagram and you may see your work in a future issue of Inspired!*



**MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

*[napcp.com/membership-benefits](https://napcp.com/membership-benefits)*

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

*[members.napcp.com/napcpapplication](https://members.napcp.com/napcpapplication)*

**MARKETING MONDAYS**

*[napcp.com/marketing-mondays](https://napcp.com/marketing-mondays)*

**IMAGE COMPETITION**

*[napcp.com/about-our-image-competitions](https://napcp.com/about-our-image-competitions)*

*Back Cover Image by Julie Hamlin of  
Sacred Sage Photography*



*Top 100 Image by Kacie Glosser of Kacie Mac Photography*

EXPOSURE

There are so many ways to contribute to the NAPCP Community. Whether it’s through speaking, hosting a Marketing Monday, becoming a NAPCP Ambassador or even simply writing a blog article – there’s an opportunity for everyone! We love giving our members a platform through which they can share their knowledge and work with the world!

**WAYS TO CONTRIBUTE**

For more information, please contact us at: *[info@napcp.com](mailto:info@napcp.com)*

- Contribute to Inspired Magazine
- Host a Marketing Monday
- Contribute to the NAPCP Blog
- Become a NAPCP Ambassador



