

Pacific Life Foundation awards SKPA first grant

In July 2003 we applied to Pac Life Foundation for a grant and after three months of waiting for word, we received notification that funds in the amount of \$5,000 will be awarded to Special Kids at a reception to take place in Newport Beach in January.

Prof training schedule looking good for 2004

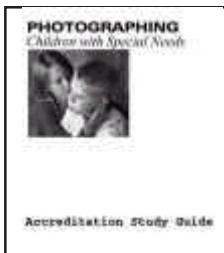
Good news for photographers in Texas and Florida who seek accreditation with Special Kids Photography of America. Events are already scheduled for January and February.

The Texas venue is hosted by Elizabeth and Trey Homan at their studio, 17222 Classen Road in San Antonio. Miller's professional Imaging has come aboard as sponsor but seating is limited.

The Homans, nationally recognized by their peers, have their hearts in this endeavor because of experience with their son, Jacob who was born with a chromosome deficiency that caused severe mental retardation.

Kirk Kief reports that nearly 50 people have signed up for the training in Orlando. They are hoping for a sellout of the additional 70 seats still available. Contact kirk@kiefphoto.com.

Information is also available at: www.professionalimagecrators.com/gettogether/main.html.



Accreditation Study Guide sales are holding steady on our website (www.specialkidsphotography.com), the only place it is available for sale. The guide and book from Amherst Media are useful tools for studying up on accreditation prior to the clinic.



photo by Laura Popiel

Photograph of Ashley and Kristen by Laura Popiel featured in Rangefinder Magazine, October 2003.

Rangefinder Magazine runs special kids article

"Butterflies in Front of Your Lens or in your Tummy?" was a featured article in the October issue of Rangfinder Magazine, a periodical for professional and amateur photographers.

SKPA has received excellent response from readers who are becoming more aware of the need to learn about challenges with special kids. The article can be accessed through www.rangfindermag.com/Magazine/Oct03/butterflies.tml

>>EVENTS<< 2004

Jan. 26 (Mon) Accreditation Training, test San Antonio, TX

Hosted by Elizabeth & Trey Homan
Contact: 210.497.3809

Feb. 4 Accred. Training, Orlando, Florida
Contact: kirk@kiefphoto.com

Feb. 10 2 p.m. SKPA Board Meeting
Epson Corp Hqtrs.

July 25-27 PPA Convention, Las Vegas
www.ppa.com

July - Aicardi Syndrome Convention

We'll tag along with Laura Popiel to rep. SKPA

Marketing advice from SF workshop attendee

Lisa Kammerman, whose real life involves working for the US Food and Drug Administration, has become hooked with special kids photography and emailed recently with helpful advice for reaching out to the families of special children with her photographic services.

1. Volunteer to be the "resident photographer" at a weekend camp for special children. There are special camps for children with specific disorders such as facial differences, autism or Down syndrome. Don't forget the camps for children with medical issues—diabetes, heart conditions, arthritis, cancer, etc.

2. Search the Internet to learn about and become an exhibitor or vendor at fairs held by nonprofit organizations. Contact the coordinator and introduce yourself and your services.

3. Develop a small flyer (half or quarter sheet) with an example of your work and contact information. One of your lovely pictures will be worth a thousand words!

4. Check out the Burrell's Kid Club and feature their Little Heroes portrait contest brochure at events. They attract people to your table or booth.

5. Locate on-line web directories that list resources for individuals with special needs in your geographic area. You will likely find some that will add a link to your own website.

6. You are your best billboard. Self-promote by telling friends and acquaintances what you do. Don't be shy, be excited and energetic.

7. Be friendly and excited about your involvement in this special work. Your attitude will be contagious!

Special Kids Photography of America is a nonprofit organization dedicated to "increasing the face value" of children with special needs.
Administration: 623 572-0046
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info@specialkidsphotography.com