

## A Blessed Holiday Season and a Happy, Prosperous New Year to All!

**L**aura Popiel, Houston, TX, has been affiliated with SKPA since 2000. She is now busier than a cat in a room full of rocking chairs!

This Christmas image of Emily was a heartwarming thrill for the girl's mother. Emily has autism and is nonverbal. Her mother said, "We have never been able to get a good portrait of Emily. This is not only a beautiful picture, she looks like an angel!"

Laura captured this image using Westcott's cold continuous lighting in soft boxes (mentioned in our last newsletter: [specialkidsphotography.com/06-Oct.pdf](http://specialkidsphotography.com/06-Oct.pdf)).

Laura is a member of SKPA's board of directors and often volunteers time in the SKPA exhibit at PPA and WPPI trade shows. She has shared many beautiful photographs of special children with SKPA over the years.

We invite you to send your holiday images of children . . . so we can select one to use for our Christmas newsletter in 2007!



*Who would know that Emily is autistic and unable to speak. Her mother was thrilled with the beautiful holiday images created by Laura Popiel, Houston.*

## Become SKPA Accredited —teach clinics in your area

**M**any photographers are interested in receiving SKPA training in their part of the country. However, it is too costly for a Western-based SKPA trainer to travel long distances unless the class is large enough to support the expense.

SKPA now has an extensive (but easy to follow) two-part training manual prepared for those who want to hold SKPA classes in their own studio! The manual and PowerPoint CD with 500+ slides is available for \$399 (pending SKPA board approval).

Prospective trainers must be SKPA-accredited to be eligible. Details available.

## Announcing newly accredited SKPA photographers



Seattle, WA photographer Kerri Kirshner, was delighted to have her photograph of Jameson and his mother selected as the poster image for an organization that supports children with

special needs (in the Washington area). She also created a DVD for the family when Jameson passed away in August 2006.



Mary Bessler owns Portraits by Mary Ann in Fremont, CA. Daniel has autism which means he was appropriately photographed in a swing. The swinging motion usually soothes the

autistic child. Other excellent choices for a photo-op with a child who has this condition would be a hammock, rocking horse, real horse, sitting on ground with knees up in front (soothing protective action) or held tightly in the arms of a parent or sibling.



called Prader Willi. This condition is covered in the SKPA full-day accreditation class, explaining the importance of studio preparation. Check out CPFA: [www.cfpamerica.com](http://www.cfpamerica.com).

This beautiful studio portrait was submitted for approval by Jennifer Turner, President of Children & Family Photographer of America and SKPA board member. The girl has a rare eating disorder



Dan Simpken, Tripod Photography, in Chamblee, GA, created this composite of a darling little boy with Down syndrome. Dan is one of the organizers for the state PPA convention in Georgia and is planning a SKPA accreditation W/S in GA for early 2007.

## '07 SKPA Workshops

**So. California - Jan 8 (Mon)** This limited capacity workshop will be held in Tustin, allowing class members to receive very individual instruction. Contact us at [info@specialkidsphotography.com](mailto:info@specialkidsphotography.com)

**Austin, TX - Jan 13 (Sat)** A real treat to have this workshop hosted by Elizabeth and Trey Homan at their beautiful studio in Austin prior to PPA's ImagingUSA. You get the same low pkg. price of \$199 for the books, test and full-day workshop. What a deal! The Homans will also provide lunch! Contact us at [info@specialkidsphotography.com](mailto:info@specialkidsphotography.com)

**Las Vegas area (St. George, UT) - Feb 5 (Mon)** Vacation in So. Utah (gateway to many national parks) and start on the road to SKPA accreditation! Contact us at [info@specialkidsphotography.com](mailto:info@specialkidsphotography.com)

**So. California - Feb 12 (Mon)** This w/s will be scheduled in CA if enough sign up the date following ProPhoto Expo in Pasadena.

**Georgia - Date TBA (Feb or Mar)** We are still working on a date for this full-accreditation workshop.

**Las Vegas area (St. George, UT) - (Mar)** Select your own date for this special w/s before or after WPPI (3/24-29). It's a 1.5 hr. drive from Vegas. Zion Natl. Park is very close to St. G. Lunch incl! Contact us at [info@specialkidsphotography.com](mailto:info@specialkidsphotography.com)

See SKPA website for details or call 435.627.1628  
[www.specialkidsphotography.com](http://www.specialkidsphotography.com)

**Special Kids Photography of America** is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to "increase the face value" of special children  
**CASH DONATIONS WELCOMED!**

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