

compose a photo

- 1 "The most important aspect of photography is initiative. You will never get the photo you want if you're not willing to try something that's never been done." Ryan Carlise, 11
- 2 "Lighting is the most important factor because it makes or breaks the picture." Zoe Nathan, 11
- **3** "Having a photographer's eye is most important. Being able to see and capture a picture is key." Shayam Ramachandran, 9
- 4 "The feeling you get with the picture is important. When the picture's aura is bright, you feel drawn to it." Anna Bobbitt, 9
- 5 "The meaning behind the picture is important. If there is no meaning behind the picture, then it's just pointless."

Peri Kincaid, 10



SEE WHAT DEVELOPS Before developing the first roll of film, freshman Eden Eckstrom and senior Maura Kearnev take the temperature of the D76. "Film is fun," Kearney said, "but I like digital photography better because it is nice to be able to look at the pictures you take right then and



-ALL ABOUT PHOTOGRAPHY

Students attend the 25th ATPI conference

hot 1: senior Hannah Kunz places Woody and Darth Vader figurines on the train tracks.

Shot 2: sophomore Laura Gilligan arranges the figurines so that Buzz Lightyear is taking a picture of Woody and Vader.

Shot 3: senior Chris Bull sets Lightyear drowning Vader in a water fountain.

Shot 4: senior Alyssa Carper carefully positions Woody and Lightyear riding a boat in a fountain.

These were all the shots the four photographers needed to win first place in the School Portfolio contest at the 25th annual Association of Texas Photography Instructors (ATPI) Winter Conference in Arlington Feb. 10-12.

"The best part of the ATPI trip was going on the adventure to put together the school portfolio," Kunz said. "It was so cold outside, but we just had to keep shooting because we knew we were running out of time."

This conference gave them, along with photo teachers Deanne Brown, Moira Longino and Cindy Todd and 14 other photography students, a unique chance to grow and learn in a conference that remained one of the few conferences all about photography.

"I loved the opportunity not only to

enrich my knowledge of photography and compete in photo competitions, but also to spend the weekend with fellow photography geeks and friends," senior Madison Scott said.

While there, Westlake students had several different classes and competitions to choose from. Some photographers competed in a scavenger hunt where they had a list of objects and had to shoot them in the most creative way.

"Finding the stuff was the most difficult part of the scavenger hunt," senior Featherduster photo editor Barrett Wilson said. "Some of the hardest items to find were an old-school pencil sharpener and the albino squirrel on campus."

Bull also competed and placed third in a new competition called *Cropped* based on the Food Network show *Chopped*. The competition started with 24 students; after every round, half the number of students were eliminated.

On Sunday morning, professional photographer Sam Abell talked to the group about making the perfect picture, leaving a lasting impression on all who attended.

"I learned to not be impatient when you're shooting," junior Sarah Guthrie said. "You just have to sit and wait for a good shot to come in your path."

EXPRESS YOURSELF

with environmental self-portraits



'The topic was Environmental Self-Portrait, and when I heard that, I thought recycling and thinking green. I had leftover green paint from my room, and I thought it would be a good idea to just put my feet in. I didn't really want to do my face, so why not put my feet in? I'm also in art

class so I thought of something I

wanted to do to incorporate that."

lydia hoffman, 11



Holding hands with a skeleton, junior Casey

At the ATPI convention in Arlington on Feb. 12, seniors Alyssa Carper and Chris Bull shoot a scene for their portfolio competition. "The most stressful thing was figuring out the theme for the portfolio," Carper said. "After that, the competition was a breeze."



Simmons poses for a picture at the ATPI conference. "It was for our studio portrait class, and the skeleton was our model," Simmons said. "We had fun with it and named him Skelty."



"I was inspired to take this picture

and use it as my self-portrait

because it was a pretty new

bass so I thought why not take

a picture with it. I play the bass

because it's usually the least

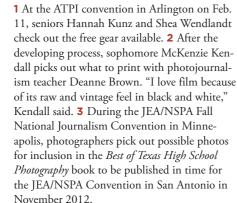
prominent instrument in most

songs but also one of the most

important. It's what completes a

graham tyson, 10









composition."