

## 1 Simple Black & White Conversion

In Photoshop Elements, Picasa  
& FastStone Image Viewer  
By Darrel Priebe

## 2 Online Poll Results

- 77 responses to online-survey
- 93% use photo editing software regularly
- 48% use Elements
- 45% use Photoshop
- 14% use Picasa
- 11% use Lightroom
- 9% use FastStone

## 3 5 Basic Steps to B&W

- Open the picture
- Convert to B&W or Sepia
- Adjust Contrast, Sepia Color
- Save full-sized for printing
- Save with New Name & Size for digital submission to [photoentries@topcc.org](mailto:photoentries@topcc.org)

## 4 B&W Conversion in Elements

- Open the image in Elements > Editor (full)
- Make a copy of your layer before you start (Cntl-J)
- In the Enhance Menu pick "Convert to Black & White"
- Try the Presets to see the range of options
- Use the 3-color (RGB) channel mixer and a "Contrast" Slider to fine-tune your B&W image
- You can stop here or do more adjustments...

## 5 Elements - continued

- Add Sepia under "Photo Effects" on top right
- Add Contrast with a Levels Adjustment Layer
  - Drag Black & White sliders to fit ends of Histogram
  - Drag mid-point slider to right to increase blacks
- Crop (to fit print size or for improved composition)
- Save .psd with layers if desired; or flatten and
- Save for Printing
  - File > Save As > Format: JPG > Name: TUFAS-Print.jpg
- Save for Digital submission
  - Image > Resize > Image Size > 1024x768
  - File > Save As > *Advanced Assigned\_Darrel Priebe\_Tufas.jpg*

## 6 B&W Conversion in Picasa

- Open image in Picasa
- Select the "Effects" tab for B&W
- Click on B&W, Sepia, or Filtered B&W
- Use the "Undo" button at bottom of every screen to go back, or use Picture > Undo All Edits
- Select the "Tuning" tab to adjust Shadows, Highlights of Fill Light (Zoom in to enlarge view)
- Select the "Basic Fixes" tab to auto-adjust Contrast or to Crop

7  Picasa - continued

- File > Save places original in a new sub-folder and saves the altered image in original folder with the same name
- To Resize for Digital Submission: File > Export Picture to Folder > Select Folder > Resize 1024 OR 768 > Image Quality "Maximum" > Export
- Picasa creates a subfolder with the resized image
- Rename the picture for Print Contest: *Advanced Assigned\_Darrel Priebe\_Sedona Slide Rock.jpg*

8  B&W Conversion in FastStone

- Open in FastStone Image Viewer
- Press Enter to toggle Large View on/off
- On left side of screen, select Grayscale or Sepia
- On left, select Enhance Colors to adjust Contrast, Tint, & Brightness
- On left, select Crop Board to crop

9  FastStone - continued

- For Printing: Save As > (*Picture Name\_BW.jpg*) > Quality 100
- For Digital Submission: On left: Resize/Resample > Standard > 1024x768
  - Save As > *Advanced Assigned\_Darrel Priebe\_Sedona Cliffs.jpg*
  - Quality = 100
  - Save

10  Wow – B&W Conversion!

- It's *Simple* if you want simple
- It's *Complex* if you want control of all the details and processes involved
- Be sure to save a full-sized picture for printing, AND a Digital Submission in 1024x768
- **Black & White / Sepia** is the Assigned Topic on Jan 5 – Tuesday