

SFUPS 2019 Contest Subjects

	MASTERS	CHALLENGERS
January	GROUP SHOTS – ANY LENS - Schools, bait balls, aggregations, small or large groups. Shot must be of a group of 4 or more individuals of the same species.	FRONT PORTRAITS - ANY LENS - Must be symmetrical evenly-lit critter or fish faces, snoots welcome, concentrating on good eye contact. Both eyes must be in the frame and should be looking at the camera.
February	BEAUTIFUL BACKGROUNDS BY NATURE – ANY LENS - Isolate a subject against a beautiful natural background (sponge or soft coral for example). Background to be natural and not colored by a slate or other artificial lights. No open water blue or black backgrounds.	UGLY BUT BEAUTIFUL - ANY LENS - Dedicated to those animals with an ugly face but beautiful as subjects. Composition is key.
March	PIPEFISH & PIPEHORSES – ANY LENS - A uniquely difficult animal to get a good shot of. NO seahorses. NO sea dragons from Australia.	HELLO/GOODBYE – ANY LENS - Any marine creature appearing to be waving hello or good-bye.
April	FACING AWAY – ANY LENS - Show us your best butt shot, but make it a good one where the creature is looking on to something-making the most of a butt shot - non human of course - contemplative.	DIAGONAL COMPOSITION – ANY LENS - Wide angle or macro composition showing use of diagonal lines to draw your eye through the image.
May	SNOOT-OLOGY - ANY LENS - Snooted image. Open to any subject. Must be as shot in camera, not produced in post processing.	NATURAL LIGHTING – ANY LENS – Ambient light, no strobes.
June	A DIFFERENT POINT OF VIEW – ANY LENS - Capturing a shot of a common subject but in a more interesting perspective or creative point of view, but not using software to embellish. Looking for images compositionally interesting - not snooted or manipulated.	MINIMAL – ANY LENS – Less is more; focus is on non-busy backgrounds, isolated subjects that are exceptional and beautiful.
JUNE VIDEO	BEST SINGLE VIDEO CLIP – FISH BEHAVIOR - One continuous video clip not to exceed 30 seconds. May add music and title, but no merging of multiple clips.	
July	GUARDIANS AT THE GATE – ANY LENS - Any image that conveys a sense of protective behavior. Doesn't have to be just eggs. Anything from a goby guarding the eggs to dolphins guarding a baby, a fin over another, etc.	SEAHORSE BEAUTY – ANY LENS - Finding the beauty is one thing, capturing a great shot of one of these animals is difficult because of their shyness and rotating eyes. Your job should you accept this challenge is to show us a beautifully-captured rendition.
August	WILD MOVEMENT - ANY LENS - Any photo that makes you think of a storm, wind or strong currents, its violent and unpredictable movement. The key is that there must be an indication of movement. Over/Unders welcome but not necessary -image tells a story of the trials of living underwater in current.	POLKA DOT FISH – ANY LENS - Must be fish that have noticeable round or roundish spots of a different color than the background skin color. Ex: Stargazers, trunkfish, pajama cardinalfish, juvenile barramundi, etc.
September	OUR AMAZING PLANET – ANY LENS - Share your most amazing or favorite underwater creature taken this year (2019).	MACRO ABSTRACTIONS – MACRO - Abstract textures that capture color and forms of beauty that are not usually perceived with the naked eye.
October	MANTIS 'TUDE – ANY LENS - Mantis shrimps have the ability to be a scary creature, but also quite inquisitive. Capture the attitude of the mantis shrimp.	HORRORVILLE – ANY LENS – Show us your scary, looking for menacing shots ... what is Halloween underwater to you? (No mantis shrimp).
OCTOBER VIDEO	CREATURE FEATURE - Edited video featuring a single animal or type of animal. Maximum 2 minutes.	
November	BEST COVER SHOT – ANY LENS - Select your best ...must be a vertical with sufficient negative space for copy. Cropped images OK.	GOLIATH GROUPER – ANY LENS – Your best Goliath Grouper shot.