Introduction

This is the second issue of the Higher College of Technology Photography Department Newsletter. We had great feedback from the first issue, and are pleased to present you with the second issue which contains info about new programs, success stories from our alumni and students, as well as upcoming events.

The newsletter has proven to be a great resource for students and alumni alike, and a great venue to share our progress with the community.
Pictures of the Week

Nice Snaps!

Photos of the week is a way for the HCT photography staff to encourage students to excel while showcasing great imagery of the week. Each week we will show a nominated first year student’s work, along with nominated second year student’s work. This semester we held 2 photos of the week sessions and hope to continue in the future.
Reem Al Shaikh is a local photographer with a very different style of portraiture. She focuses on family portraiture and captures families in intimate moments. Her images have a magical feel to them. We look forward to having her speak again in the future as she continues to grow her business.
Y Magazine's staff photographer Jerzy Wierzbicki visited our department. In his lecture he shared about his work with Y Magazine, as well as his personal photography projects, and his growth as a photographer. The students gave great feedback of the talk.
Suzanne Banning is an artist who now lives in Muscat. She shared her work with the department and spoke about what drives her as an artist. She also spoke about getting work seen as an up and coming artist, and ways to market your work in the competitive fine arts market.
We welcome Anahi Alviso-Marino, who will speak about her research for her PHD. She will share with us how she decided to focus on modern and contemporary art and its relationship to politics, focusing on Yemeni photographers for her PHD from the University Paris 1-Sorbonne. She will talk about the 8 artists who she has followed and documented, and how she conducted her field work in Yemen. Please join us for this special event which will take place at the HCT Photo Department in studio B.

Anahi Alviso-Marino lead an intriguing lecture about her work for her PHD from the University Paris 1-Sorbonne. Her PHD focuses on Yemeni artists and how their work relates to society politically. It was a pleasure to have her as our final speaker of the semester.
Congratulations to Khalid Al Busaidi, an alumni from our 2012 graduating class, for being hired as the house photographer for the Royal Opera House Muscat. Khalid has been hired as the sole photographer and is responsible for creating an archive of the ROHM performances. His images are used to represent the Opera House within Oman and abroad. We are proud of you, keep up the good work!

Congratulations Ruqaya Al Abdul Salam for contributing your images to our HCT photo contest for the WPO Student Focus Award. This is the first year that HCT is joining the Student Focus Competition, and your image will be representing our photography department. WPO Student Focus Awards is a competition which includes nearly 200 higher education photography programs in the world, where each institute submits only 1 image to represent them. We are eagerly awaiting the results. Good work!
Congratulations to Khalid Al Busaidi, an alumni from our 2012 graduating class, for being hired as the House Photographer for the Royal Opera House Muscat. Khalid has been hired as the sole photographer and is responsible for creating an archive of the ROHM performances. His images are used to represent the Opera House within Oman and abroad. They are used in print in Newspapers and Magazines, as well as online. We look forward to watching your growth.
Congratulations to all of our graduates from the 2012 graduating class! We are very proud of you and hope to watch your career grow in the future. You are the future of Media and Visual Arts in Oman, awesome job.

Photos By Mohammed Al Ajmi
Alumni News

Dear Alumni,

As graduates of the photography department, you are able to use all of the equipment in the department for your projects. If you need to use, lenses, light kits or the studio for a shoot, please contact us by email 2 days before you need the equipment and we will prepare it for you to check out.

As well, if you need feedback on your personal images or a project/ job you are working on, please email to make an appointment with one of the lecturers. We would love to help you with your continued growth as an artist.

The Alumni job board has been a success thus far, and 2 job boards have been published. If you need help with your CV or applying for a job, please contact Heather by email.

The Alumni Mentoring Program is an opportunity for the graduates to help out the current students. Each alumni who wishes to participate should send an email with their contact information. We will assign them a current student. During their studies, the alumni would be available through email or phone to critique images, help with technical problems or answer student questions.

The Alumni Guest Speaker Program encourages alumni to speak to the department. There are a variety of topics they might give a guest lecture on including current projects they are working on, gallery shows they have participated in, training or jobs which they are currently doing or have completed. Alumni who wish to participate can simply send an email with the topic they wish to speak of.

Stay in Touch

Higher College of Technology
In the Know

Up Coming Competitions & Events

• **Photo District News Photo Annual** PDN's Photo Annual is their biggest photo competition. It is judged by top art buyers and photographers in the industry today. The categories include Advertising, Editorial (Magazine), Photo Books, Photojournalism, Sports, Documentary, Photo Products, Self Promotional Pieces, Personal Project, Student Work, the newest category, Video. Visit [http://www.pdnphotoannual.com/index.shtml](http://www.pdnphotoannual.com/index.shtml) to get all the info.

• **Spirit of Place, Maine Media Workshop** This photography and video competition rewards winners with furthering their education. Many prizes include free workshops from the famous Maine Media Workshops College focusing on Photography, Video and Multimedia. The competition is judged by top industry professionals including photo editors and curators. [http://www.mainemedia.edu/contest](http://www.mainemedia.edu/contest)

• **Gulf Photo Plus** Take a seminar, take a workshop, sell or buy used photography equipment and learn about upcoming exhibitions in Dubai! Check out the website, and if you are eager, sign up for a course for the 2013 GPP which will be in March. All workshops are taught by professionals at the top of their game and are hands on, 1 week workshops that take place in Dubai. It’s an amazing opportunity to further your skills and boost your CV. [http://gulfphotoplus.com](http://gulfphotoplus.com) Here is a list of the current instructors who will be teaching this years courses. [http://gulfphotoplus.com/gpp/2013/instructors](http://gulfphotoplus.com/gpp/2013/instructors)

If you want to enter an upcoming contest, but are not sure how to do it, ask one of your lecturers! We would love to help you get your work out into the world.