

RCC Artistic Challenge 2024: A Day in the Park - Exploring NYC's Parks

The Challenge

To assign participating RCC members to specific Parks throughout the five Boroughs of New York City to capture, in pictures, a typical “day in the park” as it is experienced by the thousands of daily visitors that descend on the city’s park system. The result will be a print-on-demand zine of the pictures that best represent a visitor’s experience to any one of the city’s numerous parks.

Each participating photographer will be given a primary park that will serve as a home base for the day’s shoot, but will be free to roam to nearby parks and adjacent locations as they travel the city’s streets during the course of the day. The goal is to capture as many aspects of park life as possible: from the daily routines of the native residents, to the tourists, the street vendors, performance artists, and anything else that you experience during the day including capturing the natural beauty of the parks’ landscapes.

Participants should also engage in photographing the scenes they encounter during the course of their travels on the city’s streets (and subways, etc.). These images will also be collected for a possible special edition zine that will expand beyond the concept of the parks. More on this to follow.

Requirements

- Participants are encouraged to choose a primary location of their choice.
- The final assignments should include a wide cross-section of parks throughout the city, ideally covering each of the five boroughs. Some degree of flexibility may be needed to ensure we have enough coverage.
- Field notes must be included with images to provide captions for the images (who, what, where, when, why, etc)

Pre-work

- Attend strategy and planning sessions
- Plan all logistics and shooting strategies for the day of the shoot for your given assignment.

Other Items for Consideration:

- ***This challenge will be expanded to include three additional dates to showcase the parks in each of the four seasons, with future dates to include “A Day in the Park” for fall, winter, and spring. Members can choose to participate in as many or as few of the four shoots as they wish.***
- A separate stand-alone zine will be created for each of the four seasons.
- Once all four dates are completed we will collect images from all of the seasons into one final zine.
- Members are also encouraged to create their own personal zine or alternate work of their choosing.

Date: Saturday, June 15, 2024. (All work must be shot on the same day.)

To participate, contact Rob Matthews & Elliot Owens.