

FALL 2023

THE OKLAHOMA

# PHOTOGRAPHER

A MAGAZINE OF THE PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF OKLAHOMA

## Inside

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### Presidential Note

A letter from PPOK President

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### 2023 Year in Review

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### New Year Seminar

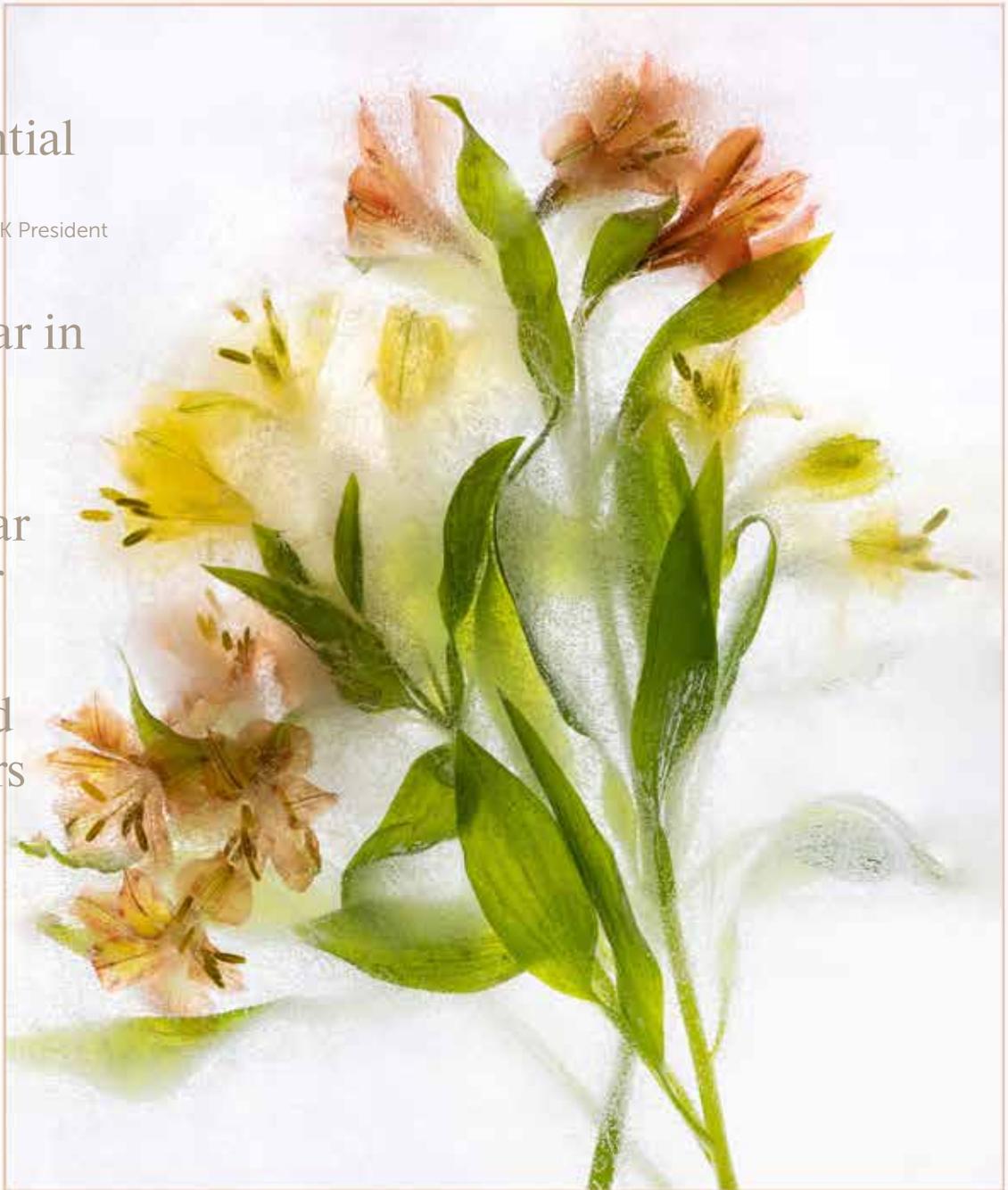
Jan 14th

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### Featured Members

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### Awards Winners



© Leslie Hoyt



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# CONTENTS

**02** - EDITOR'S NOTE

**03** - PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A note from the 2024 PPOK  
President Mandy Corbell

**05**-BEATING OUT THE MOMTOG

A look at our upcoming free to mem-  
bers seminar

**06**- 2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

Recap of a great year of education  
and fellowship

**08** - MEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

Art from 2023 Print Competition

**11** - COMPETITION RESULTS

Judges Choice, Best in Show, List of  
Awards

**14** - OKIES IN TEXAS

Sharing their Expertise on the Road

**16** - PPA NATIONAL AWARD

Leslie Hoyt receives recognition for  
her contribution to Photography

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**Elise Breeding, Editor - editor@appok.org - 405.673.3686**



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We are incredibly blessed to have so many talented photographers in our state that produce awe-invoking images. As you'll see in this issue, PPOK is FULL of gifted people who not only create beautiful artwork, but also those who share and enlighten their fellow photographers with programs to help us all see art in a new light.

Image competition is inspiring to me. It's an annual time of year to be amazed at how easily some photographers create photographic artwork, or hand painted digital art and think outside the box, while others create beautiful traditional photographs with minimal computer work.

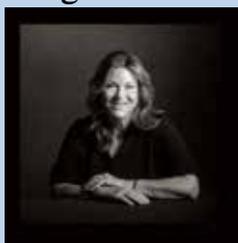
The talent in our industry, whether you started "in the film days", or started last year, comes down to the effort you put into. As with anything at which you strive to be great.

I have seen photographers try and fail at print competition for years, and then the motivation kicks in and they go from striving to learn - to thriving talented artists.

# EDITOR'S NOTE

## *On the Cover.....*

*Ice Garden* by Leslie Hoyt was a personal project she created by freezing her bouquet in a container of water before photographing it.



It's a lesson we teach our kids, and in our adulthood have to remind ourselves too; you'll get out of it what you put into it.

If you wait until a deadline to start a project, you'll get quick sloppy results, if you make an effort to plan ahead, your efforts will be rewarded, you'll be proud of yourself and see the fruit of what you've sewn. Better clients, better art, more self confidence.

Consistent practice delivers results.

Our most recent convention hosted a program by Larry Lourcey who encouraged everyone to think of a personal project. I'd love to hear about yours! If you need some accountability, or someone to encourage you to be consistent with your goals, find someone who will check in on you and keep you motivated. You'll find plenty of artists here at PPOK who are probably in the same boat and need that gentle nudge. If you can't find someone, my email is below. I'll share mine, if you share yours.



Elise Breeding, M.Photog., CPP  
Editor, *The Oklahoma Photographer*  
editor@appok.org



# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Mandy Corbell*  
*2024 PPOK President*

The struggle is real. Our lives are busier than ever. Do find yourself living day to day, just trying to take care of what is on your plate? Goals and plans are really important, aren't they? Of course, and you will make some as soon as you have some extra time.

Except we NEVER have extra time. We only have the time we make out of what we are given.

We need to get more intentional.

James Clear, in Atomic Habits, says "You do not rise to the level of your goals, you fall to the level of your systems." My goals tend to be big and grandiose. Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land among the stars...right? Our days are made up of routines and small habits, and we don't get gaps of time to "shoot for the moon." If we instead make small consistent changes to our daily habits, it adds up to long and lasting results. "If you get 1% better each day for a year, you'll end up 37 times better by the

time you're done."  
-Atomic Habits.

Even better, if you attach this change or alteration to a habit/routine you already have, you are much more likely to do it.

For example: you want to enter or do better in print competition but can't find the time to photograph specifically for it. Make it a point to try and get one merit-worthy print in each session or photo excursion you do. When you cull your images, make a copy of your selection to a "Print Competition" folder. Not only will you get some great options, you'll become a better photographer.

Let's all be more intentional with our pursuits. Make a small manageable change to your routine, attach it to another habit, and in a year look back at how far you've come.

Mandy Corbell, M.Photos, Cr  
PPOK President - 2024



Our 2024 President, Mandy Corbell of Muskogee has some great programs planned and a few more in the works! Save these dates now!

New Year  
Workshop  
Jan 14th  
Holiday Inn & Suites  
6200 N. Robinson Rd  
Oklahoma City

Spring  
Seminar  
April 5th-7th  
Muskogee, OK

Photo  
Expo  
Sept. 6th-9th  
Tulsa, OK



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# Beating Out the Momtogs in Volume Sports

2024 New Year's Workshop

## Free, Member-Benefit Seminar January 14th, Oklahoma City, OK

There are so many ways to do volume sports, just know how to do it so that the mom with a new camera can't compete. We'll go over the many facets to volume, obtaining teams, preparation, execution, production and delivery. Plus we'll touch on some of the things not being said as much as they need to be within the volume industry.

Brandy Moton is a sports and senior photographer out of Tulsa, OK. For 12 years prior she worked for the American Red Cross. Her department was responsible for the staffing and scheduling of blood drives throughout the states of Oklahoma and Texas.

What did she learn there? Logistics. Timing. Scheduling. Much needed in volume sports photography. In 2014, she parted ways and went full time to build Moton Photography.

In 2022, Brandy opened a 3000 SqFt studio space on Route 66. Her new location can handle any team that comes to them.

During the 2022-23 season, she worked



**Brandy Moton** Tulsa, OK

with over 15 Varsity School Districts and numerous youth leagues and teams. Her passion is sports. She loves creating banners and posters; Making youth athletes feel 10 feet tall; dramatic lighting, gels, color and all the awesomeness that entails.

Because of her sports teams, her senior business blossomed. She likes gritty, moody, edgy "sportraits", plus the traditional studio classics that moms love as well.



When she's not hanging with teams and seniors, the recent empty nester of 2 sons is hanging out with her husband, and 4 fur kids. She loves pink and green, ALL the shoes, daisies, and sleeping in. She shared her weirdest discovery to date is...she's definitely an introverted extrovert.

Join us for this great new program:

**9am, Sunday, January 14th**  
**4269 SW Boulevard**  
**Tulsa, OK 74107**

\$69 one day event.  
**Complimentary to 2024 PPOK members.**



# 2023 in Review

Let's reflect a little on the good times we all have had over the past year. Johnny and Carrie Holland hosted our annual New Year's Workshop, one of our free member benefits. The spring brought a full weekend in OKC and some great speakers in fashion, weddings, maternity, sports and event photography! The summer included several Meet Ups with several members hosting "free to ANYONE" locations to just bring your cameras, and have fun learning and creating art together! We plan to keep doing these, so watch social media and your email for these announcements. The fall Expo and print competition left us feeling inspired. President Chris Urias and his team brought topics like: drones, headshots, upping your print competition images, personal project inspiration and fine

art photography speakers. The print raffle and silent auctions held during our party were awe inspiring as always! Thanks so much to all the talented people who donated their artwork!

PPOK is incredibly thankful to ALL our sponsors and vendors in 2022! ***Thank PPA, Millers, WHCC, and ACI lab for sponsoring a program this year; and thank you to Arlington Camera, Texas School of Professional Photography, PPA and Bay Photo for sending us some highly coveted auction items!***

We can't wait to tell you all about everything planned for 2024!



The Great Salt Plains and Wildlife Refuge granted PPOK an evening permit to photograph on the plain in Cherokee, OK. Models joined us for a free Meet Up to gather, photograph, fellowship and create art while learning from each other. {photo credit clockwise to Rick Carr, Chris Urias, and Ken Helms}

Meet Ups also took place at the OKC and Tulsa zoos. As well as a last minute gathering in Kenton for some Milky Way photography. {photo credit to Johnny Holland}





*Photography to the MAX w/ Gary & Kathy Meek*



Image Competition and Club 79 room



*Headshots with PPA President, Kira Derryberry*



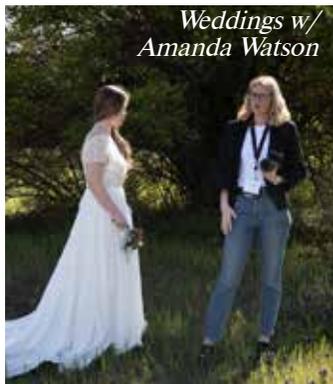
*Personal Project Inspiration w/ Larry Lourcay*



Thanks to Chris and his team for delivering a full year of fun and inspiration!



*Creative Fashion Photography w/ Brian DeMint*



*Weddings w/ Amanda Watson*



*All about Drones with Kody Kline*



*Branding program w/ Johnny & Carrie Holland*  
Great Photographers  
Photograph with intention,  
and don't rely  
on happy mistakes.



*Bold Bump Photography w/ Kasey Alcott*



# PPOK Images

*Some beautiful art from the 2023 Image Competition*



*Angel Eyes by Jamie Cobb*

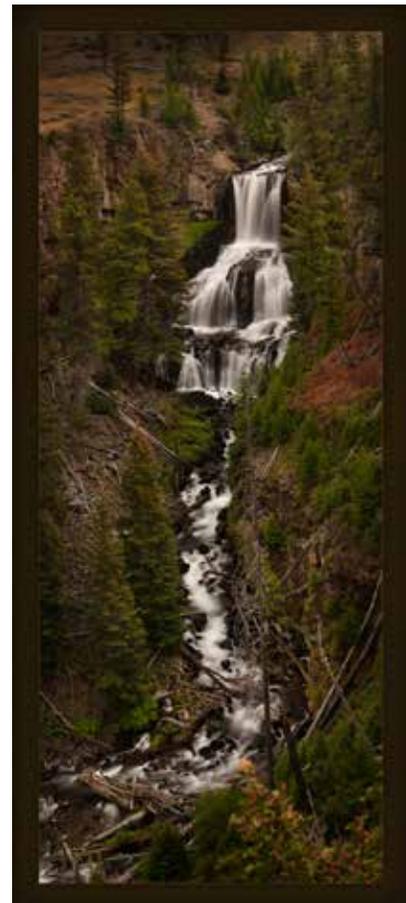


*Sapphire Soul by Brandy Moton*



*Dare to Be Different by Valarie Clayton*

*Bedtime Reflections by Dave Muller*



*Hiker's Delight  
by Johnny Holland*



*Within Reach* by Chasity Rozell



*Enjoying Retirement* by Alisha Anderson



*I See You* by Skeeter Arnold



*Dancing Hands* by John Burns



*Old Notes by Old Hands*  
by Mandy Womack



*Of Royal Descent* by Kimberly Smith



*Shaping the Sole* by Cary Garrison



*Thomas Blonde Products* by David Brosius



*Auburn Barbie* by Willo Wallace



*Sherbet Bouquet*  
by Leslie Hoyt



*The Director* by Dawn Muncy

*Meekness and Majesty* by Elise Breeding



# 2023 Judge's Choice & Best in Show



*Inquisitive Loyalty*  
by Alisha Anderson  
Best in Show General Division



*Withering* by Chasity Rozell  
Best In Show Masters Division



*Supportive Embrace*  
by Valarie Clayton  
Judge's Choice

*Oooooooh, Right There*  
by Brandy Moton  
Judge's Choice



*Determination*  
by Brandy Moton  
Judge's Choice



*Zesty with my Bestie*  
by Chasity Rozell  
Judge's Choice



*Now and Then*  
by Skeeter Arnold  
Judge's Choice



# 2023 Image Awards

## Judges Choice Awards

*Oooooooh, Right There...* by Brandy Moton  
*Zesty with my Bestie* by Chasity Rozell  
*Determination* by Brandy Moton  
*Supportive Embrace* by Valarie Clayton  
*Magenta Mist* by Willo Wallace  
*Now and Then* by Skeeter Arnold

## General Division Trophies

Men's Portrait - *Limitless Potential* by Willo Wallace  
Women's Portrait - *Angel Eyes* by Jamie Cobb  
Children's Portrait - *Nike Ballerina* by Willo Wallace  
Senior Portrait - *Always a Wrestler* by Brandy Moton  
Animal Portrait - *Inquisitive Loyalty* by Alisha Anderson  
Group Portrait - *Oooooooh, Right There* by Brandy Moton  
Classic Portraiture - *Ageless Ambition* by Willo Wallace  
Wedding - *Sunset Kissed* by Jamie Cobb  
Illustrative - *Classic Ad* by Skeeter Arnold  
Commercial - *Two Cherries on Top* by Jamie Cobb  
Nature - *I See You* by Skeeter Arnold  
Landscape - *Now and Then* by Skeeter Arnold  
Album - *Kade O'Neal* by Jamie Cobb

## Master Division Trophies

Men's Portrait - *The Director* by Dawn Muncy  
Women's Portrait - *Guilded* by Chasity Rozell  
Senior Portrait - *Within Reach* by Chasity Rozell  
Group Portrait - *Zesty with my Bestie* by Chasity Rozell  
Classic Portrait - *Hold on Tight* by Chasity Rozell  
Illustrative - *A Little Privacy Please* by Valarie Clayton  
Nature - *Withering* by Chasity Rozell  
Landscape - *Meekness and Majesty* by Elise Breeding  
Artist - *Hen's a 10* by Valarie Clayton

## Overall Trophies

First Time Entry - *Inquisitive Loyalty* by Alisha Anderson  
Out of State Entry - *After a Billion Rooftops* by Jen Hargrove  
CPP Award - *Effortless* by Dawn Muncy  
ASP Elite Award - *Dare to be Different* by Valarie Clayton  
Nelson Helt Scholarship: First Time Entry  
Highest Print Case - 485 Alisha Anderson  
Vandeventer Award - Artist High Print Case Master - 529 Valarie Clayton  
Best Of Show General Division - *Inquisitive Loyalty* by Alisha Anderson  
Best Of Show Master Division - *Withering* by Chasity Rozell  
National Award - Leslie Hoyt

## 2023 Oklahoma Photographer of the Year

Highest Total Points General Division - 486 points Skeeter Arnold  
Highest Total Points Master Division - 533 points Valarie Clayton

## Top 10 Oklahoma Photographers of 2023

Alisha Anderson  
Brandy Moton  
Cary Garrison  
Chasity Rozell  
Dave Muller  
Dawn Muncy  
Jamie Cobb  
Leslie Hoyt  
Skeeter Arnold  
Valarie Clayton



2023 Oklahoma Photographer of the Year  
General Division: Skeeter Arnold



2023 Oklahoma Photographer of the Year  
Masters Division: Valarie Clayton



Top 10 Oklahoma Photographers, with the highest scoring total print case: (left to right) Skeeter Arnold, Alisha Anderson, Brandy Moton, Chasity Rozell, Leslie Hoyt, Dawn Muncy, Valarie Clayton and not pictured: Cary Garrison, Dave Muller & Jamie Cobb



First Time Entrant Highest Print Case:  
Alisha Anderson  
*Nelson Helt Scholarship Recipient*



# OKIES IN TEXAS

## *Sharing their Expertise on the Road*

The state of Oklahoma is full of talented photographic artists in genres that fill the gamut of the industry. So many of our PPOK members also travel to share what they have learned with anyone willfully ready to listen.

The Texas School of Professional Photography is an organization which hosts thousands of photographers from around the country each spring. Amateurs to novice photographers choose an instructor with whom to spend a week of learning.

This year, 4 of our members are teaching at the Texas based photography school.



Jamie Cobb's class will elevate your events to the next level. Gain a better understanding of how new products and services

can set you apart in your market in the event business. Jamie will cover marketing, pricing, software, products, and sales. Learn how to print with high-volume photo stations to offer event attendees a branded photo from your business.



Tony Corbell, along with Texan Rob Hull, will teach you how to explore the three key elements that comprise light – that most fundamental ingredient in any photograph. It is the balance of these three elements that defines the Quality of Light. Begin in the studio with lights that you control and then learn how to blend



ambient light in your images. You'll learn



how to "find" the right ambient light and how to use lighting tools to create the light that will set the mood of your photo.



In today's world, good commercial photographers are busier than ever because they know the business of good photography. By taking Joe Glyda's class, not only will you learn

more than "just the basics", but you will learn how to apply those basics to other projects that will put your knowledge above the You-tubers and other amateur photographers.



In Kimberly Smith Pennebaker's class, students will learn how to become more artistic, how to see things from a different view. You will learn different ways to get your creativity flowing and where to look for inspiration beyond photography, as well as learning some great Photoshop tips, tricks, blending and creating beautiful art pieces in Photoshop.



Learn Kimberly's process from the first thought to the final detail and learn how to bring to light, your artist within.

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Registration Opens January 3 11:00:01 pm CST

Doug & Laura Bennett

William Branson III

Andre Brown

Terri Butler

Alison Carlino

Carl Caylor

Michele Celentano

Bob Coates

Jamie Cobb

Michael Collins

Tony Corbell & Rob Hull

Greg & Lesa Daniel

Scott Detweiler

Cris & Deanna Duncan

Kristi Elias

Chris & Lori Fritchie

Mike Fulton

Joe Glyda

PG Gudapati

John Hartman

Jamie Hayes & Mary Fisk-Taylor

Elizabeth & Trey Homan

Steve Kozak

Jenn Lewis

Robert Norwood & Glenda Beckwith

Sandra Pearce

Guy T Phillips

Kelly & Kalina Schneider

Kimberly Smith

Shannon Squires

Richard Sturdevant

Steve Watson

John Wilson

Audrey Woulard



Arrive early for:

Precon Classes Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>

World Photographic Cup Awards Gala Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>

[www.TexasSchool.org](http://www.TexasSchool.org) for full schedule, hotel info, and more

Find us on Facebook: Texas School of Professional Photography (private group)

# 2023 PPA NATIONAL AWARD

This year's National Award Recipient is a person of extraordinary caring. Caring for their family, their fellow photographers, the new photographers to our craft, their clients, and generally, everyone they meet. They also care deeply about their chosen profession and strive to help it run at a high level of professionalism.

As with many National Award Winners, this person strives to increase the quality of their photographic works even if it means they change what they do and settle into a new direction or discipline.

Leslie Hoyt is a collector of people and surrounds herself with friends that we would all hope could be our friends one day. She cultivates relationships and sees things in people that they themselves seldom see.

Her family life is enormously important to her. She married her high school sweetheart, and together they built their life in Tulsa where they raised their three very great kids.

Our recipient was born in Ponca City, Oklahoma and she graduated there in 1979. She was the very first girl to run for student council and won, serving as

VP. This powerhouse knows business and the correct ways of doing things.

She lived in the corporate world winning national awards long before she found photography and when she was president of this association, she ran it well, with integrity, and with purpose.

A solid member of PPA for many years, becoming a Photographic Master, Photographic Craftsman, Certified Professional Photographer, and most recently, a member of the exclusive Camera Craftsmen of America, one of only forty members worldwide.

We are thrilled to have her as part of our Oklahoma family!



*left:* 2023 NATIONAL AWARD  
RECIPIENT LESLIE HOYT WITH PPOK  
PRESIDENT CHRIS URIAS, AND  
2022 NATIONAL AWARD RECIPIENT  
TONY CORBELL

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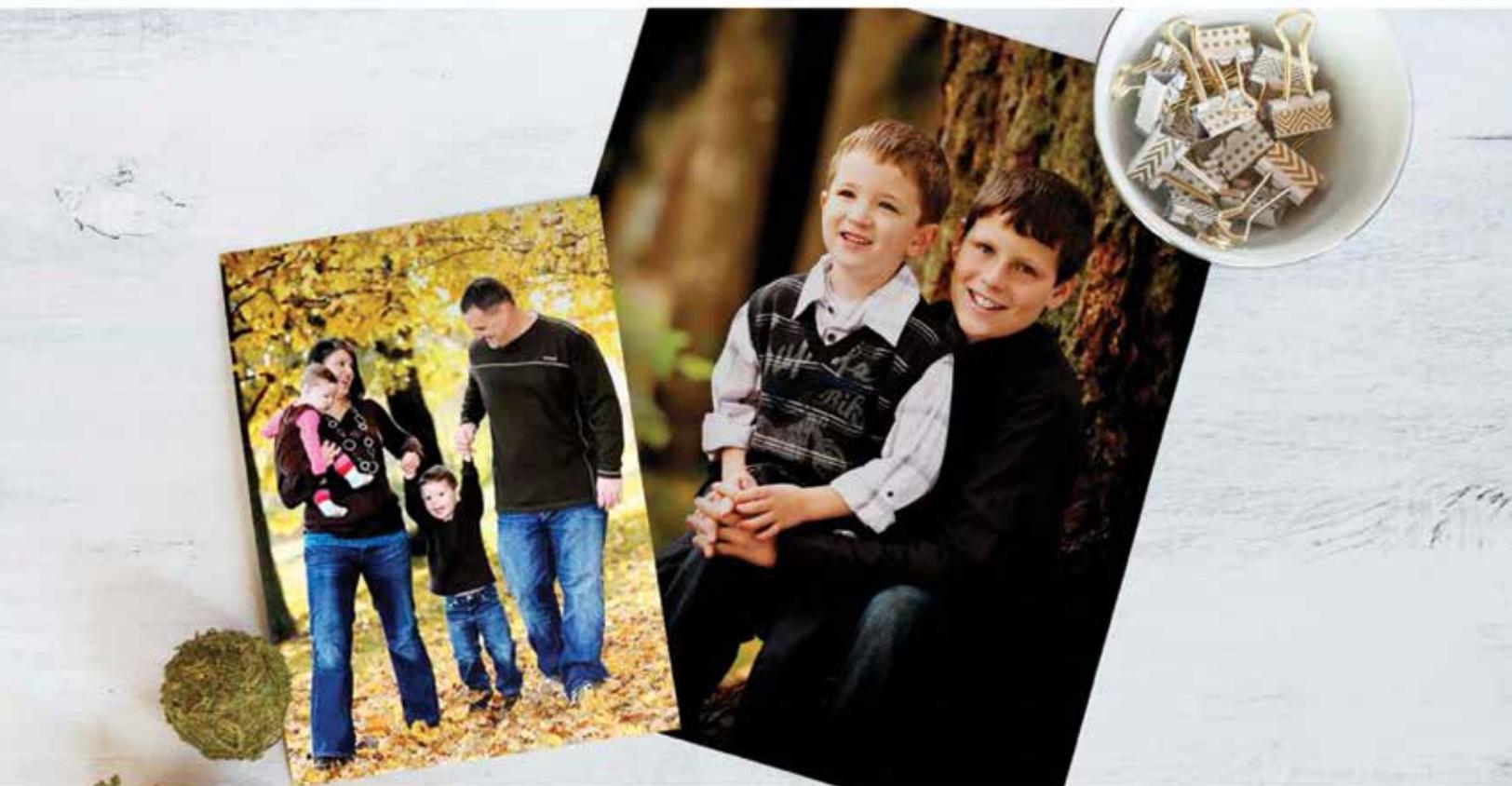
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