

© Lester Lefkowitz

**Wednesday, November 20 - Lester Lefkowitz
Close-up and Macro Photography in the Great Outdoors**

Wednesday, December 18 - Members' Night and Holiday Celebration

Wednesday, November 20 - Lester Lefkowitz *Close-Up and Macro Photography in the Great Outdoors*



There's an entire universe of beauty, fascination and intrigue on a scale not readily captured in conventional photography. This presentation will show you the basics of how to get close, and closer, to the wonderful details and never-ending curiosities you can find in the natural world.

Lester will cover the concepts of magnification ranges, various optical and mechanical methods for getting close (diopter lenses, extension tubes, macro lenses), issues of critical focus and depth-of-field, techniques for camera support and vibration control, and lighting. You'll see a demonstration of focus stacking to achieve "infinite" depth-of-field. Esthetics are just as important; he'll touch on composition, background, appropriate light, image balance and subject selection.

Lester Lefkowitz has been a lifelong photographer. His work has appeared in National Geographic, The New York Times, Time Magazine, and hundreds of other U.S. and international publications. Lester has created images for Microsoft, General Electric, IBM, General Motors, Citibank, Johnson & Johnson and many other Fortune500® companies. He's photographed in all fifty states, twenty-one countries and Antarctica. He is also the author of three books on photography, including *The Manual of Close-Up Photography*. In March of 2021 he will be teaching a workshop in Chile.

You can see his industrial and travel photography at www.LesterLefkowitz.com, and his macro work at www.MacroPhotographer.net.

Wednesday, December 18

Members' Night and Holiday Celebration



Share autumn pictures and other nature images and join fellow members for a holiday celebration!

You may present up to six (6) images in digital format, on a USB flash drive only (no CD/DVD/slides). Images should be sRGB, 72 ppi, with 1920 pixels on the long side. Label each image with your name and a sequential number. Utilities such as those in Lightroom and Photoshop provide an Export menu with options to resize an image along the long edge to 1920 pixels. You may also sharpen the image for viewing on a screen.

Please arrive by 6:15 pm in order to load your images and enjoy refreshments prior to the presentations.

Of Interest This Season

The New York City Chapter of the Sierra Club is hosting its Fall 2019 *Sustainability Series*. Programs are held at the Seafarers and International House (123 East 15th Street, 2nd floor); doors open at 6:30 pm. Further updates at <http://nyc.sierraclub.org>

- November 13, 2019: *NYS 2019 Climate Legislation*, with Roger Downs, Conservation Director, Sierra Club Atlantic Chapter and Senator Liz Krueger, New York State Senator and Chair, Senate Finance Committee
- December 11, 2019: *NYC Water Rising - What is NYC doing about it?* (Speakers to be announced)
- January 8, 2020: *How to Get Involved with the 2020 Elections* with Ariel Hayes, Sierra Club National Political Director, and additional speakers to be announced

The 44th Annual Ground Glass Art Exhibition, a juried group show produced by The Ground Glass, a Westchester-based association of photographers, takes place at the Rye Arts Center in Rye, New York from November 2 - 27, 2019. For more details, visit <http://ryeartscenter.org>.

Fall / Winter Outings

Date	Location(s)	Details	What to Bring/ What to Know
Nov 6 Wednesday	Central Park New York, NY Fall colors in woods, pond reflections, stream and waterfalls.	Meet at West 103rd Street entrance at 1:00 pm. Shoot until dark, about 5:00 pm; dinner afterward.	Long stroll through park. Plan for long afternoon in cold weather and wind. Bring good walking shoes, rain gear, snacks and water.
Nov 13 Wednesday	The High Line and Hudson Yards New York, NY (Chelsea) Autumn nature above the city, wild grass, old rail tracks, architecture, NYC skyline, art and people. Hike about 20 blocks (north to south) from West 34th Street to Gansevoort Street.	Various afternoon meeting times at different park entrances. Shoot until dusk, about 5:30 pm; dinner afterward.	Park is crowded and passages are congested; tripods are a bad idea. Bring good walking shoes, rain gear, snacks and water. Download Guide to High Line Park here.
Jan 11 Saturday	Central Park New York, NY Hopefully snowy woods, fields, an icy bog and pond. A blizzard could be great!	Meet at West 103rd Street entrance at 1:00 pm. Shoot until dark, about 5:00 pm; dinner afterward.	Long stroll through park, possible frozen, slippery paths. Plan for long afternoon in cold weather and wind. Wear warm layers, boots, hat and gloves; bring lunch, snacks and water.

Contact Charles Dexter to reserve: 212-315-1963 (before 10:30 pm).



Members at Branch Brook Park (NJ) outing

In Memoriam - Miriam Balmuth

It is with great sadness we observe the passing of long-time SierraPhotoNYC member Miriam Balmuth on September 27th following a stroke.

Miriam was active with our group since the late 1980s and had twice served on our Board. She rarely missed a meeting. As Nancy Langer said: "She was our number one fan!" Miriam loved coming to our meetings, outings, exhibits and events. She made many friends through the years. "I remember Miriam as always smiling and so full of energy," Pat Garbarini wrote. "She was loyal to us to the end... She kept coming to our meetings, year after year."

Miriam was born in Brownsville, Brooklyn and grew up with her three sisters in East New York. She was a proud alumna of the New York City public school system where she thrived academically. She went on to earn her doctorate at New York University, becoming a highly respected expert in psychology and education. She specialized in developmental and remedial reading as a professor at Hunter College (CUNY) where she helped develop and then headed the M.S. program in Teacher Education. She was the author of many books and articles, including her most important work:

[The Roots of Phonics.](#)

When not teaching, she traveled the world. She was a member of Travelers' Century Club (TCC), an organization for people who have visited 100 or more of the world's countries and territories. The photographic fruits of her travels allowed her to give many travel slide shows at Tuesday Evening Hour, a travel photography group. Her activity there led to her becoming a long time board member. She was also a staunch member of her teachers' union and her Democratic Club.

An active hiker, she went on countless outings sponsored by the Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC). She loved to talk with the people she met and had the ability to draw out amazing details about their lives. She always looked for common ground and enjoyed the community of groups.



Miriam Balmuth (photo by Daphne Prior)

I am personally indebted to her for introducing me to what was at the time called the Sierra Club Photography Committee. We first met in 1991 when I sat next to her on a bus to Bear Mountain. She was on her way to an AMC hike while I was on my way to my own hike on Dunderberg Mountain. During our wide-ranging conversation, she told me about the Photography Committee. It took me a year to get to my first meeting, but I am so glad I did! If I hadn't joined the Photography Committee, I wouldn't have met my wife Linda and all of the other wonderful people whom Miriam loved. Miriam always said she was proud she made the connection.

Miriam is survived by her older sister, Regina, and 11 nieces and nephews. No memorial service has been planned as of this time. She was buried at Hebron Cemetery in Queens, New York. Condolences can be sent to her niece Baysa and Baysa's husband Zei Belsky at 1381 East 29 Street, Brooklyn, NY, 11210, who will share them with the rest of Miriam's family.

-Charles Dexter

Member News

[Professional Women Photographers \(PWP\)](#) was a major participant in last month's PhotoPlus Expo. Three of our members who are also in PWP led photo walks during the conference: **Nancy Langer**, **Margit Zsedely**, and **Sharron Crocker**.

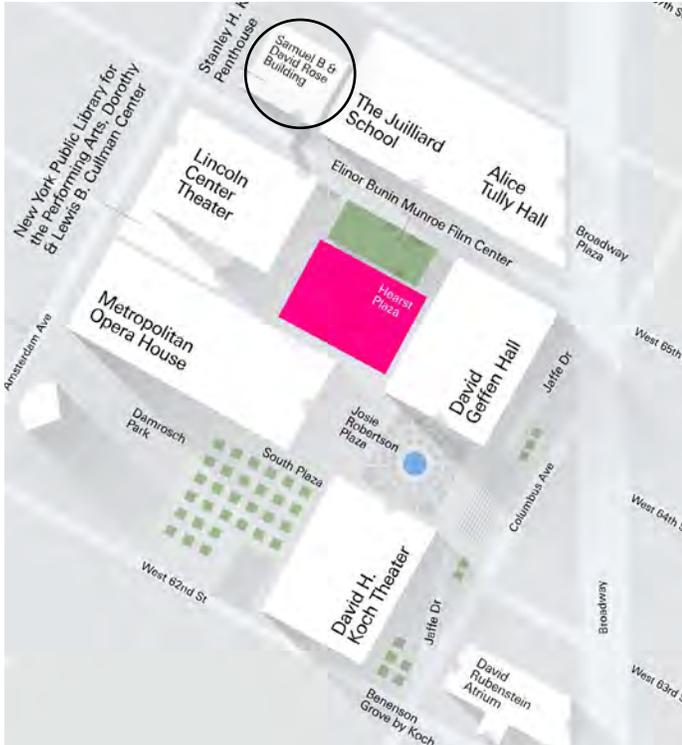
PWP's next exhibition will be, "B/W - Sculpting with Light" on view from December 10 - 21 at the Atlantic Gallery, 548 W 28th St, Suite 540, New York, NY with an opening reception on December 12 at 6:00 pm.

One of our previous speakers, **JR Harris**, was featured in a recent issue of *AARP Magazine* and in the fall 2019 issue of [AMC Outdoors](#) (the magazine of the Appalachian Mountain Club).

Sharron Crocker had a solo show at the Elting Memorial Library in New Paltz, NY during the month of August. She also exhibited in Art JuXtapse Gallery in Rosendale, NY for the month of September.



Meeting Details



Metropolitan Opera Guild Learning Center
Lincoln Center

Samuel B. and David Rose Building, 6th Floor
165 West 65th St.

[Click here for building info, map and directions](#)

Doors open 6:00 pm

Program begins 6:30 pm

\$7.00 Suggested Donation

Join us for optional dinner afterward at
[Old John's Luncheonette](#), 148 West 67th St.

SierraPhotoNYC Board

Judy Rosenblatt, Co-Chair
Nina Edwards, Co-Chair
Donald Cannon
Charles Dexter
Charles Franz
Pat Garbarini
Richard Gold
Daphne Prior

Anne Chamberlain, Newsletter
Harvey Kopel, Mailings
Nancy Langer, Speakers
Helen Pine, Email Communications
Claudia Schellenberg, Treasurer

To report changes in email address:
sierraphotonyc@gmail.com

To send news of upcoming events,
exhibits, and publications:
annechamberlain@earthlink.net

Meeting Schedule 2019-2020

Nov 20	Lester Lefkowitz
Dec 18	Members' Night
Jan 22	Chris Ang
Feb 26	Sherry Pincus
Mar 25	Lisa and Tom Cuchara
Apr 29	Eric Rock
May 27	Members' Night (note date)
Jun 24	Jennifer Hayes

SierraPhotoNYC

www.sierraphotonyc.com

<https://www.facebook.com/sierraphotonyc/>

[Friends of SierraPhotoNYC on Facebook](#)

[Instagram: sierraphotonyc](#)