

the
PORTRAIT
MASTERS
conference

WELCOME TO THE 2023 PORTRAIT MASTERS CONFERENCE
ARIZONA GRAND RESORT AND SPA
SEPTEMBER 11 - SEPTEMBER 14, 2023

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CONFERENCE OVERVIEW

Welcome to the 2023 Portrait Masters Conference, where creativity meets expertise. This year, we are thrilled to gather one last time at the luxurious Arizona Grand Resort and Spa for four days of inspiration, education, and networking with fellow portrait photographers from around the world.

REGISTRATION DAY

Registration is Monday 9/11 —you can pick up your badge in the Canyon Ballroom between 9am-5pm. If you arrive after 5pm, you may attend the evening activities without a badge, and then collect your badge at our customer support table in the Arizona Grand Ballroom foyer (hours are 8am-5pm Tuesday-Thursday).

Sue Bryce will be presenting her Posing Breakout, which is free for all conference attendees at 2:30pm on our Mainstage. Please read the Mainstage section below for important information.

Portrait Masters Awards Ceremony & Cocktail Party: If you are accredited, please bring and wear your medal (we have over 100 Associates coming, plus many Masters and the Fellows!) with pride (you can wear it every day of the conference if you wish!) We will be live broadcasting the results of this last round of Awards and Accreditation (those advancing in accreditation will be accepting their awards on site as well as category trophy winners!) We recommend black tie/cocktail party (but no one will be turned away if you don't dress up!)

SCHEDULE

Please refer to the official conference schedule available on our website: 2023 Portrait Masters Conference Schedule: <https://theportraitmasters.com/2023-schedule/>

VENUE INFORMATION

Arizona Grand Resort and Spa

Address: 8000 S. Arizona Grand Parkway, Phoenix, AZ 85044

Phone: (877) 800-4888

Website: www.arizonagrandresort.com

The Venue is a quick 15 min ride from the airport—you can go to the rideshare pickup area in the airport to get a ride from the app of your choice (Lyft, Uber, etc) or the airport also has a taxi stand.

602-536-9966 —this text phone line for the Arizona Grand Resort. You can text it for virtually anything you might need from the venue and they will bring it to you. More towels? Keycard stop working? Want a golf cart ride from point A to point B? (tip your driver a little each ride!) also if there are any emergencies, text them and their security/medical team will show up ASAP.

Tipping: We highly recommend tipping the bell staff if you get a ride from them on a golf cart, if you order food from the hotel or food trucks, and the bartenders at the evening events. There is an ATM in the main lobby of the hotel, as well as one by the business center.

LOST and FOUND: If you find items during the conference, you can bring them to our customer support table in front of the Shoot n Shop (Arizona Grand Ballroom) which will be open from Tuesday-Thursday 8am-5pm. We will post photos of found items and put them in our Event Facebook group.

You should also check with the hotel:

For items left behind, please visit the hotel's partner website at ileftmystuff.com, click on "Get my lost item back," then enter the hotel/client ID: 20055. Once your inquiry is submitted, you will be contacted by a member of the hotel's Lost & Found team.

The hotel has an extensive FAQ so please check that for any venue related questions.

MAINSTAGE

We have an incredible lineup of keynote speakers, each a luminary in the world of portrait photography. Get ready to be inspired by their insights and experiences. The Shootouts will allow you to see our highly accomplished photographers from Canon and Fujifilm in action.

Mainstage Etiquette:

A line will form outside of Sonoran Sky in the morning before 8am, Tuesday-Thursday so if you want a front row seat, please plan ahead. Your seat will remain your seat for all talks that day. A line will also form Monday when programming starts at 2:30pm

Attendees cannot save spots in line for their friends, nor can attendees save seats for anyone if they want to sit with a group. If you wish to sit with a group, the entire group must be present and together in line.

Should anyone witness any line jumping or seat saving, please do not confront the individual/s—alert the nearest staff member. We want everyone to have a safe, hospitable experience at our talks and anyone who does not act in accordance with these guidelines may be asked to leave the event.

NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES

Connect with fellow photographers, share your experiences, and build lasting relationships during our networking events and mixers. Lunch is always a great time to sit with someone new and make lasting connections! If you want someone to take your portrait in one or all of our DIY bays, you need to find a buddy!

At registration, we have red ribbons for first-time attendees to wear. If you wear it, that will show us that you are open to making new connections. We want everyone to feel welcome!

SHOOT & SHOP

Don't miss our exclusive Shoot & Shop event!

Vendors: Explore a variety of vendor booths and shooting bays, where you can test the latest photography equipment, props, and accessories. It's a unique opportunity to discover new tools and products to enhance your photography.

Shooting Bays: You will also want to bring your camera so that you can take part in the shooting bays and build your portfolio. The shooting bays are designed for beginner photographers all the way to expert photographers—there will be shooting bay attendants present to help you get some beautiful shots for your portfolio!

In addition to the bays that Sue Bryce and Bri Orozco curated together, there will be vendor sponsored shooting bays. We will also have 4 DIY Shooting Bays with different lights and gorgeous Oliphant backdrops where you can have your portrait taken by one of your newfound friends. We have some makeup artists on hand who are offering hair and makeup services so you can get glammed up—go to our event Facebook group and find Denise Black, Saray's Glam Squad, or find mentor Cat Ford Coates or Felicia Reed (their amazing hmu people will be at the event and may be able to help you if they still have seats open).

Mentor One-on-Ones: You will be able to meet with The Portrait System team of elite mentors and ask them anything about photography and the business of photography. If you would like a quick portfolio review, bring a few of your best images on your phone and your questions.

We also have a Post Production bay where highly esteemed photographers Richard Wood, Pratik Naik, and Alana Lee will be giving editing demonstrations Tues-Thurs.

We also will have a printing bay courtesy of DNP Photo so you can make a print of an image you created either from the curated bays or from the DIY bays—a really cool personal souvenir of this event!

SHOOT & SHOP ETIQUETTE

Attendees cannot save spots in any of the lines for their friends in the Shoot & Shop area. Attendees must be respectful of all other attendees, staff, models, mentors, vendors and hotel staff at all times.

While in a shooting bay, only one person will photograph the model at a time. When multiple people try to photograph the model, you're potentially distracting the model and the photographer who's turn it is to shoot. You can take BTS for the photographer who's turn it is to photograph the model, but please do not shoot over their shoulder.

Respect their time.

Attendees may not touch models, or photograph them outside of a shooting bay or touch lights in the shooting bays.

Should anyone witness any line jumping or seat saving, please do not confront the individual/s—alert the nearest staff member. We want everyone to have a safe, hospitable experience at our talks and anyone who does not act in accordance with these guidelines may be asked to leave the event.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR SHOOT & SHOP MAP

SHOOT & SHOP

TPM BAYS

HOURS: 1:30PM TO 6:00PM



SEPTEMBER 12TH, 13TH, 14TH

2023

DINING OPTIONS

Explore the resort's dining options for a taste of local cuisine and international flavors. You can get a ride on one of their golf carts to all three of their restaurants if you call the front desk.

Rustler's Rooste: This is a Western-style steakhouse known for its cowboy-themed decor, live entertainment, and panoramic views of the city. They serve steaks, ribs, and a variety of Southwestern dishes.

Aunt Chilada's: Aunt Chilada's is a Mexican restaurant offering a range of traditional and contemporary Mexican cuisine. You can enjoy dishes like tacos, enchiladas, and margaritas in a colorful setting.

Lobby Grill: The Lobby Grill is a more casual dining option within the resort, serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner. It offers a menu featuring American classics, including burgers, sandwiches, and salads. Will also offer a breakfast buffet Monday 9/11/23-Friday 9/15/23.

Oasis Bar & Grill: Located within by the Oasis Water Park, this bar and grill offers poolside dining with a menu that includes burgers, sandwiches, and refreshing drinks. Need to be hotel guest to access Oasis Water Park.

Marketplace Café: The Marketplace Café is a great spot for quick, casual bites. It serves coffee, pastries, sandwiches, and salads.

Room Service: The resort likely offers room service for guests who prefer to dine in the comfort of their rooms. The menu may vary depending on the time of day.

We will also have food trucks available on Monday 11:30am-2:30pm for lunch and 5:00pm-7:30pm for dinner, and for 6:00pm-8:30pm dinner Tuesday-Thursday. There will also be a coffee cart in the mornings 7:00am-11:00am with coffee and donuts available for purchase. You can see the food truck lineup and their menus here:

streetfoodfinder.com/Arizona-Grand

Or scan the QR code with your phone's camera:



ADDITIONAL DINING OPTIONS

You can get meals delivered via all the popular apps (Doordash, UberEats, Grubhub, etc). However, you can only have the meals delivered to the hotel lobby for you to pick up. Delivery drivers are very prone to getting lost on the property, and you may never receive your food.

Groceries & Dining in Room

Each suite includes a small refrigerator and sink. A microwave can be rented by the day from the hotel based on availability (just call the front desk, and they will deliver it to your room). They also provide a small Keurig coffee maker with a few K-Cups.

If you wish to get groceries, you can download the popular app Instacart and choose from a wide variety of stores, including drug stores such as Walgreens and electronics stores like Best Buy. You must have your delivery sent to the hotel lobby.

There is a Fry's (a regional reputable grocery store) very close to the hotel. You can use a rideshare app (Uber, Lyft) to get there and back, or you can request a ride from the hotel front desk and the bellmen will give you a ride for a reasonable price.

PACKING & ATTIRE

We recommend that you bring layers—while it can be very hot outside during the day, the AC indoors can be a bit too much for people sensitive to cold. It can also get cool in the evenings.

We are encouraging everyone to dress “cocktail party” for the Monday evening Portrait Masters Awards Ceremony, pool/beach attire for the Tuesday night Pool Party, and bring your best Cruise Ship/Yacht Rock costume for the Wednesday night Silent Disco.

For the Thursday Night Closing Party, anything goes as long as it is tasteful. Make sure to bring a couple pairs of comfortable shoes and bandaids if you get blisters!

WELLBEING & SAFETY

Start hydrating before you arrive—if you are not familiar with the Arizona weather, hydration is extremely important. Along with water, we recommend supplementing with electrolytes (coconut water, sports drinks, or electrolyte packets) and be mindful of your caffeine and alcohol intake.

If you find yourself feeling nauseous and dizzy, those are the telltale signs of heat exhaustion. Please alert hotel security (call the front desk if you aren't feeling well) or a conference staff member if you feel ill or injure yourself. You can always email and let us know, too. Just please don't wait until after the event to let us know:

support@theportraitmasters.com

EMERALD COVID TERMS:

Attendee expressly agrees to fully comply with applicable CDC, state and local health official guidelines relating to all current health and safety measures and protocols (including those related to COVID, if any) required by Emerald and the venue for attendance at WPPI. Emerald reserves the right to remove any attendee from the event for failure to adhere to any such health and safety measures or other protocols for attendance at the event.

Covid-19: There are currently no regulations for Covid. If you want to wear a mask while at the event, just bring them along and you are welcome to wear them. We will have hand sanitizer near high traffic areas. If you start to feel unwell and think you may have Covid, please call the hotel front desk and let security know. (They will then contact our event planners, who will have a limited supply of Covid tests).

Chill Down Lounge: We will have a dedicated quiet room Mon-Thurs where you can go for a break if you don't want to return to your room. Please stay quiet while in the room with others—no conversations and if you use your phones, please wear headphones and keep the volume on low. Food is not permitted. This will be in Palms 2C, which is on the 3rd floor above the Arizona Grand Ballroom (accessible by elevator or stairs) and will be open Monday-Thursday from 10am-6pm.



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We want everyone who is attending our event to have a safe and enjoyable experience.

Should something undesirable happen, document as much as you can, and please contact hotel security immediately (call or text the front desk). If there is a staff member nearby please let them know. It is very important in circumstances like these that they are reported ASAP and during the event.

We hope you have a fantastic time at the 2023 Portrait Masters Conference. Enjoy the workshops, network with fellow photographers, explore the Shoot & Shop, and make the most of your experience at the Arizona Grand Resort and Spa.

See you in Phoenix!