

# NOVEMBER 2020



365 *Picture Today*

# 365 Picture Today!

## IT'S NOVEMBER!

The month we take a step back and think about things we are thankful for.

Even though 2020 has been a challenging year, there are still many things that have been blessings in disguise.

Did you find that in your photography, you took time to notice more. Did you find things closer to home or in your home to photograph that you wouldn't have without the stay at home order?

Sometimes having things removed, makes us appreciate them more. Did it make you appreciate the people in your life? Did it make you long to travel?

As we lead up to Thanksgiving, ponder the things that you are thankful for. Don't fall into the trap of lamenting what you don't have right now. Did you know that thankful people are happier people?

I once heard someone say "what if you wake up tomorrow with only the things you are thankful for today." Woaaaaaa. That hits the reset button, doesn't it?

I am personally thankful for you, the 365 Picture Today Community. This community became even more important to me as a daily constant. You were always there, day after day, cheering each other on. You stretched your creative muscles when you didn't feel like it. You showed patience to all of us on the creative team as we navigated the new group.

Thank you. Thank you for being here. Thank you for encouraging us. Thank you for sharing your life with us. You are very much appreciated here!

*Amy, Garnett, Kris and Lee*

## AND WE MADE IT!

By the time you are reading this, The 365 Picture Today Team has completed a year of blog posts, twelve monthly e-books, and 366 daily prompts.

Creating and sustaining 365 Picture Today through 2020 has not been without some challenges, but the successes and joy we have found in this community have far outweighed the difficult days. With a year now under our belt, we are looking forward to another year of sharing a photo a day with each of you!

We have learned a few things this year and will be making some changes in 2021. Don't worry! Nothing drastic. We took to heart the responses that so many of you kindly shared with us on our survey so you will see some of those ideas reflected in 2021.

Most importantly, the 365 Picture Today Team would like to scream a big "THANK YOU" to all of you who have been a part of this community. We took a leap of faith in creating the group and you all trusted us to guide you through a year of documenting your life with a photo a day. Having the friendships and "normalcy" of this group to turn to each day have made this wild and wacky year a bit easier to manage.

We wish you all a happy and healthy final couple months of 2020. We are looking forward to a fresh start in January.



## NOVEMBER 1 Brush Day

Today is National Brush Day! The day comes after Halloween for a reason. Normally (in years without COVID-19), there is a lot of candy consumed. It makes sense to encourage teeth brushing after such a day.

As you think of composing your photo today, there are many ways to approach it. You can use leading lines using the brush or the paste, you can take a macro and get in close with the details, you can take a portrait of yourself brushing your teeth, or even another person in the act of brushing.

If the prompt doesn't speak to you, think of other brushes you can use. Hair Brush, Pet Brush, Pastry Brush.... approach the prompt in the way that works for you.

Garnett



## NOVEMBER 2 Color the World Orange Day

The first Monday in November is dedicated to bringing awareness to Complex Regional Pain Syndrome and Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy with Color the World Orange Day. According to the National Day Calendar, Complex Regional Pain Syndrome and Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy (CRPS) involve high levels of nerve impulses sent to an affected site in the body. Medical experts believe the condition is a result of a dysfunction in the central or peripheral nervous system.

So today, look around for orange. Maybe you still have your Halloween pumpkin leftover. You might have bright orange leaves on your trees. Maybe you have some Oranges (fruit) hanging around. You may decide to look for a beautiful orange sunrise or sunset.

Let's color the day orange!

Garnett



## NOVEMBER 3 Sandwich Day BLACK & WHITE

It's National Sandwich Day! It's also B&W prompt day.

Think about stacking today... find things that have layers, or can be stacked and get creative with your composition. This is a great day to look for textures.

So whether you photograph a sandwich, or something that is sandwich(ed), or an item that has layers, think about the best way to compose in B&W to really highlight the textures.

Garnett



#### NOVEMBER 4 Stress Awareness Day

Were you aware that today is stress awareness day?

This year, of all years, has proven to be more stressful than most for many of us.

Let's look around today for something that can make us laugh or smile. It may be a funny situation or object, or it may be a serious situation that you can look at from a humorous point of view. Maybe it's someone or something that made you laugh or smile.

Adding text to photos is a good way to change context and bring a laugh or two.

Garnett



#### NOVEMBER 5 Doughnut Day

Can you believe there are 2 doughnut days? There is one in June and also this one in November.

Look around today for interesting circles. If you have doughnuts on hand, perfect. If you don't have them, or don't want to be tempted by them, then concentrate on circles or round objects for your photo.

If you decide to photograph an actual doughnut, you have my permission to eat your prop!

Garnett



#### NOVEMBER 6 Saxophone Day

According to the National Day Calendar, National Saxophone Day commemorates the birth of the woodwind's inventor, Adolphe Sax, on November 6th. The saxophone is one of the main instruments in jazz music.

As you think about your photo today, think about music. You can photograph musical instruments and other music makers, or you can photograph someone playing a musical instrument. You can also approach the prompt with other ideas.... CD's, Cassettes, Albums; Record Players; Speakers and other sound systems. You can photograph yourself or someone else singing. You can create something using song lyrics. You can add text of song lyrics to your photo. You can dance or photograph someone else dancing.

Take the prompt in any direction you wish.

Music is such a big part of our lives and is a great complement to the artistry of photography.

Garnett





NOVEMBER 7

## Bittersweet Chocolate with Almonds SELF PORTRAIT

Seriously? Who comes up with these days? I'm sorry I have to give you a food prompt on selfie day... but it was either that or get your photo with a bison on bison day! LOL

Chocolate it is!

Even though it is bittersweet chocolate with almonds day. Let's just keep it short and "sweet" and you can take a self-portrait with whatever treat you wish. You can use just a part of yourself (like your hands reaching for said treat); or you can do something off the wall like my sample photo.

Looking forward to seeing you in the gallery today!

Garnett



NOVEMBER 8

## Cappuccino Day

Cappuccino? Latte? Mocha? Sugar and cream? Black? In the morning? All day long? Never? How do you drink your coffee?

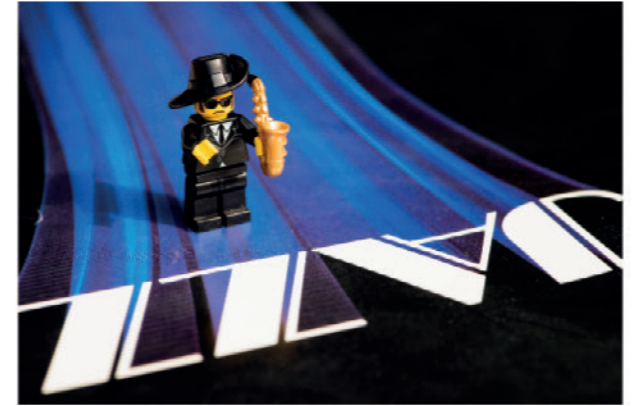
I love a good cup of coffee in almost any way, shape, or form and at any time of the day. Sometimes though, drive-through in a styrofoam cup is as good as it is going to get. That's OK, especially when that cup promises a good day!

As the weather is getting chillier here in the western hemisphere, many of us are giving up our cold drinks for hot ones. What is your favorite hot drink? Do you have a favorite cup or mug?

If it is too warm for a hot drink where you are, show us what you are drinking.

In your photo today, try to accentuate the temperature of the liquid in your cup in some way.

Kris



NOVEMBER 9

## Louisiana Day

Have you ever visited the state of Louisiana? What sticks out in your mind from that visit?

If not, what do you think of when someone says, "Louisiana?"

The French Quarter. Bourbon Street. Southern plantations. Hurricanes. Beignets. Crawfish.

As a musician, the first thing that I think of is blues and jazz.

If you live in or have visited the state of Louisiana, show us your impressions. If you have never been to this Gulf Coast state, what do you think of when you hear Louisiana. Photograph it today.

Kris



NOVEMBER 10  
**Forget-Me-Not Day**  
GUEST PROMPT

The Forget-Me-Not is a small simple flower with five blue petals and a yellow center. It is the state flower of Alaska, but alas we don't have many here in SoCal as they do better in moist climates. Today, I challenge you to remember someone special and include a Forget-Me-Not or a blue flower or a scene with the color blue that reminds you of them. And, extra points if you can honor a disabled veteran in your photo.

Why? Created in 1921, National Forget-Me-Not Day originally raised funds for services for returning injured soldiers from World War I.

On the technical side, you may wish to include an implied triangle in your image. Drawing an imaginary triangle helps the viewer connect to the the elements of the entire photo. I bet you often include this shape without even knowing it. Study your photos.

In my photo of the beach in Morro Bay, I am remembering my parents and my adventures with them. Dad and I went fishing there and the three of us went trailer camping at the state campground by this beach. I always reflect on our sweet family times when I travel to the Central California Coast with my husband.

Susan Blackburn



NOVEMBER 11  
**Armitice Day / Veterans Day**

Today is Veteran's Day in the United States, the day we honor all of the brave men and women who have served in the armed forces.

My dad was a career Naval officer. Through stories, I know that he was a hero to many for whom he served as commanding officer. Though I am grateful and proud of him for his service to the United States, he is a hero to me because he was an awesome dad.

Do you have family members or friends who have served in the armed forces? If so, create an image today that shows your gratitude for their service and sacrifices.

Or, photograph someone who has been a hero to you in your life.

Kris



NOVEMBER 12  
**Chicken Soup for the Soul Day**

Today's celebration gets its title from the popular 1990's series of books, Chicken Soup for the Soul. The books contained stories of ordinary people sharing "feel good" stories from their lives. On this day, we are encouraged to "celebrate who you are and how you get there. Take time to nurture your soul."

What really nourishes your soul? Spend some time today feeding the very essence of you. And when you are done, photograph it.

Kris



NOVEMBER 13  
**World Kindness Day**

I don't think that anyone will argue that the world needs a little, or maybe a lot, more kindness these days.

What does kindness look like to you?

When we take a photo, we are hoping that it will inspire an emotional response in the person or people who see it. We can't guarantee that the response of another will be what we hoped, but as artists, it is our responsibility to be intentional about the choices we make when we create a photographic image.

For me, this photo says kindness. To me, sunflowers are one of the happiest and most cheerful flowers. And, my daughter loves sunflowers and she is one of the kindest people I know!

Again I ask, what does kindness look like to you?

Kris



NOVEMBER 14  
**Family PJ Day**

Today is Family PJ Day...and for us here at 365 Picture Today, it is also a scavenger hunt day!

The Prompts are:

- Warmth
- Trees
- Faded
- Light
- Spiral
- Rest
- Water
- Window
- Plaid

You are on the hunt for nine photos. Have fun!

Bonus if you accomplish all of them while wearing your PJs!

Kris



NOVEMBER 15  
**Clean out your Refrigerator Day**  
 PICTURE YOUR DAY

Who knew there was a day set aside for cleaning your refrigerator! It is to encourage you to be prepared for the festive holidays coming up.

- Common tips on cleaning out the refrigerator:
- Emptying all shelves
- Wiping shelves down completely with safe cleaning products
- Emptying all drawers and washing them
- Getting rid of any items that do not get used
- Throwing out all expired food or items

Now that it is all clean and sorted, take some photos, inside the refrigerator! Be creative!

Lee





NOVEMBER 16

## International Day for Tolerance MACRO MONDAY

Every year on November 16th, the International Day for Tolerance generates awareness of the dangers of intolerance. Since the inception of this day, it's been the UN's goal to strengthen tolerance by fostering mutual understanding among cultures and peoples.

UNESCO views tolerance as respect, acceptance, and appreciation of the rich diversity of our world's cultures. It includes our forms of expression and ways of being human. Intolerance is just the opposite. Injustice, marginalization, and discrimination are all forms of intolerance. Much must be done to counter intolerance.

For the photo today we need a Macro, which is could be challenging to show tolerance. My photo is of some of the deconstructed Berlin Wall that went up the year I was born and knocked down the year my eldest son was born, and so it has meaning in our household. Let history teach us about how to go forward.

Photograph something small that shows our world's cultures, other than your own!

Lee



NOVEMBER 17

## Take a Hike Day

Take a Hike Day encourages us to get out there and hit the trails. Well I don't need any encouragement, I am out there most days taking a hike.

Hiking not only gets our hearts pumping and our muscles moving, but being outdoors is good for our minds. Many of us spend too much time indoors behind a desk. Hiking can burn between 400-550 calories per hour. What better way to get a head start on all those 'other' holiday temptations and observe Take a Hike Day?

The photo I took was exactly a year ago, there is still a lot of nature around to see.

Go for a walk and take notice of your surroundings, show us what you saw on your walk today.

Lee



NOVEMBER 18

## Mickey Mouse Birthday

On November 18th, Mickey Mouse Birthday commemorates the debut of a lovable mouse that was once a rabbit called Oswald. His character got his start on film on November 18, 1928, but before that, the story begins in 1927, when Walt Disney first sketched a floppy-eared bunny while under contract to Universal Studios. The events that unraveled brought us Mickey Mouse.

So get your toys out today and have a party, show us your photos of the fun.

Lee





NOVEMBER 19  
**World Toilet Day**

This is an important day for a lot of un-developed countries. The goal of this day is to tackle the global sanitation crisis and draw attention to those without sanitation.

Reading the information on this day, it said not to use bathroom humour and it is no laughing matter; but, sometimes humour spreads the message. It is up to you how you choose to mark this day.

I decided to go out into the street and find a man hole with the cover for the pattern it showed!

Lee



NOVEMBER 20  
**World Children's Day**

World Children's Day promotes the welfare of children around the world. The day also spreads awareness for issues that children face and celebrates international togetherness.

Human rights don't just apply to adults, they apply to children as well. Children deserve the right to life, health, education, and even the right to play. Additionally, children's rights include the right to family life, protection from violence, and not to be discriminated against. The child also has the right for their views to be heard.

I don't have any children that I can photograph. If you do, then all well and good, but for the rest of us, why not play with some crayons, they make for great photos!

Lee



NOVEMBER 21  
**Red Mitten Day**

National Red Mitten Day encourages Canadians to wear their Red Mittens in support for Canadian athletes! Red mittens represent the pride, generosity, and excellence of every Canadian.

Every Canadian from the sweetest newborn to the most experienced family member, wear your mittens with pride and support each athlete as they pursue their dreams!

Red is sometimes hard to photograph, it is good to use a grey card, or check the exposure in your camera and turn it down by -1.

Okay for the rest of us, if you don't have red mittens (like me) then let us photograph some red in support!

Lee



NOVEMBER 22  
**Cranberry Relish Day**

There is no denying Cranberry Relish is a seasonal staple and will be gracing a lot of plates by the end of the week! Do you have a favorite recipe you'd like to share or have you stocked up on your favorite brand...only jellied cranberry sauce from a can will do for my Dad!

Let's make it all about the berry today; cranberry, red or otherwise!

Amy



NOVEMBER 23  
**Espresso Day**  
COLOR DAY - BLACK & WHITE

Espresso's popularity around the world has extended far beyond the drink.

Espresso is no longer just about the caffeine fix! With its intense and bold flavor, as well as its health benefits, it's no wonder that espresso is part of many everyday foods and treats we enjoy. It adds a little something extra to bake goods, takes sauces to the next level, gives your smoothie a few more antioxidants, and even can be enjoyed frozen.

It is also COLOR DAY!

Consider incorporating the colors BLACK and WHITE into our photo.

Espresso has such a dark rich color that contrasts nicely against white so lets use that combination to our advantage.

Show us how you enjoyed a bit of espresso today!

Amy



NOVEMBER 24  
**Sardines Day**

When I saw today's focus was Sardines the first thing that came to mind was that saying "packed in like sardines."

Sardines make us think of a crowded space where everything is crammed, jammed and squished tightly together.

You can go literal with sardines or add a photography twist by cramming and jamming your photo full of things that give a glimpse of your day; like a still life, flat lay or selfie.

Depending on the tides our beaches can be packed with shells!

Can't wait to see the direction you take!

Amy



NOVEMBER 25  
Blasé Day

The definition of Blasé is being uninterested because of frequent exposure or indulgence. As 365 photographers many of us have experienced blasé photo days along the way.

For today, try to take a photo of something that excited you when you first started your photography journey.

For me it was crashing waves!

Amy



NOVEMBER 26  
Thanksgiving Day

It's Thanksgiving Day here in the US, an annual national holiday commemorating the harvest festival celebrated by the Pilgrims in 1621. It's a day to give thanks and express our gratitude for the preceding year.

For many, Thanksgiving will look very different this year. Spending time with family and friends may be done virtually. The feast may be a bit smaller than usual; but, have no fear, there are still plenty of traditions to be had and new ones to be made. Some of them could be watching the Thanksgiving Day parade, afternoon football, volunteering in your community or playing games across the miles. Not to mention all the apps that help us bridge the "Covid" distance.

So in the spirit of giving thanks - share something you are thankful for today!

Amy

365  
Picture  
Today

NOVEMBER 27  
Prompt Free

Today it's up to you... photographers choice!

Amy





NOVEMBER 28  
**Aura Awareness Day**

Aura Awareness Day promotes the physical and mental health effects of our auras by spreading awareness of the connection between mind, body and spirit. By the 19th century, the word Aura began describing a quality or feeling surrounding a person, place or thing.

Auras are represented by different colors each with it's own meaning:

- **Red** – fearless and passionate
- **Pink** – Deeply sensitive and gentle in nature
- **Orange** – creative and full of emotion
- **Yellow** – Confident and happy with high self-esteem
- **Tan** – Practical and detail-oriented
- **Green** – Natural born self-healers who are drawn to nature and animals
- **Blue** – Caring, nurturing, and protective
- **Purple** – Charismatic with a powerful personality
- **White** – Spiritually motivated, positive, and uplifting

The Photography angle for today:

Pick a color or colors that best represent you and your day!

I'm a combo of Tan, Blue and Pink!

Amy



NOVEMBER 29  
**Electronic Greetings Day**  
 PHONE PHOTO

Happy Electronic Greetings Day! Very convenient that this fell on Phone Day!

This day serves as a reminder as to how much things have changed. Technology has made things very convenient, hasn't it? But, in the process we have lost some of the decorum and "personal touches."

Since this is phone day, you can easily take a screen shot of the electronic greeting you send.

Go ahead... spread the love! Make someone smile today!

Garnett



NOVEMBER 30  
**Mason Jar Day**

While Mason jars started as a way to preserve the bounty of our gardens, these jars are versatile. They come in a variety of styles, both old and new.

Share with us all your favorite ways to use Mason Jars. Do you fill them with jams and jellies? Do you can items from your garden? Do you make candles? Store things in them? Use as a catch all?

Jars make great photography props. Consider creating a still life photo with a jar today.

If you don't have a mason jar, any jar will do!

Garnett

# 365 Picture Today

## NOVEMBER PROMPTS

- |    |   |    |   |
|----|---|----|---|
| 1  | Brush Day   | 16 | <b>Macro Monday</b> -Day for Tolerance        |
| 2  | Color the World Orange Day                              | 17 | Take a Hike Day                               |
| 3  | <b>B&amp;W</b> - Sandwich Day                           | 18 | Mickey Mouse Birthday                         |
| 4  | Stress Awareness Day                                    | 19 | World Toilet Day                              |
| 5  | Doughnut Day  | 20 | World Children's Day                          |
| 6  | Saxophone Day   | 21 | Red Mitten Day                                |
| 7  | <b>Self Portrait</b> - Bittersweet Chocolate & Almonds  | 22 | Cranberry Relish Day                          |
| 8  | Cappuccino Day  | 23 | <b>Color Black &amp; White</b> - Espresso Day |
| 9  | Louisiana Day   | 24 | Sardines Day                                  |
| 10 | <b>Guest Prompt</b> - Forget-Me-Not Day                 | 25 | Blasé Day                                     |
| 11 | Armitice Day / Veterans Day                             | 26 | Thanksgiving Day                              |
| 12 | Chicken Soup for the Soul Day                           | 27 | Prompt Free                                   |
| 13 | World Kindness Day                                      | 28 | Aura Awareness Day                            |
| 14 | Family PJ Day   | 29 | <b>Phone</b> - Electronic Greetings Day       |
| 15 | <b>Picture Your Today</b> - Clean out your Refrigerator | 30 | Mason Jar Day                                 |

# 365 Picture Today

## FALL IS ALL ABOUT CHANGING LIGHT

Not only do the shorter days give us fewer hours of light, it is a different light. And as the landscape changes colors, that light reflects differently on almost everything that we see. Fall light becomes a well-choreographed dance between light and dark.

When we think about light and dark in our photographs, highlights and shadows come to mind. Unfortunately, we can witness the beautiful interplay of light and dark with our eyes, work to set our cameras to capture it, only to be disappointed by the “flatness” of the image when we see it on the computer. This is because no matter how good a camera’s sensor, it is only going to see about half of the tonal variance that people see with their eyes. With the help of adjusting shadows and highlights during the editing process, we have a chance to bring some of that into our images.

Here are a few tips:

- Expose for the lighter areas of your image using a lower ISO.
- Lightening shadows is usually more successful than restoring highlights. Using a low ISO keeps your photo from being “noisy” when it is lightened.
- It is difficult to bring back any details in blown out areas of a photo.
- If you can, shoot in RAW and duplicate your background layer before making any adjustments.
- If after adjusting the highlights and shadows you are still not happy with your image, tweaking the contrast may give it the help that it needs.
- When in doubt, shoot too dark rather than too light.

Wherever you are, make sure that you take the time to slow down and enjoy the beautiful light that the changing season brings. This may even mean putting down your camera and capturing the image with only your eyes to create the lasting memory.

## PHOTOGRAPHY TIP OF THE MONTH

### WHITE BALANCE WITH KELVIN

Try taking your Camera off Auto White Balance and use Kelvin. For warmer colors use high numbers and for cooler colors use low numbers. Take the same shot with the different settings and see the difference!

## 365 Picture Today TEAM



**AMY**

**contact: amy@365picturetoday.com**

When it comes to post processing I use a variety of apps depending on the end result I'm trying to achieve. For quick edits and simple overlays I might use Snapseed or Photo Shop Express, to be a bit more bold and dramatic I might use Mextures or just for fun something like Waterlogue or Glaze.



**GARNETT**

**contact: garnett@365picturetoday.com**

I edit in almost exclusively in Lightroom and Photoshop. I use a variety of presets in Lightroom and then I tweak from there. I often finish in photoshop with textures. When I am on the go, I use Photoshop Express, Quickshot and Pixlr.



**KRIS**

**contact: kris@365picturetoday.com**

When I am in the mood to edit, I use Photoshop on my desktop computer. I try to get away with basic edits, but I will also use Photoshop actions when I am trying to achieve a specific look in an image. When I edit on my phone or iPad, I use Snapseed; or, if I want to have fun with the edits, I use Hipstamatic.



**LEE**

**contact: lee@365picturetoday.com**

I process most of my photos in Lightroom, only going into Photoshop if deemed necessary (very rarely). I use Photoshop for work, so not much pleasure in using for my own work. For my phone shots I mainly use Snapseed, Mextures, Prisma and Waterlogue.