The ninth annual “The Take a Shot!” digital photography contest received well over 100 online submissions this year capturing from many perspectives the diversity of people and cultures in our community as well as our city’s stunning natural landscapes.

In November judges (professional photographers and community leaders) selected winners from Ventura’s amateur and professional photographers in these six adult categories plus one youth category:

1. Environment — skylines, open spaces, beaches, parks & wildlife
2. Architecture — urban design, cityscapes, landmarks & infrastructure
3. People Portraits — of residents participating in city sponsored events & classes
4. Community Life — education, volunteer, street/nightlife, celebrations, arts & cultural scenes
5. Altered Images — photos manipulated for artistic purposes
6. Photo Voice — images illustrating a community issue or problem

Over 200 members of the public cast their own votes online to select their favorite “People’s Choice” awards. Judges included professional visual artists, educators and other community leaders.

The contest’s enduring popularity shows it is still a great tool for expressing community pride. All entries are eligible to be featured in citywide publication of print or electronic media with photo credit.

Enter the 2013 Contest
Starting January 1, 2013

Photographers may enter the 2013 contest starting January 1, 2013 following the guidelines at www.cityofventura.net/photocontest where the public may also view all of the current 2012 entries online.
Environment • 1st Place People’s Choice and Judge’s Choice
Denise Dewire: Lifeguard Shack

Environment • 2nd Place Judges’ Choice
Julie Demdam: New Year’s Day
Denise Dewire: San Buenaventura Mission at Night

John Ferritto: Tank

Ave Valencia: City Hall
People Portraits • 1st Place People’s Choice and Judge’s Choice
Nicole Messner: Fair Refreshments

People Portraits • 2nd Place People’s Choice
John Ferritto: Rodeo Rider
Community Life • 1st Place People’s Choice & Judges’ Choice (tie)
John Ferritto: Fair Fireworks

Community Life • 2nd Place People’s Choice
Sheila Piala: Ventura Marina

Community Life • Judges’ Choice (tie)
Jon Osumi: Fair Swing
Altered Images • 1st Place People’s Choice
Denise Dewire: Painterly Effect the Cross

Altered Images • 2nd Place People’s Choice & Judges’ Choice
Sheila Piala: Ventura Marina
Photo Voice • 1st Place People's Choice
Aysen Tan: Yes on Q

Photo Voice • 2nd Place People's Choice Judges’ Choice
Nicole Messner: Homeless Dog
Environment
Nadine Schenker: Sunset

Architecture
Connor Mazzola: Ventura Harbor

Community Life
Connor Mazzola: Water Taxi