

Honorable Mention Photography – Age 14-18
Benjamin Berkompas – Yacolt, Washington



Rufous Hummingbird

Equipment: Konica Minolta 5D, 100-400mm, tripod
Settings: 1/125, f10, 400mm, ISO 400, fill flash
Location: Our front yard (Yacolt, Washington)
Date/Time: 6/9/07 3:05 p.m.

Hummingbirds have always been a nemesis species for me, they're just so fast and uncooperative. On this particular rainy day, a male Rufous hummer kept revisiting a series of favorite perches in the bushes right next to our front porch. "Perfect," I thought, "He'll just keep coming back, and I can stay dry while I wait." After successfully camouflaging myself to look like something nobody would keep on their porch (he didn't know that), I tinkered with the flash settings until this little guy chose my target perch and voila!



Black-headed Grosbeak

Equipment: Konica Minolta 5D, 100-400mm, tripod

Settings: 1/125, f11, 250mm, ISO 400, fill flash

Location: Japanese maple in our front yard, (Yacolt Washington)

Date/Time: 6/10/07 2:53 p.m.

It was a wet day, so I was seated comfortable on the front porch enveloped in camo-burlap, waiting for the birds to find me. This gorgeous female Grosbeak fluttered into the Japanese maple about 10 feet away and eyed me suspiciously for a second before leaving, only allowing me to get one shot off. I love the subtleties of her plumage; she's certainly an underrated bird.