

# BROOKS INSTITUTE OF PHOTOGRAPHY

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OVER 60 YEARS OF VISIONARY EDUCATION

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## ***Vision of Ventura*** **Brooks Institute Students Provide New Look to the Marriott Ventura Hotel**

Santa Barbara, California -- June 4, 2007— A joint project between Brooks Institute of Photography and the Marriott Ventura Beach hotel will result in new photographs of local scenes being displayed in each hotel guestroom.

The Marriott sponsored "Visions of Ventura," a competition for Brooks Institute of Photography students. Photographers were invited to submit pictures based on the look and lifestyle of greater Ventura. By turning their cameras toward the architecture, the landscape, and life on the water, students were challenged to capture the essence of Ventura in photographs.

Twelve winning pictures were selected from more than 550 entries by 30 student photographers. The hotel will make 100 copies of each of the images, displaying them prominently in guestrooms throughout the hotel. Each selected image brings the photographer a \$500 scholarship from the Marriott. A private reception to be held at the hotel on Wednesday, June 13 will honor all of the Brooks photographers who participated in the project. Winning entries will be displayed for all to view.

Two pictures each were selected from the entries of Afton Almarez, Jason Bean, and Troy Harvey, who will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the Marriott. Six other students - Aaron Bickford, Genevieve Alvarez, Tom Baker, William Figg, Ricky Lesser, and Daryl Peveto - will each receive a \$500 scholarship for their winning photos.

The "Visions of Ventura" project arose via the collaboration of Roger Anderson, Brooks Institute Vice President of Operations, and Pat Seminario, the Marriott's General Manager. The hotel wanted to replace artwork throughout its facility with fresh images of the local area, creating the opportunity for a partnership with Brooks Institute. Students were invited to create pictures of the area and submit them for review.

Visual Journalism instructor Greg A. Cooper coordinated the project on campus. He collected the student pictures and suggested general procedures for selecting winning images. The hotel's administration then assembled a review team and made the final selections.

### About Brooks Institute

Brooks Institute of Photography celebrates more than 60 years of educating students in the visual and media arts. With campuses in Santa Barbara and Ventura, California, the school offers Bachelor of Arts degrees in fields including Professional Photography, Visual Journalism, Film and Video Production and Visual Communication, and a Master of Science degree in Photography. Brooks' graduates are visible nationally and internationally, working for distinguished organizations including National Geographic, Smithsonian, Los Angeles Times and other national media outlets, including Hallmark Publishing, Cousteau Society, HBO, Kodak and other industry leaders in the visual media arts fields. For more information about Brooks Institute and the school's programs, visit [www.brooks.edu](http://www.brooks.edu), or call 805-966-3888.