2017 UC Irvine Undergraduate Photography Challenge:

Reflecting on the Orange County Built Environment

The goal this year is to encourage you to look with greater alertness at the built environment around us and reflect on how it shapes—and is shaped by—human decisions and experiences.

You are asked to look thoughtfully at the Orange County built environment and reflect on its impact from an aesthetic, historical, ecological, sociological, psychological, design and/or economic viewpoint.

Why do some places lift your mood? Why do other places make you feel confined or irritable? What are the opportunity costs of one kind of land use decision as opposed to another?

Photographs of beautiful places such as the Mission of San Juan Capistrano are welcome. But we are also eager to see photographs of unexpected environments like rooftop dog parks that serve apartment dwellers, urban gardens, harbors, artful walkways, and small living spaces adapted to maximize both function and style. Introduce us to some secret local hideaways!

To enter, take your photograph and record a brief (1-minute) video, explaining why you chose this photo. What struck you about it? How might the scene you chose symbolize a larger issue or dilemma?

To get more details, submit your photograph and view other photographs that have been entered in the contest, please visit: http://indi.com/uciilluminations/builtenvironment

The winner of the first prize will receive $300 in bookstore credit, second prize will receive $200 and third prize will receive $100. Winners will be determined by an on-line campus-wide student vote. The last day to submit your photograph on-line is March 24, 2017 (the last day of winter term).

A juried exhibit of photographs, chosen by faculty, will be held in the UCI Student Center on May 14-27. (Winning photographs will be framed free-of-charge and returned to the photographer after the exhibit.)