

# Sierra Club

## Photo NYC Newsletter

January 2026 ♦



New York City Hall © Marek Dudek

### Here's what's to come!

Hello everyone, we hope you all had a nice holiday season and a happy new year!

In this month's issue, we will discuss some new changes we are incorporating based off our members survey.

We will also discuss our upcoming speaker Benjamin Forbes, and how he uses photography as conservation tool.

Lastly, Charles has planned some outings for us in January, keep reading to find out more.

In this newsletter  
you can expect:

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Speaker Event

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## Upcoming Speaker Event

### **Benjamin Forbes – Photography as a Conservation Tool Tuesday, January 20<sup>th</sup> - In-person & on Zoom**

Benjamin Forbes is a wildlife and conservation photographer working closely with the NYC Plover Project and the National Park Service to support the protection of endangered shorebirds along New York City's beaches. In this presentation, Benjamin will share images and field stories from several years of working on the front lines of urban wildlife conservation, with a focus on Piping Plovers and other coastal species.

He will discuss how photography is used not only to document wildlife behavior, but also to support outreach, education, and on-the-ground conservation efforts involving beachgoers, anglers, and local communities. Through a series of case studies, Benjamin will explore the role photographers can play in conservation work, covering ethical field practices, storytelling choices, and the challenges of working in heavily populated environments where people and wildlife intersect. This talk will be of interest to photographers looking to deepen the purpose behind their work, and to anyone interested in how photography can contribute to protecting wildlife in urban landscapes.

**Tickets for the event can be purchased on [HERE](#), with suggested donation of \$8.**



All photos © Benjamin Forbes  
Plover Projects [Website](#)

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## Member News

### **Outings**

Thank you to everyone who showed interest in helping run future outings. In the new year, Charles will put together a Zoom meeting for all volunteers to connect. If you would still like to participate, it is not too late. Just send Charles an email at [cdexter337@aol.com](mailto:cdexter337@aol.com).

### **Exhibition Committee**

If you volunteered to be part of the exhibition committee, Linda Buongermino will be organizing Zoom meetings in the new year. If you would still like to be involved, please email Linda at [lindabuongermino@gmail.com](mailto:lindabuongermino@gmail.com).

### **Peer to Peer Help Sessions**

In the new year, we will be putting together new peer to peer help sessions over Zoom. These sessions will be a place for members to help fellow members with topics ranging from Lightroom and Photoshop support to camera setup and workflow questions. This group has a lot of collective knowledge, and these sessions will be an opportunity to share it with others.

### **Short Form Video**

We are looking for anyone with experience in video editing who would be willing to volunteer their time to help create 30 second video trailers for our speaker events. These videos can be used to help attract new members and give people a better sense of what our speaker events are like.

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## Members Exhibiting

If you have will be exhibiting any of your work soon, please email the exhibition information to [info@sierraphotonyc.com](mailto:info@sierraphotonyc.com) for it to be added here in this section of our newsletter.

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## Upcoming Outings

Outings outside of city require carpooling. Call Leader Charles Dexter, 917-593-8381 for car meet up locations and to offer help with carpooling. City outings are “meetup” only, accessible by public transportation.

### **January 8, 2026 - Thursday, Central Park:**

Explore the Rowing Lake, the Bow Bridge and the Ramble (hopefully there will be snow)!

Details: Meet 12:45 pm at the West 72nd St. and Central Park West pedestrian entrance. Shoot until dark (about 5:00 pm), early dinner afterward. Reach location via subway lines B or C or bus M10, all to West 72nd St. See <https://centralparknyc.org> for maps and information.

### **January 22, 2026 - Thursday, Battery Park, NY and Staten Island:**

Ferry Round Trip Explore Battery Park, lower Manhattan and ride the Staten Island Ferry out and back. Photograph late afternoon city skyline & harbor views. Dinner in NYC afterwards. Meet: 12:45 pm outside the Whitehall – South Ferry Subway exit (N, R and W trains) in front of the Staten Island Ferry Terminal at Whitehall and South Streets. [Google Map Link](#) The Staten Island Ferry: [Website](#)



Mother of Pearl © Benito Sim

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## Conservation

One of the big takeaways from our members survey was an interest in conservation. So we are excited to announce a new section of our newsletter. If you are part of a local conservation group and would like to share the work you do with other Sierra Club Photo NYC members, please email the information to [info@sierraphotonyc.com](mailto:info@sierraphotonyc.com) so it can be added to this section of our newsletter.



Mother of Pearl © Charles Dexter

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## Information / Contact

### **Stay Up-To-Date:**

The fastest way to receive our news and updates is by following our website. At the very bottom of the homepage on our website, on the right-hand side, look for the word 'Subscribe'. Click on it, then simply enter your email.

### **Questions?**

All questions should be sent to [info@sierraphotonyc.com](mailto:info@sierraphotonyc.com)

### **Meeting Registration:**

Advanced registration is required for all meetings, with a suggested donation of \$8.00 at the time of reservation. You'll need to create an [Eventbrite](#) account with your email and password, if this is your first time using it. You can also visit the Sierra Photo NYC Eventbrite page, [HERE](#) to reserve tickets to future meetings.

Unless otherwise noted, all meetings, including in-person ones, are broadcast via Zoom. On the meeting date, Eventbrite sends two emails to ticket holders: one two hours before and another at the start time, both with the meeting Zoom link. Be sure to sign in to your Eventbrite account in advance. Meetings start at 6:30 pm, with the presenter beginning at 7:00 pm. For in-person attendance, present your Eventbrite confirmation email upon arrival at SVA.

### **Add Your Name to our Members Log**

1. Click [HERE](#) to access our active members log.
2. Fill your name, last speaker event attended, sierra club ID number and expiration date.
3. If you are an active Sierra Club Photo NYC member, the last column will turn green, and state "active member". If you are not, it will stay red and indicate "non-active member".

### **Please share your nature photos with us!**

#### **Instagram:**

1. When creating a new post, click on "Tag people"
2. Then tap on your photo for the search bar to appear.
3. Lastly, type in and find Sierra Club Photo NYC. Click the name to officially tag us.

#### **Facebook:**

1. Post your photos on the group page, Friends of Sierra Club Photo NYC
  2. Wait for a moderator to accept and post your photo.
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# Information / Contact

## Joining Us In Person?

### School of Visual Arts

132 West 21st Street, Room 418F, 4th Floor  
New York, NY 10011

### Transit:

1 train to 23rd Street

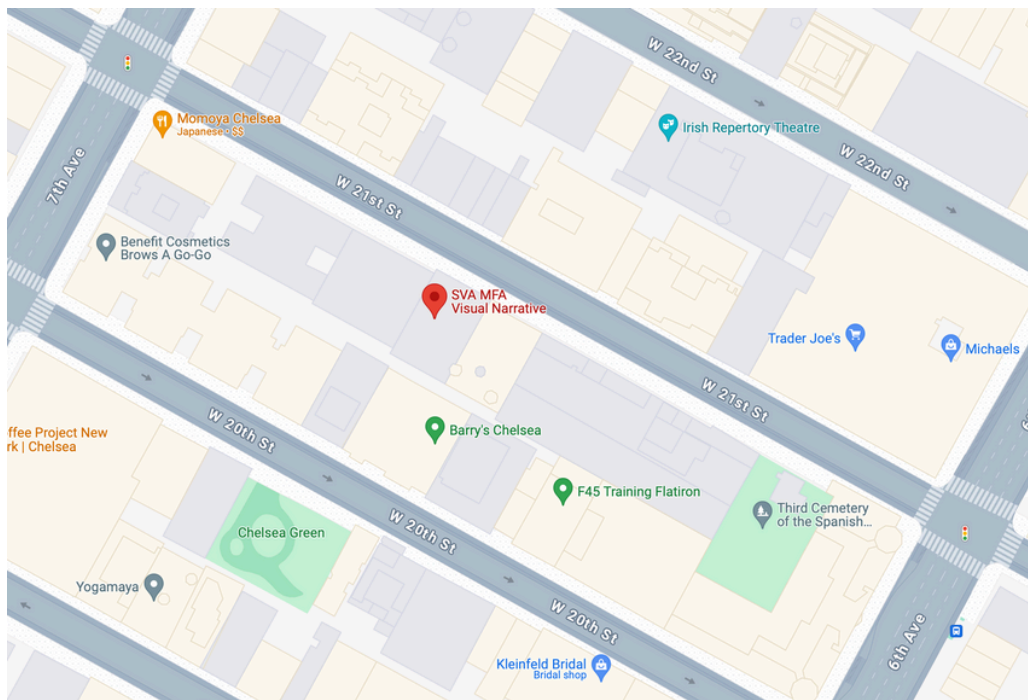
F/M train to 23rd Street

C/E to 23rd Street

M7/M55 Bus to 6th Ave & West 20 Street

Doors open at 6:30pm, program starts at 7:00pm

\$8 suggested donation though Eventbrite





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### **Sierra Photo NYC Board**

Michael Cordone - Chairperson / Newsletter

George Courtney - Eventbrite

Charles Dexter - Outings

William King - Art Director / Speaker Coordinator

Harvey Kopel - Treasurer / SVA Contact

Nancy Langer - Speaker Coordinator

Peggy Wortman - Email Communications

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Kathryn Fortuno - Website

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### **Exhibition Sub-Committee**

Linda Buongermino - Chairperson

### **Meeting Schedule for 2025/'26**

January 20<sup>th</sup> - **Benjamin Forbes** - In-person & Zoom

February 17<sup>th</sup> - **Lori Lankford** - Zoom only

March 17<sup>th</sup> - **Kah-Wai Lin** - In-person & Zoom

April 14<sup>th</sup> - **Gillian Overholser** - Zoom only

May 19<sup>th</sup> - **Douglas Dubler** - In-person & Zoom

June 16<sup>th</sup> - **Members Night** - Zoom only

<b>SIERRA PHOTO NYC LINKS</b>
<a href="#"><u>Website</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Eventbrite</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Instagram</u></a>
<a href="#"><u>Facebook</u></a>
<a href="mailto:info@sierraphotonyc.com"><u>Email: info@sierraphotonyc.com</u></a>