

A Visual Diary

Living Under **Covid-19**

College of San Mateo Photography Department

Introduction

Capstone is a term from architecture referring to a wedge-shaped stone at the apex of a masonry arch. It completes construction.

The term is also used in education to indicate a crowning achievement. After seeing the dedication and steady improvement of the class this semester, amid upheaval on all levels, I've decided that we need our capstone.

When face-to-face learning was replaced with online instruction early in the semester, faculty and students were confronted with a daunting challenge: how to complete a portfolio of 12 prints while working online without access to our darkroom or digital lab.

A new assignment was born: "Life Under Covid-19, A Visual Diary," first suggested by photography professor Paul Van Slambrouck. Students were asked to describe this "new normal" in images. They made weekly submissions that since March 17 have totaled nearly 3000 photos.

In this book we demonstrate how students respond when assignments are directly related to the lives they are living.

These students have shown remarkable resilience and collaboration in creating something special that will stay with them as a record of this significant period in history.

Richard Lohmann
College of San Mateo
Photography Department

Students

Alejandra Dominguez Perez ([72](#))

Alexander Loeffler ([43](#))

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Xu Feiling ([29](#))

Zhiyu Wang ([61](#))



Alia Kind



Kelly Ng



CheyAnne Brown



Tiffany Stebner



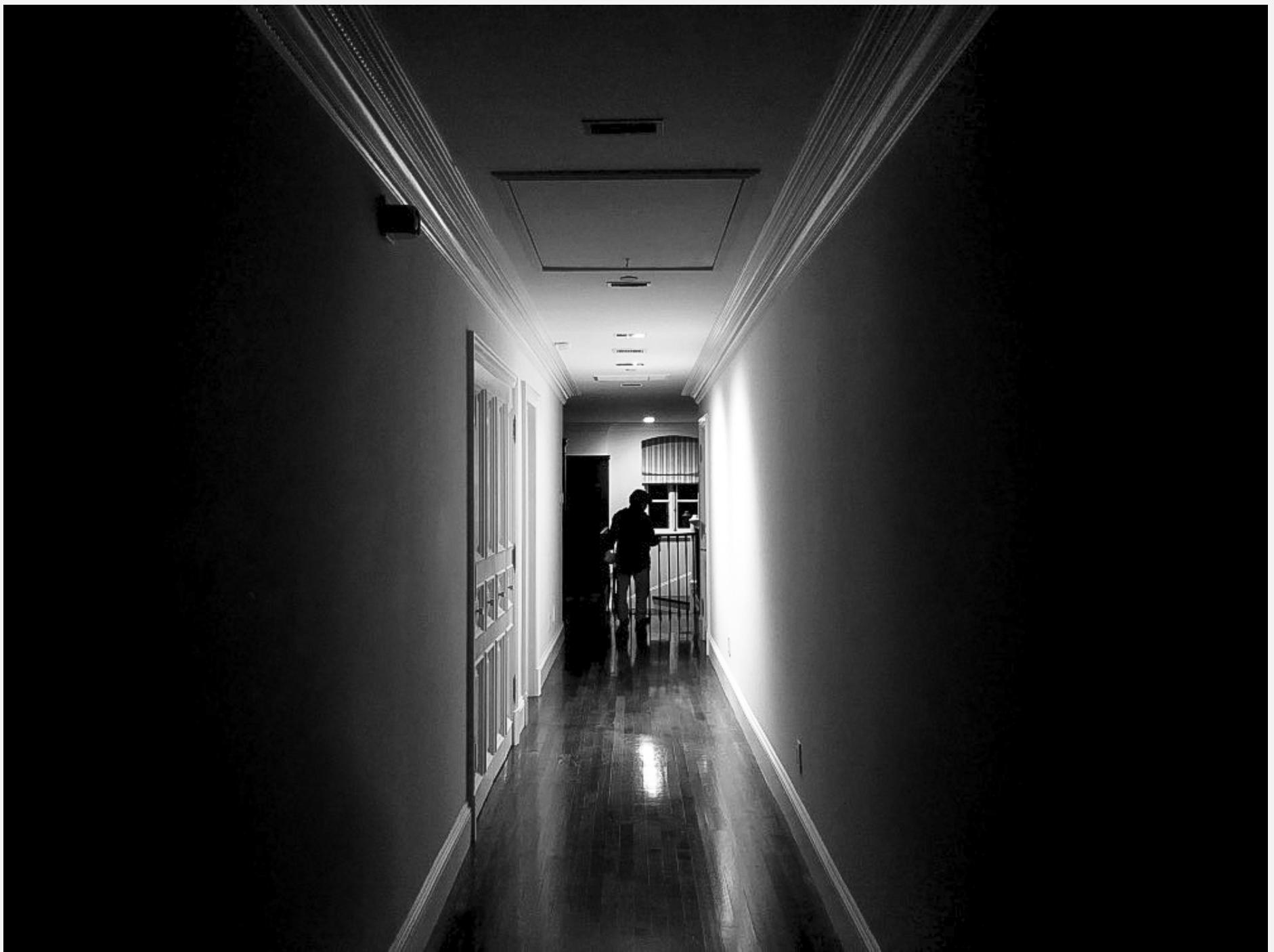
Kelly Ng



Kelly Ng



Ryan Bisso



Pierre Mazon



Tiffany Stebner



Jayna Swami



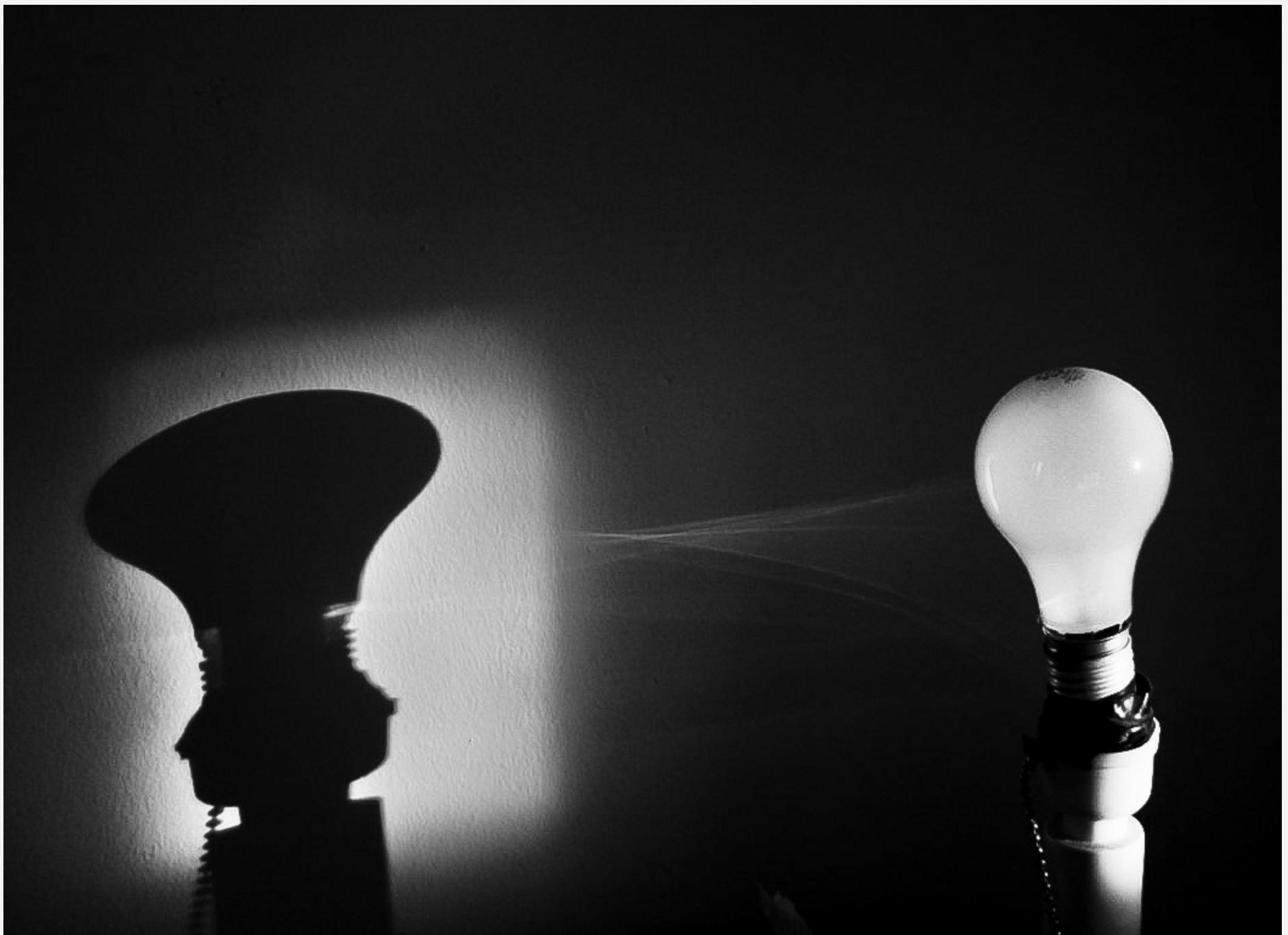
CheyAnne Brown



CheyAnne Brown



Ben Eloy



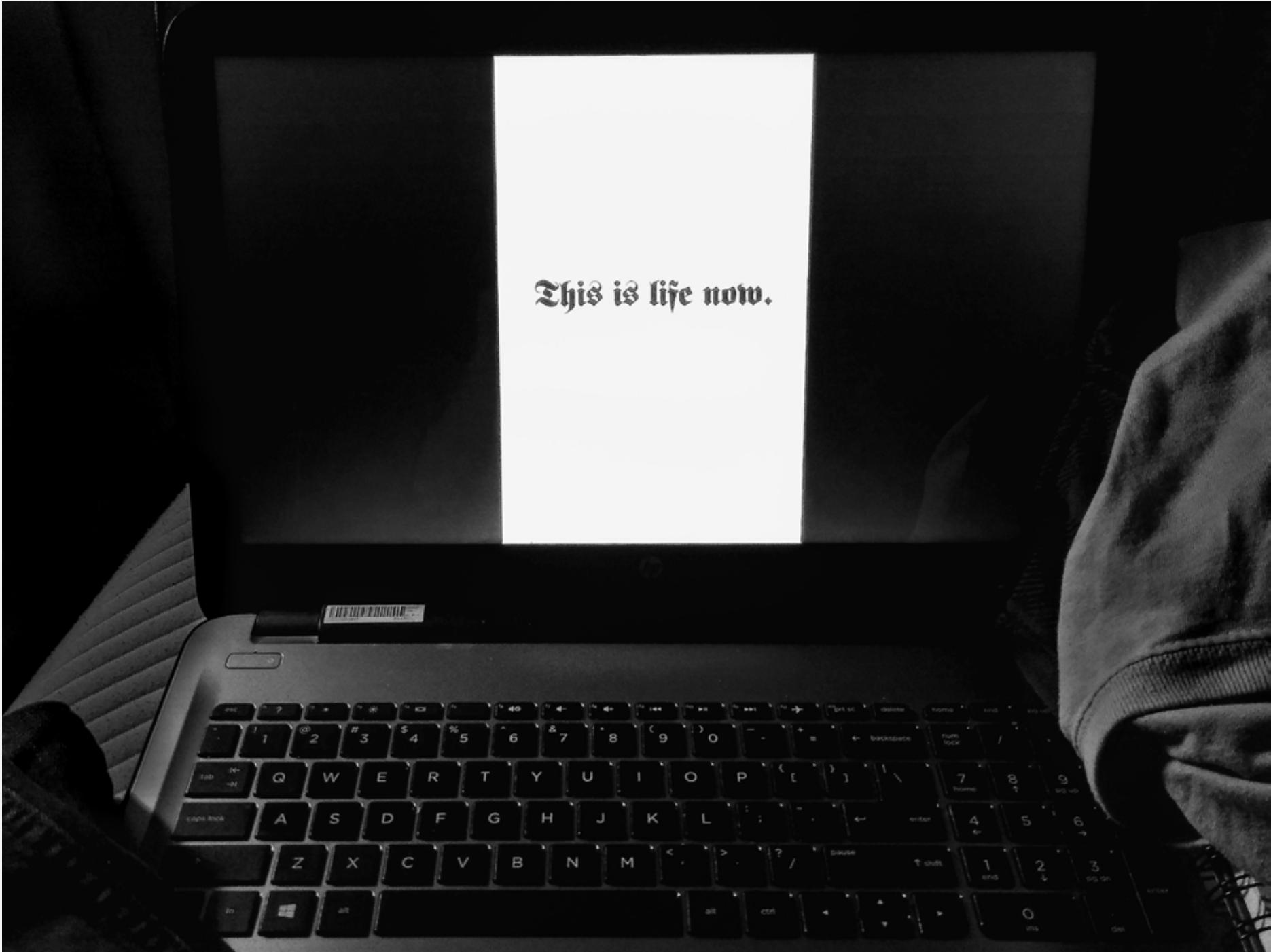
Charles Vogt



John Crowell

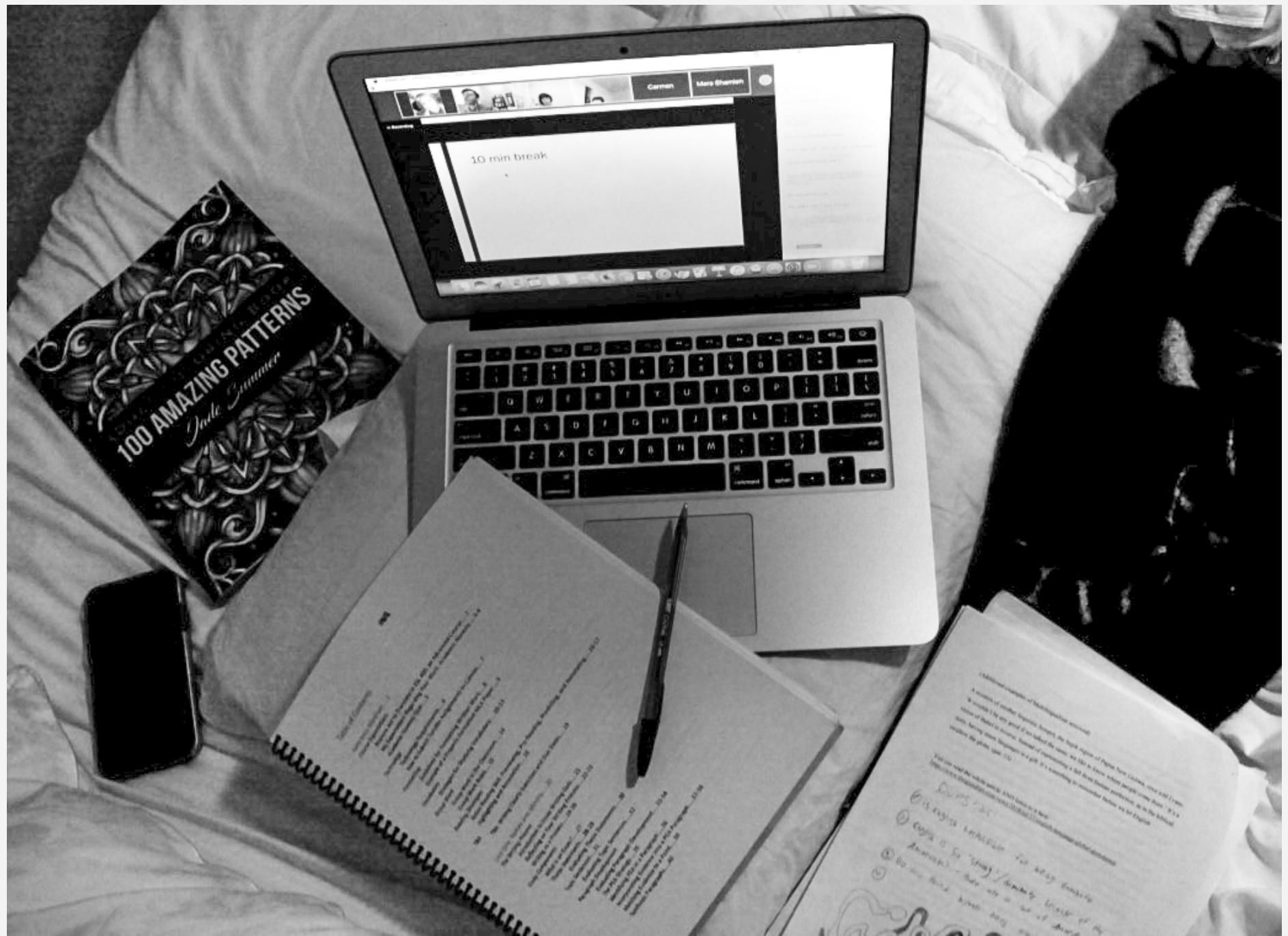


Ian Petrola

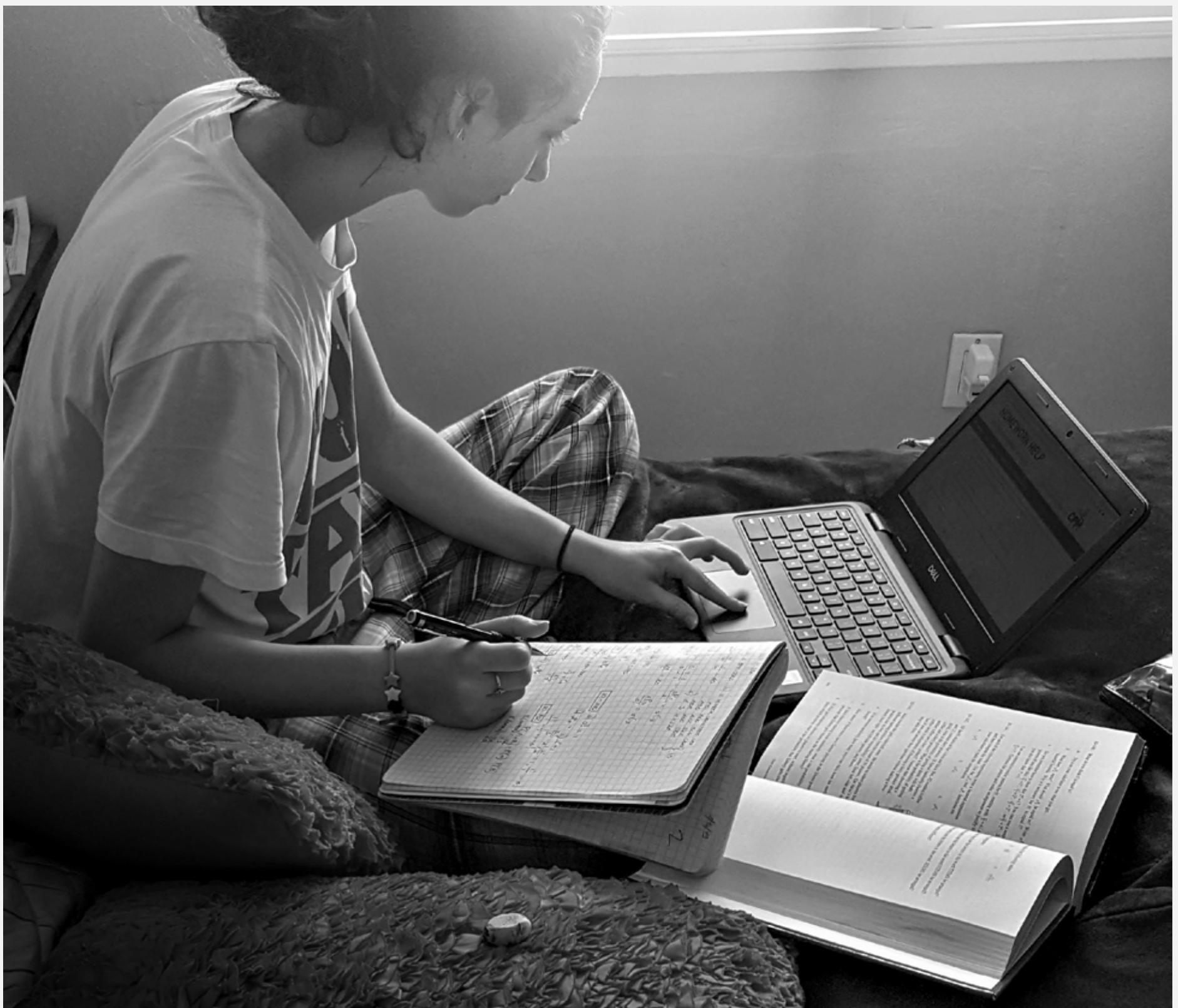


This is life now.

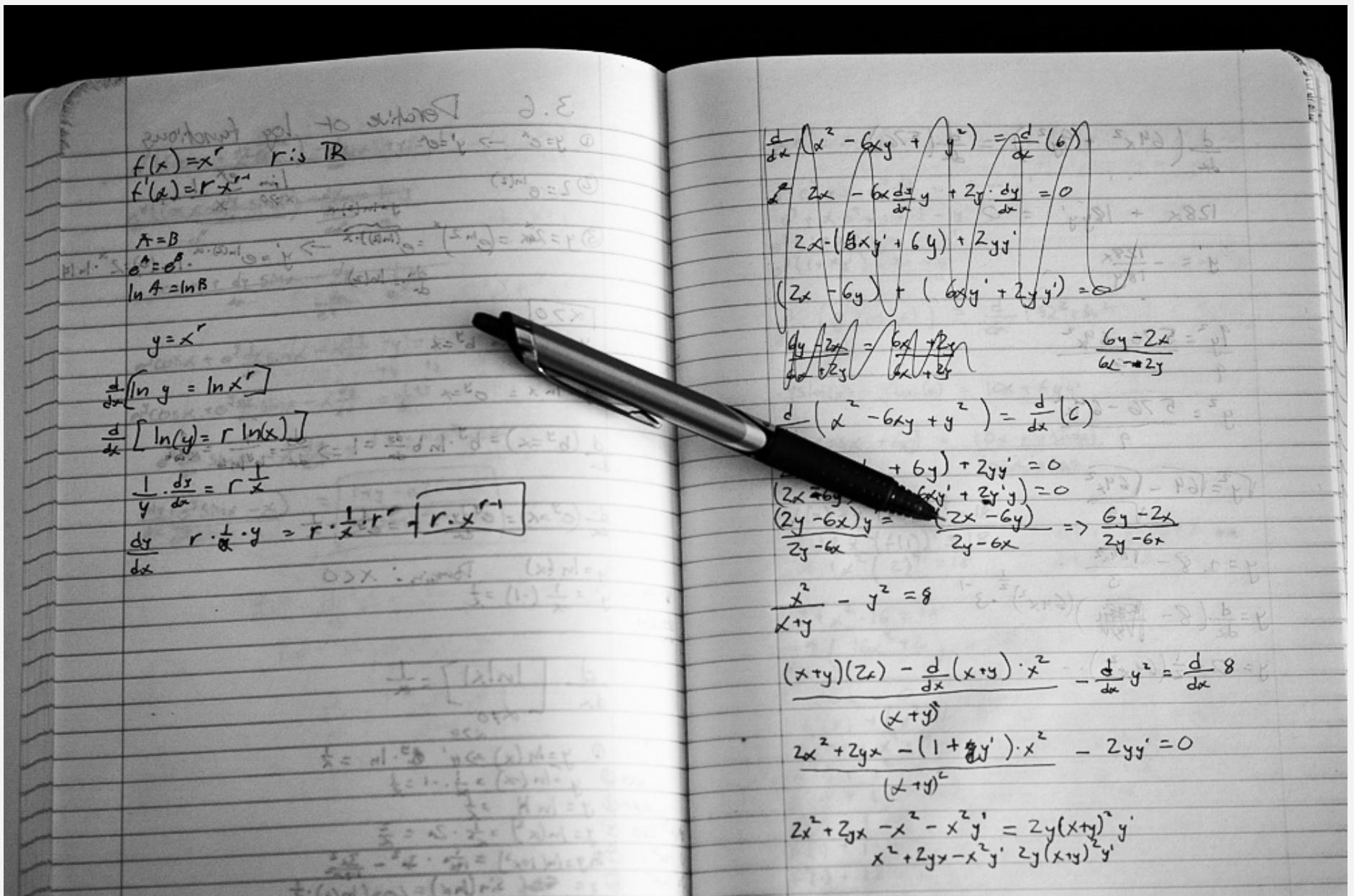
Anthony Guardado



Gal Zigdon



Ryan Bisso



Noa Mandorf



Tiffany Stebner



Noa Mandorf

The Living Under Covid-19 assignment required me to sit with my feelings. This was something I had been avoiding and it was a challenge to communicate my emotions visually. One evening while I was sitting in front of my computer, I suddenly felt overwhelmed by the state of the world and realized that documenting this moment was what the assignment was about. From that point on I tried to channel my feelings through the lens of my camera. I heard somewhere that we are all grieving for how our life has changed now that coronavirus is a reality. I can relate to that. I have felt denial, sadness, anxiety and frustration from having to adjust to the new norm. It has been a daily practice to get closer to acceptance, and with this assignment I found the resiliency of the human spirit.

Electra Field



Electra Field



Jackie Butterfield



Xu Feiling



Pierre Mazon

Since the shelter-in-place order was put in place, I have been at my parent's citrus ranch in the Central Valley. Unlike the city, there are no bustling streets or crowds, and there are few neighbors. Life doesn't change much in the rural setting, but it has allowed me to become more aware of my surroundings, turning everyday objects into things of beauty: windows, shadows, a basketball hoop. This extended period under the quarantine has given me the chance to evaluate my life and focus on what really matters most. Relationships, love, compassion, living in the moment and being your true self.

CheyAnne Brown



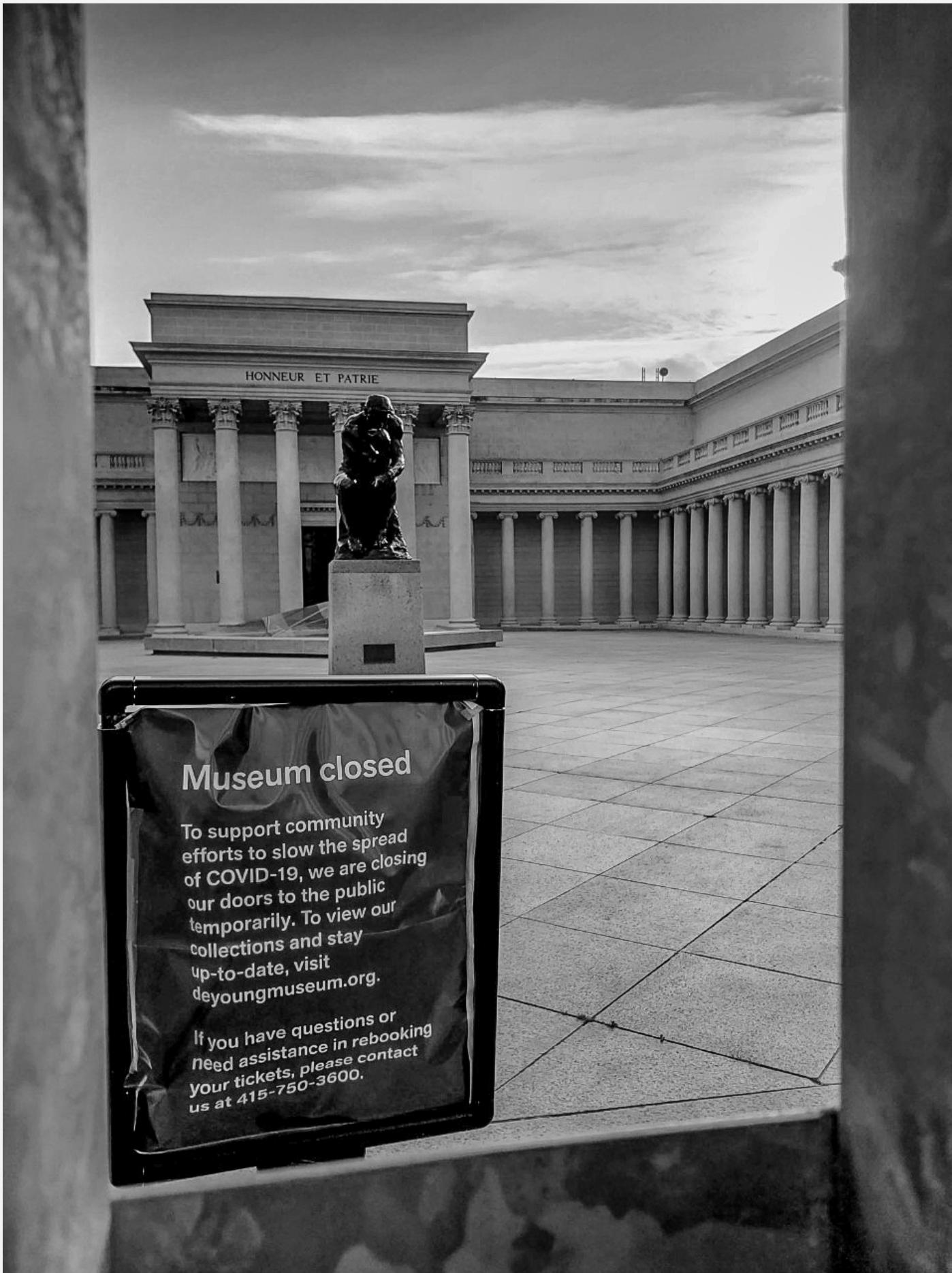
CheyAnne Brown



Lauren Miller



Aryeri Calderon



Jorge Quezada Flores

ARE YOU 5
MILES FROM
YOUR HOME?

SOUTH

CALIFORNIA
35

WEST

CALIFORNIA
92

TRACTOR-SEMI
OVER 30 FEET
KINGPIN TO
REAR AXLE
NOT ADVISED

NEXT 2 MILES

1399100

Jackie Butterfield



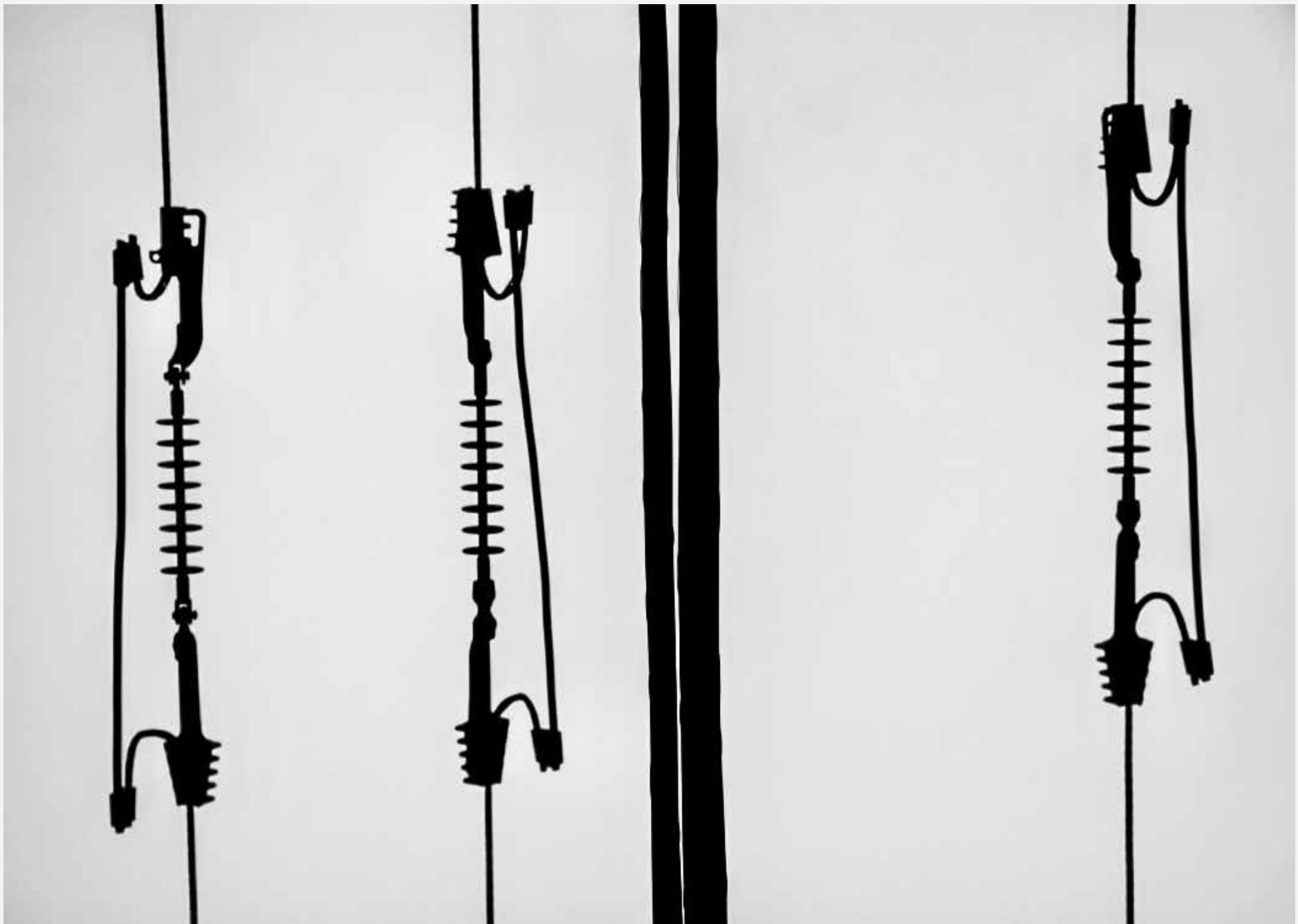
Robert Armero



Patches Lopez



Pierre Mazon



Gal Zigdon



Aryeri Calderon



Jayna Swami

Congrats!
Our Lady of Angels School

8th GRADE



2020



#thnx4thememories

Alexander Loeffler



Eric Lopez



Annastasia Misthos

The pandemic has settled down upon us: a frightening, mysterious, unwanted and uninvited intruder. Some of us only observe from a distance while some reach out to help others, and yet many are directly affected. One thing I know, it has touched everyone in some way. San Mateo has become a ghost town: empty streets, stores, tables, chairs, people few and far between. I wanted to show the life we live now and the jumble of emotions we are feeling: sadness, compassion, whimsy, humor, gratitude and hope.

Barry Fleisher



Barry Fleisher



Aryeri Calderon

What do photographers do when life comes to a screeching halt and time is suspended: days blending into weeks into months. We take shelter behind our cameras, documenting the strange new world around us.

Shauna Mullins



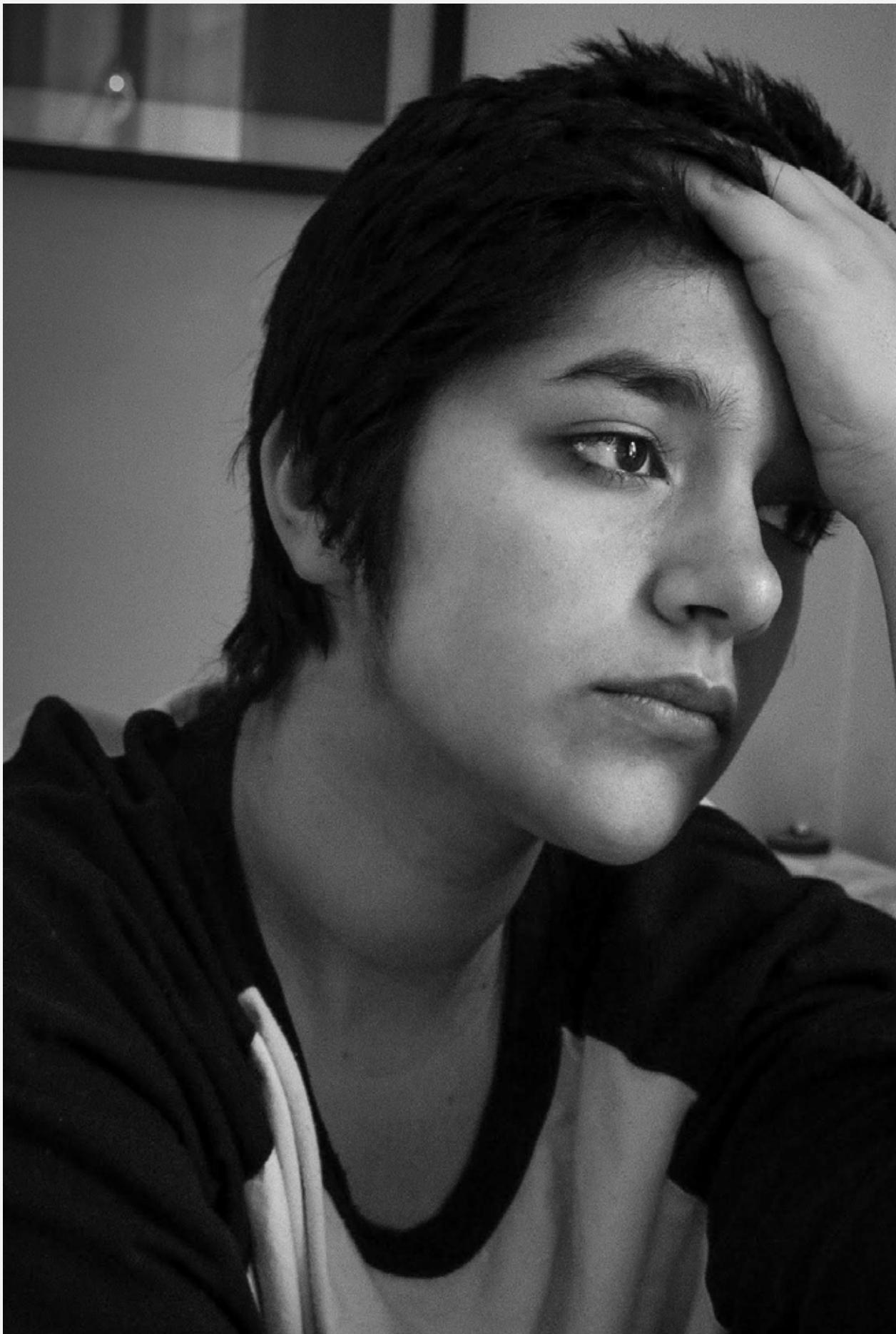
Shauna Mullins



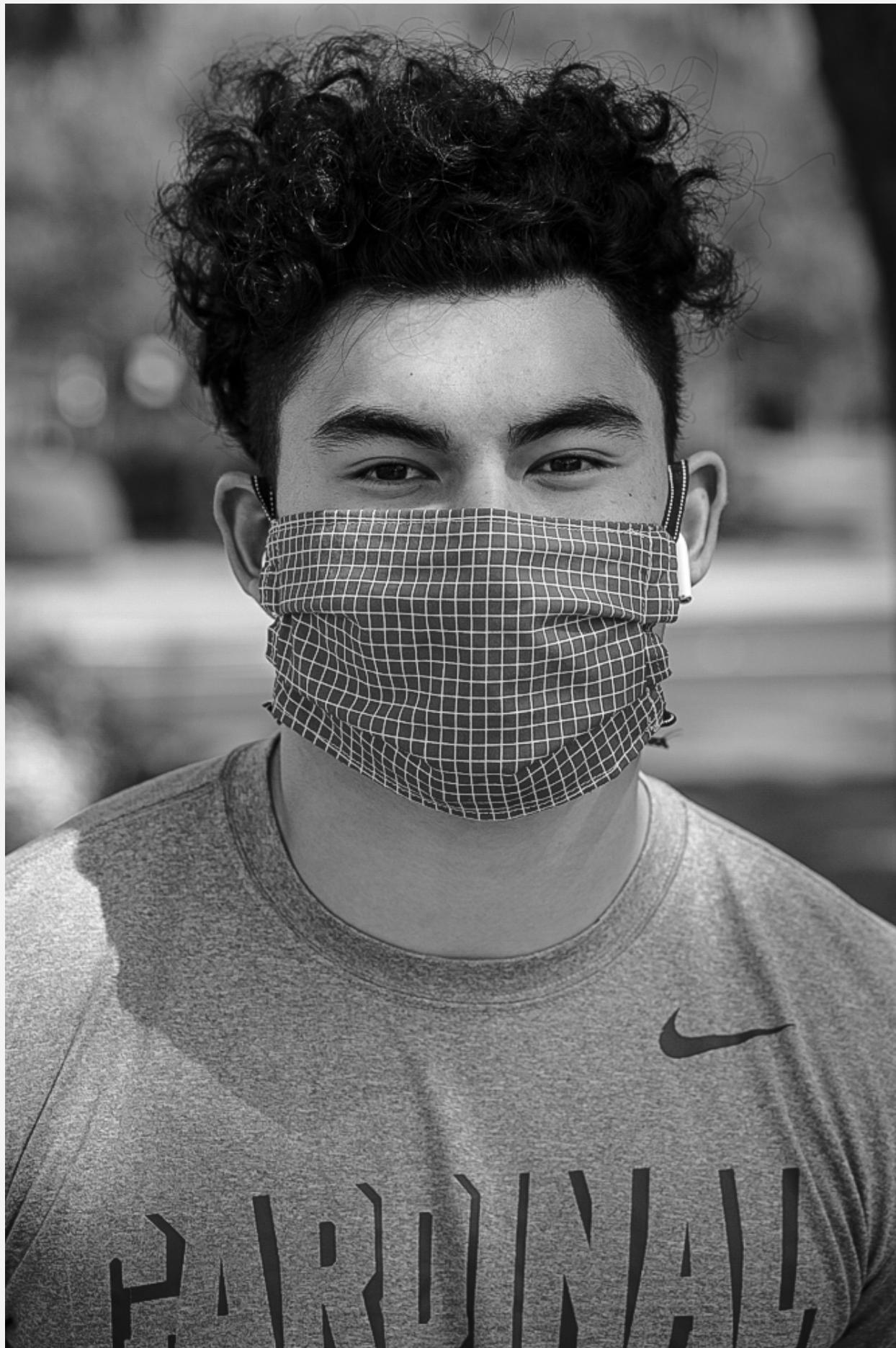
Shauna Mullins



Kelly Ng



Jayna Swami



Noa Mandorf



Ryan Bisso

Despite the risks, awkwardness and challenges, photographing during the pandemic has become very cathartic for me; giving me a sense of purpose to go out every day and capture the mood of the community. During my walks I have come across scenes I never would have imagined and found hidden beauty in small displays of inspiration. This has helped me better understand the many ways we are all processing the emotions we are feeling, and that has motivated me to keep reaching for my camera.

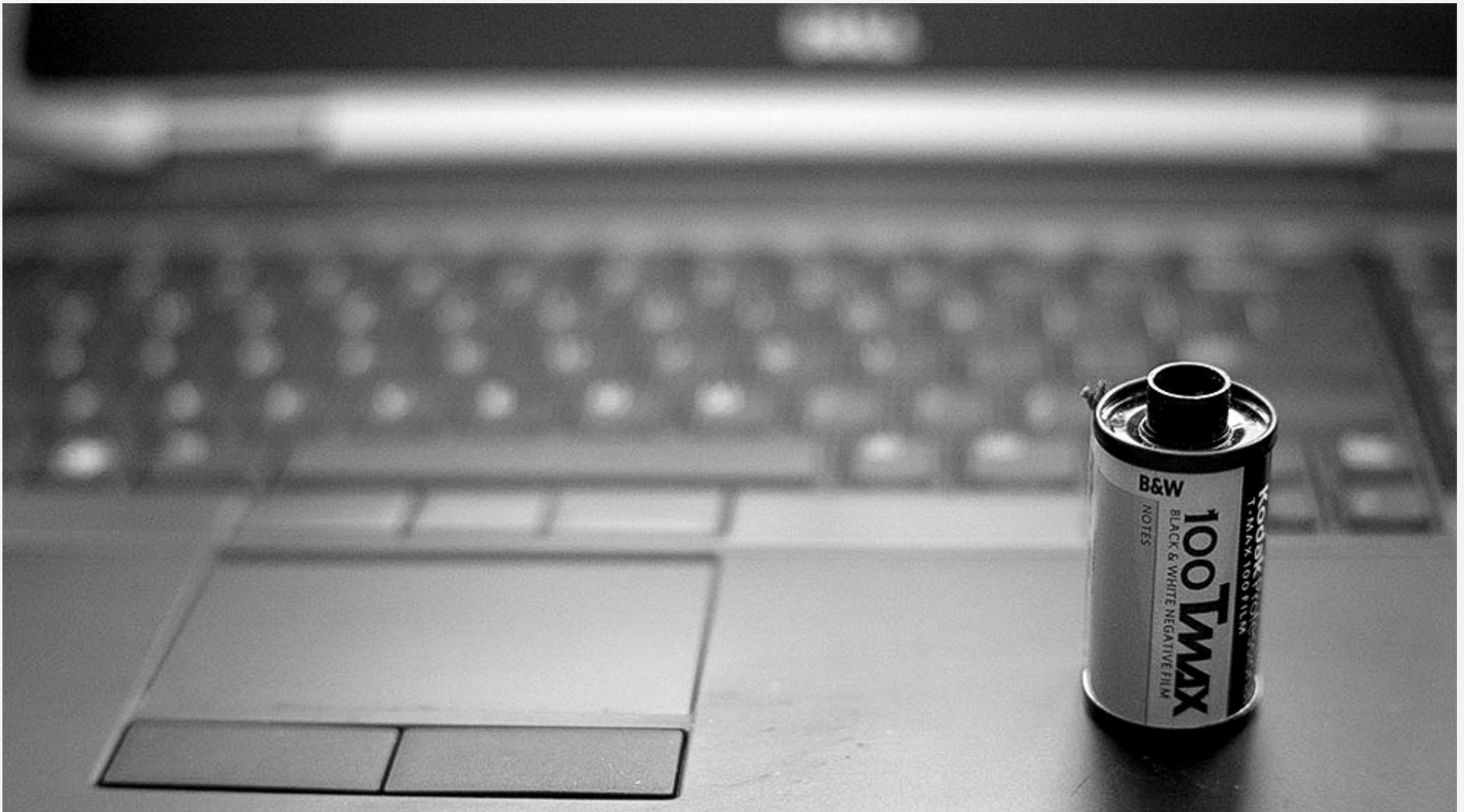
John Crowell



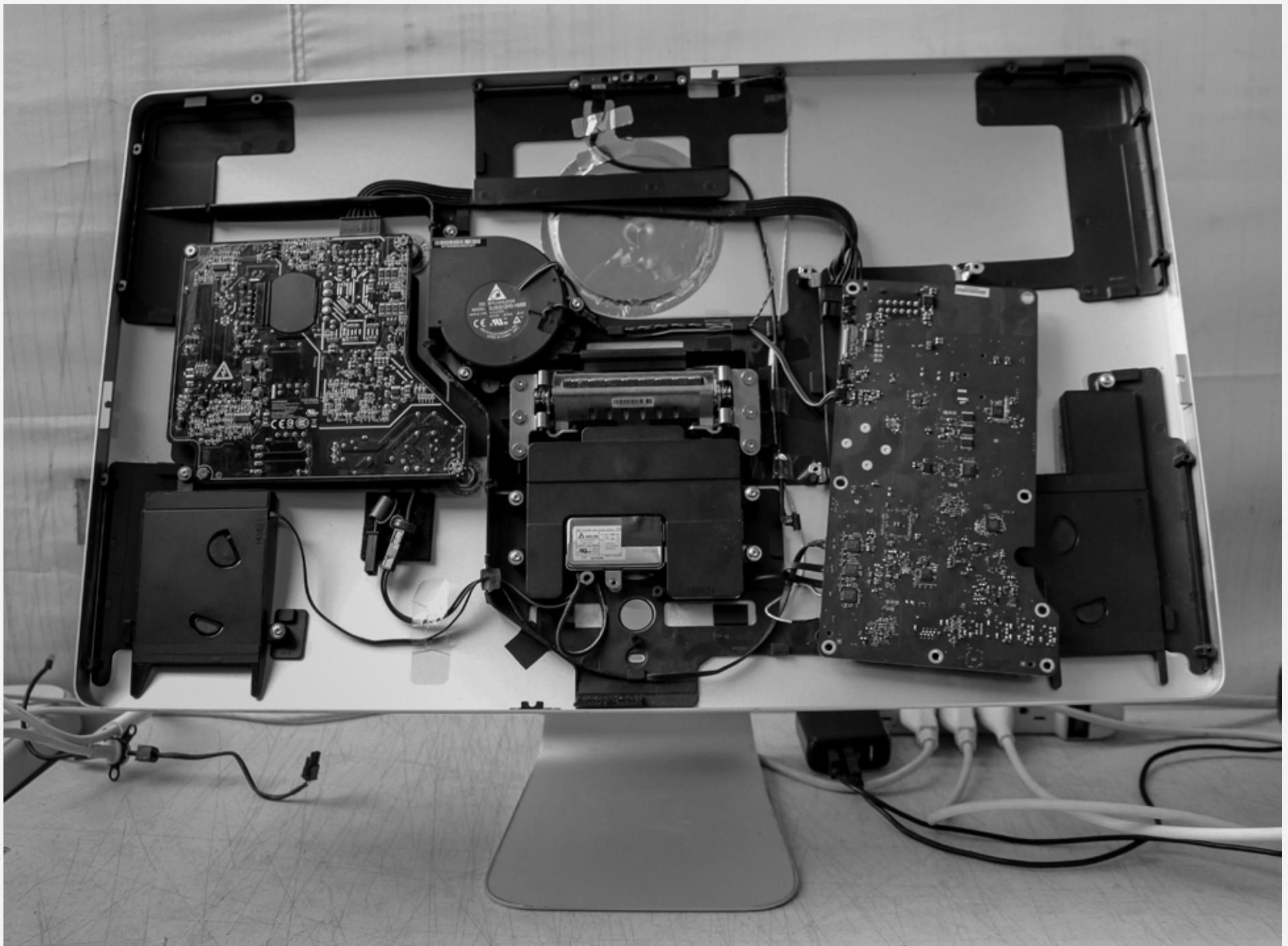
John Crowell



Loralie Baum



Frank Mercer



Chris Saravia



Zhiyu Wang



Clara Coady



Clara Coady



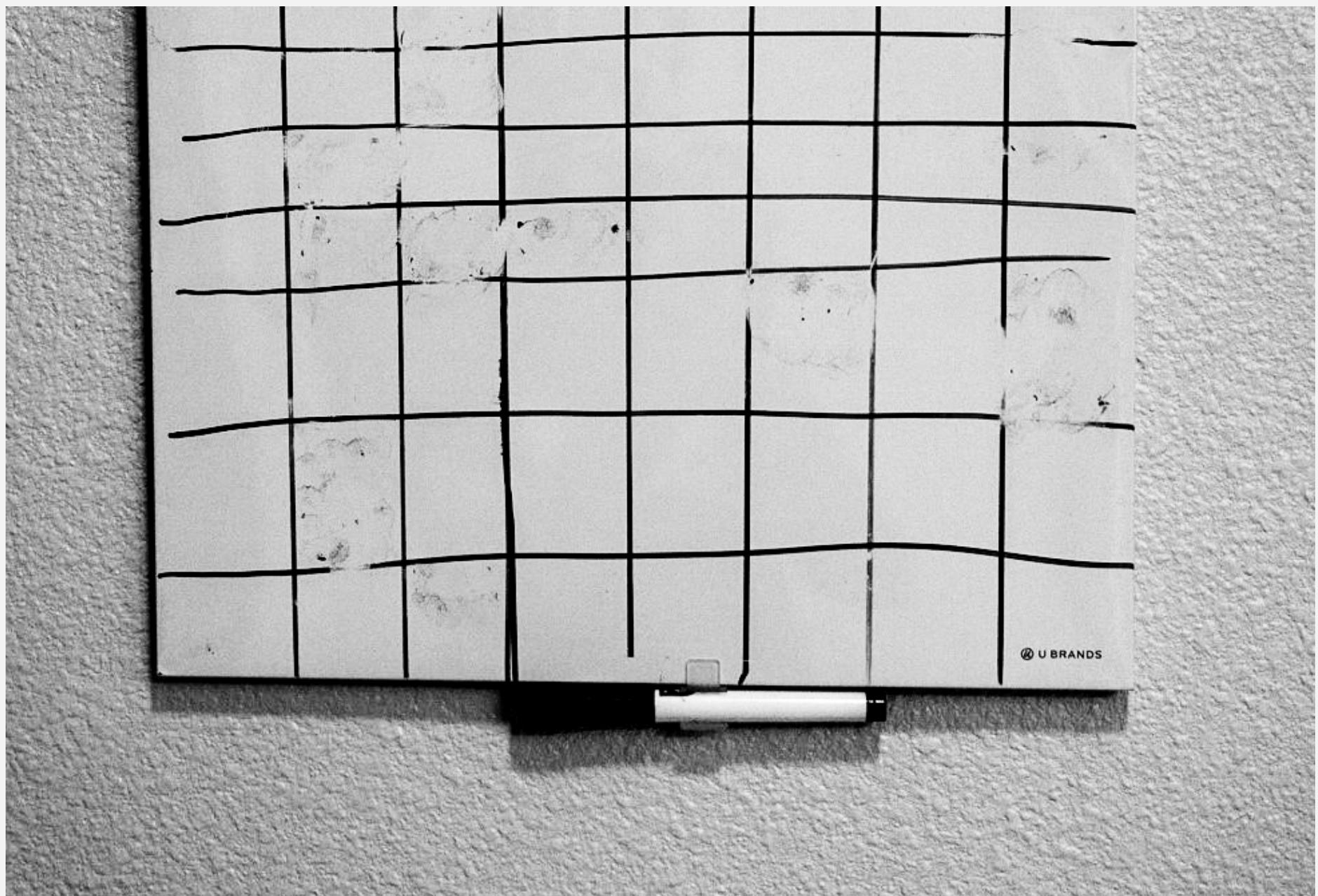
Jackie Butterfield



Alison Gans



Charles Vogt



Ali Elahi



Aryeri Calderon



Shauna Mullins



John Crowell

**THANK YOU FOR PRACTICING
SOCIAL DISTANCING**



Remember To Stay 2 Carts Apart



Gal Zigdon



Alejandra Dominguez Perez



Jorge Quezada Flores



Anthony Guardado



Chris Saravia



Jennifer Bains



Connor Whorl



Alia Kind



Gina Coburn



Shauna Mullins



Ali Elahi

As Covid-19 took hold, the whole world felt like it stopped moving, yet sped up at the same time. With the sudden change, I felt scared, anxious, and still hopeful. I noticed things around me that I have previously overlooked: how light danced along the walls of my home, seeing beauty in struggling to learn to cope with the “new” normal. Every day I feel something different. These photographs remind me we need to take things one day at a time; and do our best with what we are given.

Tiffany Stebner



Tiffany Stebner



Elena Redding



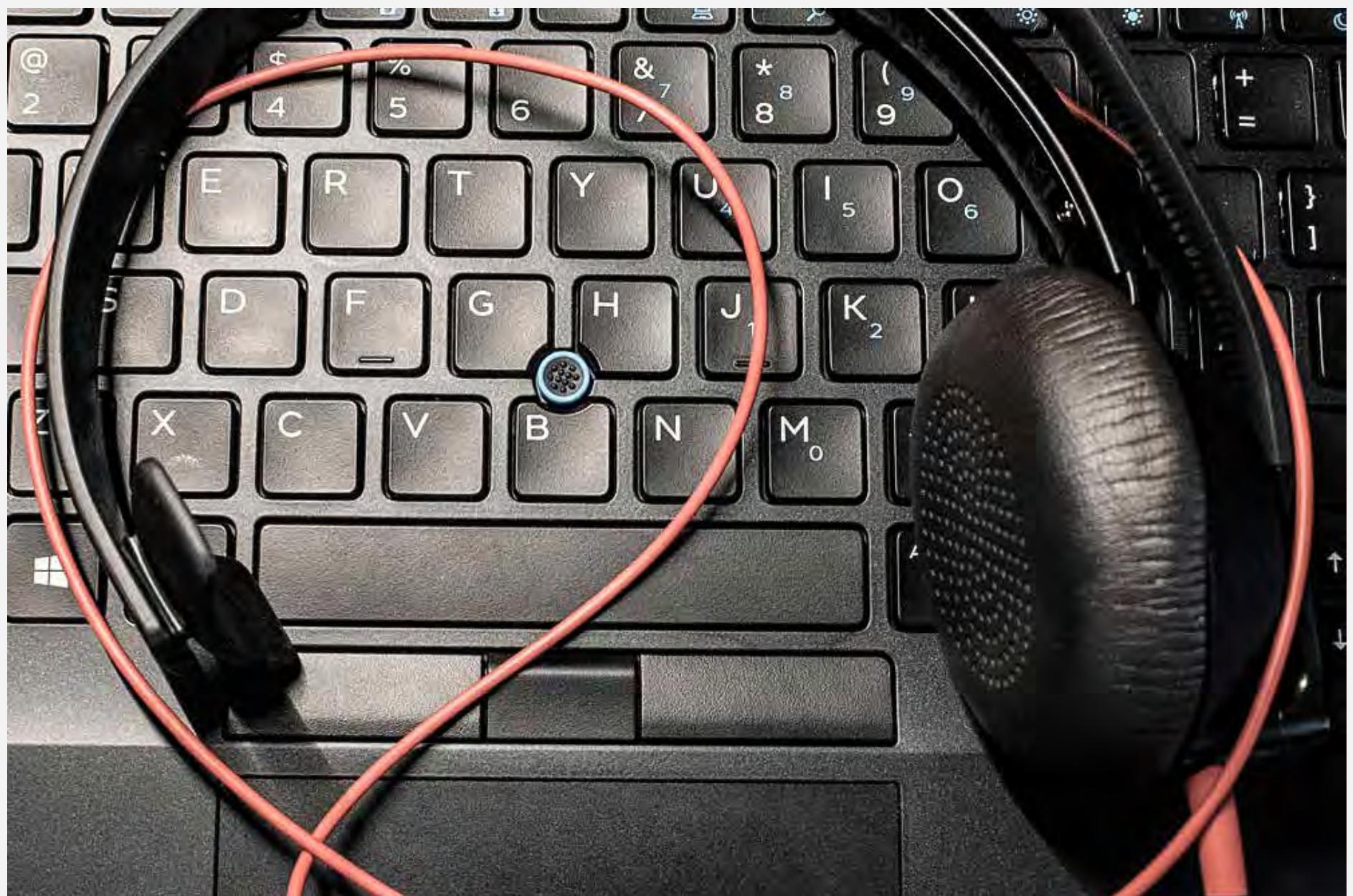
JoElla Ogilvie



Jayna Swami



Electra Field



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Electra Field



Rose Martinez



Quincy Shaindlin



Electra Field



Ben Eloy



Ben Eloy



Electra Field



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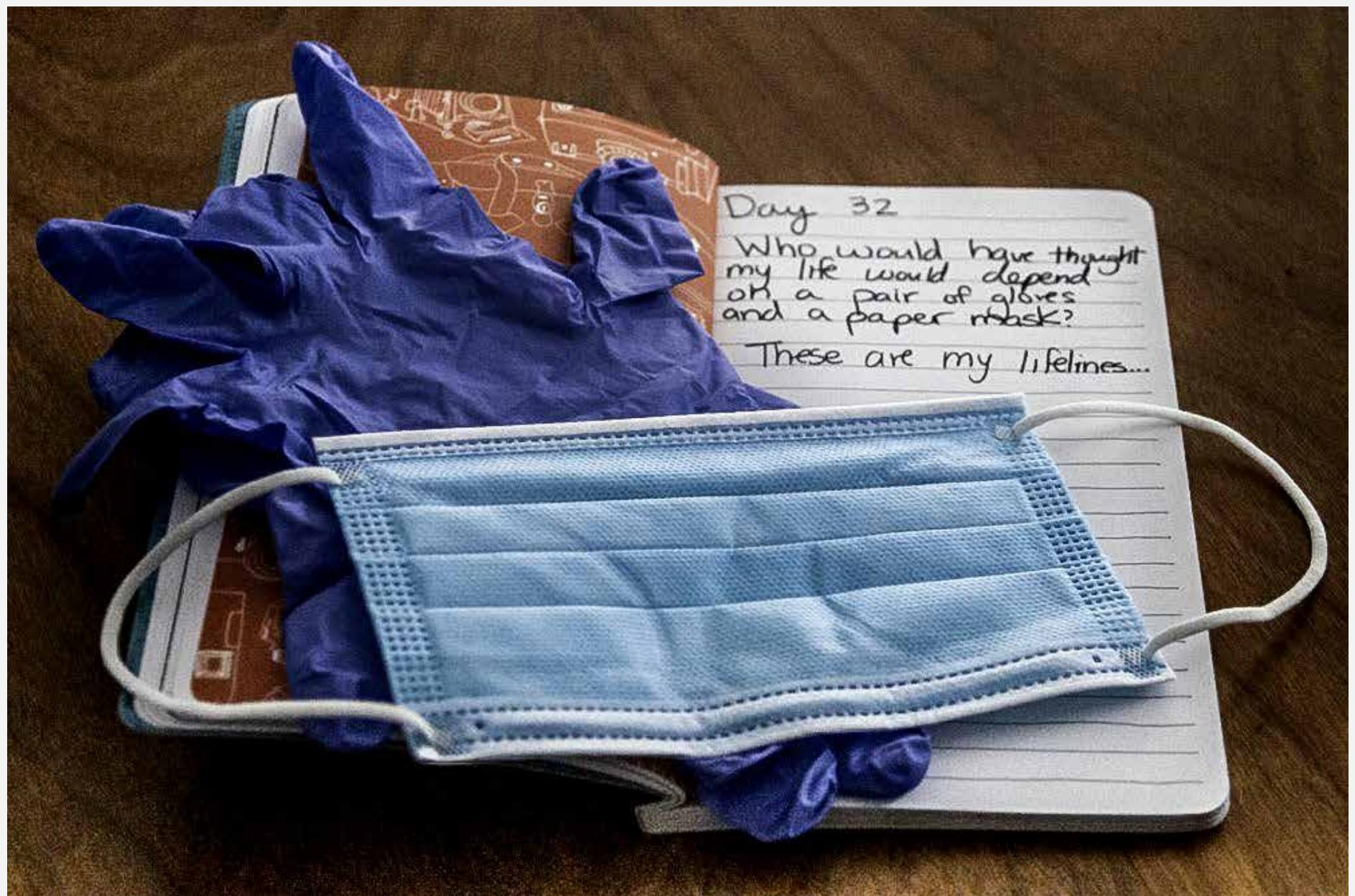
Jennifer Bains



Jennifer Bains

During the Covid-19 pandemic we are experiencing, I've witnesses positive and negative changes, some physical and some emotional. I've seen positive things like nature flourishing and people connecting around the world. I've also experienced hate stickers added to signs and buildings. Life as we know it has changed. These changes have caused me to slow down and connect with my inner-self and allowing me to see the world differently. These photographs are my way of sharing what life has become during the pandemic.

Loralie Baum



Lorale Baum

Participating Classes

Art 351- Beginning Black & White Photography

Art 352 - Intermediate Black & White Photography

Art 353 - Advanced Black & White Photography

Art 381 - Beginning Digital Photography

Art 383 - Intermediate Digital Photography

Art 384 - Advanced Digital Photography

Art 391 - Experimental Photography 1

Art 392 - Experimental Photography 2

Art 393 - Experimental Photography 3

Art 394 - Experimental Photography 3

Art 396 - Documentary Photography 1

Art 397 - Documentary Photography 2

Art 398 - Documentary Photography 3

Art 399 - Documentary Photography 4

Art 385 - Digital Master Portfolio

Art 388 - Black & White Master Portfolio

Acknowledgments

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Vera Fainshtein - Collage of San Mateo - Digital Media Faculty - Design Consultant

Arash Moradi - Collage of San Mateo Student - Book Design and Production

Cassandra King - Collage of San Mateo - Lab Coordinator - Logistics

Paul Van Slambrouck - Collage of San Mateo - Photography Faculty - Assignment Creator

Richard Lohmann - Collage of San Mateo - Photography Department Lead Faculty

Epilogue

It might be difficult to believe, but this class has been a pleasure this semester. It's served as a valuable tool to focus my anxiety and push me to continue learning. It has been a stabilizing force in a world that was turned upside down; and a wonderful impetus for creativity during this scary and unstable time.

A million thanks to you (Richard) for your guidance transitioning us to distance learning. I'm so happy to have been a part of this journey.

Shauna Mullins