

## from orlando arts magazine the editor

## Through the Lens

"There are always two people in every picture: the photographer and the view."

—Ansel Adams

ast Christmas we decided to break down and buy a "nice" camera, which is code for "we have no idea how to use it." We consulted a few talented photographer friends and did our own research, resulting in a purchase that seemed to fit our needs. Well, I'm happy to report that we have graduated from cell phone pics to looking like we have a clue. Of course, my older children are lamenting their bad prom photos, but our little guy has awesome shots from pre-K Bike Day! Remember Polaroid cameras? I loved the instant gratification of seeing the image appear seconds after you pressed the button.

I'm always in awe of people who capture unique angles that tell a story without using words. So what makes a great photograph? I've heard several answers and opinions from well-respected professionals, but the one thing they all seem to agree on is that the photo must solicit an emotional response, capturing a second in time. I guess my shot of the Christmas tree needs some work.

Apparently, May is National Date Your Mate and National Photography Month. Who knew? So, this issue is very timely indeed. You can take your significant other and visit the Snap! Orlando Gallery (see page 30). Until a few months ago, Central Florida only had the opportunity to see this exhibit once a year. With its new space we can enjoy the works of famous photographers year round. In addition, many of our local museums house photographs as part of their permanent collections. Anyone can look through a lens, but very few can find that one image that makes you stop and reflect.

Although I've come to realize that I will always own more shoes than lenses, I'm still determined to capture the craziness of my family, the laughs of my children and an occasional rustic barn along the way.

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