Rachael Ruszkowski   Digital Photography 1

6/8/10   Period 2

   While taking digital photography this year, I have completed various projects for the

course. For my final project, I chose to take a series of pictures of nature photography. For this

assignment, I went to the Botanical Gardens in South Buffalo and took numerous pictures of all

sorts of plants. I chose this assignment because I enjoy photographing flowers and other plants. I

edited many pictures using different techniques and chose what I believe to be my best

photographs.

   Using Photoshop and Photo Bridge, I had multiple steps in editing my final pictures. I

viewed my images on Photo Bridge and looked for good-quality photographs that showed

potential. At first, I only adjusted the contrast, brightness, saturation, and vibrancy of my photos.

I would increase the contrast first because it would make darker areas even darker and highlight

the colors in the photograph. By increasing the brightness, it would lighten the colors more and

make them stand out. To make the colors even more eye-catching, I increased the vibrancy and

saturation until I was satisfied with the colors. I finished editing my photos using these steps but

I was not fully satisfied with my work; therefore, I tried applying different editing styles to my

photos. Among these new editing techniques, I tried using the "curves" menu on my pictures. At

first, I only darkened the image a small amount, adding nice shadows to the picture. Next, I tried

increasing the curve dramatically, making the plant or flower protrude from the photograph

against a deep background. I would also use the paintbrush tool to black out the original

background of the photograph and erase other elements in the picture that were distracting to the

subject. To further improve my work, I would brighten the flower so it would be highlighted

even further within the picture. Lastly, I would crop the image to give more of a clean focus on the subject or subjects of the photograph.

By using multiple editing techniques on my photographs, I have discovered a new style of editing that makes me a stronger photographer. By using these techniques, I highlighted the subjects of my photographs and made them very colorful and attention-grabbing. I am very satisfied with my final pictures and believe they have a professional look to them.