

Contest Rules for Photographing the Moon

1. **One Free Point**: Students will photograph the moon and submit what they believe to be their best image to **beckerg@moravian.edu**. The student will make the decision. Screenshots submitted by students **will not** receive any credit.
Example: **Team #, Student's Last Name**
2. **One Free Point** will be given to a team member for the best team image.
Example: **Best—Team #—Student's Last Name.**
3. **One Free Point** will be given to the student with the best class image. The class will make this determination at a future time.
4. **One Free Point** will be given to the student that your instructor thinks has submitted the best photo.

Consider the following concepts in judging photographs.

1. **Use an eyepiece without a reticle** (crosshair). Finder eyepieces all have crosshairs. A photograph showing the reticle detracts from the beauty of the image.
2. **Consider an eyepiece with a longer focal length**, 20mm or greater, to make centering the image easier in the camera lens and telescope.
3. **Does the image intersect the eyepiece's field of view?** The camera lens or the moon was not in the center of the field of view.
4. **Definition**: Sharpness of the image should be considered. If the image is not sharply focused, detail will be lost.
5. **Contrast**: Are the shades of grey well separated? Some phones will allow users to enhance or subdue the contrast if not.
6. **Magnification**: Is there too much magnification? Does the amount of magnification detract from or enhance the image? Increasing the magnification of the picture by enlarging it on your smartphone screen or using a shorter focal length eyepiece is only an issue if the amount of magnification obtained becomes empty. Empty magnification occurs when the image is magnified beyond the point where no new detail is revealed.