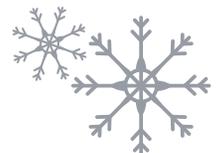
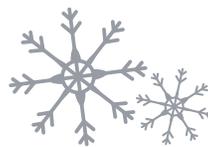


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STORY. SOUL. ADVENTURE.

Jen Ritchie Photography

YOUR GUIDE TO SENIOR, FAMILY, PERSONAL BRANDING, &
WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHY



February Forward

Hi, I'm Jen!

I'm glad you are here! I'm heading into my fourth season of photographing seniors, families, and businesses, and even though it's cold right now, I'm looking forward to the spring flowers, golden sunsets, and fall colors that await us in 2022. This year I will be offering Golden Hour sessions from April through September 11 (see last page for details), and then I'll also have spots for fall color shoots in October and early November.

Be sure to schedule as soon as possible, especially for fall, because I will be offering only 8 fall spots in October, and then that will be it. I honestly did too much last October and November and need to watch that for my health.

In addition to family and senior portraits, I'll be traveling for wildlife photography in 2022. I'll hit Seattle first in April, and then in June I'll be in Colorado and Wyoming with my family. In September, I'm excited to travel back to the Tetons with girlfriends and also do a workshop with photographer Steve Mattheis again.

Working and growing in this field makes my heart full. I'd love to share that passion with you if you'd like a session or print - email me or call and let's plan something!

JEN

**WWW.JENLRITCHIE.COM
765.413.8201**





7 TIPS FOR A COLLEGE GRAD SESSION

Living in a college town these past twenty years, I've certainly become accustomed to graduation seasons. Each May, August, and December it's not uncommon to see graduation caps dotting the sidewalks of Purdue University.

I've had the privilege of helping several graduates commemorate this moment with a photo session, so I thought I'd share [7 simple steps](#) that will help your college grad session go smoothly:

1. FIND THE RIGHT PHOTOGRAPHER

Do your research. Ask people you trust. I've had clients in the past who have

talked to their landlords, friends, bosses, etc. for recommendations in town, especially if you are not local. Visit websites, message or call photographers, and feel out who is a right fit. Look at their past work and see if it matches your taste.

2. BOOK EARLY

Graduation season can be hectic. You and your family have a lot on your mind - school, exams, travel, a job hunt, etc. Find a photographer that suits your style and budget and book in advance so you can focus on other things. Also, you don't want your favorite photographer's spots to fill up!



3. CHOOSE SPOTS THAT MATTER

Make a list of the places on campus that matter the most to you. Choose some iconic spots, but also choose some that are more personal: maybe you had a special outside study spot or you like a certain garden. Let your photographer know your list before the session, so that she can be prepared and give you the best session possible.

4. WEAR SOMETHING UNDER YOUR GOWN

Ha! You know what I mean! Make sure that you choose something you want to be photographed in under your gown. It's always nice to get a variety of shots with your gown on, your gown unzipped, and then just your outfit underneath. And don't forget your shoes! They will be photographed, too, so make sure they are picture-ready. Let your photographer know about your outfit choice before you arrive, also.

5. THINK ABOUT THE DETAILS

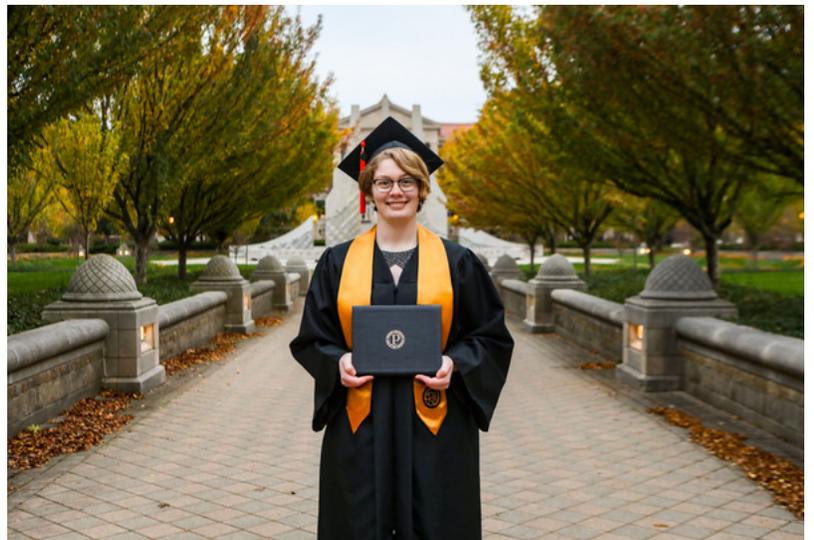
I can't stress enough how important it is to think about some details. Steam your gown and make sure to iron any sashes you will put over your gown. Tackle the hair fly-aways with a little gel or hairspray. Choose seamless undergarments for invisible lines. Rest before your shoot. Eat a little bit before your session. These things matter for timeless photos!

6. INCLUDE THE PEOPLE YOU LOVE

For grad photos, I want the people I'm photographing to be surrounded by those they love. If you want your parents to jump in a few photos with you, make sure you ask the photographer, and then plan out the number of shots you want and at which locations. It's always special to have those who have supported you show you some love in a few photos!

7. HAVE FUN

What can be more important than having fun? Feeling relaxed and using this special time to celebrate and smile should give you joy – not stress. So take a deep breath, smile, and have a great session!





Seniors: It's your moment to remember and look ahead.

"It takes courage to grow up and become who you really are."
e. e. cummings

Senior year is a special time. I've ushered two children through that rite of passage and have three more to go. Every concert, game, vacation, and event feels like that one-last-time and etches a place in your heart. But senior year is also a time to look ahead, to dream, and to be grateful for who you are becoming.

Whether you are finishing high school or college, I'd love to help you celebrate this special time with a session tailored just for you. My aim is to design a laid back, fun session for you that produces beautiful, authentic images of who you are and the adventure you are about to take.

Planning Your Session

3 Different Sessions to Choose from

Virtual Consult with Me

Beautiful, Private Gallery of Proofs

Choice of Your Location/s

Edited, High-resolution Images

Investment starting at \$299

Photographing Snowy Swans

Each year as winter approaches and temperatures sink, I get nervous I won't be able to find birds and wildlife to photograph. Most of this December and January I came up empty handed at my usual spots. I did get lucky enough to shoot short-eared owls, muskrat, nuthatches, and geese early on, but then as the scouting trips continued, I kept coming up empty-handed.

So you can imagine my delight when a trip to Prophetstown State Park resulted in several days out with mute swans. I usually don't see much at Prophetstown, and honestly, I haven't given it enough time. But in the weeks prior I had been on the look-out there for another species when I came around the corner and saw a family of 3 swans: a mated pair and their juvenile.

My wildlife photography blues lifted as I got closer to the water and began to assess the situation from a safe distance. Here are some things I was considering:

Where can I best get eye-level with the swans and still give them their space? Getting eye-level with an animal or bird creates an intimate portrait, so getting on my belly was a must. If I would've shot from a standing position, the swans would have looked dominated or hovered over, and I didn't want that.



What is the best background for the birds? I wanted to make sure I stayed aware of what was behind each of the swans and what it would look like in my final image. Now, in this situation, I had the rocky, scraggly lines of where the pond met land. I tried my best to pick the cleanest spots and wait for the birds to swim in front of them. I moved around a lot, sometimes Army crawling, to make sure my background was as clean as it possibly could be in the situation.

Am I getting a variety of shots? Am I remembering to shoot vertically and horizontally? Have I gotten wide shots of the birds in their environment and close-ups to show the details? Did I get any video? Did I vary the numbers of swans in each shot? There are so many things I should remember, and thankfully I had four days to make additional shots and corrections if needed.

Am I catching the best gestures of the swans? Am I waiting for intimate moments between mother and juvenile? When do they puff their feathers up? How do they eat? What's the best head position when they preen? These are all things I have to consider as I watch through the viewfinder on my belly. I want to capture what swans do, how they behave, and their individual personalities the best that I am able.

You can find more from my time with the swans on my Instagram @jenlritchie

Are my settings correct? This one is first and foremost and the one that should always be going through my head. I still make a lot of mistakes, but I'm working on keeping my eye on each of my settings as I peer through the viewfinder. I want to make sure my shutter speed is high enough to capture their feathers and movement, but also keep my ISO low enough where I don't have noise.

All this plus light, lens choice, aperture, weather, etc. were going through my head. Again, I had four days so it was a great time to practice and hone my skills. Getting to know this swan family, even if only for a short time, gave me a chance to see how regal and protective the father was, how delicate and pristine the female was, and just how messy and gangly their juvenile was - just like my 13-year-old boy!

The most magical day was when snow started falling. I had been craving snow. It cleans up the background in photos and accentuates the subject so nicely. Plus, it's just so darn pretty! I was resigned to the fact that snow was not in the forecast at all for the next 10 days, but then as I lay there, here it came! The swans glided through the soft flakes as I pressed my shutter and let it fly. They were so beautiful! I have so much to learn and need to grow in so many ways, but these days are why I keep going with this crazy wildlife photography passion.



Families

I have five kids and two adorable Golden Retrievers, so I know how hard it is to get everyone a decent haircut and a presentable outfit for family photos. But still, it's worth it because it all goes by so fast!

Whether downtown or in your favorite nature spot, my family sessions are fun and laid back and aim to capture real moments of your immediate family's personality. In up to an hour, we will make authentic, connected images for you to treasure. You will have a beautiful online gallery of quality, high resolution images from which to choose downloads, prints, and canvases.

What if you and your friends want photos together? This is the perfect session to capture the essence of other relationships in your life, too. I'd be happy to customize a session for you. Whether it's for family or friends, let's start dreaming about your session!

Investment \$350





CAPTURE THAT GLOW

GOLDEN HOUR

Sessions for Families
April 1 - September 11
Investment \$350

BOOK NOW
www.jenlritchie.com
765.413.8201

Pre-session virtual consultation

Up to 1 hour in a local nature spot
at golden hour

Individual photos of each child &
sibling group shots included in
the family package

Private online gallery of 40+
images for ordering downloads,
prints, and canvases

Bonus with Golden Hour Booking:
15 edited, high resolution digital
images with print release if you
mention this ad



Headshots & Personal Branding

Headshots and personal branding are changing these days, and people want a more casual approach. Wouldn't you like more variety for your various platforms? Whether it's for your next conference or your LinkedIn profile, let me create a collection of professional, up-to-date images for you.

I offer 2 headshot packages, prices starting at \$150. They each include a virtual consult with me and up to 6 images, depending on the session you choose. If you would like help with your personal branding, I can help you hone your message in sessions designed to tell your story from an hour on up. These sessions start at \$400.



“Keep some room
in your heart for the
unimaginable.”

~ Mary Oliver

