

keith pitts photography

oct 2009 - the fall issue

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"Imagine a world
without
photography, one
could only imagine. "

-[Berenice Abbott](#)



Keith Pitts Photography is proud to announce the launch of our pet portraiture business! Keith has been documenting pets in an artistic, contemporary way as part of his portrait business for over a decade. Now, we have decided make it "official"! Keith will include a pet portrait session as an offering on his price list!

Keith enjoys creating portraits of pets, particularly dogs - with or without their family. Next week, we will be launching our new website - please check out the pet portrait gallery!

Free Arts of Arizona and Phoenix home & garden present: The 15th Annual Palette of Homes Tour

The Palette of Homes Tour ~ November 8th 2009

Free Arts of Arizona and *Phoenix Home & Garden* are proud to present the 15th Annual Palette of Homes Tour.

Unlike any other home tour in the Valley, the Palette of Homes Tour is the complete tour experience! Guests have the opportunity to not only explore exclusive private residences in Scottsdale and Paradise Valley, they can also network with artisans involved in the building of each home on the tour, sample gourmet fare by

some of the Valley's most acclaimed chefs and restaurants, and bid on exciting silent auction packages. A self-guided tour, this event is most appropriate for people ages 18 and up. Some walking will be required.

Tickets sell out fast, so don't miss out. To make your reservation Click [here](#) to purchase now!

For more information on the Palette of Homes Tour, please click [here](#) or log onto www.phgmag.com



introducing our new rewards program!

The Keith Pitts Photography rewards program is our way of giving back to you! We love to see our clients again (and again!), second to that is a referral from our clients to friends and family. Each time a new client books a regular session (or more) with your recommendation, it is with our sincerest gratitude that we send you a \$350 product credit to be used towards anything we offer (refer a wedding, we will send you a \$500 product credit!); use the credit towards session fees, gifts for friends and additional prints.

fall is just about here...where to take the kids to a pumpkin patch!

By Melissa Madden

Desert Botanical Gardens

The Great Pumpkin Festival October 22 to October 25, 2009 Thursday - Sunday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Activities and hayride included with Garden admission. Members are free and must show Member ID to be admitted. Free pumpkins for children 12 and under. The perfect pumpkin is waiting for you at the Desert Botanical Garden! Take a hayride out to the Garden's pumpkin patch, where children 12 and under can choose their own free pumpkin. Get lost in the Amazing Hay Bale Maze, visit with friendly animals in the petting zoo, enjoy lively country-western entertainment and much more! Click here to learn more about the [Back Porch Bandits](#)All Garden activities are subject to change.

Schnepf Farms Pumpkin and Chili Party

24810 Rittenhouse Road, Queen Creek
480-987-3333

At the Schnepf Farms Pumpkin & Chili Party, activities include Hay rides, miniature golf, 4 acre and 10 acre "Celebrity" maize, country road rally, honeybee adventure, carousel rides, petting barn, Hillbilly Bob's Pig Races, Swinging Lady Bugz ride, Flying Farmers ride, Pumpkin Launch, Witch Mountain, Peachtree Express roller coaster, SRP Earthwise energy Maze, rock climbing wall, golden goat bridge, "live" entertainment on two stages (last two weekends), bon fires & marshmallow roasting (6:30 p.m.), lil' farmers play yard, inflatable bounce a bout,

Friday and Saturday night outdoor Movie Feature (bring blankets and chairs) begins at 8:30 p.m., Rocket's K-9 Comets Frisbee Dog Stars. Fireworks Friday and Saturday nights, weather permitting. Some rides and features have additional charges. \$14, 2 years old and under free. Seniors and Queen Creek residents 1/2 price Thursdays (must show proof). There are extra charges for pumpkins, train ride and food/beverage. Check at Fry's for discounted tickets. In 2009: Every Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday in October

Tolmachoff Farms

5726 N. 75th Avenue Glendale, Arizona
623-386-1301 From the web site: "Great big pumpkin patch, 6 acre family corn maze with a crowing rooster theme (search for pieces of your map as you walk through), haunted corn maze (dare to enter), mini corn maze (perfect for little ones), petting zoo, train ride, hay pyramid, farm theme activities (corn grinder-grind corn to feed chickens), play area (duck race, corn box, adult/child pedal cart track) and much more." Admission includes family and mini maze, petting zoo, play areas, bounce house (bounce house on weekends only). General admission \$7 per person ages 2 & up. Pumpkins: price varies; train ride: \$2 (weekends only). In 2009: Every day in October through November 22 except Mondays in November

Holiday Portrait Sessions We are now scheduling our Fall portrait sessions perfect for photo holiday cards and gift giving. The Fall is a popular time for portrait sessions and it is never too early to schedule your session. Thank you everyone that has already booked their sessions! Weekends are filling up quickly, but there are still dates available!

The deadline for holiday portrait sessions is December 4th! All portrait sessions must be scheduled to take place before that date to allow time for editing the pictures and getting them to you for holiday gift giving. If you plan on ordering custom photo cards we recommend scheduling a session before Thanksgiving.

To book your holiday session you will need to pay the \$125 non-refundable session fee to hold the date and time of your session (transferable to another date if you need to reschedule due to weather or illness).

Please ask about our custom card options - we have partnered with Celebrations in Paper to bring you the most amazing holiday card selection! Stay tuned, we will be featuring a post with all the cards, they are gorgeous!

THE BIG NEWS: any past client that books a session will receive an additional print credit of \$50 that can be used towards ANY print or product we offer!

Ready to book your portrait session?

custom holiday cards

By Melissa Madden

Celebrations in Paper has done an amazing job with our custom holiday cards...wait till you see them in person! The papers are gorgeous, the colors are great, lots of detail, plenty of fonts to choose from - they are beautiful!

Celebrations in Paper will donate 10% of all proceeds from our holiday cards sales to **Free Arts of AZ** - we really appreciate your generosity! **THANK YOU!!!**





photo by Cristina Wilson

Ask Keith...

Answers to your photographic questions from our resident expert.

By Keith Pitts

"I am having a halloween party at my house and I would love to take great pictures of the kids in their costumes - what tips do you have?"

Children in Halloween Costumes are so much fun to photograph. Here are a few pointers to get some great pictures either at a Halloween party or just before the kids go trick or treating:

1. a good light source! if available, locate a large natural light source. some suggestions are: open the front door, use the garage (with garage door open) or stand the children near a large window. If you open your front door, have your child stand in the doorway, make sure they are not standing directly in sunlight. You will be outside shooting in, keep the sun at your back. This should provide a beautiful big natural light source - make sure you start your pictures before dark!
2. a solid color background! ideally, it would be great to have a solid color or non distracting background behind the children. Have someone hold (or hang) up a non-wrinkled white or black sheet. A clean background will allow your focus to be on the child(ren) and their costumes, not on another other distraction in the frame. For example: as the child is standing in the doorway, have the background behind them.
3. no cheese! have your child act in character, get a natural shot, don't encourage them to say "cheese" (unless of course their Halloween costume is a mouse)!

If you have any questions, please send us an email at melissa@keithpitts.com!



halloween costume ideas

Martha Stewart has some great costume ideas on her website - as well as in her special Halloween magazine on newstands now. Flipping through the pages brought me down memory lane: from bobbing for apples to a donut eating contest - really cute stuff! Here are some sample costumes! (photo credit: Martha Stewart.com)

