

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. Label the image with your last name only. **Screen shots** submitted by students **will not** receive any credit.
2. **One Free Point** for each team member for the best team image. This will be a team decision. As an example, label the photo like this, Best-Team Number-the Student's Last Name who took the image. As an example, Best—Team 3—Becker.
3. **One Free Point** for the student who has the winning photo based upon the decision of the class.
4. **One Free Point** to the student that your instructor thinks has 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?** This means that the camera lens or the moon was not in the center of the field of view.
4. **Definition**: Sharpness of the image... If the image is not sharply focused, detail will be lost.
5. **Contrast**: Are the shades of grey well separated? If not, some phones will allow the user to enhance or subdue the contrast.
6. **Magnification**: Is there too much magnification? Does the amount of magnification detract from or enhance the image? Increasing the magnification of the image by enlarging it on your smart phone screen or by using a shorter focal length eyepiece is not bad unless the amount of magnification obtained becomes empty. Empty magnification occurs when the image is enlarged beyond the point where no new detail is revealed.