

PERSONAL STATEMENT

EDITORS' CHOICE IN PHOTOGRAPHY | logan westom

Being able to capture this photo came with a bit of luck, the right preparation, and the perfect timing.

I spent a few hours before the concert looking at videos of every band in order to understand how bands move around during their set. This helped immensely! I was able to plan where I needed to be, and at what time, so I could create the photos I had imagined in my mind.

After observing Anti-Flag, I had one idea that stood out. I noticed that every time they played the song "Die for Your Government" their bass player jumped into the crowd directly after the second chorus. I made a plan and knew what I had to do when this song was played.

However, when "Die for Your Government" actually came around, I almost missed my chance to get this photo. With so many things going on, I simply forgot about what I had planned on doing. Luckily, before it was too late, I noticed that the crowd had become extremely loud all of a sudden. I turned to see why they were screaming so enthusiastically. That was when I noticed that the bass player had jumped off stage and was making his way through the crowd. In order to get any type of shot, I raised my camera above my head, aimed at the crowd and the bass player, and clicked the shutter about six times.

The day was so busy, there was no time to go back and look through my photos at the time. In fact, I did not get to see what photos I actually took during the concert until I got home. When I finally had a chance to see what I created, I was pleasantly surprised... actually, shocked would be more like it. The photo of the bass player turned out amazing.

When I edited the photo, I wanted the exact composition and what was actually happening in the photo to stick out. So I went with black and white. I love black and white photos because I feel that colors often take away from what is happening in the shot. I increased the contrast a little and tweaked a few others things that will remain a secret in order to preserve my original style.

Overall, I love the way this photo turned out. It was a very opportune moment. I owe it all to careful preparation, and a bit of luck didn't hurt.