Dear Friends,

Welcome to the Autumn Brilliance Photography Workshop at Great Smoky Mountains Institute at Tremont. What better place to celebrate fall and improve your nature photography skills than in Great Smoky Mountains National Park! Whether this is the first or twenty-first time you’ve participated in one of Tremont’s many course offerings, we look forward to getting to know you. Please read this letter in full, as it contains information about our new procedures related to COVID-19.

Arrival and Departure:
Our check-in has been modified due to COVID-19. Plan to arrive between 4:00 and 5:00 pm on Friday. A staff member will be posted at the locked gate to all you through and direct you to the check-in station (Pavilion) where you will have your temperature taken. If no one is at the gate to greet you, follow the instructions for late arrivals below. Orientation begins at 5:45pm. Note that the gift shop will be open on Friday from 4:00-5:30. This is the only time during the weekend when the gift shop will be open.

Late arrivals: If you arrive after 5:00 pm, please park in the lot across from the gate, walk past the gate across the bridge, up the service road, stay to the right of the green dormitory building, and proceed to the open-air Pavilion where you will find the check-in station. If you expect to arrive late, please call 865-448-9732 ext. 23 and leave a message with your expected arrival time.

Logistics:
Please read our COVIDSafe guidelines and let us know if you have any questions or concerns. In order to slow the spread of COVID-19, please bring a mask and wear it when social distancing is impractical. Please read the Your Visit to Tremont link for important packing information. Along with your linens and toiletries, you may want to bring a mattress pad to ease the firm mattress, plus a bedside light or headlamp if you are a late-night reader. Learn more about our food and facilities if you wish. Please note that food is not allowed in the dorm. Also look over the Tentative Schedule to learn more about your instructors and important details related to the workshop. If you have further questions, please contact us. Note: though wifi is available in the Activity Center, we invite and encourage you to unplug for the weekend.

Schedule Overview:
Field photo shoots occur on Saturday and Sunday. Please see your schedule for additional details. One of the highlights of every workshop is the group photo review on Sunday afternoon. After an exciting weekend, we offer an optional field shoot on Monday morning.

Laptop computers installed with the latest versions of Adobe Photoshop and Lightroom are available for rent for $50 (payable to GSMIT). Requests must be made no later than two weeks prior to the start of the workshop.

We look forward to enjoying a lovely fall weekend with you.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Lloyd
Manager of Field Programs & Collegiate Studies