How to prepare your files for competition using...

iPhoto '11 Version 9.4.2

Many thanks to Margaret Carter Baumgartner for the use of her portrait painting in this demonstration.

Before you do anything!

- MAKE A NEW FOLDER TO HOLD YOUR FILES OF THIS PHOTO! Put the photo of your painting in this folder and name it.
- This folder will hold the original image and any files that you will save for CLWAC or future competitions.

Open the program.

- Just double click on the iPhoto Application icon to open the program.
- You will see all the photos that have been imported into your computer.



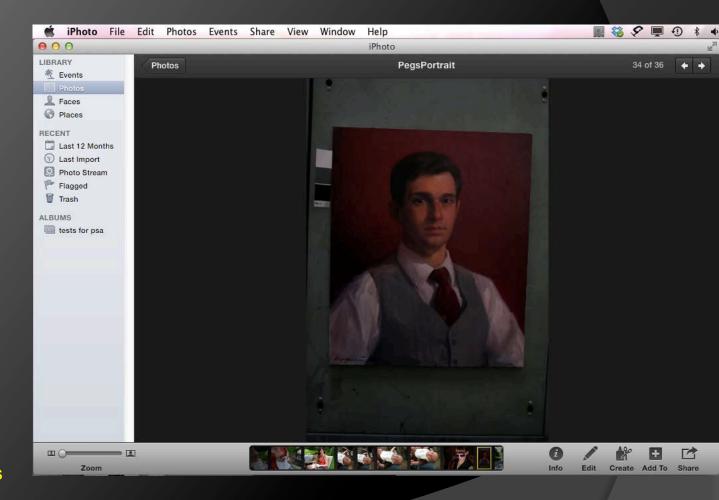
Open the file.

- When you click on the image you want to work on, it has a yellow frame around it.
- Double click this and it will open the image.



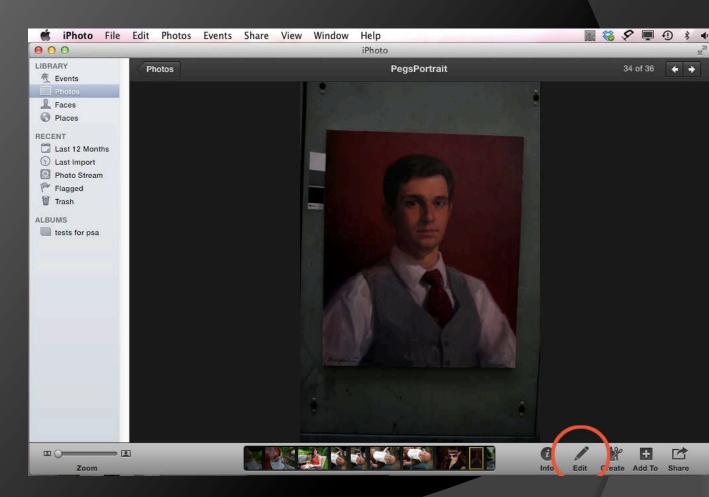
Open the file.

- You will now see all of your photo files in a "bin" at the bottom of the screen. The image that you opened is now ready to be adjusted.
- If you are working on multiple images that are of the same picture, you will always know which one you are working with because it is highlighted in blue in the bin.



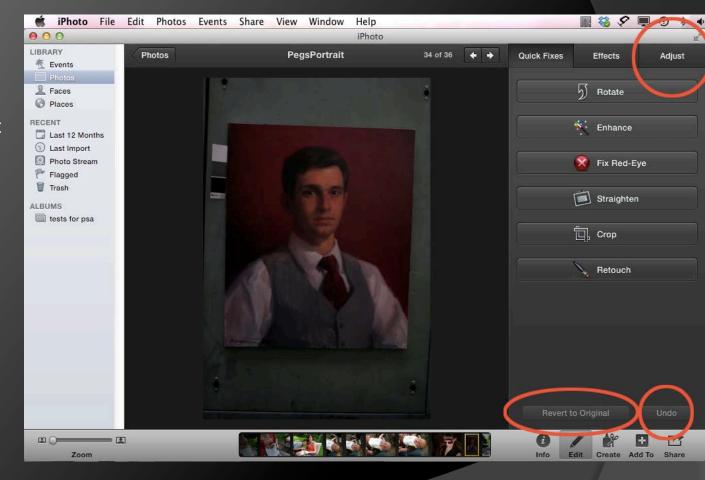
Now start to correct color.

 Click on the Edit Icon at the bottom of the window.



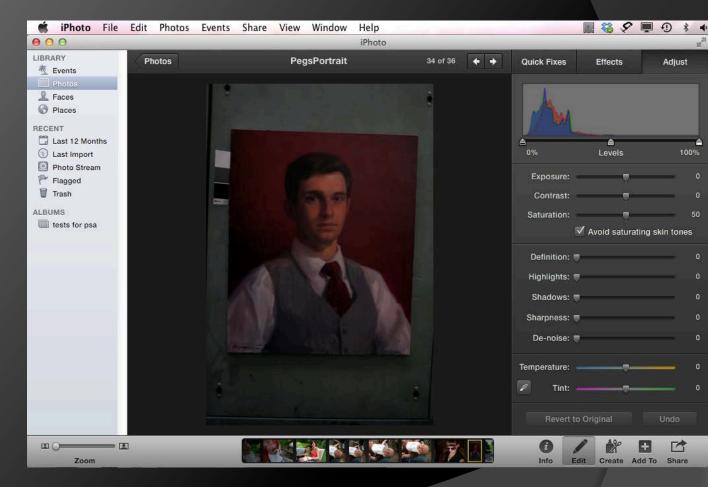
Adjusting color.

- Now click on the Adjust button.
- Note: If you look at the bottom of the window, you will see Revert to Original & Undo buttons. As long as you didn't Save the image, you can always go back one step (by clicking Undo) or go back to the first step by hitting Revert to Original.



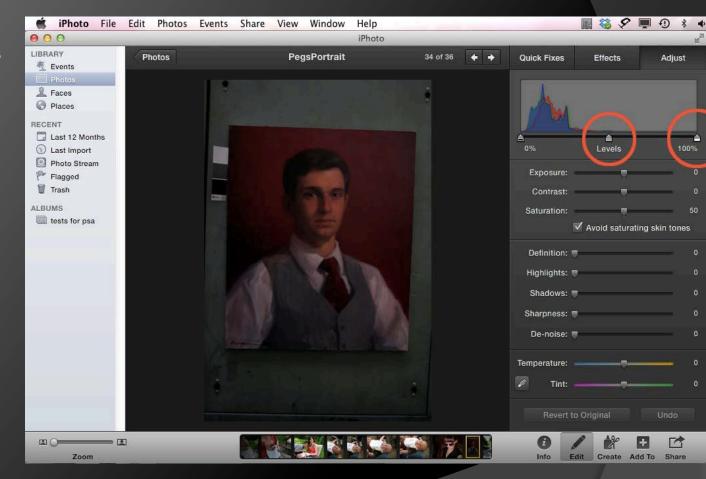
Correcting color.

You will see a
 number of options
 and a variety of
 methods to bring
 your image into
 near perfect color.



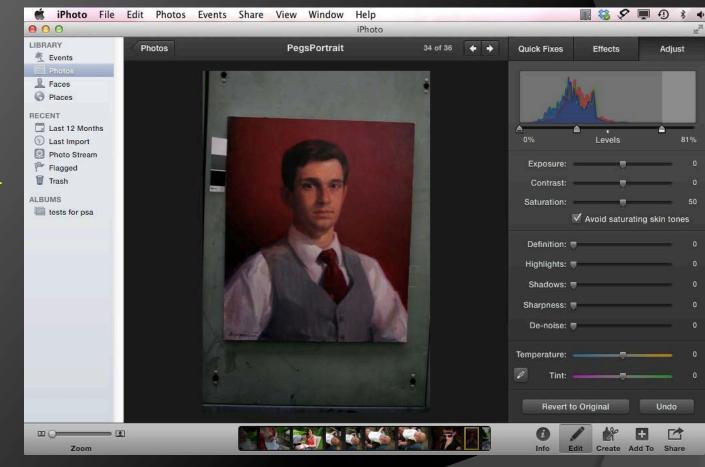
Correcting color.

- One way to do this is to play with the sliders of the Histogram. The Histogram is that funny mountain looking image in Red Green and Blue in the box above the sliders. The Histogram tells you everything you need to know about the data in the file.
- Don't worry, this is easy!



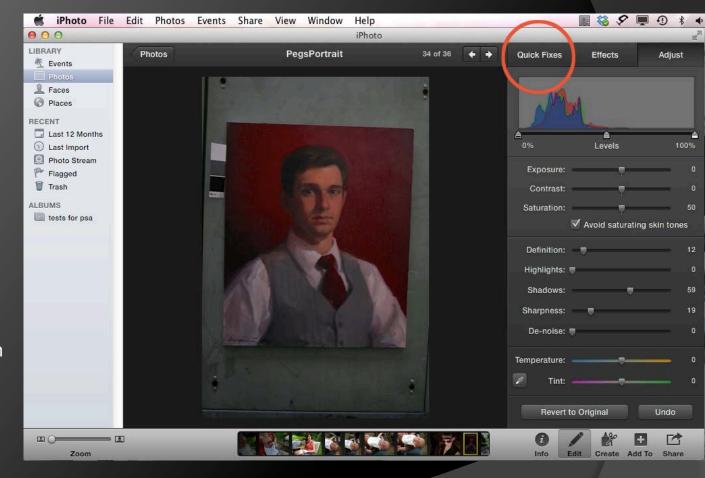
Correct the color.

- Sitting with your painting next to your computer, slide the little "arrow handles" to the left or right to see what happens.
- With this particular image, I wanted to lighten it, so I first moved the center slider (midtones) and then moved the right slider (highlights) to points where the image looked more like the painting.



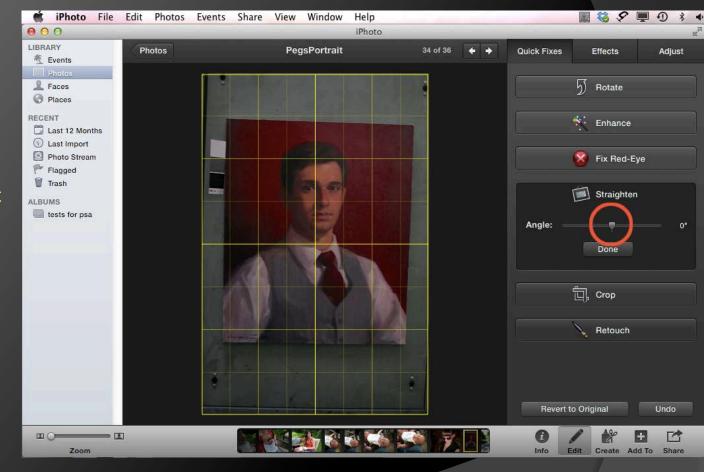
Straighten the Image.

- Now click on the Quick Fixes button to straighten the image.
- It is easier to adjust the color first so that you can see the edges of the painting better, but if the painting is light enough from the beginning, you can do this first.



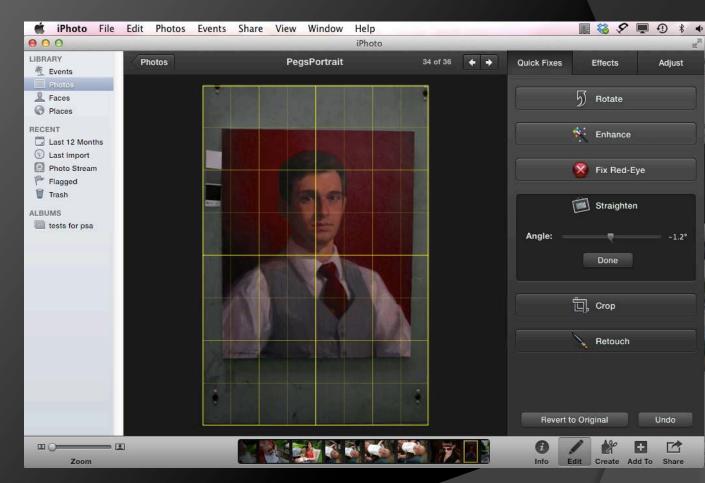
Straighten the Image.

- If you click on the Straighten button, you will see a grid on your image. You will also see another slider.
- Move the slider left and right to line up one side of the painting.
- Since you cannot correct distortion in iPhoto, choose the part of the painting that you will lose the least from. I chose to lose some of the background.



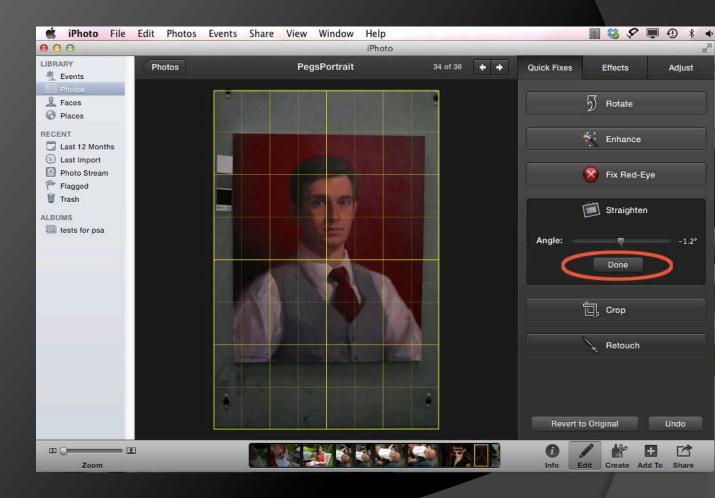
Straighten the image.

Notice that the slider is moved slightly to the left to level the bottom part of the painting.



Commit to the function.

Now hit Done.



Crop the image.

- Now click on the Crop button.
- Make sure the Constrain box is checked. Place your cursor on the scroll bar and scroll to Custom.
- Notice the outline that shows up around the image. You can now click, hold, and drag the corners or the sides of the outline into where you want the image cropped.



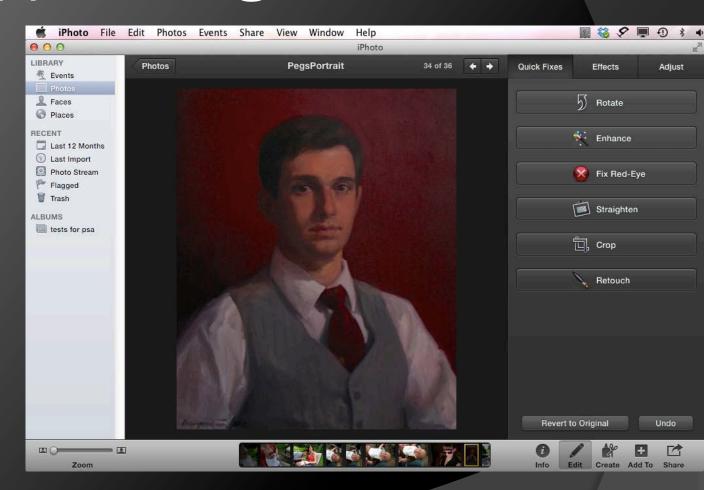
Crop the image.

Olick on Done...



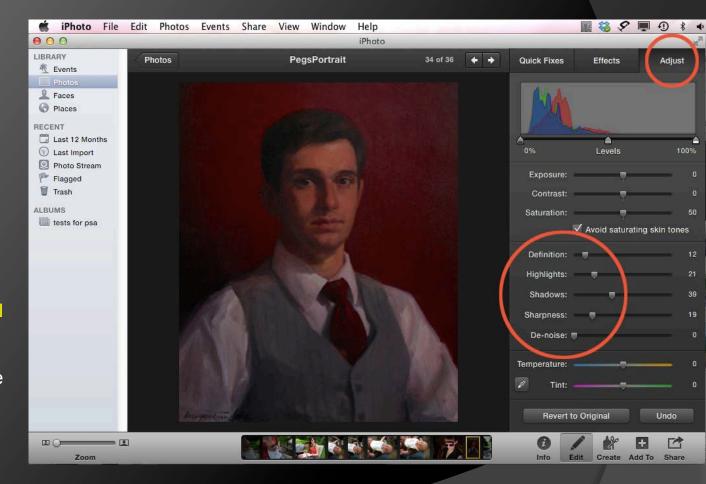
The Cropped image.

You now have an image that is cropped properly for submission to competitions.

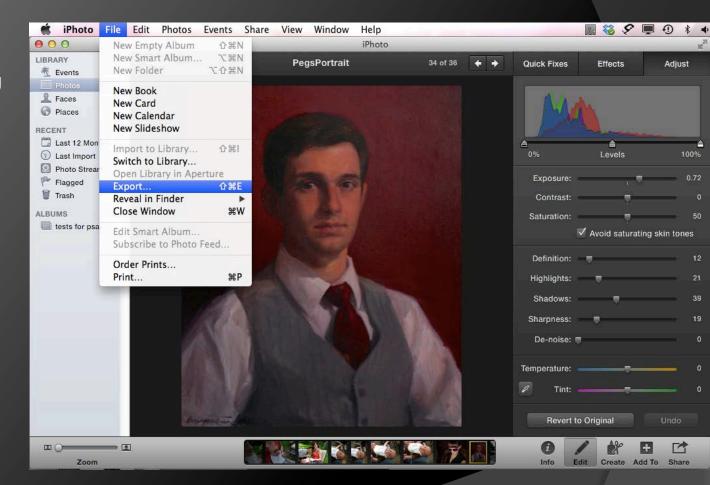


Fine tuning.

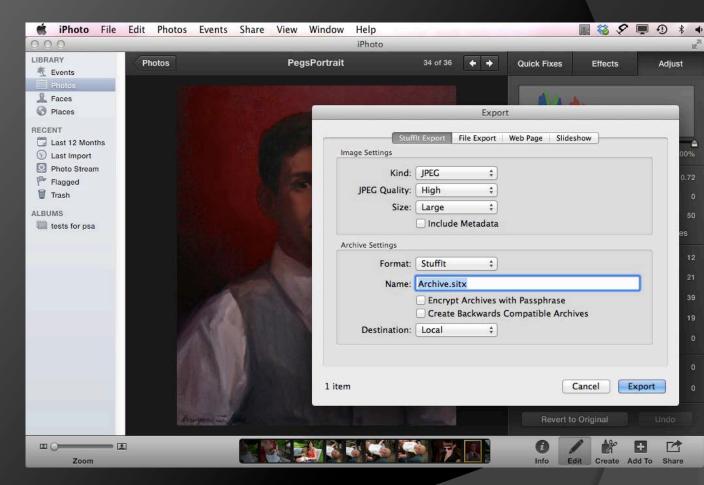
- Many times after eliminating the background from the image, you will find that you might need to adjust minor things in the image.
- Go back to Adjust. Now use the sliders in the panel to make slight adjustments to the image. In this case I chose to lighten the Highlights & Shadows. I also Sharpened and Defined it.



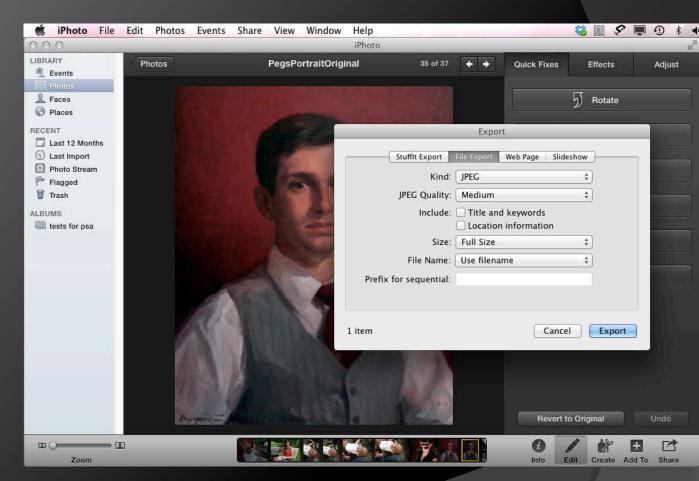
- Now that the image is matching your original painting, we'll resize the image for CLWAC competition.
- In the Main Menu at the top of the window, click on File and scroll down to Export...



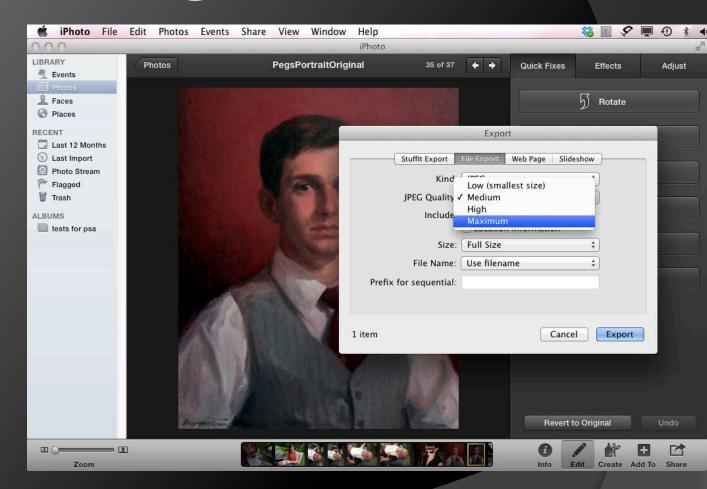
 This is what the window will look like when it opens.



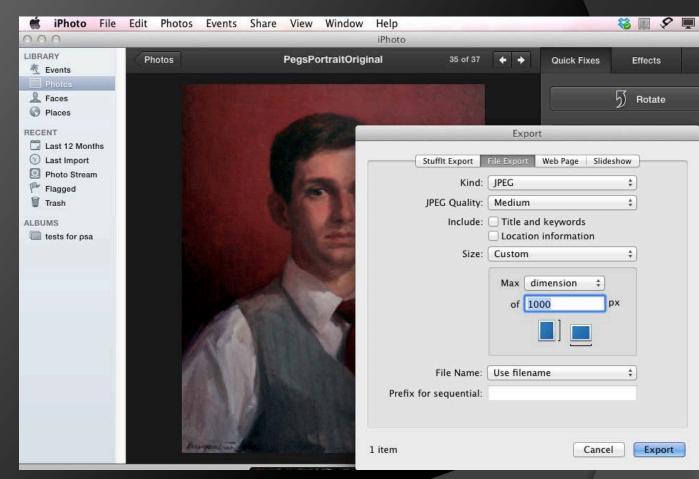
 Click on the File Export button at the top of the window.



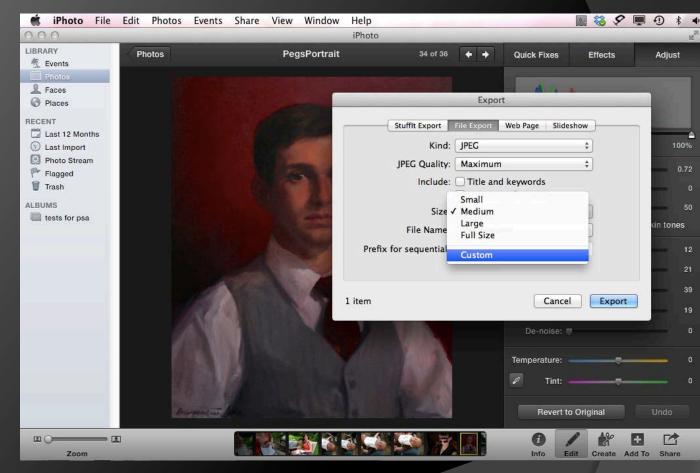
 Now you need to scroll the JPEG
Quality: bar to
Maximum.



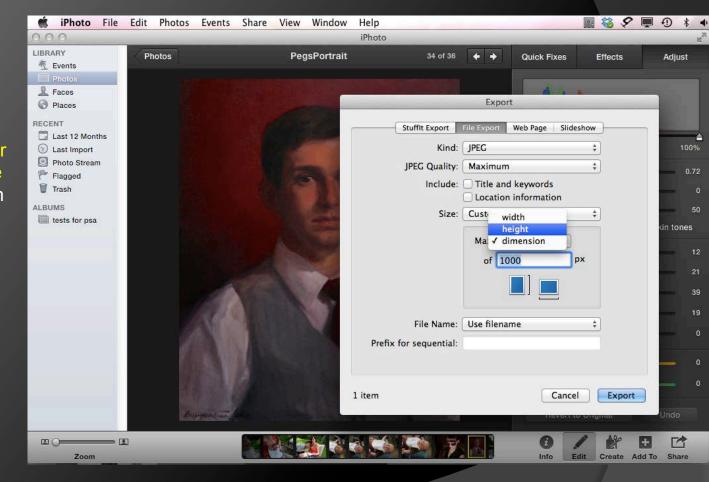
 Now you need to scroll the Size: bar to Custom.



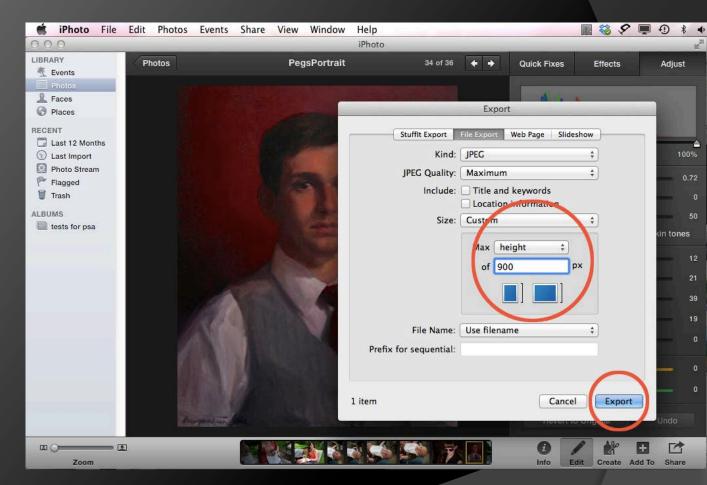
Now you need to scroll the JPEG Quality: bar to Maximum and the Size: bar to Custom to see the actual size of the image.



- This is where you will resize your image.
- Scroll the Size: bar to the longest side of your painting. In this case, the longest side is the height. This will give you the dimension you need to reset.

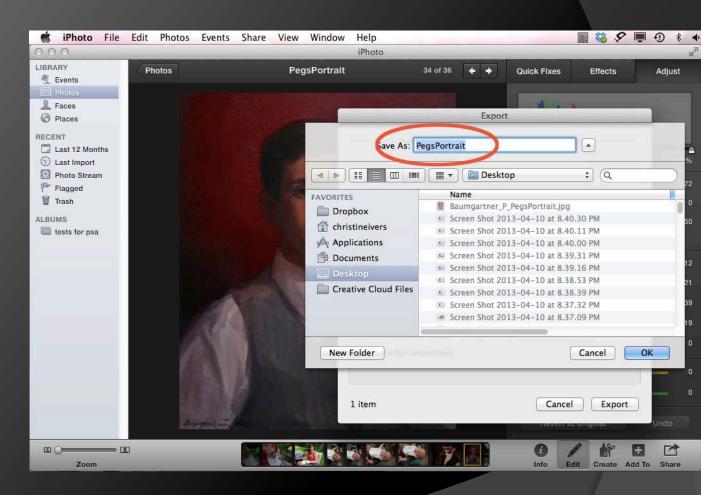


 After you change the size, hit the Export button.



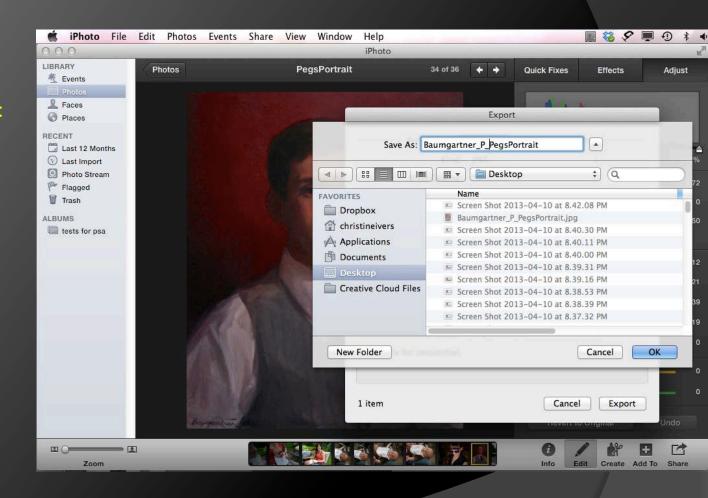
Rename the file for CLWAC.

Now rename the file in the Save As: window.

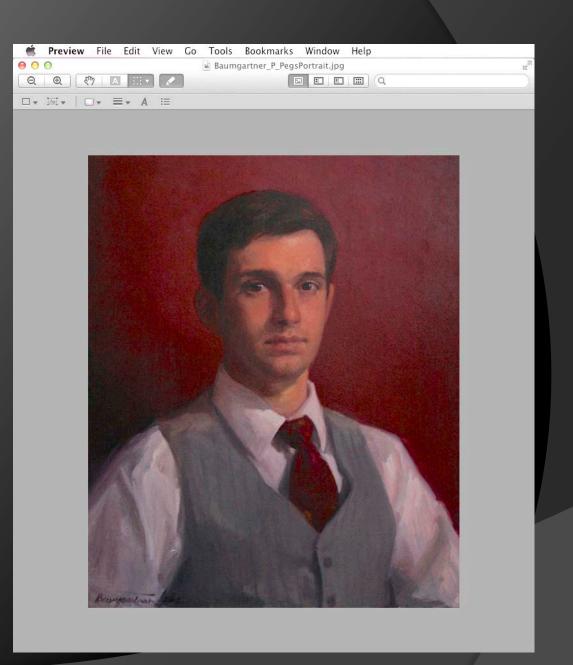


Rename the file for CLWAC.

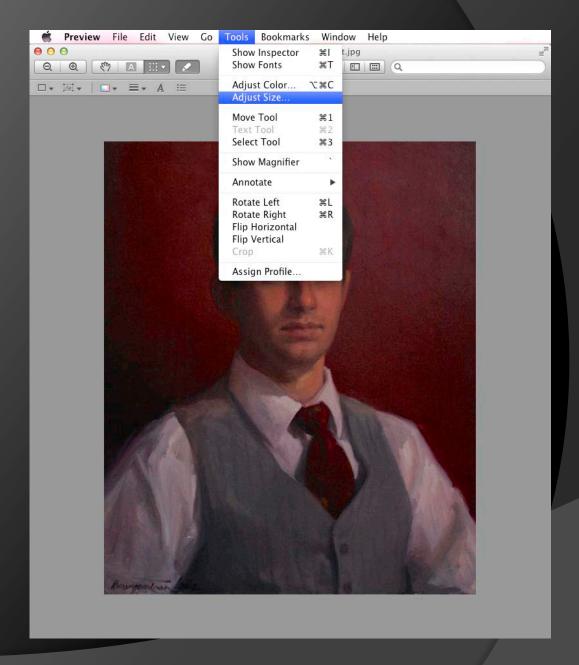
- Type in your Last Name, underscore, First Name Initial, underscore, and the name of the painting.
- If the painting name is long, please abbreviate the name.
- Hit OK.



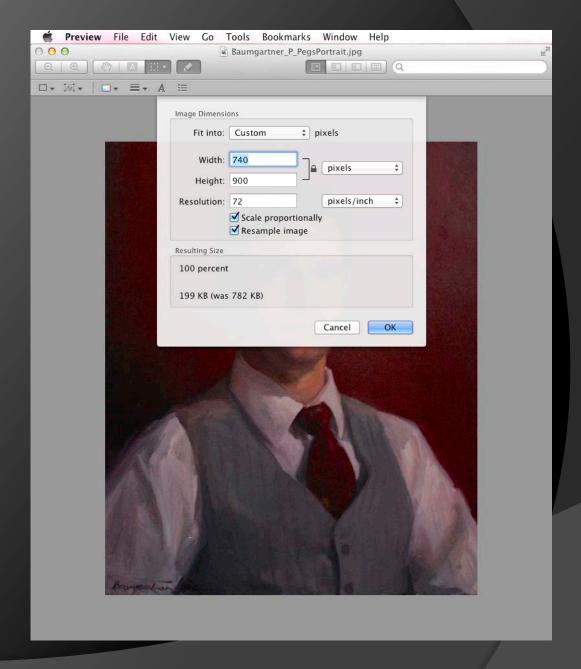
Since you cannot set the resolution factor in iPhoto, you will now have to open your image in PREVIEW to continue to resize the image correctly.



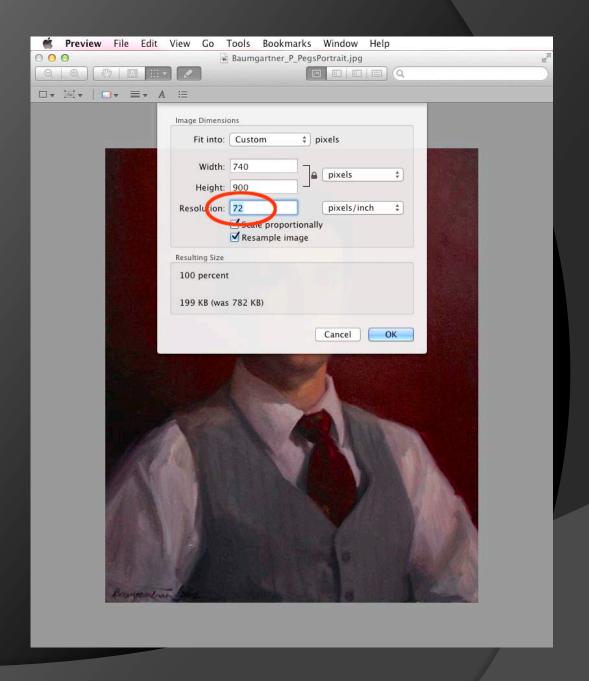
 Click on Tools in the Main Menu and scroll to Adjust Size...



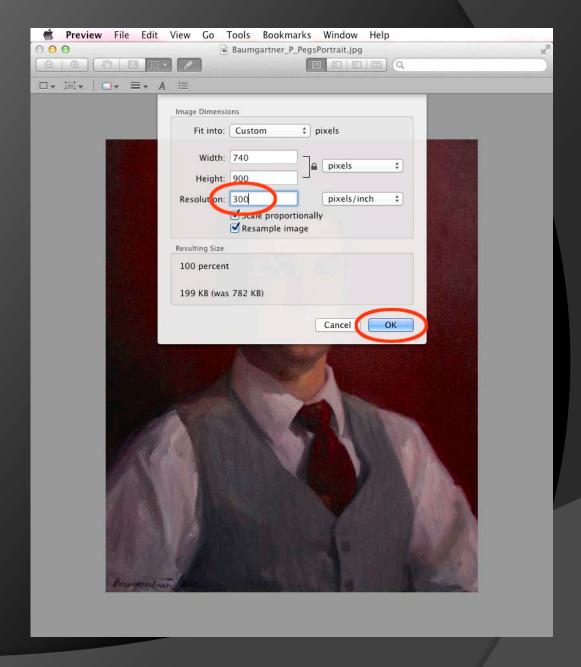
 This is what it will look like when the dialog box opens.



 Notice that the Resolution size is set at 72. This is where you change it to 300.



Type in 300 and click OK.



Congratulations! You've done it!