BORDERS AROUND IMAGES

When an image is projected, a border helps to separate the image from the screen surface and usually improves the impact of the image. This is particularly true if the image has dark tones at the edges, which are difficult to separate from the screen area surrounding it.

In many cases a thin border, 1 pixel wide, in white or a light colour or even grey, produces the desired effect.

The new HD projector uses a higher resolution and you may decide for artistic reasons to use a slightly thicker border of 2 or 3 pixels.

Resize your images to a maximum width of 1440 pixels and/or a maximum height of 1080 pixels.   Then apply the border.

Applying a Border in Photoshop

1. Resize the image as specified above.
2. Select the whole picture (Select menu>All or press Ctrl+A)
3. Set the foreground colour to white (Foreground/Background tool on the toolbar)
4. Stroke the selection (Edit menu> Stroke…)

In the dialogue box that opens:

1. Set the width of the stroke in pixels (1 pixel will do)
2. If the Colour is not correct (white) click the Colour box and choose another colour
3. Choose "Inside" to ensure that the stroke lies just inside the selection.
4. Click OK.

With 1 pixel borders, white is a perfectly good border colour. If you decide to experiment with thicker borders, white is often too bright and distracts. Try greys or a muted colour that tones in with the main image colours.

Of course, all of the above is really only necessary when images are to be projected.

Note: If you use a much thicker border or a fancy patterned border the judge will be forced to consider the prominent border as part of the image and evaluate it accordingly; commenting on the effect on the image and whether it contributes to or detracts from the success of the photograph.