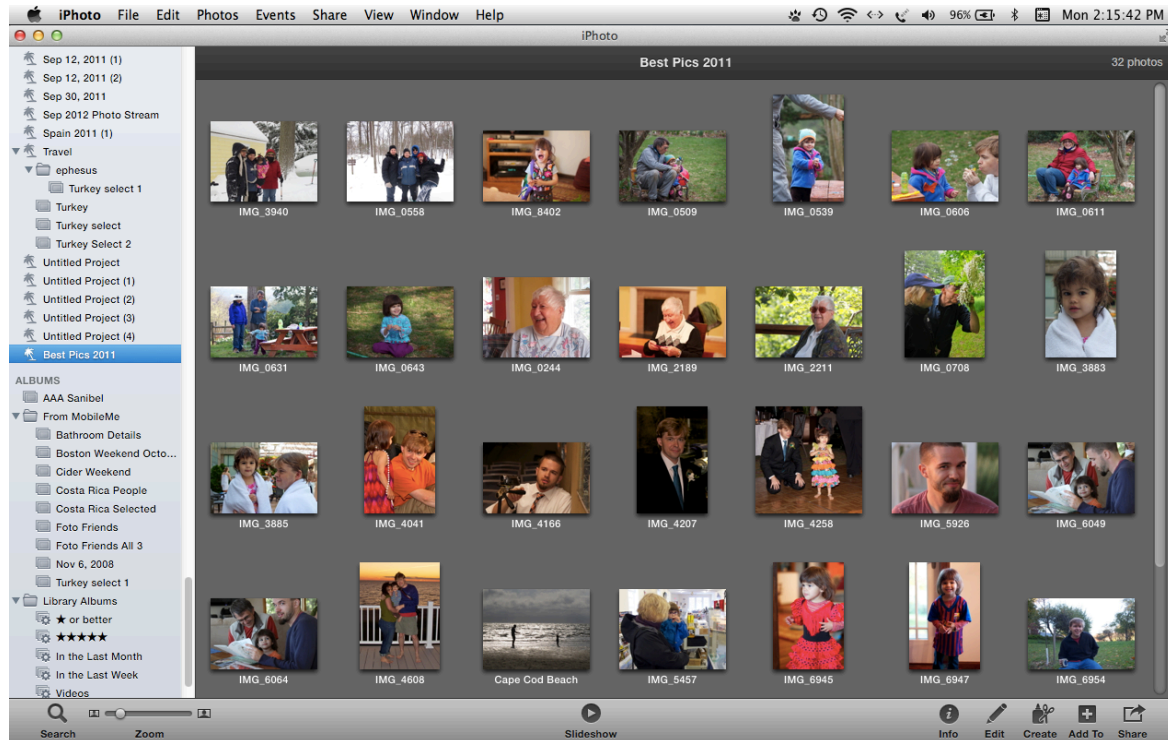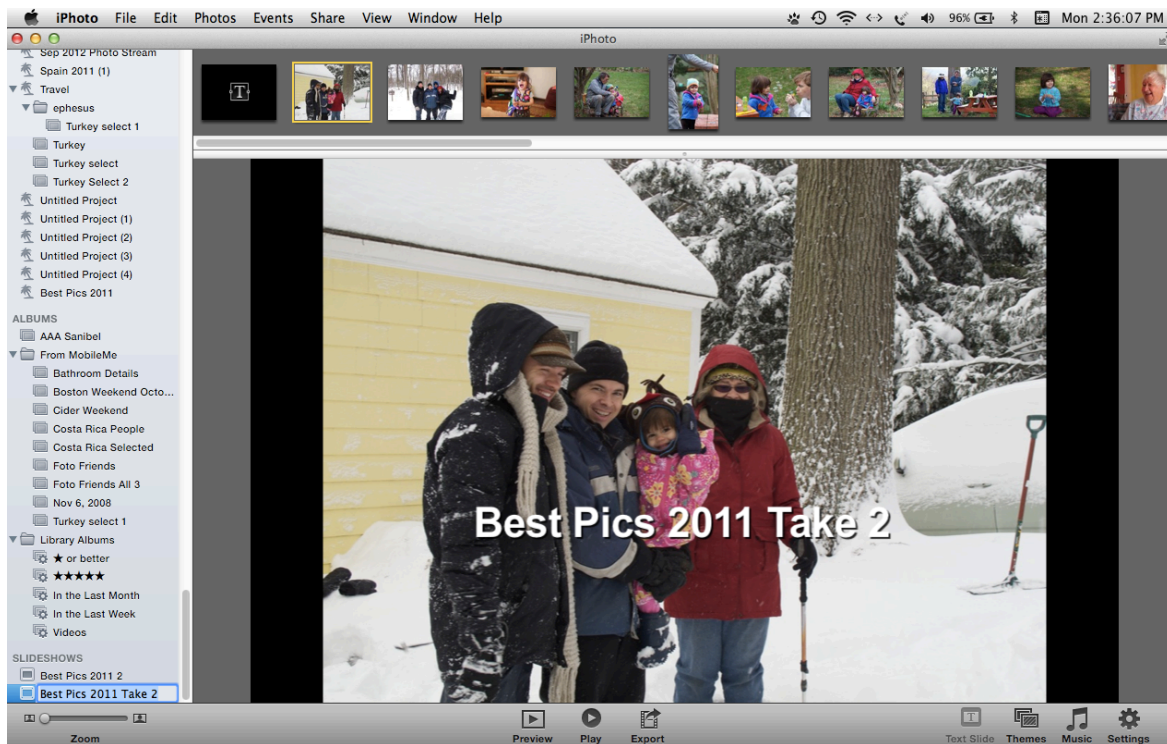Open IPhoto and then choose a set of photos (40 or less) and then order them as
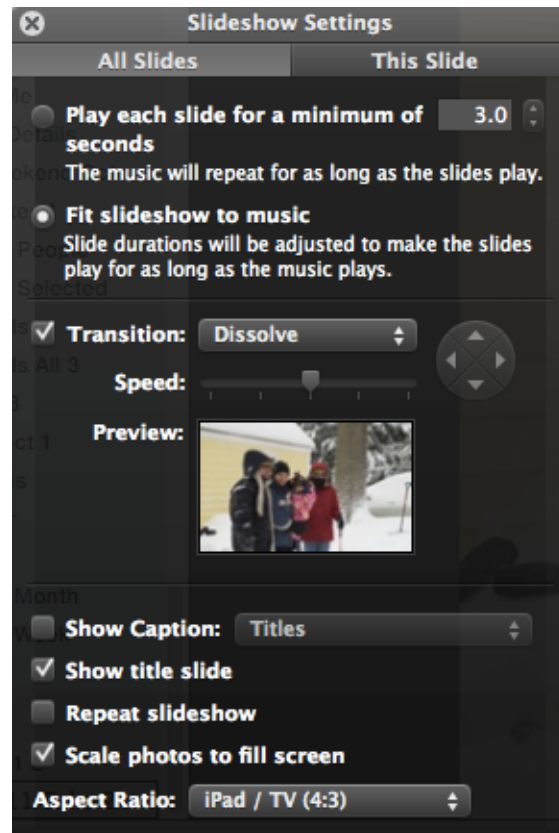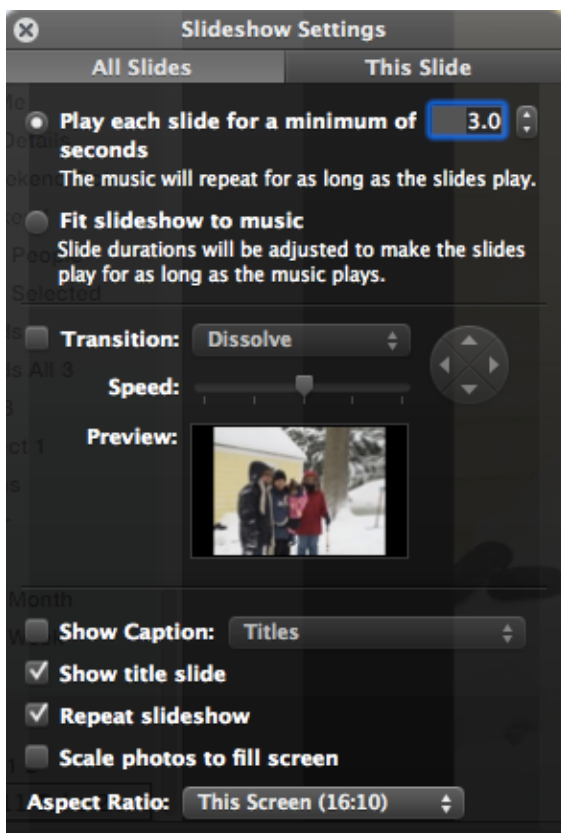

desired. Then select all and choose Create (slideshow) at the bottom of the screen, or alternatively select New Slideshow under the File Menu.

You will then be presented with a slide show that you can edit to your hearts content.
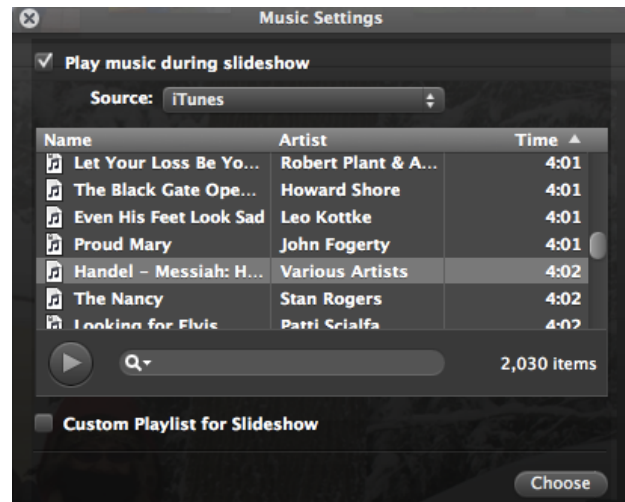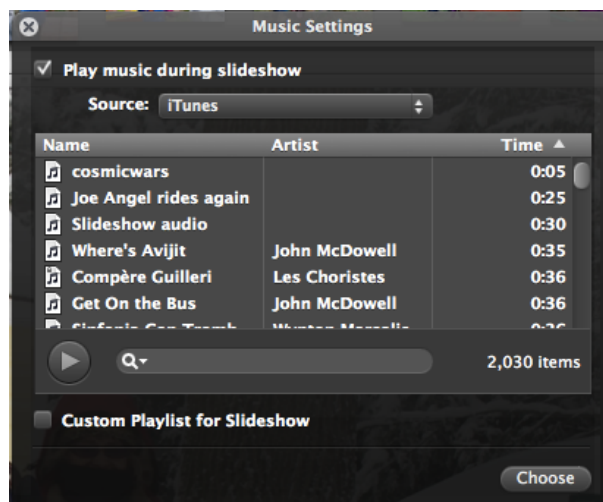

If you click on settings you will have variouis option that can apply to the whole show or to an individual slide. I recommend that you modify the default settings (left) to the settings shown on the right image.
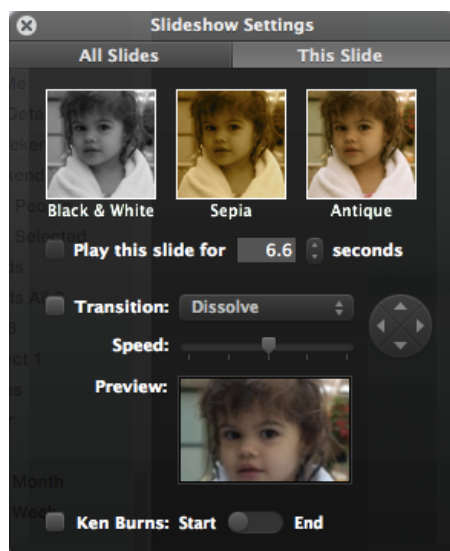
If you had 40 images then showing them for 6 seconds each would get you a 4 min show as requested by photo essay guidelines. I find it is easiest to simply find a 4 min segment of music as I will illustrate in the next section. The dissolve transition is the most common (some of the others are distracting). You do want a title slide and by default this is the title you used for you album but it's easy to select and change. You don't need 'repeat slideshow'. Scaling the photos to fill the screen is most important when you have photos that are not natively the 4:3 format that our projector uses (such as portrait shots) but along with that is the need to hand edit any portrait shots to make sure that the scaling doesn't center on the wrong part of the portrait.

Next click on the Music icon at the bottom of the screen to open up the Music settings window. By default the souce is ITunes and you can choose to create a custom playlist that adds up to 4 mins worth of music or what is simpler is just select the time column so the musics is sorted by length and scroll to the music that is about 4 mins in length
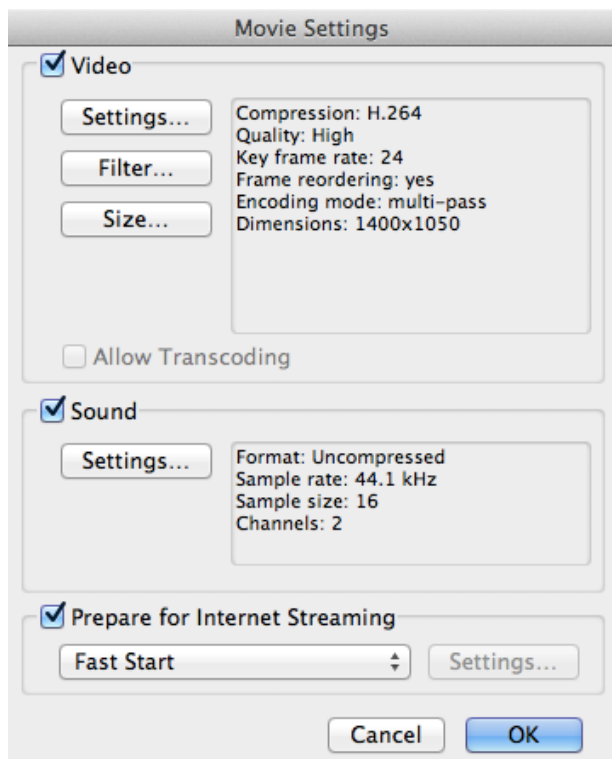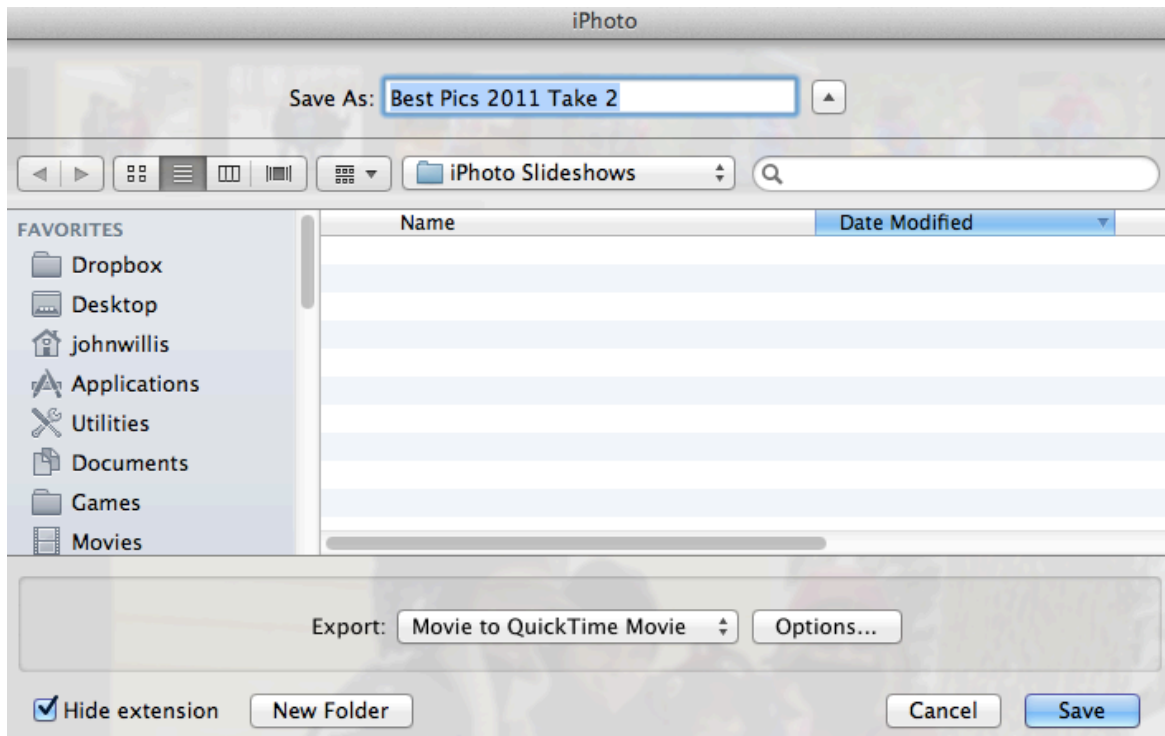
then click Choose.

You can now click preview to see your slideshow. You will notice that some slides may need to be adjusted if they were scaled to the wrong centering for the screen (in the case of a portrait especially) or you may wish to add other effect to an image or a set of images (like the Ken Burns zoom and pan effect). Just click on an individual slide as you see it on the top bar and then open up the settings window again and select 'This Slide' and you will see a different window that lets you adjust that slide.

You can add an additional title slide by simply choosing which slide you want as background and then click on title slide. The font, etc. is fully adjustable.

So now you have a slide show. To make this useful to the club we need to export it as a video. Click on 'Export' at the bottom of the window and then choose 'Custom Export' in the next window.

At this point select 'Options' for Movie to Quicktime Movie and adjust the settings to at least provide High Quality with H.264 compression as shown. Going to Best Quality is ok too but will take Much longer to complete. There will probably be instructions issued on how to transfer this video file to the Committee, but in the meantime you can play it over and over again...

There is a lot of flexibility even in this simplest of Mac photo editing programs. Aperture provides a very similar approach to making a slide show with more flexibility to adding music and transitions. But the end result is surprisingly similar.

4