Digital Photography

Tips on portraiture:

1. Find an interesting subject
2. Alter the position from which you shoot (above, below, angled, etc.)
3. Fill the frame, get closer to your subjects
4. Introduce movement around your subject
5. Play with eye contact, e.g. off camera, within the frame, at you
6. Experiment with lighting
7. Focus on one body part
8. Shoot your subject unfocused—be careful, as it has to make sense and be abstractly cohesive
9. Frequently change your framing format from landscape to portrait to angled
10. Break the rules of composition, e.g. rule of thirds
11. Use a narrow or wider depth of field purposively. If you use a greater depth of field, make sure that what fills that depth relates to the portrait either in narrative information or through compositional elements
12. Obscure part of your subject
13. Move your subject out of their comfort zone, e.g. jumping shots
14. Think about what kind of expression, mood, emotion, or aspect of your subject's personality you would like to emphasize in the photograph
15. Introduce a prop
16. Shoot candidly, posed shots have a deadness to them
17. Take a series of shots "continuous shooting mode" and present them as a series instead of as one image
18. Give your subject space to look into