



2017-2018 PPSDC Image Competition Rules

Updated effective 08/11/2017 by Roxyanne Young, 2nd Vice President; and Monica Royal, 1st Vice President; Webmaster Willie Sakai; and President Janet Bark

ELIGIBILITY:

Any member in good standing and in accordance with the year's current membership rules and regulations can participate in Image Competition and earn Merits, Best-in-Class, and Best-in-Show honors. All members are encouraged to attend as part of their continuing education and professional growth.

ENTRIES ALLOWED:

You may submit up to four (4) digital photographic entries in the competition unless otherwise noted in the promotional materials for the upcoming competition. For instance, in our March Madness competition, we may allow up to five entries per member.

- Images previously entered which originally scored 79 or below may be entered a second time in local competition **IF** significant changes to enhance the entry have been made.

You may NOT enter:

- Any image that has merited in any category of PPSDC Image Competition previously, including images submitted as part of a collection/album.
- Images created under the direction of an instructor, as with private classes, workshops, or at West Coast School. All works must be the sole concept, execution, and creation of the Maker.
- Images that have already merited in State, Regional, or National PPA Image Competition. Our purpose in PPSDC Image Competition is to prepare the Maker for regional and national competition.
- Images that have merited in other affiliates in previous competition years are not eligible for entry.

Violation of any of these rules may result in disqualification from competition and nullification of any Merits or other awards for that competition year.

Earning Merits, Best-in-Class, and Best-in-Show Honors

- The Maker is encouraged to be present to collect any Best-in-Class and Best-in-Show honors. The only exceptions to this rule is if the Maker cannot be present due to professional obligations or illness.
- Scores are kept on file by the 2nd Vice President/Image Competition Chair and are posted on the chapter website shortly after each competition so that everyone can follow their own progress through the season.
- Members are responsible for keeping track of their Merit points toward their Artistic Achievement Medals and Service Medals. (See description under Member Benefits.)

ENTRY FEE (digital):

\$15.00 each for the first three entries, the fourth entry is free. Fee must be paid online during submission. Non-payment may result in an image not being entered into the competition. It is the responsibility of the entrant / Maker to ensure that payment was received in a timely manner.

DEADLINE (digital):

- All files are to be SUBMITTED by midnight one week PRIOR TO COMPETITION. Files will be submitted via the PPSDC website at <http://ppsd.com/submit-images> unless otherwise instructed.
- Due to the required set-up of digital competition, there will be NO LATE ENTRIES ACCEPTED. NO EXCEPTIONS.

IDENTIFICATION/SPECIFICATIONS FOR DIGITAL ENTRIES:

All entries **MUST** comply with the following otherwise they will not be considered for entry and you will be asked to make the appropriate changes before the competition.

- Files MUST be in sRGB Color Space
- Files size should be 4000 pixels on the longest side at 300dpi; it must be saved as JPG format
- Naming must be as follows: category_titleofphoto_firstname_lastname.jpg

CLASSIFICATION OF ENTRIES

Entries must be designated by the entrant in one of the following classifications:

ALBUM (Digital Submission) – EVENT:

- All Albums must house a minimum of sixteen (16) pages.
- Document the cover and note the number of pages in the album.
- All photographs must be from the same social function.
- An image that is part of an album that has received a score of 80 or higher in a PPSDC Image Competition may NOT be entered in any category as an individual entry.
- Images that are part of an album that has received a score of 79 or less in a PPSDC Image Competition may be entered as an individual entry in the appropriate category. However it may NOT be entered within the same PPSDC image competition year as the album.

ALBUM – NON-EVENT:

- All Albums must house a minimum of sixteen (16) pages.
- Document the cover and note the number of pages in the album.
- An image that is part of an album that has received a score of 80 or higher in a PPSDC image competition may NOT be entered in any category as an individual entry.
- Images that are part of an album that has received a score of 79 or less in a PPSDC image competition may be entered as an individual entry in the appropriate category. However it may NOT be entered within the same PPSDC image competition year as the album.

CHILDREN:

- Individual or groups of children ten (10) years old and younger.
- Photographs of Children taken during weddings may NOT be entered in this category.

COMMERCIAL:

- Industrial, tabletop, advertising, stock, aerial images and other commercial images may be included in this category.
- Architecture fits this category.
- Cityscapes fits this category.

NOTE: A tear sheet or statement of purpose is requested, but not required.

DIGITAL IMAGING:

- One final image comprised of multiple photographic images, digitally manipulated using computer software.
- Source files must be included as thumbnails, either on a separate sheet or as thumbnails printed beneath the final image. **Submit your source images to imagecomp@ppsd.com with the subject line “SOURCE IMAGES: CATEGORY_NAME OF ENTRY_MAKER NAME.”**
- If source files contain stock photography, proof of purchase or copyright release from the original artist may be requested by the Image Comp Chair.
- Images that have painterly qualities or use strong filter effects, heavy digital manipulations, or other special effects belong in this category.

ILLUSTRATIVE:

- Includes any commercial, people, or photojournalistic image that does not clearly fall into the other categories.

NATURE/LANDSCAPE

- Image(s) must show outdoor scenes of the natural environment. Flora, fauna, and animals not considered pets are included in this category; wild animals in a zoo environment are allowed.
- Man-made objects should not be the predominant subject matter of the image. (i.e. A mountain landscape with a small cottage nestled in the woods would be admissible. A close-up of a barn with animals next to it would be entered into the Illustrative category.)
- The following are NOT eligible nature subjects:
 - domestic animals and pets
 - mounted specimens
 - floral arrangements

PETS:

- Domesticated animals: dogs, cats, cavies, fish, reptiles, birds kept in cages/homes, pigs, etc. This category is intended for non-human family members and excludes wild animals and those contained in zoos.
- Images may be portrait or candid in composition.
- Photographs of family groups or individuals with animals should be entered in the Portrait category.

PHOTOJOURNALISM:

- This category is for an image captured in the moment that tells a story as it happened.
- No studio-produced images or digitally manipulated subject matter will be allowed in this category.
- Traditional darkroom techniques are permissible but limited to cropping, dodging, and burning.
- Post-capture digital sharpening is NOT allowed in this category. This and other post-processing techniques may result in your image being disqualified.

PORTRAIT:

- Individuals, families, children over ten (10) years old.

- Photographs of weddings may NOT be entered in this category, but staged wedding portraits taken on a day other than the day of the wedding ceremony are acceptable.

SENIOR:

- Individuals who are Juniors or Seniors in high school.

WEDDING:

- All photographs must be from an actual client wedding on the day(s) of the event.
- Every part of the image must be taken on the wedding day. Composited images are NOT allowed. (i.e. A dramatic sky dropped in behind a couple). Composite images should be entered into the Digital Imaging category.
- Staged images with models should be entered into the Portrait category or into the Commercial category if used for commercial purposes.

THE MODERATOR:

The moderator will be responsible for explaining the judging system to the audience and let the judges know about challenges and other rules for the Image Competition. The moderator is also tasked with keeping commentary on point and keeping the evening running in a timely manner.

JUDGING PROCEDURES

SCORING: The point system is used with scores from 100 to 65. They are as follows:

95-100 Exceptional

90-94 Superior

85-89 Excellent

80-84 Deserving of a Merit

75-79 Above Average

70-74 Acceptable

65-69 Below Exhibition Standard

All entries receiving initial scores of 78 or 79 shall be reviewed at the end of the category. On review, the change to the score of 80 is by majority vote. The final score will be the official score on these and any other challenged images.

JUDGING RESULTS

BEST-IN-CLASS:

Will be determined by a review of all the images that merited in the class after all images in that class have been viewed and all judging has been completed. The entry that is awarded Best-in-Class is eligible for the Best-in-Show Award. If there is only one entry in any one category and the sole entry does not score 80 or higher, there will be no Best-in-Class award given in the category.

BEST-IN-SHOW:

All entries receiving Best-in-Class honors will then compete for Best-in-Show honors. Albums will be presented by the cover image. The Maker must be present to receive these awards, unless they have been excused because of professional obligations or an illness that prevents their attending Image Comp in person, as explained under ENTRIES ALLOWED.

As Best-in-Show winner, the Maker will be featured in the next issue of FOCUS and will be asked to write a "behind the scenes" article describing the creation of the entry, which should be submitted for the magazine within one week. Copyediting will be provided by the Editor or Assistant Editor.

ANNUAL AWARDS

At the end-of-the-year banquet, awards will be given in the following categories:

Event Album Photographer of the Year

Non-Event Album Photographer of the Year

Children's Photographer of the Year

Commercial Photographer of the Year

Illustrative Photographer of the Year

Digital Imaging Photographer of the Year

Nature / Landscape Photographer of the Year

Pet Photographer of the Year

Photojournalism Photographer of the Year

Portrait Photographer of the Year

Senior Photographer of the Year

Wedding Photographer of the Year

To be eligible, you must have:

- Entered at least four (4) of the five (5) Image Competitions throughout the current competition year
- Enter at least four (4) images in a specific category during the current competition year
- The award is given based on the highest aggregate score of an Maker's four (4) entries in a single category. Only the four (4) highest scores are totaled if more than four (4) entries were submitted. (An "aggregate" score is the total score of the four highest scores, not the average.)
- The average score of the four (4) entries must be 80 or above and will be measured to at least two decimal places to help avoid ties.
- If there is a tie between two or more photographers in any category the photographer with the highest scoring image in the category will be the winner of that category.

IMAGE OF THE YEAR:

Image of the Year is awarded to the photographer creating the image selected as the most outstanding image of the year. Selection of this image will be taken from images judged as Best-in-Show for the current competition year.

A panel of five (5) or more jurors from outside our affiliate will select the image. The image competition chairperson will select the jurors from PPA- and/or PPC-trained Certified Professional Photographers, Master Photographers, and Master Craftsmen as listed in the PPA Jurors Directory, but the jurors asked to help select the Image of the Year may NOT have been judges during the current season as they will have seen one or more of these images before.

PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR:

Because Photographer of the Year should be the most well-rounded artist in the competition, the winner will be determined based on the aggregate scores of the Makers' best five images across four categories, measured out to two decimal places. (i.e. The Maker's top scores in each of four categories are considered, and then the next highest score in any category is added to the total.)

In the event of a tie, the sixth highest-scoring image in any category and the calculation will be redone with the six scores.

- Maker must enter at least four different categories throughout the competition year.
- Maker must have entered at least four of the five image competitions to be eligible for this award.

PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT AWARD:

Awarded in recognition of an individual who, in the eyes of the Second Vice President, has made the greatest advancement in Image Competition entries. Consideration is primarily based on score improvement over past years, and commonly bestowed upon an individual who has not been awarded additional awards.