

Maine Professional Photographers' Association

Photographic Image Competition Rules 2022

JUDGING WILL BEGIN AT 8:00AM EASTERN ON FRIDAY, APRIL 29th, 2022

GUIDELINES

- Any photographer may enter the competition for image judging and scoring.
- MPPA Membership must be active as of 11:59pm EST Monday April 25th, 2022 to be considered for member awards.
- Entries must be registered and uploaded **NO LATER THAN 8:00 AM Eastern on Wednesday April 27, 2022** except for the Creative Challenge (see below).
- The entry fee for MPPA members is \$12 per entry. Non-member's entry fee is \$15 per entry.
- Albums count as one entry and each person is allowed up to 2 albums.
- Entries of the same subject in multiple images will be allowed, as long as the images are entirely different concepts.
- Anything previously entered into the MPPA Competition receiving a merit or that has been created under the supervision of an instructor is not eligible.
- The photographer/artist must be the one to perform all editing on their submitted entries. No editing may be contracted to a third party.
- Images that are disqualified may still be allowed to be judged but will not be eligible for awards.
- Under no circumstances will any refunds be given.
- Any questions related to image entry or competition rules shall be addressed to the print competition chair. It is at the print competition chair's discretion to involve any of the Executive Board for questions or issues that the print chair cannot resolve on his/her own.

CATEGORIES OF ENTRIES

- **Portrait:** Images can portray a subject or subjects from all walks of life and should reflect the personality of the subject(s). This category includes images of:
 - Children
 - High School Seniors
 - Animals: where the owner or photographer controls the animal and its environment. (Wild animals would be submitted into the Animal Category).
 - General Portraits which may include families, groups, couples, children, teenagers or adults. This also includes portraits of relationships, models, fashion portraits, in addition to tastefully artistic figure studies.
- **Wedding:** Images can portray a subject or subjects from all aspects of a wedding including traditional portraits, candid or detail work. **Images must be taken the DAY OF** the wedding.

- **Artist:** This category is to allow the entrant to demonstrate their art skills and expertise. Entries will be judged for their digital, artistic and technical proficiency and follow the below criteria.
 - Entries can include stock photography, photographs or artwork by other artist(s) with written consent to use those sources. Documentation may be requested by the MPPA Image Competition Committee before, during or after the competition.
 - All processing, manipulation, and artwork must be done by the entrant.
 - No entry will be eligible if it has been made under the supervision of an instructor or as a class assignment. All images submitted must be self-directed.
 - All photographic elements that are not made by the entrant, must be represented as a guide image on the face of the entry. (Photographic Brushes and Textures do not require guide images)
- **Commercial:** This category is used when images are created for a commercial client to advertise a product and promote a brand or company. This can be an interior or exterior of a structure or within an industrial environment.
- **Reportage:** Images that illustrate an actual public or non-public event, life, an area of human interest, telling news that have meaning on the context or record of events, high impact and/or lasting emotional response. Images that illustrate sporting events can be included in this category. ONLY basic color and brightness adjustments, cropping, dodging, and burning in are allowed. Only single-capture images will be accepted. Composite and multiple exposure images will not be accepted. The original captured image (in RAW or jpg) must be made available if requested by the Image Competition Chairperson.
- **Fine Art:** Images and/or abstract art that reflects a unique or evoking perspective. These images stand in contrast to representational photography. Entrants must have performed all digital manipulations and/or techniques.
- **Landscape:** Images in which natural scenery or subjects are dominant. Seascapes, cityscapes, urban landscapes, and sunsets with or without other subjects can be placed here.
- **Sports:** Any images pertaining to sports. Action, posed, and compositing are included in this category. Unlike Reportage, images in the Sports category CAN be manipulated beyond the basic color and brightness adjustments, cropping, dodging and burning.
- **Animal:** Images in which an animal or animals are dominant and not in a controlled environment.
- **Creative Challenge:** This category is to challenge your interpretation and creativity of the topic. The winner of this category may determine the topic for the following year. This is a free category for MPPA members in which MPPA members are allowed to submit 1 image into this category and allowed a single vote to pick their favorite image in the category. See below for additional details.
- **Event Album:** Consists of time-sensitive social events, such as weddings, bar mitzvahs, etc.
- **Non-Event Album:** Albums that consist of related images or story-telling images.

If an entry in good-faith opinion of the Competition Chairperson violates copyright, trademark or any other applicable laws or competition rules that entry will be disqualified.

NOTE: Many images may fit into more than one category and is at the discretion of the entrant to decide which category to enter into. Should the Competition Chairperson deem that an entry is placed into the wrong category, the Competition Chairperson has the right to place the image(s) in the proper category.

HOW TO SUBMIT ENTRIES

- Register with MPPA (Maine) at printcompetition.com
- Entrants will be asked to pay a one-time fee or become a Premium Subscriber. This small fee is used to help support the ongoing software and hardware upgrades needed to keep PrintCompetition.com strong, secure and efficient going forward.
- Files shall be **4,000 pixels** on the longest side. Each file must contain an embedded color profile of either **sRGB or Adobe RGB1998** and be saved at **JPEG quality setting of 10**. When possible the total file size should not exceed 3.5 MB.
- Files are to be named: Image Name.jpg (e.g. See Spot Run.jpg).
- An entrant's name or image title CANNOT appear on any entry.
- Entries may be added and updated at any time before the deadline as stated above.

ALBUM SUBMISSION

- All page/spread files must be sized the same way as an entry. See above.
- Album entries must contain a minimum of 5 page/spreads and a maximum of 36 page/spreads.
- Files are to be named in viewing order using 2 digits. (e.g. 01.jpg, 02.jpg, 03.jpg)
- All album page/spread files must be compressed into a single ZIP file. Zip files should be named: Album Title.zip (e.g. Summer Wedding.zip)
- The album cover should be included in the zip file if the entrant wants it to be displayed in sequence with the page/spreads. If an album cover is included it is typically saved as 01.JPG so it will be displayed first while viewing.
- Any images submitted as part of an album cannot be submitted in any other category.
- Studio identification or entrant's names cannot appear on any file within the album.

CREATIVE CHALLENGE

- This award will be voted on by the members of MPPA.
- Image requirements will be the same as the rest of the competition however images will be submitted by emailing them to info@maineppa.com with the subject "**Creative Challenge 2022**" rather than submitting them on www.Printcompetition.com.
- Each member is invited to submit one image into this category at no cost.
- This image can be submitted in another category as well for judging on Friday April 29th .
- Entries for this category must be received by Friday, April 22nd at 11:59pm Eastern.
- Each Maine PPA Member can cast one vote for their favorite Creative Challenge Image of the year. Members are asked to consider how well the image fits the topic as well as the 12 elements.
- Voting will take place from Monday April 25th through Thursday April 28th at 11:59pm Eastern. An email with full instructions on how to vote will be sent out by 8:00 am Eastern on Monday April 25th
- The topic for 2022 is **Storm**.
- The winner for 2022 will choose the Creative Challenge topic for the 2023 image competition.

NON-MEMBER RULES

- Non-Members are included in all the same guidelines listed above.
- Judges will NOT be aware of an entrant's membership status and will be judged the same way as all other entries.
- Non-members will not be eligible for awards except for the Court of Honor. .

JUDGING

- There will be no previewing of any entries.
- Judges will not be aware of an entrant's name until all scoring and post-judging award selections have been made. Please refrain for any communication with a judge about any entries until all competition judging has concluded.
- Scoring of images will be based on the following standards:

Exceptional	95-100
Superior	90-94
Excellent	85-89
Deserving of a Merit	80-84
Above Average	75-79
Average	70-74
Below Exhibition Standards	65-69

- The judges, along with the Jury Chairperson and Competition Chairperson will have the authority to make decisions based on any questions not covered by these rules. Any additional ruling will be FINAL.
- Judges will make the selection of awards in any case of a tie.
- For more information more about the scoring system and 12 Elements of a Merit Image visit the Professional Photographers of America International Photographic Competition page at <https://www.ppa.com/events/photo-competitions/ipc-resources>

AWARDS

- The judging of all awards will be closed for viewing. Only the judges, Competition Chairperson and assistant(s), Jury Chairman and/or moderators will be present.
- Judging for these awards will be based on the quality of the entries in question.
- Only Maine PPA members are eligible for awards with the exception of the Court of Honor award, which is awarded to a non-MPPA member
- **Category Photographer of the Year Awards** will be given in the following categories: **Portrait, Artist, Wedding, Fine Art, Commercial, Reportage, Landscape, Sports and Animal**. The award is given to the entrant with the highest total of 4 entries in a category. 2 of which must score an 80 or above to be eligible for this award. If the total number of entries is not enough in any given category the Competition Chairperson reserves the right to award the highest scoring image in the category instead of the photographer of the year award based on 4 entries.

- **Creative Challenge Award** will be selected by MPPA members. In the event of a tie the Competition Chairperson will decide the winning image.
- **Client Image Award** will be selected out of the blue-ribbon (merit) entries that were produced for actual clients that the judges determine is most worthy of this award.
- **First Time Entrant Award** will be selected out of the entries produced by
- an MPPA member who has entered the image competition for the first time that the judges determine is most worthy of this award.
- **Best Black & White** will be selected out of all the black and white blue-ribbon entries that the judges determine is most worthy of this award.
- **Artistry in Photography Award** is selected out of all the blue ribbons winners from any category. It is presented for the Outstanding Highest Achievement for Artistry in Photography, showcasing Artistic Vision and a Mastery of photographic technique and skill as determined by the judges.
- **Court of Honor** will be given to the highest scoring entry created by a non-member.
- **Best of Show Award** will be given to the highest scoring entry. In the event of a tie for highest score the Judges will choose the best in show.
- **Judges Choice Awards** will be given by each judge for any entry, of any score, in any category that they deem to be their favorite.
- Any vendor sponsored awards are made available through the generosity of our vendors. There is no guarantee that they will be available, but will be given to the top scoring entry within the award criteria. The exact criteria for selecting the winner will be provided by the vendor. These awards typically include the **CPP Member Award, ASP Member Award, and Animal Image Makers Award.**
- Ribbons will be awarded to entries based on the following criteria:

Ribbon	Image Score
Blue	80-100
Red	78-79
White	75-77
Green	70-74

PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

- The **Win Tracy – Maine Photographer of the Year Award** is selected by the judges based on the best body of work by the top 5 highest scoring entrants. The winner chosen must reside in Maine and be a current active member. The judges will decide which body of work they think best represents the “Photographer of the Year”.
- Bodies of work are composed of an entrant’s 5 highest scoring entries.
- The winning photographer will retain the award until the next MPPA convention when the award will be returned to the Association.

ERRORS OR OMISSIONS

- The Competition Chairperson reserves the right to correct any errors or omission in the
- rules or judging procedures. The Competition Chairperson also has the authority to make the final judgment on any question(s) regarding these rules.
- Any questions please contact the Competition Chairperson:
Allen Small allen@flutterfocus.com 207-882-5001