



2024 STATE PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGE COMPETITION RULES

DEADLINE AND FEES

1. The PPC Photographic Image Competition will take place on November 2-3, 2024 starting at 9am via zoom.
2. Registration opens on October 1, 2024 at 12:01am.
3. The deadline to enter is October 25, 2024 at midnight Pacific Time.
4. Images are to be registered online at PrintCompetition.com (Membership required)
5. Registration fee is \$25 per image with a maximum of 6 images for members. \$35 per image for non-members.
6. Registration after October 18, 2024 will be \$35 per image for members and \$45 per image for non-members.
7. Critiques are included in your registration. All images will be critiqued the day after the competition via zoom starting November 3rd at 9am.

# IMAGES	1	2	3	4	5	6
Prior Oct 18	\$25.00	\$50.00	\$75.00	\$100.00	\$125.00	\$150.00
After Oct 18	\$35.00	\$70.00	\$105.00	\$140.00	\$175.00	\$210.00
NON-MEMBER						
Prior Oct 18	\$35.00	\$70.00	\$105.00	\$140.00	\$175.00	\$210.00
After Oct 18	\$45.00	\$90.00	\$135.00	\$180.00	\$225.00	\$270.00

ELIGIBILITY

1. The California Masters of Photography Degree is to show the photographic knowledge and skillset of the maker. However, a maker can use supporting photographic elements that they did not create, provided those elements are referenced as guide images on the face of the entry. The original photographic capture by the entrant should be merit-worthy independent of the work that was not their own. Elements created by the maker must not be part of the guide images. This includes images within an album entry.
2. All processing, manipulation, or rendering, were done by the entrant or under their direct supervision.
3. The entrant has obtained and has access to all necessary releases (model or property) and agrees to hold PPC harmless against all claims and liabilities arising

out of PPC's display, publication, and promotion or other use of each image submitted to PPC.

4. The entrant's name shall not appear anywhere in or on the face of the entry.
5. 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.
6. Any entry that has been created from an existing photograph, portrait, graphic, or any other artwork produced by another person is a violation of the rules. If an entry, in the good-faith opinion of PPC, violates copyright, trademark, or any other applicable law, that entry shall not be displayed or published.
7. Once an image has been awarded an exhibition merit in any category of PPC, it may not be entered again in any other category or review, at any time, by any entrant. No image that receives a merit may be entered more than once under any condition, including any image from a merited album.
8. Entries of the same subject in multiple images will be allowed, as long as the images are entirely different concepts.
9. An artificial intelligence (AI) generated image is not deemed to be a photographic image since it is created by the AI system and contains no image captured by the entrant. Therefore, this type of image will not be accepted.
10. Entries merited by Professional Photographers of America (PPA) Image Review are allowed to be entered. Images entered into International Photographic Competition (IPC) and medaled are not eligible and will be disqualified.

DIGITAL FILE SUBMISSION

1. Images are to be registered online at PrintCompetition.com (Membership required)
2. Files must be sized so that the longest dimension is 4000 pixels. Each file must contain an embedded color profile of either sRGB or Adobe RGB (1998) and be saved at a JPEG. In most cases, the total file size should not exceed 3.5 MB.
3. Files will be automatically be named and numbered by PrintCompetition.com.
4. Titles are required for each image.

Failure to comply with these rules may result in disqualification of the entry. The decision of PPC is final.

CATEGORY DESIGNATION

- **ANIMAL:** Images of animal(s), wild or domesticated, with or without their human companions. Images in this category will be eligible for the AIM Award.
- **PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTIST:** Images may include composites and painting. May include stock photography, photographs, or artwork from other artist(s) with written consent. Entrants are required to include guide images so that the judges understand the processes used and techniques involved in creating the final image.
- **COMMERCIAL/ILLUSTRATIVE:** Industrial, architecture, tabletop, advertising, stock and aerial images.

- **LANDSCAPE:** Images of landscapes, seascapes, cityscapes, and nightscapes being the dominant subject. People may appear in the image.
- **NATURE:** Images where the flora and/or fauna are the dominant subject and no man-made objects are visible.
- **OPEN:** Images representing an alternative type of creativity. Consists of images, scenic, pictorials and similar subject matter. Portraits and weddings are not appropriate for this category.
- **REPORTAGE:** Images that illustrate an actual public or non-public event, life, an area of human interest, telling news that has meaning in the context or record of events, high impact, and/or lasting emotional response. Images that illustrate sporting events are 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 originally captured image (in RAW or jpg) must be available if requested by the committee.
- **PORTRAIT:** Consists of portrait images. Animal portraits in this category will not be considered for the AIM Award.
- **WEDDING/EVENT:** Images created in connection with an actual wedding or related social event. Included are Bar/Bat Mitzvah and Quinceaneras.
- **YEARLY THEME:** Images created to reflect a chosen subject. 2024 theme is **REFLECTIONS**

AWARDS & MERITS (PPC MEMBERS ONLY)

1. PPC members in good standing will be eligible for merits and awards.
2. Student and vendor memberships are not eligible for merits and awards.
3. Images scoring 80-84 points will be awarded one (1) PPC Exhibition Merit.
4. Images scoring 85-100 points will be awarded two (2) PPC Exhibition Merits.
5. Images scoring 85 points or more will be accepted into the PPC Prime Image Collection.
6. No more than four (4) entries may be scored toward the California Master's Degree.
7. Scores will be posted on ppconline.com within ten (10) days.
8. The State Photographic Image Award Ceremony will be held January, 2025

PPC STATE PHOTOGRAPHIC AWARDS

Photographer of the Year: The highest total score. The total score of a case will be determined by adding the scores of the top four (4) images in the case. If there is a tie, the judges' decision is final.

Aspiring Photographer Award: The highest total score among 1st time entrants in the PPC State Photographic Image Competition. The three (3) highest scoring images will determine the winner. In case of a tie, a fourth image will be added to the total. Followed by a fifth image if necessary. The judges' decision is final.

Top Ten Photographers: The 10 highest scoring cases. The total score of a case will be determined by adding the scores of the top four (4) images in the case. If there is a tie, the highest and lowest scores will be added then divided by four to the point that will break the tie.

Category Photographer of the Year: To be chosen by the judges from entries that score 80 points and above in each category. Example, all entries scoring 80 and above in the Portrait category will be shown together. The judges will then vote for the “Best in Category”, If there is a tie, the judges’ decision is final.

Best of Show: To be chosen by the judges from category winners.

Judges Choice: One (1) image to be chosen by each judge as their favorite image.

Bay Photo Award of Excellence: Sponsored by Bay Photo Lab. Chosen by Bay Photo staff.

President’s Choice Award: To be chosen by the PPC President.

Certified Professional Photographer Award (CPP): The highest-scoring image from a PPC member who is a Certified Professional Photographer.

ASP State Elite Award: Sponsored by Miller’s Lab. The highest-scoring entry from an American Society of Photographers member in good standing. In the event of a tie, the total case score will be the tiebreaker. Special conditions may apply to PPC members who reside outside of California.

People’s Choice Award: Sponsored by Glen and Robin Clark. To be decided by online member voting after the competition.

AIM Award: Sponsored by Animal Image Makers. To be awarded to the highest-scoring image merited in the Animal category. If there is a tie, the judges’ decision is final. Minimum four makers and 10 image submissions. Each image is eligible to win an AIM Award one time only, even if it’s submitted to multiple competitions.

PPC Affiliate Cup: Is to be awarded to a PPC Affiliate with the highest total “team” score. The “team” score is determined by adding the top ten entries scores by the affiliate’s members. There are a maximum of 2 entries by the same maker. For example, a minimum 5 makers from an Affiliate must merit their images and contribute to the total. In case of a tie, the scores of the top 1st and 10th images will be added to the point that will break the tie. In the event of an unbreakable tie, the judge’s decision will be final.