Awards and Degrees

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHERS OF CALIFORNIA™ ®

California Master Photographer

PPC's most prestigious degree. It is earned through a combination of service merits, speaking merits and exhibition merits.

Recipients of the degree are awarded a medallion recognizing their achievement. The California Master Photography medallion is presented to recipients at the annual PPC awards event. The individuals earning this degree are allowed to use the designation M-PPC after their name. The medallion should be worn at all PPC events and when making presentations.

Degree Requirements

Exhibition Merits

- 15 PPC Exhibition Merits
- No more than four prints may be scored for the degree in a calendar year.
- Images scoring 80-84 will receive one merit; 85 and above, two merits.

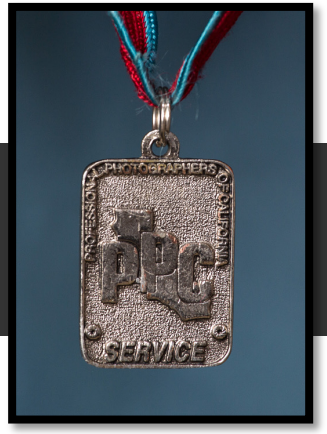
Service Merits

- 10 PPC Service Merits per the Schedule of Merits

Speaking Merits

- 5 Speaking Merits per the Schedule of Merits

Service Award



The Professional Photographers of California Service Award was created to recognize members who are active within the organization. It is achieved by earning merits doing work that provides services to our association and to the photographic community.

The silver Service Medallion should be worn at all photographic function and while making presentations.

This Award is designed to demonstrate to your peers and customers your expertise and efforts to improve your profession. In other words, it can be used as a real marketing tool for your business. Once you have earned 25 service merits you will receive the silver Service Medallion at the annual PPC Awards Event.

After you have earned your Service Medallion and continue to earn merits, you will then receive a Service Bar for each subsequent 25 service merits you earn. These Bars are worn on the ribbon attached to your Service Medallion.

Schedule of Merits

STATE OFFICERS (per year)
President – 5
Chairman of the Board – 3
Officers - 3
Committee Chairman – 2

WORKSHOPS

CA Workshop Speaker (Full Day) – 2
CA Workshop Speaker (Half Day) – 1
Judging Academy Instructor – 2
Workshop Student - 1
Camp Certification Instructor – 2
Camp Certification Test Proctor - 1

WEST COAST SCHOOL

Director – 5 (not paid)
Board of Directors – 2
Coordinator – 2, Yellow Jacket – 1
Assistant/Model – 1(per session)
Student – 1
Full Day Workshop Speaker – 2
Full Week Instructor – 3

PPC MAGAZINE

Magazine Editor – 5 (not paid)
Author of Non-Illustrated Article – 1
Author of Illustrated Article – 2
E-Supplement Newsletter Editor - 2

Schedule of Merits cont'd

AFFILIATE

Affiliate President – 2
Affiliate Vice-President - 1
Affiliate Editor – 1 (8 issues min.)
Affiliate Treasurer - 1
Affiliate Monthly Speaker – 1 (per program)
Affiliate Workshop Speaker, Full Day Program - 2
Affiliate Workshop Chairman Full Day or More - 1
Affiliate Image Comp Judge – 1
Affiliate Webmaster -1 (per year)
Affiliate Social Media - 1
Attend Quarterly State Board Mtg. -1

A full list of merits can be found on www.ppconline.com

SERVICE AWARD REQUIREMENTS

- 25 service merits are required for the Service Award.
- Recipient of the award must have been a PPC member is good standing for three continuous years prior to receiving it.
- No Exhibition merits will be counted towards the Service Award.
- The California Masters Degree and Service Awards may be received in the same year, provided all the requirement for both are fully met.
- Individuals not sure of their earned Service Award merits, or who question the awarding of merits, must submit written question to the committee chairman.
- No merits shall be awarded for participation in any PPA sponsored activity unless otherwise specified in these articles.
- No merits will be awarded for any activity for which the individual is a paid employee of Professional Photographers of California.

SERVICE AWARD REQUIREMENTS (cont'd)

- Individuals must apply for the Service Award merits with application form obtained online and follow the instructions of the form.
- Service merits are reported on an annual basis – electronically on the PPC website.
- Merits are awarded for the efforts you expend on both the State and Affiliate level.
- If you have questions about the PPC Service Award, contact the PPC office at 800-439-5839 ext. 1
- You have probably already earned Service merit points; apply for them today. You'll have the required 25 merits before you know it and receive an award you can use as a marketing tool for your business.

Business & Arts Degree

The B & A Degree was established by the Professional Photographers of California to encourage its members to continue their professional education and to recognize those members who have satisfied the requirements for the degree.

The degree program promotes success in the photographic and artistic aspects of the photographic process, as well as the principles of marketing and business operation.

BUSINESS AND ARTS DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

Successful completion of 300 hours of accredited education distributed in the following three areas is required for the degree.

- 100 hrs. Art/technical (includes print, transparency or negative enhancement; black and white or color lab theory, and/or practice; and electronic imaging)

- 100 hrs. Business/marketing (business management, marketing or sales, computers, public relations, business law, accounting, economics, etc.)

- 100 hrs. Camera/lighting (includes posing and lighting)

Applicants must be members of PPC during the time that the educational credit is accumulated and at the time degree is conferred. The B&A degree is recognition of each individual's personal educational achievement.

For college courses, ten (10) credits per college unit with a maximum of thirty (30) credits per course.

President's Award

The PPC President's Award is given each year to outstanding individuals who have contributed unselfishly to the advancement of professional photography and the advancement of the Professional Photographers of California, and who have provided personal help to and support for the PPC president.

This award is given by the current president of the association at the annual installation/awards ceremony.

People's Choice Award

PPC's People's Choice Award was introduced in 1988 with the first award presented at the Western States Convention in 1989. Sponsored by Glen & Robin Clark.

The People's Choice Award is chosen by your peers and presented to the winner of the annual "People's Choice" image competition held at the annual Awards Event.

Carlos Lozano Mentor Award

This Award is given by the PPC Board.

The Carlos Lozano Mentor award is provided by Professional Photographers of California. This special honor is in recognition of outstanding service to mentoring members of PPC and its affiliate members

Recipient(s) must have received the Service Award and have been a PPC member for 5 years previously.

Paul Kennedy Award

Was established in 1981 to be given for "Outstanding Service to PPC and the Profession."

Only twenty-five of these awards were made before the mold was defaced. The medallion is made from silver reclaimed from film and paper chemicals that are used to produce the product of the profession – photographs.

The silver used to make the medallions was donated by Visual Productions of San Diego.

Barry Evans-Elmer Kingham Award

When all the Paul Kennedy medallions were awarded the Barry Evans-Elmer Kingham Award was established for the same purpose in 2001.

The first one was awarded in 2003

The medallion is inscribed with the names of both Barry Evans and Elmer Kingham.

The award may be given to an individual or to a family member. The individual does not have to be a PPC member.

This medallion need not be awarded every year.

Harris Giachetto Service Award

Established to be awarded for "Outstanding Service to PPC and the Profession of Photography". The medallions are made from silver. The Awards are in honor of Sandra & Dave Harris and Richard & Barbara Giachetto who have given much to the Professional Photographers of California. When all the Barry Evans-Elmer Kingham medallions were awarded the Harris Giachetto Service Award was established for the same purpose in 2021.

The first one was awarded in 2022

The medallion is inscribed with the names of both Harris and Giachetto

The award may be given to an individual or to a family member. The individual does not have to be a PPC member.

This medallion need not be awarded every year.

California Hall of Fame

Was established in 1980 to honor individuals whose outstanding dedication and contribution to PPC and professional photography have been an inspiration to those who follow.

A maximum of three individuals may be elected and inducted in any calendar year.

The award need not be presented each year.

Any individual who has made significant contributions to professional photograph photography in California, is **65 years of age or older,** and is living at the time of the nomination, is eligible.

PPA National Award

The National Award is a special honor that Community Networks can award to recognize outstanding services in professional photography. It is available to any Community Network which has a minimum of 20 members and is to be awarded to honor an individual for their outstanding services to professional photography in their community.

Selected by the respective Community Network, the recipient may be a PPA member or non-member and doesn't have to be in the field of photography. While the National Award is available annually, it will not be awarded if there is not a suitable candidate. Individuals may not receive more than one National Award from the same Community Network during their lifetime.

Requirements to present the National Award:

- Only one National Award may be presented per Community Network, per year.
- The National Award must be ordered and paid for at least 60 days in advance of the event where the award will be presented.
- The highest-ranking PPA official of the Executive Committee, a current Board member, past PPA President, or a PPA Councilor should make the presentation at a Community Network event.

PPA Professional Photographers of America

Professional Photographers of America

How To Earn Your PPA Degree

Each degree will require a different combination of merits, but 25 is the magic number of Merits required to earn any PPA degree.

- **Exhibition Merits** are earned by competing in the Photographic Open category of PPA's International Photographic Competition. (13 merits needed for Masters of Photography)

- **Speaking Merits** are earned by instructing or contributing to the PPA and PPA Affiliate photographic community. (13 merits needed for Craftsman)

- **Artist Exhibition Merits** are earned by competing in the more technical Master Artist category of PPA's International Photographic Competition. (13 merits needed for Master Artist)

- **Service Merits** are earned through PPA and PPA Affiliate volunteer service and learning opportunities. (13 merits needed for every degree)

Master of Photography

Awarded for superior photographic skills demonstrated through the Photographic Open category of PPA's Merit Image Review, Advanced education, and service to the industry.

13 Exhibition Merits + 12 Additional Merits = Master Photographer

Photographic Craftsman

Awarded for service as a speaker, author or mentor, this degree show that you have gone beyond the creation of images and dedicated your time to move the industry forward and encourage education.

13 Speaking Merits + 12 Additional Merits = Photographic Craftsman

Master Artist

Awarded to photographers for superior photographic skills demonstrated through the Artist Exhibition category of PPA's Merit Image Review (with images evaluated for computer-applied techniques and proficiency), advanced education and service to the industry.

13 Artist Exhibition Merits + 12 Additional Merits = Master Artist

Master of Wedding Photographer

Awarded to photographers for superior photographic skills demonstrated by image excellence, advanced education, and service to the industry through the Master of Wedding Photography category of PPA's Merit Image Review.

13 Artist Exhibition Merits + 12 Additional Merits = Master of Wedding

What's Next?

- **25+ Gold Merit Bar** – members can earn one 25+ gold merit bar for every additional 25 merits earned beyond those required for any degree.

- **IPC 50 Bar** – is awarded to members who earn a total of 50 exhibition/artist exhibition merits

- **Imaging Excellence Award** – to members who hold a Master of Photography or Master Artist degree and who have a minimum of 13 images accepted into the PPA Image of Excellence.

- **Imaging Excellence Bar** – to members who already received the Imaging Excellence award and go on to earn and additional 13 Loan Collection images for a total of 26 Image of Excellence.

Promote Your Degree

Whether it's on your website, on brochures or in local ads, make sure you're creating awareness about your degrees. Awareness about your degree is awareness about your business.

WEAR THEM WITH PRIDE!