

THE CLEVELAND PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY COMPETITION RULES FOR 2009-2010

CPS holds regular competitions throughout the Club year in an effort to afford its members an opportunity to display their work and to receive constructive and objective evaluations to help them learn and grow as photographers. There are two types of Competitions – Regular and Year-End. Regular competitions are discussed in this document. Year-End competition is discussed separately.

GENERAL RULES

- Only CPS members and currently enrolled School of Photography students can enter images in CPS competitions. Visitors are welcome but cannot compete.
- Each image must have a title. Titles should be unique and specific to the photo and should not be duplicated by the same photographer during the competition year. Titles are NOT read until the judging is complete.
- Number of entries for each competition is limited to two images per competition
- Image content – including nudity – is not restricted. However, the photographer is urged to exercise good taste in all images presented for competition. Acceptability for entry and applicability to category is at the sole discretion of the Competition Chair.

Rules for Print Competitions:

- MINIMUM Print Size of 80 sq. inches, as 8x10 or 9x9 or 4x20
- MAXIMUM Print Size: 11” X 17” or equivalent square inches
- Entries must be mounted and/or matted – plain black or white mats are strongly recommended. Mat size is not restricted, but should be proportional to the image and not excessive in size.
- Entries must be mounted and/or matted in such a way that no damage will be caused to other prints. Loose tape, sticky residue or any foreign substance that may cause damage to other prints may cause the image to be disqualified at the sole discretion of the Competition Chair.
- Entries must have a completed CPS entry tag affixed to the back upper left corner of the print. Entry tags are available for download from the Competitions page of the CPS website: www.clevelandphoto.org A limited number of entry tags may be available on the night of the competition.
- All entries MUST be submitted and ready to be logged no later than 7:45 pm.

Rules for Projection Competitions:

- Digital images sized to 1024 pixels wide x 768 pixels high will look the best when projected. Larger images may be cropped on the screen, while smaller images will not fill the space available.
- Image resolution is not limited, but resolution greater than 72dpi will lengthen upload time and will provide no visual advantage to the projected image.
- Digital images MUST be submitted via upload to the CPS website no later than 9:00 pm on the Wednesday prior to the competition date. Complete upload instructions will be furnished in a separate document. Images CANNOT be entered on the night of the competition.
- 35mm slides are no longer accepted for Projection competition..

COMPETITION RULES

I. COMPETITION DIVISIONS:

- A. Creative
- B. Nature
- C. People
- D. Pictorial
- E. Projection

II. SCOPE OF COMPETITION DIVISIONS:

A. **CREATIVE:** this encourages artistic expression either through the lens/camera, or through creative digital processing in the computer.

B. **NATURE:**

1. There will be two categories:
 - a. **Strict nature** which will include color and black & white
 - b. **Non-strict nature** which will include color and black & white.
2. The strict category: Prints will have absolutely NO hand of man except scientific bands on wild animals. Subjects include all wild live plants and animals as well as sky, water, rocks etc. Manipulation that alters the truth of the photographic statement is prohibited. (Zoo shots, or images of "contained" animals, are also prohibited)
3. The Non-strict nature category: Prints will allow Zoo shoots, Nature Preserve shots, domesticated flowers, and pet shots taken in NATURAL outdoor settings. The hand of man may have very minimal presence where those human elements enhance the nature story.
4. Titles for Nature entries should identify the specific subject or location only.
5. All-black backgrounds are NOT permitted in either category.
6. Post-processing enhancements and modifications are permitted to the extent that they do not change the truth of the original nature story.
7. All images will be reviewed by the Nature Chairperson prior to being placed in the appropriate category on the night of each competition. The Nature Chair has the right to remove any entry from competition if s/he determines it does not meet these stated rules.

C. **PEOPLE:** includes all aspects of the human form or evidence of the human presence.

D. **PICTORIAL:** open, no restrictions.

E. **PROJECTION:** Digital images only – Pictorial division rules apply.

III. NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS PER YEAR:

There shall be three (3) in each Print division: Creative, Nature, People, Pictorial AND four (4) in the Projection division

IV. PARTICIPATION:

Participation is limited to all members and students in good standing.

V. NUMBER OF ENTRIES PER INDIVIDUAL IN A COMPETITION:

Each Competition Division has two Categories. The entry limit per evening is two (2) total images per Division, regardless of category:

The CATEGORIES:

Creative:

Through the Lens - Prints
Through Processing - Prints

Nature:

Strict - Prints
Non-Strict - Prints

People:

Black & White - Prints
Color - Prints

Pictorial:

Black & White - Prints
Color - Prints

Projection (Pictorial category):

Black & White - Digital Projection
Color - Digital Projection

VI. ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS:

- A. All entries must be the original work of the entrant.
- B. Prints may be processed by the maker or commercially
- C. If an image wins a Place (First, Second, Third or Honorable Mention) in a regular competition, it may not be submitted again - in any format - during regular competition.
- D. An image that does not win a Place in a regular competition may be re-entered one more time in any regular competition. Division and/or Category are not restricted.

VII. THE JUDGING PROCESS:

A. THE JUDGES:

- 1. There will be three (3) judges for each competition, chosen from outside the Club membership whenever possible.
- 2. Judges are chosen for their knowledge and their ability to give constructive and sensitive critiques.

B. JUDGING STANDARDS:

1. JUDGING POINTS: In all competitions, judges will evaluate each entry based on it's own merit by the following categories

Composition.....1-3 points

Impact.....1-3 points

Photographic technique.....1-3 points

Therefore, a perfect score is 27, with 9 points from each judge.

2. SCORING: Because the scoring process is dynamic and will vary from competition to competition, there is no set score which determines the place an image will receive. Simply, the image that receives the highest score in each Category will be designated First Place. Subsequent awards – 2nd, 3rd and Honorable Mention may also be given as described below. Ties are NOT broken – multiple images may receive the same award level and Honor Points.

3. HONOR POINTS are awarded for each PLACE in regular competition:

5 honor points..... for “1st place”

4 honor points..... for “2nd place”

3 honor points.....for “3rd place”

2 honor points.....for “Honorable Mention”

The number of honors per Category awarded at any individual competition is based on the total number of entries that evening:

The total number of available places, including all ties, will not exceed 30% (rounded up) of the total number of entries in that Category. Note: Since ties are not broken during regular competitions, it is possible that not all potential places will be awarded each evening. If tied mages take the total beyond 30%, all images in that point value will be awarded points.

Conversely, it is also possible for images with multiple scores to receive Honorable Mention awards in order to reach the 30% limit.

4. Honor points will be tracked for each entrant. Accumulated Points winners will be recognized at the Annual Banquet.

5. Results of each competition will be published on the Competitions page of the CPS website: www.clevelandphoto.org as soon as practical following the competition.

VIII. THE COMPETITION PROCESS:

A. Two rounds of viewing are used in competition:

1. FIRST is the judging round. The image is shown and each Judge scores the image. The titles are not read during the judging round. The totals are recorded by machine.

2. SECOND is the critique round. The judges, taking turns, critique each image. Following each critique, an announcement is made of the image title, (A maker may choose not to have the title read aloud.) the maker, the score, and the place awarded, if any.
- B. Prints will be displayed on an easel at a comfortable viewing distance from the judges.
 - C. Each print will be displayed on the wall immediately following the critique and announcement.
 - D. Winning prints will be displayed separately.
 - E. Digital Images will be projected at a comfortable viewing distance from the judges

COMPETITION CHAIRS FOR 2009-2010:

Overall Competition Chairperson: Maria Kaiser

Creative Chair: Sharon Doyle

Nature Chair: Todd Liebenauer

People Chair: Nancy Balluck

Pictorial Chair: Jim Frazer

Projection Chair: Rob Erick