



# 2024 ANNUAL IMAGE COMPETITION RULES

The 2024 NHPPA image competition will be held on **Friday, April 26, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, April 27 from 9:00 a.m. to completion** at the Margate Resort in Laconia, N.H. The competition will be digital entries only through [PrintCompetition.com](https://PrintCompetition.com) [no prints].

## 1. ELIGIBILITY AND DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES

- a. Entrants do not need to be NHPPA members to compete in the image competition.
- b. In order to be eligible to compete as in-state entrants and receive awards, NHPPA members must be in good standing with dues current as of March 1, 2024 and first-time members must have dues received by April 1, 2024. Any non-NHPPA, out-of-state entrant is eligible for the Out-of-State Elite Image Award only.
- c. Any NHPPA member who is also a member of another state affiliate and/or enters any other state competition as an “in-state” member must register in the NHPPA competition as an “out-of-state” entrant. Be sure to check “out-of-state” on entries and forms through [PrintCompetition.com](https://PrintCompetition.com). Such persons will only be eligible for the Out-of-State Elite Award, the “Case of the Blues” award, and the Creative Challenge Award. *(Only NHPPA members are eligible for the Case of the Blues Award and the Creative Challenge Award.)*
- d. Entrants must have captured and created the original exposure or exposures, with the noted exceptions. [See 2e]
- e. Entries must be registered and uploaded to [PrintCompetition.com](https://PrintCompetition.com) **NO LATER THAN 11:00 p.m. EST on Saturday April 13, 2024.**

## 2. ENTRIES

- a. Only digital entries submitted through [PrintCompetition.com](https://PrintCompetition.com) will be judged.
- b. A maximum of EIGHT (8) entries, which may include album(s), may be submitted by each entrant. If entering 8, images, one **MUST** be in the Creative Challenge category [see 4c]. Images entered into the Creative Challenge category will be eligible for the Creative Challenge Award **only** and will **not** be included in determining Photographer of the Year or other awards. [Refer to Section 11: Awards and Section 12: Photographer of the Year] You do not need to enter eight images to enter the Creative Challenge category.
- c. Images that have been made under the supervision of an instructor or as a class assignment are ineligible. Images created in an educational environment under direct supervision from an instructor are ineligible.
- d. Entries of the same subject in as many as four (4) images will be allowed, as long as the images are entirely different concepts (e.g., changes in lighting, posing, composition, etc.). [See 10e]
- e. The entrant may choose to include photographic elements in their image that they did not create. All photographic elements not created by the maker must be shown in a guide image (including AI generated elements). All other competition rules still apply. The maker should have obtained all necessary releases for photographic elements not created by them.
- f. Images awarded either a merit or Imaging Excellence in the PPA Merit Image Review (MIR) are eligible for entry in NHPPA competition. Once an image has been awarded a blue ribbon in any category of NHPPA competition it may not be entered again in any other category in NHPPA competition, at any time, by the entrant. Images entered into the IPC and that earned a merit, loan, or imaging excellence, or a Grand Imaging Award, are not eligible for entry into NHPPA competition.
- g. No changes to your entries are permitted once the entry deadline has passed. No refunds will be

issued after the entry fee is paid.

- h. NHPPA reserves the right to use entries submitted by its members for display and/or publication. By entering NHPPA image competition, the entrant certifies that he or she has obtained and has access to all necessary releases (model or property) and agrees to hold NHPPA harmless against all claims and liabilities arising out of NHPPA's display, publication and promotion or other use of each image submitted to NHPPA.

### **3. JUDGING TO START AT 7:00 PM ON Friday, April 26, 2024.**

#### **4. COMPETITION CATEGORIES**

Each entry must be designated by the maker to be judged in one of the following categories:

- a. PORTRAIT – Consists of portrait images of a person or pet.
- b. COMMERCIAL – Consists of images suitable for advertising or business needs.
- c. SOCIAL CANDID – Consists of images taken during a wedding or any social event (reunion, bar mitzvah, race, etc.). Studio portraiture of wedding subjects should be entered in the Portrait category.
- d. ILLUSTRATIVE/OPEN – Consists of scenic, pictorials, digital paintings, and similar subject matter as well as images that contain photographic elements not created by the entrant and not entered into the Artist category. Photographic elements not created by the entrant must be shown in a guide image. The Illustrative/Open entry should be an image that does not readily fit into another category.
- e. 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 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 original captured image (in RAW or jpg) must be available if requested by the committee.
- f. ARTIST – Consists of images using digital manipulation techniques which demonstrate a high level of skill. The entrant may use photographic elements created by other makers but must obtain all necessary releases for the usage. Artist entries must include guide images. All processing, manipulation, artwork, or rendering must be done by the entrant. Artist entries will be judged by the same standards as all other entries; however, an artist entry must also demonstrate a mastery of digital imaging techniques.
- g. ANIMAL – Consists of images of an animal or animals. Only images in this category will be eligible for the Animal Image Makers Award.
- h. ALBUM – An album is a collection of images combined over a number of pages to create a themed presentation or story. An album shall consist of a minimum of 5 sides/spreads and a maximum of 36 sides/spreads.
- i. CREATIVE CHALLENGE – This year's topic is "Mono Magic". The category is intended to challenge your interpretation and creativity of the topic presented. Anyone can enter the Creative Challenge category; you are not required to submit six images to enter this category. Be sure to check the box that says "Creative Challenge Category" when uploading your file.

NOTE: The Image Competition Chair reserves the right to change the category of any image.

#### **5. DIGITAL IMAGE SUBMISSION**

- a. Go to the following website: [www.printcompetition.com](http://www.printcompetition.com)
- b. Go to register, create a username and password and indicate NHPPA as your organization.
- c. Fill out the registration form. There is an \$8 basic membership fee. This annual fee grants makers an unlimited number of entries into any event covered by PrintCompetition.com throughout 2024. You will still need to satisfy all requirements for each organization's rules and pay the organization's entry fee. **(You have the option to upgrade to a premium subscription and avoid the basic membership fee.)**
- d. Once you are logged in, navigate to the NHPPA image competition link and follow the instructions to upload your competition entries. You may change your entries at any time until the April 8<sup>th</sup> deadline.

You can also upload all images and make one single payment for all entries.

- e. Files must be sized so the longest dimension is 4,000 pixels (20 inches at 200 ppi). Each file must contain an embedded color profile of either sRGB or Adobe RGB 1998 and be saved at a JPEG quality setting of 10. In most cases total file size should not exceed 3.5MB. Larger files will be accepted when necessary as long as they are JPEG quality setting of 10. [See Video Tutorial: [PPA.com/IPC\\_tutorials](http://PPA.com/IPC_tutorials)]
- f. Image names should not contain any special characters or underscores.
- g. When submitting an image in the Creative Challenge category, you can name the image whatever you want. However, you **must check** the box that says "Creative Challenge Category" to be considered for the Creative Challenge Award.

## 6. DIGITAL ALBUM SUBMISSION

- a. All page/spread files must have the longest file dimension at 4,000 pixels (20 inches at 200 ppi), have an embedded color profile of either sRGB or Adobe RGB 1998, and be saved at a JPEG quality setting of 10. [See Video Tutorial: [PPA.com/IPC\\_tutorials](http://PPA.com/IPC_tutorials)]
- b. Each page/spread file may contain as many images as you desire.
- c. An entry shall contain a minimum of 5 page/spread files up to a maximum of 36 page/spread files.
- d. Files are to be numbered in viewing order using two digits (i.e., 01.jpg, 02.jpg, 03.jpg, etc.)
- e. All individual files must be compressed into a single ZIP file. The ZIP file must be named: Album-Title.zip (e.g., Summer-Wedding.zip).
- f. Studio identification, entrant's name, or image title CANNOT appear on any file within the album entry.
- g. Each album will be judged as one entry. Two volume albums are not allowed.
- h. If an image is entered as part of an album, it cannot be entered as an individual submission.
- i. **Single Maker Albums** - Will be judged as one entry. All images in this album must be from one photographer, no exceptions.
- j. **Multi-Maker Albums** - Should be entered by the photographer with the most images in the album. Each photographer must have a minimum of 10 images. Album will be judged as one entry.

## 7. VIEWING CONDITIONS FOR IMAGE REVIEW

For color management help, see Video Tutorial: [PPA.com/IPC\\_tutorials](http://PPA.com/IPC_tutorials).

Monitor calibration settings for digital files:

- D65 (very close to 6500 degrees Kelvin)
- 120 cd/m<sup>2</sup> (brightness)
- 2.20 gamma

## 8. MASTERS CATEGORY

- a. Entrants having earned the Master of Photography and/or Master Artist degree from PPA are classified as "*Masters.*"
- a. Entries will follow the same rules pertaining to the rest of the competition regarding Certification of Responsibility, number of entries, classification, identification and title.
- b. Images will follow the same file size requirement as stated in 5e.
- c. Check the "**Masters**" box on entry when uploading to PrintCompetition.com.

## 9. CERTIFICATION OF RESPONSIBILITY

- a. Entrants must certify that they have created, composed, and made the original exposures, and that the processing and any special effects were done by them or under their direction.
- b. For entries in the Artist category, the entrant must certify that they have done all the digital image manipulation and have included all elements in a guide image.

## 10. JUDGING

- a. The judges will not preview any image. All images are first viewed and judged during the competition.
- b. The highest score an image can be awarded is 100. ~~Images scoring less than 70 will not hang in the exhibit, if there is a physical exhibit.~~
- c. Masters' images will be judged along with the General Exhibit.
- d. The judges, along with the Jury Chairman, will have the authority to decide any questions not covered by these rules.
- e. **The ruling of the Jury Chairman will be final.**

## 11. AWARDS

Images eligible for the Top Case Award do not need to receive a blue ribbon (80 or above). To be eligible for all other awards, images must have received a score of 80 or higher.

- a. An award may be awarded in each category for both Masters and Non-Masters with the exception of Animal, Albums and the Creative Challenge. An Out-of-State Award may be awarded for any entry (including albums) by non-NHPPA members or members whose primary affiliate is other than NHPPA. Judges choose from images that scored 80 or higher.
- b. The Image Competition Chair and/or the judges reserve the right to limit awards in any classification in which the entries are limited in quantity and/or quality.
- c. Additional awards may include but not be limited to:
  - the **Lenzart Best of Show Award** for the highest scoring image
  - the **ACI Highest Scoring Album Award**
  - the **ASP Award** for the highest scoring image by an ASP member
  - the **CPP Award** for the highest scoring image by a certified professional photographer
  - the **Miller's Best All-Around Case Award** for the top case comprised of 5 images of which 3 or more received a blue ribbon in at least three different categories not including Creative Challenge
  - the **Richmond Pro Lab First Time Entrant Award** for the image submitted by a member who has never entered a PPA or PPA affiliate competition in the past
  - the **ACI Creative Challenge Award** – judge's choose from images in category that scored 80 or higher
  - the **Miller's People's Choice Award** – voted by membership
  - The Animal Image Maker Award** – awarded to the highest scoring image in animal category
  - the **Judges Choice Awards** – each judge chooses an image to award
  - the **Case of the Blues** (blue ribbons for all entries not including Creative Challenge entry)
  - the **Top Case Award** given to the top FIVE (5) cases determined by the total score of all seven images (not including the Creative Challenge image).

## 12. NEW HAMPSHIRE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR

This award is presented to the NHPPA photographer who enters seven (7) images and has the highest average point total from his/her top six (6) images of which 5 images score 80 or above (blues). In the event of a tie, the winner will be determined by the jury panel based on their body of work. (If no one qualifies, the Chair may reduce the blues to 4 images). **The Creative Challenge image will not be included in determining the Photographer of the Year.**

## 13. DISPLAY PRINTS

- a. If NHPPA has a physical image display, NHPPA will make 8X10 inch display prints for submission's received by the stated deadline. If you wish to keep your 8x10 display prints after the exhibition, please pick the prints up on the final day of the conference. Please do not ask to pick up your prints early.

- b. 8x10 display prints will be made from the same files registered and uploaded to PrintCompetition.com.  
Note: If image submitted is other than 8x10 ratio, the image will be placed on a gray mat.
- c. All display prints not picked up by the end of the conference will be discarded. If you cannot be there and wish to keep your prints, please arrange to have someone pick them up for you.

#### **14. DEADLINE AND ENTRY FEES**

PrintCompetition.com basic membership fee (or become a Premium Subscriber)

Entry is \$20 per image (up to 8 entries) to NHPPA members in good standing until April 7th.  
After April 7th Entry is \$25 per image (up to 8 entries) to NHPPA members in good standing.  
Out-of-State non-members: \$25 per image (up to 8 entries).  
After April 7<sup>th</sup> Entry is \$30 per image (up to 8 entries).

All entries must be uploaded to PrintCompetition.com NO LATER THAN 11 p.m. on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:00pm EST.

#### **15. CONTACT INFORMATION**

Image Competition Chair: Chris Keeley, CPP, M. Wed.Photog, A.C.Ph  
[chris@chriskeeleyphotography.com](mailto:chris@chriskeeleyphotography.com)

Image Committee Members: Alison Miniter, Allison McGrail, Ray Peeples, Sandra McCarthy, Martha Stavrou

**Note: Failure to comply with these rules may result in the disqualification of an entry. The decision of the NHPPA Image Competition Committee is final.**