CLEVELAND PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY
COMPETITION RULES FOR 2018-2019

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 three 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 Category Chair.
- ALL regular series competitions consist of a dedicated Category for the evening (as explained below) AND a Pictorial Category.

Rules for Print Competitions:

- MINIMUM Print Size of 80 sq. inches, i.e. 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 label affixed to the back upper left corner of the print. Entry tags are available for download from the Competitions page of the CPS website: http://www.clevelandphoto.org/competitions.cfm
A limited number of entry labels may be available on the night of the competition.
- All entries MUST be submitted and ready to be logged no later than 7:30 pm.
(NOTE: Entries may be left at any time in advance in a box provided for that purpose in the clubroom).

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 of the week prior to the competition date (10 days prior to the competition). Complete upload instructions will be furnished in a separate document. Images CANNOT be entered on the night of the competition.

COMPETITION RULES

I. COMPETITION CATEGORIES:
    A. Black & White
    B. Creative
    C. Nature
    D. People
    E. Pictorial - Print
    F. Pictorial – Projection
    G. 'B' Competition (for students and newer members)

II. SCOPE OF COMPETITION CATEGORIES:

A. BLACK & WHITE
    1. Images must be in true black & white or one solid color tone (Such as sepia). Any spot color will disqualify an image from this category

B. CREATIVE
    1. This category is designed to stretch the creativity of entrants. Images must depict a fairly obvious creative element – either due to subject matter, in-camera effects or through extensive digital manipulation

C. NATURE:
    1. Images must be subjects of flora or fauna (flowers (wild or cultivated), plants, animals, rocks, water, landscapes, etc.). Domesticated flowers, plants, or animals ARE permitted
    2. Both classifications will be held to the order of "strict" in capture. NO evidence of the hand of man may be present in the image except for scientific bands on wild animals. Manipulations that alter the truth of the photographic statement are prohibited.
    3. Photoshop / digital manipulations may be performed in a minimal sense, not to change the truth of the original "Nature" story. (Cropping, Levels adjustments, slight color enhancements, contrast, slight dodging

and burning, sharpening, etc. are all allowed. Heavy cloning and layer masking, though hard to identify, would violate the truth of the image).
4. Obvious HDR images will not be accepted. HDR can be used for exposure corrections but the presentation cannot have a heavy, obvious HDR look.
5. Black or darkened backgrounds are permitted, but images that appear to be artificially lit or tabletop posed will not be accepted. Images appearing to be digitally cut and pasted onto a black background will not be accepted. Natural settings or surroundings of a subject are not always the most aesthetically pleasing, but do bring truth to the capture.
6. Images may be either color or black and white
7. We rely on your personal integrity to adhere to both the letter and spirit of these rules.
8. The Nature Chair has the right and final say to remove and / or not accept any image for competition that – in his/her opinion - does not meet the rules and guidelines stated above.

D. PEOPLE:
    1. includes all aspects of the human form or evidence of the human presence.
    2. Images may be either color or black & white

E. PICTORIAL - PRINT open category with no restrictions.

F. PICTORIAL - PROJECTION: Digital images only – Pictorial division rules apply.

G. 'B' COMPETITION: 'B' competitions were specifically designed for students and newer members who would like to compete but would prefer to do so amongst their peers rather than more seasoned members. There are no restrictions who can compete in this category, but we ask that you choose between EITHER the B series or the regular competition series for the entire club year. You may change series ONCE during the year but must then remain in the chosen series.
    1. 'B' Competitions always hold to the Pictorial category, although certain themes may be suggested
    2. Those competitors who receive a perfect '27' score in B Competition are automatically moved to the main competition series and those who place highest in Accumulated Points are automatically advanced to the main competition series the following year.

III. NUMBER OF COMPETITIONS PER YEAR:

There shall be three (3) in each Category, for a total of twelve (12) per year: Black & White, Creative, Nature and People. EVERY competition in the main series also offers the opportunity to compete in the Pictorial Category. Six Competitions will be Print and six will be Projection. The number of print vs. projection competitions in each individual Category rotates with each competition year.

IV. PARTICIPATION:

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

V. NUMBER OF ENTRIES PER INDIVIDUAL IN A COMPETITION:

The entry limit per evening is three (3) total images, as follows:

- Images may be entered in the evenings Category (i.e. Nature) only, or split between the evening's Category and Pictorial
- Up to Two (2) images may be entered into the Evening's Category (i.e. Nature)
- Any maximum combination of the following can be submitted on any given competition evening:
    - 2 Category and 1 Pictorial
    - 1 Category and 2 Pictorial
    - 0 Category and up to 3 Pictorial
    - Note that 3 images is a maximum and that fewer images can be entered if desired
    - Participation in either the evening's Category or the Pictorial component of any evening is optional

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 – ever.
D. An image that does not win a Place in a regular competition may be re-entered one more time in any regular competition. Category and/or Classification are not restricted. Re-entry does not need to occur in the same competition year.

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/Classification 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 honor points 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 there are limited entries in a Category that evening and tied mages take the but total beyond 30%, all images in that point value will be awarded points, but may not permit awards to be given at lower levels. Conversely, on nights when there are a large number of entries 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. In addition, a plaque will be presented to the photographer who earns the most Accumulated Points across at least three separate Categories.

5. Results of each competition will be published on the Competitions page of the CPS website: http://www.clevelandphoto.org/competitions.cfm 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 totals are recorded by computer. In the case of Projection competitions, images are scored online in advance by judges on their own computers.
2. SECOND is the critique round. The judges, taking turns, critique the images. Following each critique, an announcement is made of the image title, the maker, the score, and the place awarded, if any. The Category Chair determines the exact number of images to be commented-upon each evening, based on the total number of entries and/or any time constraints. Entrants may be asked at the time an image is submitted which image(s) they wish to designate for comment.
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 from non-winning images.
E. Digital Images will be projected at a comfortable viewing distance from the Judges
F. Special Rules for Judging:
1. In a case where a judge is previously familiar with a competitor's work, that judge shall exclude him/herself from judging that competitor's images in order to ensure fairness in the judging process.
2. The judge will identify the conflict to the Competition Chair prior to the judging round.
3. When the image is presented, the judge will provide the lowest score provided by the scoring equipment as a signal to the tabulators.
4. Tabulators will then average the score of the other two judges and add that average to obtain the final score for the image. (ex.: scores of 8 and 6 would yield an average of 7 and the total score would be 21).
5. In the event that the average score yields other than a whole number (ex.: 8 + 7 = 15 / 2 = 7.5), for the first instance of occurrence for each affected competitor, the score will be rounded up to the next whole number. Should the situation recur on the competitor's second image as well, that score will be rounded down. (In the presented example, the first instance would yield an average score of 8 and a total score of 23, while a second instance would produce an average of 7 and a total score of 22).

COMPETITION CHAIRS FOR 2018-2019:

Overall Competition Chairperson: Bill Keaton

Black & White Chair: Russell Whittemore
Creative Chair: Dan Sandy
Nature Chair: Bill Keaton
People Chair: Eric Wethington
Pictorial Chair (Print and Projection): Randy Beiter
'B' Competition Chair: Lauri Culp

07/05/2018