CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

2024-1314 L240079 2024/174 2024

9th Metropolitan International Exhibition of Photography 2024

ORGANIZER

Metropolitan Chapter of Photographic Society of America (PSA)

Website http://www.psa-met.com

CONTACTS:

Exhibition Chairman:

Guo Jiang (John) Ou , APSA, GMPSA, EFIAP

E Mail: psa.metropolitan@hotmail.com

Software provider: IAAP Email: officeiaap@gmail.com

All entry forms, images and entry fees are to be submitted to the Metropolitan Chapter website:

http://www.psa-met.com

SECTIONS

Electronic Projected Images only, up to 4 projected digital images per section.

1. Open Color (PSA PIDC) only Color
2. Theme Landscape (PSA PIDC) only Color
3. Theme People (PSA PIDC) only Color
4. Open Monochrome (PSA PIDM) Monochrome only
5. Nature (PSA ND) Color/greyscale Monochrome
6. Photo Travel (PSA PTD) Color/greyscale Monochrome

Each image can be presented in only one section.

ENTRY FEE(s)

1 ~ 3 sections: $18 USD
4 ~ 6 sections: $24 USD

- Entry fee is required for all entrants.
- discount rate: 10% for 5 to 10 people; 20% for 11~20; 30% for 21 or more.
- On-line PayPal is the only payment method as part of the entry process.
- Exhibition entry fees are paid to PayPal account: rory2504@hotmail.com

Entries received without the entry fee will not be judged.

By participating in the Metropolitan Exhibition, the author agrees with the propositions and the rules of the organizer.

EXHIBITION CALENDAR

Closing Date:	2 September 2024
Date of Judging Completed by:	16 September 2024
Date of Notification Sent by:	23 September 2024
Date of mailing of Awards:	14 October 2024
Date of Online Gallery posted by:	31 October 2024
Date of posting Electronic Catalog by:	31 October 2024

Catalog will post in PDF format for download free from Metropolitan web site http://www.psa-met.com

JUDGES

Elena McTighe *Hon PSA, MPSA, ESFIAP NJ USA*	NJ USA
Judge to PIDC, PIDC People	
Volker Meinberg *GMPSA/p, EFIAP/s, GPU-VIP5, GPU-Cr5*	Germany
Judge to PIDC Landscape, ND	
Mohammad Ali Salim *APSA, GMPSA, GPSA, MFIAP, ARPS*	NY USA
Judge to PIDM, PTD	
Xin Xin Liang *APSA, MPSA EFIAP*	NY USA
Judge to PIDC, PIDM	
Rowshan Akhter *MPSA, BPSA, EFIAP/Silver*	NY USA
Judge to PIDC Landscape, PIDC People	
Lingyun Mao *GMPSA EFIAP*	NY USA
Judge to PIDC Landscape, PTD	
Trudy Runyan *APSA, EPSA*	NY USA
Judge to PIDC, PIDC People	
Andrew Kurchey *APSA*	NY USA
Judge to PIDM	

Jie Fischer *GMPSA, BPSA, EFIAP* NJ USA
Judges to ND
Wei Xu *EPSA* NY USA
Judge to ND, PTD

AWARDS

Total of 96 awards includes:

- 6 PSA Gold (1 per section)
- 6 GPU Gold (1 per section)
- 6 PSA-Met Gold (1 per section)
- 6 Chair Award (PSA-Met Gold, 1 per section)
- 12 PSA-Met Silver (2 per section)
- 18 PSA-Met Bronze (3 per section)
- 12 GPU Honorable Mention (2 per section)
- 30 PSA-Met Honorable Mention (5 per section)

NOTICIFCATION, REPORT CARD AND CATALOG

All digital image files will not be returned.
The Catalog will be an electronic PDF file.
The results and catalog will be published on Metropolitan website. All entrants can view and download the electronic catalog from the website.
All entrants will receive their report cards via e-mail (the one used at registration)

EXHIBITION REQUIREMENTS

IMAGE AND ENTRY REQUIREMENTS: This exhibition is open to anyone; however, an entry may be rejected when the Sponsor or the Exhibition Organizers, in their reasonable discretion, believes the entry does not conform to exhibition rules and these ES-COE. Membership in any photographic organization is not required.
Entries will not be accepted from any entrant who is on the **PSA Penalties List for Ethics Violation.** Entry fees are not refundable in these circumstances.

Image creation and ownership
In all sections of the exhibition, images must originate as photographs made by the entrant. They may not incorporate identifiable images produced by anyone else (for example: clip art, replacement skies, or stock images). *Images created in whole or in part by image creation software (frequently called 'AI' images) are not allowed.* Editing or alteration of images is permitted within the limits specified in the relevant section definitions that are available here https://psa-photo.org/page/division-definitions

Any person submitting or attempting to submit a totally AI generated image that does not begin with a light capture from the maker, from any Photographic Society of America exhibition, social media, event, or publication, other than for editorial purposes, shall be prohibited from PSA for a period of from 3 years to life.

PSA Star Ratings: To receive proper Star ratings credit from PSA, entrants must provide their names and country exactly the same way in each exhibition. Aliases are not permitted. Please contact PSA in the event of name changes or relocating to another country. Using one's name differently in different exhibition exposes the entrant to the risk that many of their acceptances may not be recognized by PSA Star Ratings.

Reproduction: The entrant permits the sponsors to reproduce all or part of the entered material free of charge for publication and/or display in media related to the exhibition. This may include low resolution posting on a website. The Photographic Society of America (PSA) may request specific permission from entrants to reproduce entered images in its educational materials. The terms of that permission will be mutually agreed between the entrant and PSA except in the circumstances where the entered image is found to breach the PSA Ethics Policy. In those circumstances the image may be reproduced by PSA, without the entrant's further permission, for educational purposes to illustrate serious exhibition rule violations. For those reproductions, the entrant's name will be withheld.
Entries will not be accepted from entrants who indicate that their images may not be reproduced in materials related to the exhibition. The exhibition assumes no liability of any misuse of copyright

Re-use of accepted images: Any image that has been accepted in this exhibition, past or present, may not be entered again in the same Division Star Ratings Class in any future instances of this exhibition. It may, of course, be entered in any other PSA recognised exhibitions but **must always have the same title**. **Re-titling in another language is not allowed.**

Entry: An Entry consists of, up to and including, four (4) images entered by a single entrant into the same Section. An entrant may only enter a specific Section once. Entrants may not enter identical or similar images into the same section or different sections of the same exhibition. Similar is defined as almost identical in subject, composition, props, lighting, or technique so that a reasonable person viewing the entries together would decide the entrant has duplicated the previous image except for minor changes.

Titles: Each image must have a unique title that relates to the content of the image. That unique title must be used for entry of that image or of an identical Image into any and all PSA-Recognized exhibitions. Titles must be 35 characters or fewer. No titles may be visible to the judges, and nothing in the image may identify the entrant. Titles may not include file extensions such as .jpg or .jpeg (or any other camera capture filenames such as IMG 471). Titles may not consist of personal identifiers possibly augmented by a number; or include words such as "untitled" or "no title". Titles may not consist solely of numbers unless those numbers are prominently contained within the image, such as a contestant number in a race.

Color and Monochrome:
Color and Monochrome images from the same capture that share substantial pictorial content in common will be considered the same image and must be given the same title.

ACCEPTING DIGITAL ENTRIES

a) All entries must be submitted entries through our website online registration process.
b) **Image Size**: No more than **1920 pixels** horizontal and by no more than **1080 pixels** vertical side (at a resolution of 300 dpi and with Maximum file size of 2MB, in JPEG format and of sRGB color space). Oversized images will be rejected, and the entrant is required to resubmit their entry with properly sized images.

Image titles must not exceed **35** characters.
An image can enter in only one section.

This Exhibition only accept digital images and no prints.

The Exhibition will be conducted in accordance with the rules of the PSA
An entrant's images will not be presented to the judges consecutively. An entrant's four images will be distributed throughout four rounds of judging in that section. Distribution of images will be in the same round order as submitted by the entrant. At no stage will a judge be able to view all the entrant's images together.

JUDGING METHOD
Judges will view and judge the images remotely online at their own equipment (monitors) with minimum display a native resolution of 1920 x 1080 pixels.

All judges will use color-calibrated monitors and the monitors will be capable of displaying images at 100% of the image resolution and that images will be displayed at exactly 100% of their resolution (that is, that the images will not be enlarged beyond their native resolution).

There will be 3 judges in each section for total of 4 rounds of judging.
Each award is declared based on the decision of the jury.

Acceptance Target range: This should no more than **30%.**

PROTECTION OF ENTRANT'S PERSONAL INFORMATION

By entering this exhibition, you are explicitly consenting to the personal details you have supplied, including physical addresses, email addresses, being held, processed and used by the exhibition organizers for purposes associated with this exhibition. You also explicitly consent to such information being sent to organizations that have accorded official recognition, patronage or accreditation to this exhibition. You acknowledge, agree and accept that by entering this exhibition, your participation status which includes your first and last name, name of the country used during registration at the exhibition, number of sections entered and number of photos entered in those sections will be made public in a published status list and that the results of your entry shall be made public in exhibition gallery, exhibition catalog. You also agree and accept the policy regarding Breaches of Rules of the PSA.

SUBJECT MATTER & DEFINITIONS

Statement on Subject Matter - applicable to all sections

The fundamental rule that must be observed at all times and **applies to all sections** offered in exhibitions with PSA recognition is that **the welfare of living creatures is more important than any photograph**. This means that practices such as baiting of subjects with a living creature and removal of birds from nests, for the purpose of obtaining a photograph, are highly unethical, and such photographs are not allowed in any exhibition with PSA recognition. Under no circumstances may a living creature be placed in a situation where it will be killed, injured or stressed for the

purpose of obtaining a photograph. Images that show live creatures being fed to captive animals, birds or reptiles are not permitted under any circumstances.

There are also concerns about the use of aerial photography, drones, helicopters, low flying aircraft. These should not cause any interference with other individuals or animals which causes a disturbance in their normal activity or disrupt the way any individuals or animals interact with their environment. **Entrants in PSA recognized exhibitions should comply with all relevant laws and regulations, associated with aerial photography, in the country in which the image was taken.**

Entry into PSA recognized exhibitions is conditional on accepting these policies. The content of images must comply with the General Conditions and with the Division and Section definitions listed in these conditions. Images that - in the sole opinion of the judges or the Exhibition Organizers - do not comply, will be disqualified so the entrant may be aware of the problem when considering entry into other exhibitions with PSA recognition

DEFINITIONS

PSA Monochrome Definition

An image is considered to be Monochrome only if it gives the impression of having no color (i.e. contains only shades of grey which can include pure black and pure white) OR it gives the impression of being a greyscale image that has been toned in one color across the entire image. (For example by Sepia, red, gold, etc.) A greyscale or multi-colored image modified or giving the impression of having been modified by partial toning, multi-toning or by the inclusion of spot coloring does not meet the definition of monochrome and shall be classified as a Color Work.

For the purpose of this exhibition, only greyscale images are allowed in monochrome sections. Toned images are not allowed

Greyscale Monochrome images may be entered for Nature, Photojournalism and Photo Travel but toned images are not permitted for these sections.

Monochrome images may not be entered in PID Color Section.

Editing Guidelines for Nature, Photojournalism and Photo Travel

These sections require images to be truthful records, so there are limits on the amount of manipulation allowed.
Editing Guidelines

Processing or editing must be limited to making the image look as close to the original scene as possible, except that conversion to grayscale monochrome is allowed.

Allowed editing techniques:

- Cropping, straightening and perspective correction.
- Removal or correction of elements added by the camera or lens, such as dust spots, noise, chromatic aberration and lens distortion.

- Global and selective adjustments such as brightness, hue, saturation and contrast to restore the appearance of the original scene.
- Complete conversion of color images to grayscale monochrome.
- Blending of multiple images of the same subject and combining them in camera or with software (exposure blending or focus stacking);
- Image stitching – combining multiple images with overlapping fields of view that are taken consecutively (panoramas);

Editing techniques that are not allowed:

- Removing, adding to, moving or changing any part of an image, except for cropping and straightening.
- Adding a vignette during processing.
- Blurring parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original scene.
- Darkening parts of the image during processing to hide elements in the original scene.
- All conversions other than to complete grayscale monochrome.
- Conversion of parts of an image to monochrome, or partial toning, desaturation or over-saturation of color

NATURE

PSA/FIAP Nature Definition

Content Guidelines

- Nature photography records all branches of natural history except anthropology and archaeology. This includes all aspects of the physical world, both animate and inanimate, that have not been made or modified by humans.
- Nature images must convey the truth of the scene that was photographed. A well-informed person should be able to identify the subject of the image and be satisfied that it has been presented honestly and that no unethical practices have been used to control the subject or capture the image. Images that directly or indirectly show any human activity that threatens the life or welfare of a living organism are not allowed.
- The most important part of a Nature image is the nature story it tells. High technical standards are expected and the image must look natural.
- Objects created by humans, and evidence of human activity, are allowed in Nature images only when they are a necessary part of the Nature story.
- Photographs of human-created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domesticated animals, human-created hybrid animals and mounted or preserved zoological specimens are not allowed.
- Images taken with subjects under controlled conditions, such as zoos, are allowed.
- Controlling live subjects by chilling, anaesthetic or any other method of restricting natural movement for the purpose of a photograph is not allowed.

*Attention is drawn to the **PSA Statement on Subject Matter** which applies to **all** sections and to the **Editing Guidelines for Nature, Photojournalism and Photo Travel***

Photo Travel Definition

Photo Travel

A Photo Travel image is a portrayal of the real world we live in, as it is found naturally. There are no geographic limitations.

Content guidance:

1. If the image is predominantly or exclusively a land-, sea- or cityscape, these "scapes" must include characteristic, distinctive and recognizable physical features, although it is not necessary that the image identify the exact location;
2. Images that predominantly or exclusively depict people and their activities must illustrate a distinctive culture of a country, region, or continent;
3. Images that predominately or exclusively depict animal populations are allowed, if the animals are in their native environment and are characteristic of that country, region, or continent;
4. Portraits or other close-ups of people or objects, in addition to meeting the above paragraphs as applicable, must include elements depicting some of the surrounding environment to make it obvious that the image was not taken in a studio setting;
5. Images from events or activities arranged for photography, or of subjects directed or hired for photography, are **NOT allowed.**
6. Time exposures are allowed, if they do not dominate the image as a special effect (star trails, for example, are a dominating effect).
7. Highly distorted images such as those produced by fish eye lenses are **NOT allowed.**

*Attention is drawn to the **PSA Statement on Subject Matter** which applies to **all** sections and to the **Editing Guidelines for Nature, Photojournalism and Photo Travel***

PIDC Theme Landscape Definition

Landscape photography is the skillful craft of photographing the natural world, showcasing the breathtaking beauty and diverse landscapes of our planet, from towering mountains and lush forests to serene lakes and vast deserts.

PIDC Theme People Definition

Photography of people is the art of taking pictures that show individuals, groups, or communities. It involves using cameras and lighting to capture moments that reveal emotions and stories. These photos can tell us about people's lives, relationships, and cultures.

PSA RULES

Non-compliance

See the PSA Ethics Policy at https://psa-photo.org/page/ethical-practices.

See the PSA statement on Subject Matter at https://psa-photo.org/page/division-definitions

If, in the discretion of the exhibition organizer or the judges, an entrant has submitted that may fail to comply with these Conditions of Entry, they are allowed to request unedited or raw files of the submitted image.

For composite images all files are required.

Exhibition organizers may verify that:

a) the images are the original work of the entrant

b) the images comply with the rules and definitions as set out in these ES-COE

Such entries may be referred to PSA for further investigation of possible ethics violations.

PSA retains the right to investigate all complaints, impose penalties if deemed necessary, void the acceptances of any image found to violate the PSA rules, include the entrant's name on the list of sanctions provided to Exhibitions, and share such investigations with FIAP. Entrants automatically agree to these terms by the act of entering the Exhibition and agree to cooperate with any investigation.

If another party is processing and/or submitting images on the entrant's behalf, the entrant will still be held responsible for adhering to the entry rules **and will be subject to penalties for any violations** to these Conditions of Entry or to PSA's Statement of Ethics.

NOTICE: When entrants fills in the Entry Form to submit an entry they will see the following feature to affirm they have read these Conditions of Entry

"I hereby confirm that I have *read* and *understood* and *agree to* the Conditions of Entry of this exhibition. I have read and understood the PSA document to be found at https://psa-photo.org/resource/resmgr/pdf/exhibitions_/exhibition-entrants-agreemen.pdf . I am aware that PSA may apply penalties for non-compliance to these Conditions of Entry"

Failure to agree will mean that the application will not proceed.

