

# PPA of PA's 2025 Inspire & Capture Image Competitions

## Image Competition Rules

### ***Eligibility:***

1. PPA of PA's Image Competitions are open to anyone. Members of PPA of PA, whose current year dues are paid 30 days prior to the competition, are eligible for awards.
2. There is no limit to the number of images an entrant may submit, however ***only the Top Case Designation images are eligible for awards and merits.***
3. Any photograph, or any other entry shall not be eligible for awards in this competition if it previously received a merit in a prior PPA of PA competition.
4. Images that were accepted into PPA's International Photographic Competition or received a Merit through PPA's Merit Image Review ***are eligible*** for awards (as long as all other eligibility criteria is met)

### ***Entrant Certification:***

By submitting images into the competition, entrants certify that they have created, composed and made the original exposures; and that the processing, printing, and any special effects were done solely by them or under their direction. No entry will be eligible that was made under the supervision of an instructor, as a class assignment, at a seminar, workshop or similar situation.

### ***Legal Release:***

It shall be the sole responsibility of each entrant to obtain a proper legal release form, correctly executed and signed by the person(s) (or guardian in the case of a minor), for an exhibition entry in which a likeness is recognizable. This must be made available, upon request, to the Print Chairman or President of PPA of PA, Inc. Entrant agrees to hold PPA of PA, Inc. harmless against any liabilities or claims arising out of display, publication, promotion, or other use of each photograph or other materials submitted to PPA of PA, Inc.

## Entry Fees:

\$20 per image - PPA of PA Member

\$25 per image - Non-Member

Individual Critiques are available for \$10 per image

### **Submitting your images:**

PPA of PA's Image Competitions are held through PrintCompetition.com

Entries must be uploaded to Printcompetition.com to be judged in the competition.

Uploaded 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 RGB1998 and be saved at a JPEG quality setting of 10.

### **Awards:**

***PPA of PA members in good standing, whose dues are current 30 days prior to the competition, are eligible to earn the following awards at Inspire & Capture:***

*Best of Category **INSPIRE** - Every category with at least one merit image created by a member is eligible Chosen by the Jury Panel*

*Best of Category **CAPTURE** - Category must have at least 5 images from 2 or more makers to be eligible Chosen by the Jury Panel*

*Best of Show Inspire & Capture- Chosen from all eligible member images - Chosen by the Jury Panel*

*320 Club - Four images with a combined score of 320 or more, with all four images having scored 80 or higher*

### **Non Members are eligible to earn:**

*Best of Show by a Non Member - Chosen by the Jury Panel*

### **Scoring:**

100 to 95	Exceptional
94 to 90	Superior
89 to 85	Excellent
84 to 80	Deserving of a Merit
79 to 75	Above Average
74 to 70	Average
69 & under	Below Exhibition Standards

***AI is not permitted to be used on any entries in the competitions at this time.***

### **Photographic Competition**

Entrants must have captured and/or created the original exposure(s). All elements within the image must have been created or captured by the entrant. All artwork or post-

processing must be done solely by the entrant or under their direct supervision. Digital backgrounds or other elements not created by the entrant are NOT permitted to be included in the image.

## **Categories:**

### ***Portrait***

**General Portrait** - This sub-category includes families, groups, couples and adults (18 and older), relationships, models and fashion portraits, in addition to tastefully artistic figure studies.

**Child Portrait** - This sub-category includes a child, or children, from birth through 16 years old.

**High School Senior** - This sub-category includes a child, or children over 16 years old.

**Animal Portrait** - This sub-category captures an animal(s) using structured lighting in a studio or outdoor environment, where the animal is controlled by the owner or photographer.

### ***Illustrative***

**Landscape** - This category includes, but is not limited to, mountain ranges, cityscapes, sunrises & sunsets with or without people, urban landscapes, waterfalls, rivers, etc.

**Nature** - This category includes wild animals in an uncontrolled lighting environment, flowers & plants, or other aspects of nature that do not meet the Landscape category requirements. Animals photographed on a safari, in a wild animal park or zoo would be placed in this category.

**General Illustrative** - Images that do meet the criteria of the Landscape or Nature category. Entries can be, but are not limited to, conceptual or abstract images.

**Pennsylvania - PPA of PA members are allowed one free entry in this category**  
Images in this category should be representative of the state of Pennsylvania. All images must be captured within the state of Pennsylvania. Illustrative portraits, commercial or artistic images are accepted.

### **Photojournalism**

Images that illustrate an actual public or non-public event, life, an area of human interest or 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.

### **Commercial**

This category is for images created to help promote, market, or sell a product or service. A tear sheet is optional but highly recommended as it shows how the image is used for commercial purposes.

### **Wedding Competition**

The purpose of this competition is to allow photographers to enter images created during the actual Wedding Event. For an image to be merit worthy in the wedding competition, additional evaluation may be considered for the entries that illustrate the personality of the subject or subjects and the story of the wedding as well as the artistic and technical skills of the image maker.

Judges will keep in mind that the maker may have limited control over many aspects of a wedding - subject matter, environment and time of day, etc. Ultimately, additional consideration may be given to the maker for technically and artistically executing at a merit level despite challenges involved at an actual wedding. **The entrant must have captured and created the original exposure(s) during the time constraints of the actual wedding event.**

### **Categories:**

#### ***Wedding Portrait***

This category is for portraits created during an actual wedding event.

#### ***Wedding Candid***

This category is for candid photos created during an actual wedding event.

### **Artist Competition**

Images in the Artist category are judged for artistic, digital and technical proficiency. Entries can be created from existing photographs, portraits, graphics or any other artwork as long as the entrant is able to provide appropriate written documentation verifying permission for use, if requested. All processing and manipulation of artwork or rendering must be done by the entrant. Guide images of elements not created by the entrant must be included on the submitted image.

### **Categories:**

#### ***Restoration***

The reconstruction of an old or damaged image.

#### ***Creative***

Images created by any artistic technique (not restoration).

The Print Competition Committee reserves the right to change the category of an entry if they feel it does not qualify for the entered category. All decisions of the Print Competition Committee are final.

Rev. 1

## **Inspire & Capture Awards** **Artist, Photographic & Wedding Competitions**

Only PPA of PA members in good standing, whose dues are current 30 days prior to the competition are eligible for awards.

### **Image Entry**

- There is no limit to the amount of images an entrant may submit.
- Members may enter up to 4 images for **Top Case Designation** in each of the competitions, Artist, Photo & Wedding to be eligible
- **Only Top Case Designation Images are eligible for merits, awards and trophies.**
- Additional images may be entered in each competition for score only, recorded critiques are available for all entries.
- **Members are required to enter at least 4 images at BOTH Inspire & Capture to be eligible for Artist, Photographer, Wedding Photographer & Image Maker of the Year**

### **INSPIRE Specific Awards**

- Best of Category
  - Every category with at least one merit image created by a member is eligible for an award
  - Chosen by Jury Panel
- Best of Show - INSPIRE
  - Chosen by Jury Panel
- ASP State Elite Award
  - Highest Scoring Image by an ASP member
- CPP Award
  - Highest Scoring Image by a Certified Professional Photographer
- 320 Club
  - All four images scoring 80 or higher

### **CAPTURE Specific Awards**

- Best of Category
  - Categories need to have 5 images from 2 or more makers to be eligible for an award
  - Chosen by Jury Panel
- Best of Show - Capture

- Chosen by Jury Panel
- 320 Club
  - All four images scoring 80 or higher
- Artist, Photographer & Wedding Photographer of the Year
  - Best combined cases as determined by the Jury Panel
  - Member Eligibility
    - Case Entry Required at Inspire & Capture
    - 320 Club required at Capture

*If members are unable to receive their trophies in person, there is a \$25 shipping fee to have a trophy mailed. The Image Competition Committee reserves the right to change the category of an entry if they feel it does not qualify for the entered category. All efforts will be made to contact the maker prior to the competition. All decisions of the Image Competition Committee are final. Contact Image Competition Committee chairs Aaron Beale or Cindy Strupp with any questions*

Rev.1