

TRINITY ARTS PHOTO CLUB
Monthly Competition Regulations
2023

Purpose

TAPC competitions are a means to encourage members continually to strive to improve their photography.

Eligibility

Competitions are open to all members in good standing (i.e. whose dues are current).

Competition Entries

All entries must meet all the following requirements to be considered:

1. Creation of the image must be solely the work of the entrant. The club member's camera is the tool to be used for capturing the image to be submitted.
2. All images must be in digital form captured directly with a digital camera or by scanning images (prints, negatives, slides, etc.) that were captured using a film camera.
3. Tools or services that create images and image elements using computer software (often referred to as "Artificial Intelligence" or "AI" services) may not be used. Should a question arise regarding the use of AI in the origination and/or processing of a submitted image, the submitting member may be requested to supply the original file (with its embedded metadata) to the Competition Chairperson for review by the Chairperson and two other members of the Board. This group will review the supplied original image to confirm that the image was captured in camera and processed according to the club rules. If the submitted image is ruled inadmissible, the member will be permitted to enter another image to replace the one that was disallowed.
4. Digital imagery derived, or purchased, from other sources including but not limited to textures, brushes, stamps, overlays, backgrounds, skies and frames may be used provided the main subject image was taken by the entrant and the processing of the image was performed by the entrant.
5. Entries must not have won a ribbon in a previous TAPC competition (or be derivations of entries from the exact same frame or very similar frames captured at the same time as the winning image). Non-winning entries from previous TAPC competitions may be submitted in a subsequent contest so long as it meets all of the requirements of the competition. An image that won a ribbon outside of the monthly club contest is eligible for submission.
6. People's Choice winning images that were awarded points retroactively beginning in January 2020 and going forward are not eligible to be re-entered into competition. Images that won People's Choice prior to points being awarded (January 2019 to November 2019) may be re-entered into competition.
7. Entries must be submitted to the TAPC competition web service and meet all the web service requirements as to acceptable format, size and number of entries allowed.
8. The member's name may not appear in the title of the entry or in the image itself.
9. Entries must be submitted by the deadline announced by the Competition Committee.
10. Entries must be properly titled.

Competition Classes

Members may compete in either Class A or Class B.

Class A (advanced, experienced) competitors include all those individuals who were promoted from Class B under the TAPC competition point rules at the time of their promotion, or those individuals who voluntarily participate in this class.

Class B (beginner, less experienced) competitors include all members new to the club (except those and those who voluntarily participate in Class A). The Group B Photographer of the Year (photographer with the highest cumulative competition points during the year) will advance to Class A on January 1 of the following year. Once a member enters in Class A, the member may not revert to Class B.

Should a member voluntarily move up to Class A, points previously earned in Class B do not transfer up and therefore do not count in Class A (for the purposes of determining Photographer of the Year).

Competition Categories

There are two basic categories that the Competition Committee may elect to use:

1. **Assigned** competitions are those monthly competitions with a topic. Members are free to interpret the assignment as they wish; *however*, judges are informed of the assignment and will be asked to consider the photographer's assignment relevance in their ratings. There is no time limit as to when an image entered in an Assigned competition has been taken.

*Exception: When Procrastinator's Delight is the monthly assigned topic, the topic is drawn randomly at the meeting the month prior and members have only from that date until the contest closes (approximately 1 month) to take and enter their images.

2. **Open** competitions are those monthly competitions with no assigned topic. There is no time limit as to when an image entered in Open competition has been taken.

Competition Judging

Each class (A & B) will be judged independently. The Competition Committee will make every effort to have entries judged during the month following the meeting and report the results of the judging at the next scheduled meeting. The judge will use the following categories to judge the images:

| Assignment Relevance | Interest, Impact, Creativity | Composition | Technical Quality |
|----------------------|------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
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Awards and Points from Judges Ratings

All competitors who receive an award will be identified and their name will be visible on the website. Points awarded based on the judge's placement will be as follows:

| Number of Entries | First Place | Second Place | Third Place | Honorable Mention |
|-------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 7 or more | 4 Points | 3 Points | 2 Points | 1 Point |
| 5 or 6 | 3 Points | 2 Points | 1 Point | 0 Points |
| 3 or 4 | 2 Points | 1 Point | 0 Points | 0 Points |
| 1 or 2 | 1 Point | 0 Points | 0 Points | 0 Points |

People's Choice Award

Each month the club membership will be offered the opportunity to vote upon all of the images submitted in Class A and in Class B for that month. The image receiving the most votes in each class will be designated the People's Choice in the respective Class and awarded 4 points.

If the People's Choice image has also been awarded points by the judge for that month (won a ribbon), the People's Choice points will be added to the judge's points but only up to a maximum of 4 points total for the image. Example: If a 3rd place image (2 points) is also the People's Choice winner (4 points), the image will be awarded a maximum of 4 points, not the total of 6 points.

A maximum of 4 points can be awarded to any one image.

Photographer(s) of the Year

Members accumulating the highest number of points in each class (A & B) will be awarded the title of "Photographer of the Year." This award is based on the points members accumulate on their contest submissions for the current year. Photographer of the Year awards will be presented at the November meeting or the Christmas party. Points are zeroed out each year and every member will start the next year with zero points for photographer of the year purposes.

In the event of a tie, the number of original entries submitted during the year will determine the winner. For the purpose of tie-breaking, an original entry is one that has not been previously entered in this contest year. If a further tie breaker is needed, the member with the greatest number of first places in the class will be declared the winner, and, if needed, second places and so on.

TAPC's Use of Entries

By submitting an image for judging, the member agrees that the entry may be placed on the TAPC websites and may be used by TAPC in its newsletters, blogs, and brochures. As such, TAPC will not be responsible in the event that an entry is pirated or copied.

Competition Committee

The Competition Committee is appointed by the Board of Directors to conduct all regular monthly competitions. The Competition Committee is tasked with the following responsibilities.

- Determine categories and topics for monthly competitions; publicize topics to the club members at least one year in advance of the date of the competition.
- Enlist judges for the monthly competitions.
- Select and manage a method of collecting the monthly entries.
- Determine the acceptability of controversial or inappropriate images or titles.
- Disqualify images that do not meet the time frame requirements.
- Maintain a record of all entries - up to 5 years.
- Provide and maintain a method and mechanism for presenting the images to the judge and for collecting the judge's results and comments.
- Report the results of the month competitions.
- Track points earned by members for the Photographer of the Year.