

2023 OHIO IMAGE COMPETITION RULES

Please read thoroughly! NEW rules are highlighted!

The purpose of this competition is to allow photographers and artists to enter digital files and/or digital albums to be judged against a standard of excellence using the 12 Elements of a Merit Image.

These rules pertain to images entered as digital files created by traditional photographic processes as well as those captured electronically with a digital camera or scanner:

1. ALL ENTRIES MUST BE REGISTERED AT www.printcompetition.com
2. THIS IS A DIGITAL ONLY COMPETITION
3. No changes to your entry are permitted once the entry deadline has passed. No refunds will be issued after the entry fee is paid.
4. Entrants do not need to be PPO members to compete in the competition however most awards are only for eligible PPO members. See the Awards List for details. If the winner is not present to collect their award, it will be shipped to the maker upon request and at their cost. **If the maker has not requested their award within 90 days of the award ceremony being held on July 23rd, 2023, the award will be reused for the following year's competition.**
5. Entrants may enter the Photographic Open competition, the Wedding competition, and/or the Artist Competition.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Entrant must have captured and created the original exposure or exposures.
2. All processing, manipulation and printing or rendering, were done by the entrant or under their direct supervision.
3. The entrant has obtained and has access to all necessary releases (model or property) and agrees to hold the PPO harmless against all claims and liabilities arising out of PPO's display, publication and promotion or other use of each image submitted to the PPO.
4. The entrant's name shall not appear anywhere in or on the face of the entry.
5. A maximum of eight entries may be submitted per entrant **per competition**. There are three competitions: Photographic Open, Wedding, and Artist for a total of 24 potential entries. Makers who submit more than eight images per competition will have their extraneous entries disqualified.
6. No entry will be eligible if it has been made under the supervision of an instructor or as a class assignment. All images submitted must be self-directed. Images created in an educational environment under direct supervision from an instructor are ineligible.
7. Any entry that has been created from an existing photograph, portrait, graphic or any other artwork produced by another person is a violation of the competition rules and will not be judged, accepted or displayed. If an entry, in the good-faith opinion of the Print Chairman, violates copyright, trademark or any other applicable law, that entry shall not be judged, accepted or displayed.

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8. Entries of the same subject in multiple images will be allowed, as long as the images are entirely different. (Background, location, clothing, and/or concept).
9. Entry media includes digital files and digital albums.
10. Entries previously earning a score of 80 or higher at any PPO competition or meriting at an IPC Competition prior to 2023 are not eligible, including any image from an album receiving a score of 80 or higher. All images from the Merit Image Review, regardless of score, are accepted.

REGISTRATION

Registration opens Monday, May 1st, 2023. Register at printcompetition.com. Early deadline is Friday, June 23rd, 2023 at 11:00 PM ET. Late deadline is Friday, July 7th, 2023 at 11:00 PM ET.

PHOTOGRAPHIC OPEN COMPETITION

Portrait

Images can portray a subject or subjects from all walks of life and should reflect the personality of the subject(s).

- **Children:** This sub-category must contain a child or children from birth to age 16.
- **High School Senior:** This sub-category portrays a male or female age 16 to 18.
- **Animal:** This sub-category captures an animal(s) portrait using structured lighting in a studio or outdoor environment, where the owner or photographer controls the animal. Companion animals and domesticated livestock.
- **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.

Illustrative

Capturing the beauty of nature, wildlife, industry, and architectural areas are considered illustrative.

- **Landscape/Nature:** This sub-category shares joy and adventures while expressing a sense of place. Wild animals in an uncontrolled lighting environment, zoo animals, flowers, seascapes, cityscapes, urban landscapes, and sunsets with or without people can be placed here.
- **Illustrative/Commercial:** This sub-category is used when images are created for a commercial client to advertise a product and promote a brand or company.

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This can be an interior or exterior of a structure or within an industrial environment. Illustrative can also be conceptual images that tell a story.

- **PO Album:** consists of portrait and story-telling albums.

Reportage/Photojournalism

- **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.

Mansfield Mayhem

- **Mansfield Mayhem:** Every year PPO hosts an evening at the abandoned penitentiary in Mansfield Ohio. This year we're adding a new category for images captured during Mansfield Mayhem, any year.

WEDDING COMPETITION

Images created at or in connection with a wedding.

- **Wedding Open:** Images can portray a subject or subjects from all aspects of a wedding, including traditional portraits, candids, or detail work.
- **Wedding Album:** Multiple images combined into a digital album collection exclusively showcasing a specific wedding. Multi-maker Wedding albums will be judged as one entry.

ARTIST COMPETITION

An entry in this competition is a conceptual image altered or manipulated from its original condition. Creations can be a subtle application using post processing techniques, or a dramatic combination of details to suggest a larger story. The artist is responsible for the idea behind the image and the work done to create the finished art piece.

1. **All elements must be shown as guide images.**
2. **Entries in this competition without guide images will not be judged, accepted or displayed.**

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3. Entries may be reproduced from existing photographs, portraits, graphics, or any other artwork so long as the entrant is prepared to provide appropriate written documentation indicating permission for usage. This documentation may be requested by PPO before, during or after the competition.
4. A.I. elements are acceptable in the Artist competition as long as they are not the majority of the image.
5. All processing, manipulation, artwork or rendering must be done by the entrant.

You must designate one of the below categories for each entry. A maximum of eight entries may be submitted in this competition.

- **ARTIST CREATIVE OPEN**
- **ARTIST RESTORATION**

DIGITAL SUBMISSION

1. Files must be sized so the longest dimension is 4000 pixels. Each file must contain an embedded color profile of either sRGB or Adobe RGB1998 and be saved at a JPEG quality setting of 10.
2. There is no rule for the format of the file name, however the studio or maker name cannot appear on any file.

DIGITAL ALBUM ENTRY

1. All page/spread files must have the longest file dimension at 4000 pixels, have an embedded color profile of either sRGB or Adobe RGB1998 and saved at a JPEG quality setting of 10.
2. Each page/spread file may contain as many images as you desire.
3. A single-maker entry shall contain a minimum of 5 page/spread files up to 36 page/spread files. Multi-maker albums will be judged as one entry.
4. Files are to be numbered in viewing order using two digits, i.e. 01 jpg, 02 jpg, 03 jpg, etc.
5. All individual files must be compressed into a single ZIP file. ZIP file must be named: Album Title.zip (e.g. Summer Wedding.zip). Additionally, the cover page of the album should be uploaded. There will be areas for both uploads during registration.
6. Studio identification or entrant's name cannot appear on any file within the album entry.

DEADLINES & FEES

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Registration opens Monday, May 1st, 2023 on printcompetition.com

Early Registration Deadline – by 11:00 pm ET, Friday, June 23rd, 2023

- \$15 per entry for PPO members
\$20 per entry for non-PPO members

Late Registration Deadline – by 11:00 pm ET, Friday, July 7th, 2023

- \$20 per entry for PPO members
\$25 per entry for non-PPO members

NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER 11:00 PM ET, FRIDAY, JULY 7, 2023.

JUDGING

Judging will be held virtually on Saturday, July 8th, 2023 starting at 10am ET. Judging will be streamed online at www.printcompetition.com

Premium members of printcompetition.com will see all the jurors individual scores as well as have access to any recordings of challenges after the competition. Premium members also have access to all the entries from all the competitions judged through printcompetition.com over the years – over 109k images! You can search the archives by maker, subject, association, year, and/or score! Only premium members will receive text and/or emailed score notices during the competition or have access to pre and post game apps.

AWARDS

Only PPO members are eligible for trophies, with the exception of the “Guest Award”. See the Awards List for details.

Winners will be announced at our annual convention on July 23rd, 2023.

If the winner is not present to collect their award, it will be shipped to the maker upon request and at their cost. If the maker has not contacted the print chair within 90 days after the award announcements to request their award and pay the shipping fee, the award will be reused for the next year’s competition.

NOTE 1:

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- If an entry, in the good-faith opinion of the PPO Print Chairman, violates copyright, trademark or any other applicable law and cannot be proven otherwise, that entry shall be disqualified.
- Failure to comply with these rules may result in disqualification of entry.
- The decision of the Print Competition Chair is final.

NOTE 2:

- PPO entrants in the Photographic Open competition with four or more images qualify for USG Salyers/ Ohio Photographer of the Year.
- PPO Entrants in The Artist competition with four or more images qualify for the Ohio Artist of the Year.
- PPO Entrants in the Wedding competition with four or more images qualify for Ohio Wedding Photographer of the Year.

For any questions about this competition, please contact the PPO Print Competition Chair, Danica Barreau.

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