

ODCC Competitions

Competition Update

Over the past three years there has been an observable shift in our memberships attitude towards competitions. This was noticable in the reduced number of entries along with a greater interest in our monthly photo challenges. We also realized that our competition categories and guidelines were not on par with the current standards for photo competitions online or otherwise. It was with this in mind that we entered into a process to revamp our competition categories and guidelines to mesh more closely with current practices.

As a club we still believe that there is alot to be gained by entering into a competition process and we are committed to providing this opportunity for members.

There were three things that we wanted to accomplish with this revamp of our competitions:

1. Reduce the number of categories.
2. Update our guidelines to reflect current photography techniques and the use of computer manipulation.
3. Align our competitions with CAPA (Canadian Association of Photographic Arts) which gives us the option to submit our top photos to their competitions.

One of the most notable changes is the addition of the 'open' categories. This accomplishes a few things. It aligns us with CAPA and it allows our members the freedom to submit photos of subject they acutally photograph and not be restricted by themes. Another new addition (new name) is the 'altered reality' category. This category is wide-open to subject matter and manipulation. The only restriction is that the photo **MUST** be altered.

As usual there will be awards for experienced and beginner levels in each category.

Competition Schedule

Date	Category	Style/Type
October 10 th	Nature #1	Light Manipulation
October 10 st	Open #1	Light Manipulation
November 15 th	Open #2 (club only)	Open Manipulation
November 30 th	Altered Reality	Open Manipulation + Composite Only
January 15 th	Theme #1 (Footwear) single, stacks, being worn	Light Manipulation
February 15 th	Open #3	Light/Open Manipulation
February 15 th	Nature #2	Light Manipulation
March 9th	Photo Essay Travel Essay	Open Manipulation + Composite

Competition Guidelines

Digital Entries – Light Manipulation

Entries must originate as photographs (image-captures of objects via light sensitive film or sensor) made by the entrant on photographic film or acquired digitally. Entries may be enhanced/edited in Adobe Photoshop or similar software. Enhancements are limited to traditional darkroom (dodge, burn, remove dust/scratches).

Enhancements are restricted for Nature entries as outlined in competition definitions.

Digital Entries – Open Manipulation

Entries must originate as photographs (image-captures of objects via light sensitive film or sensor) made by the entrant on photographic film or acquired digitally. Entries may be enhanced/edited in Adobe Photoshop or similar software. The only limitation would be that you cannot use parts of different images. HDR would be accepted. Multiple exposures of the same scene would also be allowed.

Altered Reality

The image must always begin with an original photograph captured by the photographer. A variety of subject matter is accepted. Images **must be heavily manipulated** and obviously creatively enhanced including, but not limited to composites, creative filters etc. These images are not meant to look like a regular photograph and cannot be entered into a Digital Theme competition nor an Open competition.

Open Competition (Digital, Print)

A variety of subject matter is accepted. The photographer may make enhancements that could have been done in the camera (zooms, pans, multiple exposures, blurs), cropping, or modifications that can be done in the digital darkroom, which improves the photographic presentation of the subject. Heavily manipulated images must be entered in the Digital 'Altered Reality' Competition category.

Nature Competition -- DIGITAL AND FILM

CAPA adopted the International Federation of Photographic Art (FIAP) nature definition as follows: "Nature photography depicts living, untamed animals and uncultivated plants in a natural habitat, geology and the wide diversity of natural phenomena, from insects to icebergs.

Photographs of animals which are domesticated, caged or under any form of restraint, as well as photographs of cultivated plants are ineligible.

Minimal evidence of humans is acceptable for nature subjects, such as barn owls or storks, adapting to an environment modified by humans, or natural forces, like hurricanes or tidal waves, reclaiming it. The original image must have been taken by the photographer, whatever photographic medium is used.

Any manipulation or modification to the original image is limited to minor retouching of blemishes and must not alter the content of the original scene.

After satisfying the above requirements, every effort should be made to use the highest level of artistic skill in all nature photographs." No composites.

Botany – includes images that portray uncultivated plant life such as trees, flowering and non-flowering plants, ferns, algae, fungi, etc. in their natural habitat. Photographs of domestic plants, artificially produced hybrid plants, flower arrangements etc are ineligible. Entrants are required to identify their botany images on the entry form for Botany award consideration.

Slideshow – Photo Essay & Travel Essay

A computer, some images and inexpensive software and you can produce a digital AV show.

Photo Essay - any subject except travel, with commentary and/or music.

Travel Essay - a time-travel sequence or an in-depth study of a travel subject or geographical area, with commentary and/or music.

1. Maximum length of essay: 5 minutes.
2. The show must be produced from the photographer's original still photographs – no movie clips.
3. CAPA recommends the use of non copyrighted music or obtaining a release for copyrighted music. The photographer, not CAPA, will be responsible for legal issues arising from use of music.
4. Each show must begin with a black 3 second slide. In order that the photographers' identity not be revealed to the judges: Credits for the producer/photographer(s) and music must appear at the END of the show: a three second blank slide showing the word "Credits", (so that we can stop the show before the credits are seen by the judges), then credit slides, ending with a 3 second blank slide.

5. Naming the Show: Place the title first, hyphen, Photographer or Club Name E.g. Thunder in the Rockies-Johnny Smith.exe
6. The show will be copied onto a PC and run from the hard drive using Windows Media Player. Suggested software: Pro Show Gold/Producer; Pictures To Exe (PTE); Sony Vegas; Mac to .exe (older version) Do not limit the number of times or days the show may be viewed/played, a feature provided by programs like Photodex ProShow.