

PPI FALL PRINT COMPETITION RULES

October 19, 2026

The purpose of this competition is to allow photographers 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 and those captured electronically with a digital camera or scanner.

COMPETITION RULES

The Photographic Open Rules for the PPI Fall are:

1. All entries must be registered at printcompetition.com.
2. Entrants may submit digital files only for judging on October 19, 2026.
3. Entrants are required to upload a digital file for each image entered.
4. No changes to your entry are permitted once the entry deadline has passed.
5. No refunds will be issued after the entry fee is paid.
6. Entrants do not need to be PPI members to compete in the Photographic Open Competition. Only PPI members who are entering are eligible to receive PPI Awards. Size requirements below.

ELIGIBILITY

Eligibility requirements for the PPI Fall Event Competition are:

1. The Entrant must have captured and created the original exposure or exposures.
2. All processing, manipulation, or rendering, was 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 PPI harmless against all claims and liabilities arising from PPI's display, publication, and promotion or other use of each image submitted to PPI.
4. The entrant's name shall not appear anywhere in or on the face of the entry.
5. No entry will be eligible if it has been made under the supervision of an instructor or as a class assignment unless entered within the student category.
6. All images submitted must be self-directed.
7. Entry media includes digital files and digital albums only.

REGISTRATION

Registration opens August 1st, 2026. Register at printcompetition.com.

PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION CATEGORIES

You must designate one of the below categories for each entry:

Woman: Consists of a woman over 18 years old.

Child: Consists of a child newborn to 18 years old.

Man: Consists of a man over 18 years old.

Group: Consists of 2 or more men, women, or children.

Illustrative: Consists of commercial/industrial images, scenics, pictorials, digital paintings, and similar subject matter. Portraits and weddings are not appropriate for this category.

Album: EVENT albums consist of time-sensitive social events, such as weddings, bar mitzvahs, etc. NON-EVENT albums consist of portrait and storytelling albums, Multi-maker album: Images in the album must be the work of the entrants (up to three), with a minimum of 20 images per entrant. Each entrant must individually enter the competition and pay appropriate entry fees. Multi-maker albums will be judged as one entry.

An entry shall contain a minimum of 5 page/spread files up to 36 page/spread files. Files are to be numbered in viewing order using two digits, i.e., 01 jpg, 02 jpg, 03 jpg, etc. All individual files must be compressed into a single ZIP file. The ZIP file must be named: Album Title.zip (e.g., Summer Wedding.zip).

Animals: photographs consisting of animals both in the studio or outdoors

Nature/Landscape: Photographs consist of scenic landscapes and/nature

Reportage: Photographs captured of candid, unposed moments; no photograph alteration is allowed besides cropping and dodging/burning.

Artist Category

Requirements for the Artistic Competition are:

1. 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 PPA before, during, or after the competition.
2. The entrant must do all processing, manipulation, artwork, or rendering.
3. The entrant's name shall not appear anywhere in or on the face of the entry.
4. No entry will be eligible if it has been made under the supervision of an instructor or as a class assignment unless entered within the student category. All images submitted must be self-directed.
5. Entry media includes photographic digital files only for Fall 2026.
6. Entries in the Artist category shall include any subject and must have guide images.
7. Entrants do not need to be PPI members to compete and can enter this Artist Competition.

DIGITAL SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The rules regulating digital submission are:

- 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 10. In most cases, the total file size should not exceed 3.5 MB. Larger files will be accepted when necessary so long as they are JPEG/10.
- All files are to be named. No underscores or special characters.

Digital Album Entry

The rules regulating digital album entry are:

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 be saved at a JPEG quality setting of 10. Each page/spread file may contain as many images as you desire.

- An entry shall contain a minimum of 5 page/spread files up to 36 page/spread files. • Files are to be numbered in viewing order using two digits, i.e., 01 jpg, 02 jpg, 03 jpg, etc.
- All individual files must be compressed into a single ZIP file. The ZIP file must be named: Album Title.zip (e.g., Summer Wedding.zip).

- Studio identification or entrant's name cannot appear on any file within the album entry.
- Each entrant must use the same title when entering a multi-maker album.

DEADLINES AND FEES

Registration opens August 1st, 2026.

Deadlines and fees include:

\$15 for each image entered.

- **All entries must be uploaded to printcompetition.com by October 18, 2026, at 11 pm CST.**

Note: Please comply with these rules to avoid disqualification of entry. The decision of the PPI Print Chair is final.

SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

In order to qualify for this award, photographers must complete the following guidelines to enter and win.

- Must enter an entire case consisting of 4 Image Panels (2 Senior Boys and 2 Senior Girls) in order to be considered for the SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR award.
- Photographers may enter just one image panel to qualify for first, second, and third place for a senior girl and/or senior boy entry. To be eligible for the SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR AWARD, the photographer must enter an entire case of 4 image panels consisting of 2 senior girls and two senior boys.
- Each image panel must contain exactly eight images per senior entry.
- Image panels must be created in a 10x20 or 12x24 file saved at 4000px on the longest edge at 250 DPI before uploading to printcompetition.com.
- Image panels must include eight images of the same model and can be arranged any way the photographer wants within the 12x24 or 10x20 format required.

CHILD PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

In order to qualify for this award, photographers must complete the following guidelines to enter and win.

- Must enter an entire case consisting of 4 Image Panels (2 Boys and 2 Girls) in order to be considered for the CHILD PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR award.
- Age requirements for CHILD PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR are Newborn through 12 years old.
- Photographers may enter just one image panel to qualify for first, second, and third place for a child entry. To be eligible for the CHILD PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR AWARD, a photographer must enter an entire case of 4 image panels consisting of 2 girls and two boys.
- Each image panel must contain exactly eight images per child entry.
- Image panels must be created in a 10x20 or 12x24 file saved at 4000px on the longest edge at 250 DPI before uploading to printcompetition.com.
- Image panels must include eight images of the same model and can be arranged any way the photographer wants within the 12x24 or 10x20 format required.