

# Southern Appalachian Nature Photographers

## 2021 Nature Photography Competition

**Awards Presentation:** SANP February Meeting, Tuesday, February 23, 2021, via Zoom (link to meeting to be distributed in February)

**Who is Eligible to Enter:** Any SANP member with 2020 dues paid before December 31, 2020

**Submission Dates:** January 11-22, 2021

### Competition Rules

**Entries:** Because of concerns due to the pandemic, the 2021 Salon will include only digital images. The acceptance period for *all* entries is January 11-22, 2021. Digital image files should be submitted electronically via email. Further details are under the “How to Submit Entries” heading below.

By submitting images to the competition, you are agreeing to public display of any or all submitted images for SANP-sponsored publications, presentations or events. If you wish to exclude your image(s) from public display, contact the Salon Coordinator, Dale Potter, [dalepotter55@gmail.com](mailto:dalepotter55@gmail.com).

Digital images will be accepted in the eight categories listed below. Note that the conditions listed below apply to all photographs entered in this competition. The first place winners from the categories below will compete for **Best of Show**.

### Categories

The first seven categories below are for color images. The eighth category is exclusively for black and white images.

**Scenic.** Images where the scene is the dominant subject (e.g., streams, sunsets, waterfalls, seascapes, landscapes, cloudscapes, sky scapes).

**Wildlife.** Images of live mammals, birds, insects, lizards, turtles, fish, etc., where the animal is clearly the subject of the photograph. Wildlife subjects in controlled conditions are allowed, but common pets and domesticated animals are not allowed.

**Plants.** Images where the plant is the dominant subject (e.g., wildflowers, ferns, mushrooms, fungi, mosses, trees, etc.), either macro or standard photographs.

**Travel & Place.** Images that express the joys and adventures of travel, showcasing place as an important part of the photo. Like the Scenic category, this category can include landscapes, seascapes, etc., but it **must** also include people, man-made objects, or other subjects you might encounter while traveling. The main emphasis for photos in this category is that they express a sense of place.

**People in Nature.** Images that express the joys and adventures of people doing activities in the natural landscape. Like the Scenic category, these images can include landscapes, seascapes, etc., but **must** also include at least one person doing something in the outdoors. Manmade objects are allowed. An example would be a photograph of people kayaking on a river.

**Abstracts in Nature.** Images that push the boundaries of creative expression through photography in the natural environment.

**Panoramas (2021 Special Category).** Nature or travel images with a minimum 2:1 aspect ratio. *Note 1:* The subject of the photo should meet the guidelines for one of the six categories above. *Note 2:* Resist going to the extreme on the long dimension. These photos will be judged in the same manner as other Salon categories.

**Black and White.** Images whose subject falls within the guidelines for any one of the seven categories listed above. Note that all black and white images should be entered in this category.

## Conditions

- All entries must be nature photographs. The photograph's main subject cannot be people, architecture, museum exhibits, trains, cars, common pets and domesticated animals, or other subjects that do not inherently occur in nature. These conditions do not apply to the *Travel & Place* or *People in Nature* categories.
- For all categories except *Travel & Place* or *People in Nature*, any evidence of man or his creations, when included, should not be the main focal point of the image but an incidental part of it.
- An individual cannot enter the same, or nearly identical, images in different divisions in a given year's Salon. Images that have previously won first, second, third, or honorable mention awards in SANP Salon competitions are not eligible for entry in this year's Salon.
- Images may be enhanced or changed using any of the tools available in a post-processing graphics editing program, but the primary subject or primary parts of the image cannot be copied or significantly altered in any way, and items cannot be imported from another image. High dynamic range (HDR), focus stacking, stitching, and other similar techniques are allowed. The intent of the original image must be maintained.
- An entry's acceptability will be determined by SANP Competition personnel, and decisions made are final. Acceptability is dependent on following all the rules and requirements in this document.

## Number of Entries

Each SANP member may enter a maximum of twelve (12) digital images for the color categories and two (2) images for the Black and White category. The maximum number of photographs that can be entered in any category is two (2).

## How to Submit Entries

Digital images should be emailed to [sanp.salon@gmail.com](mailto:sanp.salon@gmail.com). The format of file names for digital images is used by smart filters in Lightroom to streamline grouping images into categories for judging. Also, the image title and creator imbedded in the file's IPTC metadata are used to automatically create a score sheet for judging. Your help in following the format specified below is appreciated. Filenames (not titles) of each entry should be in the following format:

**last name\_first name\_category abbreviation\_number.jpg** (e.g., Smith\_John\_PL\_1.jpg)

where the category abbreviation (e.g., PL above) is based on the following assigned abbreviations (the first two letters of the category name except for black and white, whose abbreviation is BW).

Category	Abbreviation
Scenic	SC
Wildlife	WI
Plants	PL
Travel & Place	TR
People in Nature	PE
Abstracts in Nature	AB
Panorama	PA
Black and White	BW

No entry forms are needed. Place an entry's title (not the file name) in the file's IPTC metadata under Title/Document Title. Place the creator's name in the file's IPTC metadata under Creator/Author in the following format:

**firstname lastname** (e.g., John Smith)

After your submitted images are received by the digital images coordinator, an acknowledgement will be sent confirming receipt of your images. If you do not receive

an acknowledgement within 3 days, contact the salon digital images coordinator, Ed Stickle, at 865.405.8143.

All images will be displayed on a Full HD monitor (1920 x 1080) with an sRGB color space. Images should be resized to fit within these dimensions before they are submitted. If you need any assistance with this procedure, send an email to [salp.saloon@gmail.com](mailto:salp.saloon@gmail.com) or call Ed Stickle at 865.405.8143.

## **Judging**

A team of independent judges will judge the digital images. At the judges' discretion, first, second, third, and honorable mention placements for each category that qualifies for judging may be given. One **Best of Show** award will be selected from the first place winners of each category. All decisions of the judges are final.

## **Qualifications for Judging**

A minimum of six entries and three participants will be required in a category for judging. If there are fewer than six entries or three participants in a category, the photographs will be grouped into an appropriate category for the judging. SANP competition personnel will decide all category questions that arise.