

QCG YEAR END PHOTOGRAPHIC AWARDS 2024

These awards celebrate the best images of the year across a number of categories. The awards are determined at a gala judging event held at the end of November, when members and guests are invited to experience live impact judging by a panel of three judges.

GENERAL RULES FOR QCG YEAR END PHOTOGRAPHIC AWARDS

- An image may be entered **in one competition only** (except for Most Apt Title).
- Members must upload their own entries via MyPhotoClub (except for Most Apt Title).
- Images may be removed if they don't meet the criteria; no alternative images may be submitted after the closing date.

PRINT OF THE YEAR AND DPI OF THE YEAR

These competitions are graded, with all grade winners receiving a certificate. The trophy winners are determined from the three Grade winners.

Competition	Maximum number of images	Medium	Eligible images	Are new images allowed?
Print of the Year QCG Trophy	3	Print	Any print entered in Aggregate Print Competitions in the current calendar year.	No
DPI of the Year President's Trophy	3	DPI	Any DPI entered in Aggregate DPI Competitions in the current calendar year.	No

- **Exception:** Entries which have previously been entered in a Year End Photographic Award competition, in any medium, **are not eligible for entry.**
- Entries may be edited to incorporate a Judge's critique or to explore different processing.

OTHER 'IMAGES OF THE YEAR'

These competitions are ungraded, and open to all grades.

Competition	Maximum number of images	Medium	Eligible images	
			An entry from the current year...	...or a new image
Portrait of the Year Gaye Edwards Portrait Trophy	2	Print	Any print or DPI entered in Monthly Aggregate competitions in the current calendar year.	An image which has never previously been entered in any QCG Monthly Aggregate or Year End competition.
B&W print of the year Nick Caris Trophy	2	Print		
Nature Anne Pappalardo Nature Trophy	2	Print		
Mountain Landscape Mountain Landscape Trophy, donated by Andrew Klonowski	2	DPI	Any print or DPI entered in Monthly Aggregate competitions in the current calendar year.	
Social Documentary Perpetual trophy	2	DPI	Note that if the original entry was a print, it must be entered as a DPI for these competitions.	
Creative Phil Lawrence Creative Trophy	2	DPI		

- **Exception:** Entries which have previously been entered in a Year End Photographic Award competition, in any medium, **are not eligible for entry.**
- Entries may be edited to incorporate a Judge's critique or to explore different processing or to optimise the image for a different medium, where required.

AND FINALLY ... MOST APT TITLE

This award is chosen by audience vote from all images which have received Most Apt Title awards in the Monthly Aggregate competitions in the current calendar year. The Competitions Officer will submit eligible entries on behalf of members.

SUBJECT GUIDELINES

Portrait of the Year

Either the People or Portrait definitions may be used.

Portrait

A close-up image of a person or group of people which effectively portrays mood, emotion and/or personality of the subjects through the use of lighting (studio or natural), backgrounds and poses.

People

A photograph of a person or persons that may range from a head study to full body length. This section includes candid photographs and formal portraits

Nature Image of the Year

Nature photography records all branches of natural history except anthropology and archaeology. This includes all aspects of the physical world, both animate and inanimate, that have not been made or modified by humans.

Nature images must convey the truth of the scene that was photographed. A well-informed person should be able to identify the subject of the image and be satisfied that it has been presented honestly and that no unethical practices have been used to control the subject or capture the image. Images that directly or indirectly show any human activity that threatens the life or welfare of a living organism are not allowed.

The most important part of a Nature image is the nature story it tells.

High technical standards are expected and the image must look natural. Adding a vignette or blurring the background during processing is not allowed.

Objects created by humans, and evidence of human activity, are allowed in Nature images only when they are a necessary part of the Nature story.

Photographs of human-created hybrid plants, cultivated plants, feral animals, domesticated animals, human-created hybrid animals and mounted or preserved zoological specimens are not allowed.

Images taken with subjects under controlled conditions, such as zoos, are allowed.

Controlling live subjects by chilling, anaesthetic or any other method of restricting natural movement for the purpose of a photograph is not allowed.

No modification that changes the truth of a Nature image is allowed. Images may be cropped but no other technique that removes, adds or moves any part of the image is allowed.

Techniques that remove elements added by the camera, such as dust spots, digital noise and lens flare are allowed.

Complete conversion of colour images to greyscale monochrome is allowed. Partial conversion, toning and infrared captures or conversions are not allowed.

Images of the same subject that are combined in-camera or with software by focus stacking or exposure blending are allowed. Multiple images with overlapping fields of view that are taken consecutively and combined in-camera or with software (image stitching) are allowed.

Note

The guidelines above are the same as the APS Nature guidelines, which must be complied with in all APS approved national and international competitions. An additional checklist is available from the APS website <https://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php/nature-definition>, which may help you determine whether or not a particular image meets the requirements.

Black and White Print of the Year

A monochrome grey scale image containing only Black and White. It must not be colour toned.

Creative Image of the Year

This is either (a) a photograph which displays a novel effect because of an unusual combination of objects and/or an unusual viewpoint, or (b) a photograph in which the images have been modified during exposure, or (c) a photograph which has been modified after exposure. Always the picture must have a basic photographic image. Digital processes are included, provided the original image was exposed by the entrant.

Social Documentary Image of the Year

The image should be concerned with the portrayal and interpretation of society, encompassing both human and non-human subject matter. Social Documentary images must be titled, the titles playing an important part in their impact.

Mountain landscape Image of the Year

A landscape scene that includes a mountain or mountain range.