



# New York Press Photographers Association, Inc. Our 106<sup>th</sup> Year

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## 86<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CONTEST AND EXHIBIT CONTEST RULES & ENTRY PREPARATIONS

### ELIGIBILITY AND DEADLINE:

The contest is open exclusively to members of the New York Press Photographers Association, Inc. All entries must have taken between **January 1 and December 31, 2020, except as noted for specific pictures in the Campaign 2020 category.** All entries along with the completed entry form must be submitted to the FTP by **Friday FEBRUARY 5, 2021.** All completed entry forms must be submitted with the entry via ftp in a JPG or PDF. A check made out to New York Press Photographers Association, Inc. (or using Pay Pal with a small service fee added) for entry fees and dues owed must be submitted within a week after that deadline via mail or FTP.

### ENTRY FEES:

Entry fees have been lowered this year, but all past dues and the 2021 dues (\$85 for Regular & Associate Members or \$40 for Life Members) must be paid. There is a flat entry fee of **\$20 for the first 21 entries** or less. Additional entries above **21 will be \$2 per entry.** There is a single **\$10 fee for entering the Portfolio competition.** There will be no refunds for disqualified entries.

### NEW CATEGORIES:

Three new categories have been added for this year's contest, and one has been dropped:

#### •**Campaign 2020.**

Photos from the many political campaigns in 2020. This category also allows entries from any ceremonies or inaugurals occurring in January 2021 to wrap up the 2020 campaign season.

#### •**The Global Pandemic: COVID-19**

The effects of a global pandemic in the U.S. have touched everyone in some way. This category is an opportunity for photojournalists to share stories in *both* a single picture and picture story categories.

#### •**Society's Reckoning: Protests & Movements**

2020 was a year of social unrest and activism. Entries in this category will be single pictures from any of the protests and movements that occurred in 2020, from Black Lives Matter demonstrations to protests for police reform, COVID-19 restrictions, against racial injustices and other inequities.

•The *International/National News* category has been dropped.

### GENERAL RULES:

Except for the Multimedia categories, entries must be made from a single digital camera output file, a black and white negative, color negative or color transparency. Entries may not be electronically manipulated or altered, other than normal balancing and toning of an image—burning, dodging and spotting. No composite images are permitted. *Video frame grabs are not eligible except in the Multimedia category.*

- There is no limit to the number of entries per entrant. Each entry must be entered in one category only.
- No single picture may be entered in more than one category, but single pictures may also be entered as part of a picture story.
- Individual pictures from a picture story may be entered in single picture categories but must be entered as a separate entry.
- Copies of a selection of individual entries may also be entered in the Portfolio competition.
- Individual pictures from a picture story may not be used in another picture story.

- Photographs in a picture story entry, taken over a period of time that begins before the eligible date but extends into the period of eligibility, may be entered as long as they have not been entered in any previous NYPPA contest.
- **Images that have won in a previous year cannot be entered again in another category going forward and, also cannot be entered in a Picture Story as part of an ongoing project**
- *Entries do not need to have been published.*
- The committee and/or judges reserves the right reclassify entries if entered in improper categories.

### **ENTRY PREPARATION:**

An official entry form that summarizes all the entries of each contestant is required and is available by downloading it from [www.nyppa.org](http://www.nyppa.org) or by mail if requested. **The signed form must be submitted as a .doc or PDF or JPG with your entries at the time of that you upload the entries.**

Each entry must be submitted as a JPEG file (RGB color or grayscale (**Do not use CMYK**)). We suggest 300 DPI & 3000 pixels (10 inches) in the LONGEST dimension—which should produce an approximate 20MB file size before JPEG compression). Save and compress the file using JPEG compression set to provide a file about 2MB—no smaller PLEASE. Use the optimized JPEG option if available. Images smaller than 1.5 MB compressed may be disqualified. We strongly advise that you do not re-compress (re-jpeg) an already compressed file as this will degrade image quality.

### **NUMBERING AND SAVING ENTRIES:**

The NYPPA requires entries to be saved with our unique file numbering system as the filename. To prevent degradation of your files, we recommend you prepare a master image and save it as an uncompressed TIFF file. Then save it as a JPEG image each time to the compression standards of each contest you enter. Our contest is being judged using Photo Mechanic and it is recommended you prepare your captions with that program, although it is not required. A one-month free trial is available from the Camera Bits web site. (<http://store.camerabits.com/downloads>)

YOU MUST USE YOUR PERSONAL ENTRY NUMBER, which is your membership number that can be found on your membership card and/or dues invoice. It can also be provided by emailing [CONTEST@NYPPA.ORG](mailto:CONTEST@NYPPA.ORG). This number is your personally assigned number, and should be placed before all other numbers in the entry number of each picture file using the following instructions:

- Each entry must be renamed and saved beginning with your MEMBERSHIP NUMBER. You can add “zeros” in front of the number to make it three digits if necessary. For example, if your member number is only two digits ADD a “0” in front of it so it is THREE digits. Those three numbers tell the committee who entered the image. Now ADD two more digits to give your entry an individual and unique number. Begin with your first entry as “01” and go in sequence through to your last entry (up to “99”). As an example, if your member number is 23, then your third entry would be numbered 02303. So, your entry images are saved with the file name “02303.jpg” That’s it. FIVE DIGITS—NO spaces (02303.jpg), NO dashes (023-03.jpg), NO periods (023.03.jpg). A member with a three-digit member number would have their first entry look like this: 24301.jpg.
- Each picture story entry is considered a SINGLE ENTRY, so each individual story must be in a FOLDER and that folder is named with the entry number (example: 24305). EACH image of your story gets saved with the same number INSIDE the folder BUT to make these images not overwrite and to make them display in the order you want they must be saved as a sequence, so TWO more digits must be added. Your first image in the entry folder would have 01 appended at the end (example 2430501.jpg) and if you entered ten images in the story your last image would be numbered with 10 (example: 2430110.jpg). Again, no dots, dashes or spaces!! After you have numbered all your images, they must then be organized in category folders, one for each category that you are entering. We ask that you use the six-digit category number/letter code below, but if the folders are labeled so we can figure out what category the entries go in we will put them there.
- **Do Not Lock Your Files.** Locking them prevents our ability to move files from one folder to another. The image orientation must read in normal viewing position, with top of the image being at the top. Your photographs will not be flopped or rotated.

Finally, all your category folders should be placed inside a master folder identified with your entry/member number. That folder should be uploaded to the NYPPA contest FTP. NO ENTRY IMAGE OR PICTURE STORY FOLDER—NO MATTER INTO WHAT CATEGORY FOLDER IT IS PLACED—SHOULD HAVE THE SAME NUMBER except for copies placed into the Portfolio category folder. Enter the entry numbers on the entry form exactly the same as on your file.

### **CAPTIONS:**

All caption information shall be placed in the "File Info" section (found under the FILE menu) in Photoshop or on an IPTC form such as in Photo Mechanic.

**REMOVE YOUR NAME AND ORGANIZATION FROM ALL METADATA!!!!** If it is not removed, it will be a reason to disqualify the entry.

A **title** and **caption** are required for all entries. Under the GENERAL or DESCRIPTION section of "File Info" place your entry title in the TITLE (or HEADLINE or DOCUMENT TITLE) field. In the CAPTION (or DESCRIPTION) section place your caption information. You **MUST** include the **date** (day/month/year) and **location** the image was made in the caption (who, what, when, why, where and how). Please write a journalistic-type caption. **All references to your name and organization should be removed from ALL THE METADATA!!!! Removed from ALL Fields, the credit, byline, or source fields.** When you are finished, click "OK" and then go to the file menu and click "Save" to save the image with the caption.

**PICTURE STORY** categories may have up to 12 pictures per entry, numbered in sequence from beginning to end as described above. Individual pictures from a picture story may be entered in single picture categories but must be entered separately with a separate entry number.

Entries should be tightly edited, and each picture story should be organized to logically tell a story. Each individual picture should make a strong contribution. In organizing your entry, less pictures than the maximum 12 allowed might make a greater impact.

In the caption of the only the **FIRST** photo of the story, please *summarize* what the picture story is about. An additional sentence explaining the individual picture may also be added. The rest of the individual picture captions in the story don't need to carry the general story summary and can be used for who, what, when, where, etc.

The files must be placed within a folder labeled with a five-digit entry number, and in a folder for the Picture Story category entered. (Example: Folder 03NPSY contains three picture story entry folders: 00209, 00210 and 00211. Inside folder 00209 are seven images with file numbers 002091.jpg (first photo in story), 002092.jpg (second photo) through 002097.jpg (seventh and final photo). Folder 00210 contains four jpeg images labeled (saved as) 002101.jpg, 002102.jpg, 002103.jpg and 002104.jpg. Don't forget to prepare your captions as described above.

### **MULTIMEDIA ENTRIES:**

There are two sub-categories. Each sub-category will be open to individual and team entries.

1. Multimedia presentation with a length up to Five Minutes.
2. Multimedia presentation with a length over Five Minutes.

Entrants may enter alone or as part of a team. *Do not physically send your Multimedia entries with your other contest entries.* Just provide a valid URL on the entry form downloadable from <https://nyppa.org/contest-rules>, member login needed. The judging will be done online. **Entry URLs must be publicly accessible throughout the judging period from January 31 to March 30.** Depending on the number of entries, the judges will award prizes in each subcategory, may combine categories or may create new categories.

### **PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR:**

The judges will select a "Photographer of the Year" based on the best portfolio submission. Portfolio entries will consist of a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 15 of an entrant's submissions. **At least one image must be from the 75-mile radius of New York City. At least one and no more than three picture stories may be included.** The judges will consider versatility, but mainly content and quality in selecting a winner—understanding that many of the entrants may be "specialists" in various fields of photojournalism. Each entrant may enter only one portfolio. Portfolio entries should be separate files from single and picture story entries; just make copies of each file desired and place them in a folder named "Portfolio" with your entry. *Multimedia entries are not eligible for this category.*

### **ANTHONY J. CAUSI SPORTS PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR:**

This category has been renamed in honor of the late Anthony J. Causi, NYPPA member and long-time sports photographer for The New York Post, who passed away in April after battling the coronavirus. The judges will select a "Sports Photographer of the Year" from portfolios submitted containing only sports pictures. If the committee and the judges feel there are not a proper number of entries, SPOY portfolios will be judged with the POY entries. Entries will consist of a maximum of 15 images that are enter in the categories. The entries shall consist of at least 7 images from a sports action category, 4 from a sports feature category and 3 from a sports portrait-type of image. Entries should be in a folder labeled SPORTS PORTFOLIO. The same rules as for POY apply. Entrants may choose to enter two portfolios, one in POY and one in SPOY, but each must be different in content from the other.

### **BEST IN SHOW:**

The judges will award a "Best in Show" selected from the First-Place winners in each category. Portfolio categories are not included.

### **ENTRY SUBMISSION DETAILS:**

All entries shall be submitted via FTP.

The FTP info is as follows (login required):

Hostname: ftp.nyppa.com

Username: u36339662-contest

Password: Contest2020!

### **JUDGING:**

The judges must award a first place, second place, third place and two honorable mentions in each category except for categories with less than 20 entries, Picture Stories, Portfolio, Sports Portfolio and Best in Show. There must be at least 15 entries from at least 3 entrants in a category for it to be judged. If a category is not judged the committee shall place the entries in other appropriate categories. Judges may cite several entries for inclusion in the annual exhibit as "Exhibit Awards".

### **AWARDS PRESENTATION:**

Plaques and prizes will be presented at either the opening of the Annual Exhibit or the Awards Dinner. All entrants are expected to take their obligations seriously and all winners are required to attend one of the Awards events. If a winner cannot attend the dinner the winner may forfeit any award(s) and prize(s) unless a ticket is purchased for one person who is designated by the winner to accept the award(s) and the Association is notified in advance of the event. No winner may accept for another winner and no one may accept for more than one winner. The committee's decision to allow awards to be presented is final. The NYPPA Board has the sole right to determine prizes and prize money that may be awarded. The NYPPA Contest Committee has the right to make edits in the Picture Stories so that the exhibit fits professionally.

## **CATEGORIES:**

**(01SNWS) Spot News** – a single photograph of an unscheduled news event during the actual event where no pre-planning was possible and which could not be recreated, and photographed in New York City, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, and Rockland Counties, New Jersey and Connecticut. *This award is being presented as the William V. Finn Memorial Prize.*

**(02GNWS) General News** – a single photograph of a scheduled news event where pre-planning was possible and photographed in New York City, Nassau, Suffolk, Westchester, and Rockland Counties, New Jersey and Connecticut.

**(03NPSY) News Picture Story** - multiple photographs of a news event combined to tell a story or an action sequence. There is a maximum of 12 images per story entry.

**(04FEAT) Feature** – a single photograph, illustrating a story or situation other than for its news value a "found" situation with strong human interest.

**(05FPSY) Feature Picture Story** - multiple photographs, illustrating a theme, story or situation other than for its news value. There is a maximum of 12 images per story entry.

**(06PICT) Pictorial** – A single photograph that emphasizes graphic, aesthetic qualities and **composition** of the subject.

**(07PORT) Portrait** - A single photograph of a person or group of people that is a character study of the person.

**(08ANML) Animals** – a single photograph where an animal or group of animals (includes birds, reptiles and insects) is the primary subject.

**(09SAXN) Sports Action** – a single action photograph from a team, school or professional sporting event that cannot be recreated. A play-related photograph, hockey fights, or fights on the field in other sports are considered Sports Action. Jubilation, dejection, and reaction photographs should be entered in the Sports Feature category

**(10SFEA) Sports Feature** – a single non-action photograph from a team, school or professional sporting event: side-bar images of fans and players, confrontations with officials, reaction from play or end of game even if still on the field of play. Locker room and bench pictures, celebrations and dejection should be included in this category.

**(11SPSY) Sports Picture Story** - multiple photographs illustrating a sports-related story or sequence from a team, school or professional sporting event or related to those events (i.e., training, preparation, etc.). There is a maximum of 12 images per story entry.

**(12FANY) The Face of New York** - a single photograph that captures the uniqueness of New York City. The picture may be of a person, place and/or object. An "Only in New York!" picture.

**(13CAMP) Campaign 2020** - a single photograph that illustrates the many election campaigns, from local to national, that took place in 2020. Pictures of any political action rallies, for or against a candidate, would be entered in this category. Since this is a special category created every four years, pictures from inaugurations or ceremonies that occur in January 2021 (from 2020 campaigns) are acceptable as being shot past the normal entry date. *Campaign picture stories* that are more news-oriented may be entered in *News Picture Story* while more feature-oriented campaign picture stories may be entered in *Feature Picture Story*.

**(14COVID) A Global Pandemic: COVID-19** – The effects of a global pandemic in the U.S. have touched everyone in some way. This special category is an opportunity for photojournalists to share stories in a single photograph. Included in this category would be how hospitals and individuals coped with the disease and how society and life changed as people sheltered in place, wore masks—or not—and honored front-line workers.

**(15CPSY) A Global Pandemic: COVID-19 PICTURE STORY** – multiple photographs as described above, with a maximum of 12 entries. Included in this category would be how hospitals and individuals coped with the disease and how society and life changed as people sheltered in place, wore masks—or not—and honored front line workers.

**(16PROT) Society's Reckoning: Protests & Movements** – 2020 was a year of social unrest and activism. Entries in this category will be a single picture from any of the protests and movements that occurred in 2020, from Black Lives Matter demonstrations to protests for police reform, COVID-19 restrictions, against racial injustices and other inequities. *Picture stories* from protests and movements should be entered in the "News Picture Story" category.

**(17MULT) Multimedia** – a story presented through a combination of still images and/or video with or without sound and/or narration, related to a news, sports or feature story.

**ETCETERA**

Check [nyppa.org](http://nyppa.org) for any breaking information and clarification. For questions regarding the contest, contact contest co-chairs Gary Hershorn ([garyhershorn@gmail.com](mailto:garyhershorn@gmail.com)), 646.244.0292; Bill Perlman ([treasurer@nyppa.org](mailto:treasurer@nyppa.org)), 516.8570625 or Porter Binks ([porter.binks@gmail.com](mailto:porter.binks@gmail.com)) 917-881-3869.

**GOOD LUCK AND WE ENCOURAGE EVERYONE TO ENTER!!!!**