

# 2019 Plaza Arts Center 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Photography Contest & Exhibition

*By entering this photo contest, contestants agree to the rules of this contest and to the legal terms and conditions listed in this document. Entry fees benefit The Plaza Arts Center. If you have questions, call The Plaza Arts Center at 706-923-1655 or Chairperson, Maggie, 404-281-6139.*

There are several changes in the rules and instructions this year. Please read all of the information. Event coordinators will not have the time to correct entries. Event coordinators may not accept your entry if you do not submit it properly.

## DIVISIONS

- **Amateur:** Photography is strictly a hobby. Photographers use basic to advanced cameras or image editing software. They do not earn any income from photography based activities. These photographers have not won more than 3 ribbons (1st-3rd place) in the 2018 Plaza Arts Center Photo Contest or Best in Show Award in any Plaza Arts Center Photo Contests. Amateurs may enter in the Advanced Division if they choose to.
- **Advanced:** Photographers have had additional experience beyond basic amateur photography. They may earn some income from the sale or publication of images and other photography related activities. They may have won a Best in Show Award in any Plaza Arts Center Photo Contests or 4 or more ribbons in the 2018 Plaza Arts Center Photo Contest.
- **Junior:** Photographers are under 18 years of age at photo submission time. They may enter any photo with no regard to categories. See entry fee information under Entry Instructions.

## ENTRY DATES and PICK-UP DATES

**Entry:** Entries will be accepted February 18 - February 22. NO ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER FEBRUARY 22. Allow plenty of time for mailed entries to arrive before the deadline or they will not be accepted.

**Pick Up/Retrieval Dates:** Contestants MUST pick up their photographs on Friday, March 15 from 4 PM to 6 PM in the Reception Hall. No photographs will be returned by mail. Any photographs not picked up by March 15 will be discarded or donated.

**Alternative to Pick Up/Retrieval:** Donation Alternative: Contestants may donate prints to the Oconee Regional Humane Society for a fundraising auction or to the Eatonton Rehabilitation Center for nursing home patients to enjoy in that facility. Please make your choice on the entry form.

## JUDGING & WINNER NOTIFICATION

After close of the entry period, eligible photographs will be evaluated by an unbiased, qualified photographer/artist selected by organizers. All decisions by the Judge are final.

**Reception & Awards:** Submitting photographers and their families are invited to the reception and awards ceremony at The Plaza Arts Center on **March 8 from 5:30-6:30 P.M.** Best in Show winners in amateur and advanced divisions will be announced at that time. Winners will not be notified in advance.

## OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The show will be open to the public Saturday, March 9 through Friday, March 15 from 10 AM to 4 PM. Check website to confirm dates and times as they may change.

## AWARDS

Category Ribbons - Ribbons will be awarded to 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners in each category. Winners will be posted on the TPAC website at [www.plazacenter.org](http://www.plazacenter.org). Winners, photos and other contest information will also be posted on The Plaza Arts Center's Facebook Page.

Best in Show Awards – Best in Show Awards will be presented to Amateur and Advanced Photographers and each will receive ribbons and cash prizes. The Junior Division will be included with the Amateur Division for Best in Show award. Each category will award 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places with ribbons.

### Show Awards:

- Best in Show - \$100 cash award and ribbon
- First Place in each category - \$30 cash and ribbon
- Second and Third in each category - ribbon

### **CATEGORIES for Amateur Division**

- Landscapes
- Birds
- People
- Animals
- Flowers
- Black and White
- Smorgasbord (if it doesn't fit elsewhere)
- \*One Word Essay

### **CATEGORIES for Advanced Division**

- Landscapes
- Black and White
- Smorgasbord (if it doesn't fit elsewhere)
- \*One Word Essay
- \*\*Digital Darkroom

**\*ONE WORD ESSAY** - Enter a photo that best depicts one word such as hope, love, determination, excitement, adventure...any word you choose. Name your photo with that one word. Do not place the word on the photo. That will be done by event coordinators. Write the word chosen on the entry form.

## PHOTO ENHANCEMENT

**Amateur:** Images submitted must be in-camera, single exposures, in-camera high dynamic range (HDR), and must not be digitally altered beyond standard optimization including cropping, removal of dust, nominal adjustments to exposure, color, contrast, saturation, sharpening, etc.

**\*\*Advanced – Digital Darkroom Category:** This category is for images altered using post-processing techniques that add visual elements to the image (for example adding clouds in a clear sky), composites of several visual elements, layer stacking of multi-exposures for sharpness through the depth of field or high dynamic range (HDR), artistic filters, or conversion of images to sepia or tonal.

**Comments:** *The criteria for separating Amateur and Advance categories are base upon the number of ribbons a person has won or if they earn a percentage of their income from photography. Outside Digital Darkroom, both the amateur and advance will meet the same criteria as above for Amateur for images submitted. The Digital Darkroom is a very specialized classification and will most likely have entries from people having advanced image processing software and advance experience in image processing. Based upon the criteria separating amateur and advanced photography, they both might be capable of Digital Darkroom. For fairness, both amateur and advanced photographers should enter images meeting the Digital Darkroom Category into **Advance Digital Darkroom**.*

## ELIGIBILITY

- Entries must have been taken by the submitting photographer and must be his/her original work.
- Employees of TPAC and contest organizers are not eligible to enter.

Entries must be "family friendly." Show organizers reserve the right to disqualify any entry deemed not acceptable. Entry fees will not be refunded if an entry is disqualified.

## ENTRY INSTRUCTIONS

Please read ALL of these instructions. Your entry may not be accepted if it is not submitted properly!

1. EACH PRINT MUST BE MATTED. Mats of any color and size are acceptable, however, total dimensions of print and mat must not exceed 11"x 14". Photos must **NOT** be framed. All plastic sleeves will be removed and discarded before being hung for display.
2. **Entry Fee** is \$10.00 per photo, 6 entries for \$50.00, and 12 entries for \$100.00. There is no limit on number of entries. Fees may be paid in cash or with a check made payable to The Plaza Arts Center.  
**Note: Junior photographers** (under 18 years of age) pay no fee for the first entry submitted in the junior division. He/she may submit additional entries in any category of the amateur division. Regular entry fees will apply. A signature from a parent or guardian must be included on entries submitted by Junior photographers. See entry form.
3. Attach a completed Entry Submission Form to the back of each entry. **Clearly print information.** DO NOT attach entry forms to plastic sleeves. **Entry forms must be attached to the mat or photo.**
4. **Locate the Entry Submission Form The Plaza website.** It is a PDF document you can print and complete. <https://plazacenter.org/2019-photography-show/>
5. Designate a pick up or donation option on the Entry Submission Form. Entries with no designated option will be donated or discarded at the discretion of the event coordinators.
6. Submit photographs with an Entry Submission Form attached to each photograph along with entry fees in one of the following ways. Please read both options:
  - a. Deliver to The Plaza Arts Center office at 305 N. Madison Avenue, Eatonton, Georgia in a **non-returnable bag or box February 18 - February 22** (Mon.-Fri. 9:00-4:00).
  - b. Mail directly to TPAC, 305 N. Madison Avenue, Eatonton, Georgia 31024. No entries will be returned by mail. **Mail early so deadline will be met.**
7. The entry form has a box to indicate the correct hanging position. Please draw a simple arrow in this box indicating the top of the photograph. We hang hundreds of pictures. This will minimize confusion and delay on our behalf.
8. No signatures are allowed on photos or mats.
9. "One Word Essay" photos are only to be labeled on the entry form. Each photo will have a tag hung next to it to indicate the "word" of choice.
10. Once your photo is on display - do not keep the numeric tags hung next to your photo. Those are property of the show and are used to identify photos in the programs and are used every year.

Photographers may sell any print after contest ends. Transactions are exclusively between buyer & seller.

*By entering, contestants agree to all terms and conditions of this contest. Decisions by the Judge are final. TPAC staff, Chamber Staff & organizers/volunteers are free of liability for any damage to any print. Contest organizers may display any entry in any format for promotional contest purposes. \*\*\*The organizers reserve the right to move any entries from a designated category or division if deemed necessary due to content or post processing techniques or Advanced status of photographer.\*\*\**

## General Terms

As an entrant in this photo contest, it is your responsibility to determine whether you are eligible to enter and to comply with the entry instructions and other photo contest rules set forth herein. Any violation of the contest rules may result in your disqualification, in the sole discretion of organizers. In the event of a dispute relating to the identity of the entrant, the entrant will be deemed to be the authorized signer on the entries label.

Organizers reserve the right to disqualify you if, among other reasons, you breach the warranties you are required to make, you have failed to secure permission from persons whose recognizable images appear in the photo, or your entry is lost, late, misdirected, incorrect, garbled or incompletely received, for any reason whatsoever.

TPAC further reserves the right to disqualify you, and to seek damages against you to the fullest extent permitted by law, if you intentionally or recklessly damage TPAC web site or tamper with the entry process or operation of the Web site or otherwise undermine the legitimate operation of the contest, or attempt to do so. Such actions may violate criminal and civil laws.

In the event that TPAC cannot complete the photo contest as planned, including but not limited to by reason of infection by computer virus, bugs, tampering, unauthorized interventions, force majeure, technical failures of any sort or other causes beyond the control of TPAC that corrupt or affect the administration, security, fairness, integrity or proper conduct of the photo contest, TPAC reserves the right to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the photo contest.

By entering this photo contest, you agree to release TPAC and its affiliates, and their officers, directors, agents, attorneys, employees, volunteers, docents and all representatives, from any and all liability for any claims, demands, causes of action, damages, judgments or settlements, or for any losses or injury to earnings, profits, or goodwill, or for any direct, indirect, special, punitive, incidental or consequential damages, including attorneys' fees and court costs, other than entrant's out-of-pocket expenses (if any) associated with entering the contest, arising out of or relating to this photo contest, your access or lack of access to TPAC web site, or in connection with any other electronic display, promotion or social networking site, or in connection with any prize won, any misuse or malfunction of any prize awarded, or any use by TPAC of the photographs submitted.

By entering the photo contest, you hereby agree to defend, indemnify and hold harmless The Plaza Arts Center (TPAC), and its affiliates, and their officers, directors, agents, attorneys, employees, volunteers, docents and representatives, against and from all third party claims, demands, causes of action, damages, judgments or settlements, including reasonable attorneys' fees and court costs, arising out of or relating to this photo contest, or in connection with any prize won, display methods, promotional uses, any misuse or malfunction of any prize awarded, or any use by TPAC of the photographs submitted.

In the event of any dispute, controversy or claim between an entrant and TPAC, the parties shall first seek to resolve the dispute through informal discussions. In the event of any dispute, controversy or claim cannot be resolved informally, the parties agree that the dispute, controversy or claim will be settled by binding arbitration in accordance with the Commercial Arbitration Rules of the American Arbitration Association in effect at the time of commencement of the arbitration, and the parties agree that judgment upon the award rendered by the arbitrator may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof.