

Eligibility

The 2012 still photography and multimedia competition is open to Professional and Student NPPA members of Regions 1, 2, and 3 ONLY. All entries must have been taken or published between January 1, 2011 and December 31, 2011.

General Guidelines

Photographers may enter in the single picture competition, the portfolio competition, the multimedia competition or all of the above.

- A single photograph may be entered only once among the single-picture categories.

- A single photograph may appear as part of a picture story, but in no more than one story.

- A picture story/ multimedia entry may be entered both in an individual category and as a part of a portfolio.

- A single photo, a picture story, and a multimedia entry each count as one entry.

- ALL entries that are un-viewable by the contest staff or judges will be **DISQUALIFIED!**

- Photographs entered in the wrong category may be reclassified, at the discretion of the judges. However, in the event of a major violation of contest guidelines, the NSC committee reserves the right to disqualify any noncompliant entry.

- ALL photographs taken outside of North America must be entered into the International Photo and International Photo Story categories with the exception of Sports and Sport Stories.

- If you want to enter the same picture in a Single or Picture Story or Individual Multimedia category and in your Portfolio, just check the "Include this image in my Portfolio" box on the entry form.

File Preparation

- Save each image as an RGB file. Do not use CMYK.

- Resolution: 200 to 300 dpi, **minimum**

- Image Size: **2,500 pixels or larger**, on the longest side — width or height

- The sizing above is the **minimum** file sizes larger sizes are acceptable.

- Quality (under “compression”): .JPG high.

- Entries must be submitted using the online form.

- Except for the Food / Fashion / Illustration category, entries must be from a single still camera frame and may not be electronically manipulated or altered (other than the normal balancing and toning of a digital camera image). No sandwiched negatives are permitted. Only burning, dodging and spotting are allowed.

- Entries do not need to have been published.
- The decisions of the contest judges and committee are final.

File Information Fields Required to Enter the Contest

-Caption - This caption will be shown together with your photograph during public viewing of the archive and winners. Please check grammar and spelling before submitting. Please **do not** include your name or publication credit in your caption.

-Credit – Photographer's name

-Source- Employer or client

CONTEST CATEGORIES

Single Picture Categories

To enter a Single Picture entry, click the Create New Still Entry link on the Entry view page, select a picture story category from the popup, choose an image and enter a caption, and click Submit. After you enter each image, you will be returned to your Entry page to view the list of your entries.

Spot News

A picture of an unscheduled event for which no advanced planning was possible.

General News

A picture of a scheduled event for which advanced planning was possible.

Feature Picture

Usually a "Found" situation with strong human interest or a fresh view of the commonplace.

Sports Action

A peak action picture that captures the competitive spirit, domestic or international

Sports Feature

Sports related feature picture other than game action, domestic or international.

Portrait / Personality

A picture of a person that reveals the essence of the subject's character.

Pictorial

A picture that exploits graphic, aesthetic qualities of the subject with

an emphasis on composition.

Food/Fashion/Illustration

A picture, usually a set-up or created situation, with an emphasis on food or fashion. This is an open category that may also include computer-generated images on any subject.

Humor

Finding humor in the commonplace -- or not so commonplace -- people, animals, signs, etc.

International Photo

A picture captured in a country other than-North America. This category is for all international entries with the exception of Sports Action and Sports Feature.

Natural Disaster

A single image that captures and communicates the devastation wrought by a natural disaster. Natural Disaster Single recognizes coverage of the human or physical impact of this year's earthquakes, floods, oil spills, hurricanes, and other destructive natural events.

Multiple Picture Story Categories

A maximum of 12 images per story is allowed. Each complete picture story is considered one single entry. Entrants are encouraged to edit tightly.

Images in picture stories will not be judged individually. To enter a photo from your picture story on its own, you must provide a separate entry.

To enter a Picture Story, click the Create New Still Entry link on the Entry view page, choose a picture story category from the popup, choose an image and enter a caption, and click Submit. After you enter each image, you will have the chance to add additional images to the story. Upload the images one at a time, in the order you want them presented, until the story is complete.

News Picture Story

Any general or spot news subject portrayed in a multiple picture fashion. Pictures should be edited to convey a single theme.

Feature Picture Story

Any feature-oriented subject portrayed in a multiple picture fashion. Pictures should be edited to convey a single theme.

Sports Picture Story

Any sports-oriented subject portrayed in a multiple picture fashion.

Pictures should be edited to convey a single theme.

International Picture Story

A multiple picture package captured in a country other than **North America**. This category is for all international multiple picture entries: features, news, etc.

Sports Portfolio

A portfolio consisting of action and feature images showing at least three different sports. **New in 2012**—Sports Picture Story is no longer required but if included counts as a single entry. Maximum of 12 entries allowed.

Multimedia Entries

Entries must be entered as an active URL to your company's website or a hosting site such as Vimeo. File uploads are not accepted. Entries may include single galleries, slideshows or video, as well as packages that include multiple elements that were grouped and published together as a single story or theme.

Daily Multimedia Individual

A single piece of work produced by a **single journalist** containing stills and/or video. Audio, text, graphics, etc. are allowed but not required. Entries in this category should have been shot in roughly a single shift. **Maximum length three minutes.**

Long-form Multimedia Individual

Work produced by a **single journalist** containing stills and/or video. Audio, text, graphics, etc. are allowed but not required. Entries in this category must be produced by a single journalist but may contain multiple stories or a longer form single piece.

Team Multimedia

Work produced by a **staff or team** containing stills/and or video. Audio, text, graphics etc. are allowed but not required. Entries in this category can be produced by multiple journalists and contain multiple stories or a longer form piece. Not all team members are required to be NPPA members.

Portfolio Entries

To enter a portfolio, begin by entering single images, picture stories or individual multimedia entries as you would for a single entry, and check the

"Include entry in portfolio" box on the image entry form. Repeat the process for each entry you would like included in your portfolio submission. Each single, story or individual multimedia entry that is included in your portfolio will also be judged in the individual category for which it was submitted, it is not necessary to upload the entry twice. Team multimedia entries will not be judged in the portfolio category.

A portfolio may contain up to 20 entries totaling no more than 80 images. Individual multimedia categories may be included as part of the portfolio. Picture stories and multimedia entries count as a single entry. A portfolio **MUST** include entries from at least two of the picture story or individual multimedia categories. It must also include entries from at least four Singles categories, one of which **MUST** be a news picture.

Portfolios will be judged on their impact as a unit demonstrating diverse ability and photographic excellence.

NSC Photo Contest Awards

- The NSC Photographer of the Year will receive a Nikon camera, courtesy of NIKON, a plaque and a Think Tank Airport TakeOff. Plaques will also be awarded to second and third place POY winners.
- A Best of Show winner will be selected from the first place winners in each category and awarded a Think Tank Airport Takeoff.
- NSC plaques will be awarded for first place, in addition to a Think Tank Retrospective 20 for still categories and a Think Tank Multimedia Wired Up 10 for multimedia categories. Certificates will be awarded for 2nd, and 3rd in each category.
- A special award goes to the newspaper or organization with the most points compiled from individual staff photographer awards in the single photo categories.

Entry Fees

Single Entries - \$8.00 each

(THERE IS NO LONGER A LIMIT TO THE AMOUNT OF SINGLE ENTRIES ONE PHOTOGRAPHER CAN ENTER)

Portfolio Entry- \$75.00 which includes up to 20 single images for free.

For further information or to answer any questions, contact contest chairs, Steve Falk or Caroline Couig at northerncontest@gmail.com

Entry Deadline for all Entries is February 6, 2011 3:00 PM EST