

Seattle Photographic Society, Inc.  
 8500 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW Seattle, WA 98117  
*www.SeattlePhotographic.com*

*Table of Contents*

Governing Body	2	Scoring	11
Officers	2	Merit Points	12
Dates to Remember	3	<b>People's Choice Points</b>	12
Assignment Dates	3	Assignments	13
History and Purpose	4	End-of-Year Competition	14
Official Publication	4	Special Award Categories	14
How to Become a Member	5	Annual Awards & Appreciation Banquet	15
Dues Schedule	5	Interclub Competitions	17
Meetings	6	Transfer of Ranks & Awards	17
Snow Policy	6	Disclaimer	17
Image Entry Rules	7	Endowment Fund	17
Image Requirements	7	Membership Directory	18
Image Preparation	8	<b>Judge's Scoring Guide</b>	27
Image Divisions	9		
Print	9		
Projected - <i>Open</i>	9		
Projected - <i>Altered Reality</i>	9		
Projected - <i>Nature</i>	10		

# GOVERNING BODY

A board composed of four Officers and up to ten Directors and Coordinators govern SPS. Officers and Directors are elected by the membership for a staggered two-year term. Coordinators are appointed as needed by the Board to fulfill ongoing functions, and are not subject to term limits. Newly elected Officers and Directors take office on July 1st of each year. All SPS members are welcome to attend board meetings, but only Board members may vote. SPS is governed by its by-laws, which are available on the website, or by asking the club secretary.

## Officers

		<i>Term</i>
President	Sam Ruljancich	2011
Vice President	Robert Rutkin	2011
Secretary	Sharon Victor	2010
Treasurer	Douglas McArthur	2010

## Directors

Mike Lavery	2010	Darin Rogers	2010
Mike Livdahl	2011	Ron Waude	2011

## Coordinators

Digital	James Downar
Membership	Eugene Collias
Newsletter and Handbook	Sheri Diggins
Print Division	Alan Moodie
Projected Division (1 <sup>st</sup> Tuesday)	Julee Anne Jackson
Projected Division (4 <sup>th</sup> Tuesday)	Alicia Richards
Website	Alicia Richards

## DATES TO REMEMBER

Competition year	May 1 - April 30
Fiscal year (membership dues)	July 1 – June 30
Final acceptance date for End of Year Competitions	3rd Tuesday in May
Annual Meeting / Election of Officers and Board Members	1st Tuesday in June
Annual Awards & Appreciation Banquet	2nd Tuesday in June
Annual Potluck Dinner	1st Tuesday in December

## ASSIGNMENTS

More details about assignments will be found on page 13. A detailed definition of each assignment will be provided by email and will also appear in the *Cable Releases*.

June 16th, 2009	Print	Macro
Sept. 22, 2009	Open	Minimalism / Zen
Jan. 26th, 2010	Altered Reality	Geometric Patterns
April 6th, 2010	Nature	Reflections

# HISTORY AND PURPOSE

The Seattle Photographic Society (SPS) was founded on October 18, 1933 and is dedicated to the advancement of photography both as an art and as a science. SPS aims to help individual members gain a greater enjoyment from their photography, to acquire a technical knowledge of the art, and to encourage a free and unselfish exchange of ideas. Membership includes novices, amateurs, advanced amateurs, and professional photographers.

There is a liberal education in photography awaiting those who are interested. Photographic skills are developed through image critique, discussions, lectures, demonstrations, close association with experienced photographers, and practice. Visitors are always welcome at club meetings.

SPS is a member of the Photographic Society of America (PSA) and the Northwest Council of Camera Clubs (NWCCC).

# OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

The official newsletter of SPS is the *Cable Releases*. Published monthly, it is distributed by the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month. The newsletter is available in PDF format for those who want a color edition. Results of the monthly competitions are included, as are year-end summaries. Articles of photographic interest and a column describing the activities of SPS and its members are frequently included.

## *Publication of images*

Application for membership authorizes SPS to publish submitted images in the *Cable Releases* and display images for other SPS promotional purposes. The member may revoke this authorization with written notification to the board.

# HOW TO BECOME A MEMBER

Membership application forms are available from the Secretary, Treasurer or other board member. The application must be accompanied by payment of dues as shown in the Dues Schedule.

## DUES SCHEDULE

Individual	\$ 40.00
Joint Membership	\$ 60.00

Dues cover the period from July 1 to June 30 of the next year, and are due by no later than July 31st. Members who are not current in their dues are no longer eligible to submit images, enter competitions or be included in the current membership roster.

Dues for *new* members are pro-rated as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Individual</u>	<u>Joint</u>
July 1 to September 30	\$ 40.00	\$ 60.00
October 1 to December 21	\$ 30.00	\$ 45.00
January 1 to May 1	\$ 20.00	\$ 30.00
May 1 to July 1	\$40.00	\$ 60.00*

\*Members who join between May 1 and July 1 pay the full annual dues for the *following* year with the period between May 1<sup>st</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup> included in their membership.

# MEETINGS

SPS meetings are held each Tuesday evening at the Crown Hill United Methodist Church, 8500 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue NW, Seattle, WA 98117. Free parking is available in the church parking lot.

Meetings will be called to order at 7:30 pm unless otherwise noted or announced. It is suggested that members arrive early to enter their images and to help with set up. Digital images should to be submitted by e-mail *before* the meeting, if possible. (*see page 8*)

Meetings are held on Tuesdays of each month as follows:

1st Tuesday	Projected Division
2nd Tuesday	Board Meeting (7 pm)
3rd Tuesday	Print Division
4th Tuesday	Projected Division
5th Tuesday	Education Night

During meetings a commentator will discuss each image and offer constructive criticism. Three judges will evaluate the image and assign a score. The maker will then be allowed to comment. Depending on time available, limited comments from the audience may also be permitted. The audience will vote for one image in each Category for **People's Choice**.

# SNOW POLICY

If the Seattle Public Schools announce a school closure for weather conditions for the day SPS meets, SPS WILL NOT meet, REGARDLESS of the weather conditions at the time of the meeting. School closures will be announced on TV and the radio, or you can go to the Seattle Public Schools website [www.seattleschools.org/area/main/snow.htm](http://www.seattleschools.org/area/main/snow.htm).

## MAGE ENTRY RULES

To enter any competition, an individual must be a current member of SPS (i.e. dues paid in full for the fiscal year.) A member may enter any competition and need not be present to participate. If there is time, a visiting guest may enter an image for commentary, but no score will be entered for club competition.

### *Image Requirements*

All images *must start* as *photographs* taken by the photographer, using either a film or digital camera. The image may not be completely computer generated.

The image must be the sole work of the photographer. Images are not acceptable if they are a *literal* representation of an existing work of art by another artist (a photograph of a painting, for example.) If the image *is* of another work of art, but shows lighting, composition, or other such choices beyond those made for the original work, then such images may be allowed. (Examples might include architecture, sculptures or stained glass windows.)

Any given image may be submitted only once to a regular SPS meeting unless altered in some way. Alterations can include changing an image from color to monochrome, or from projected to print, for example.

SPS relies on the honesty and integrity of its members to follow these requirements, and expects its members to be ethical in making and presenting their photographic images.

Images that do not meet the preceding criteria may be disqualified by the Division Coordinator at the meeting where the image is shown. The maker may appeal a disqualification to the board.

## *Image Preparation*

*Slides (Film)* - are to be mounted in plastic, cardboard or glass with an outside dimension of exactly two in. (5 cm.) square and no more than 1/8 inch (3 mm) thick. The slide *must* fit in a carousel tray or it will be rejected.

*Digital Images* - should be in *jpeg* format and emailed to *digital@seattlephotographic.com* by 5:00 PM the day of the meeting. A few images may be accepted at the meeting, if they are properly sized and submitted on a CD or USB-readable media. Please include only one image on the digital media.

The image may be either horizontal (landscape) or vertical (portrait.) Images should be no more than 1050 pixels in any given dimension (width or height.)

The file should be named as follows:

Maker's name-Category-Title of Image.jpg

*John Smith-Open-This is the Place.jpg*

*Prints* - must be matted or mounted so that they can stand up on their own, but not framed or covered by glass. Each print must fit the following size restrictions:

- *Small Prints* have a minimum print size of 24 square inches (4x6 in.) and a maximum size of 96 square inches (8x12 in.)
- *Large Prints* have a minimum print size of 80 square inches (8x10 in.) and a maximum size of 480 square inches (16x30 in.) *Note that an image that is 30 inches wide is restricted to only 16 inches tall.*

All prints have a size restriction (including mat) of no smaller than 80 square inches (8x10 in.) and no larger than 30 inches wide or 24 inches tall.

*In the case of multiple images, such as a triptych, add up the total number of square inches per print. For example, three 4 x 6 prints would belong in the Small Category, but three 5 x 7 prints would belong in the Large Category.*

# / MAGE DIVISIONS

## Print

A member may submit two images distributed among any of the four Categories of Small Color, Large Color, Small Monochrome, or Large Monochrome. A monochrome image is defined as an image with a single global color or tone, plus white. It includes traditional black and white images, sepia toned images, or images with any other *single* color.

Prints may be made using wet chemistry, printed using a home computer and printer, or commercially prepared. There are no restrictions on subject matter or manipulation, as long as the image meets the basic requirements for all submitted images. (*see Image Requirements*)

## Projected

A member may submit one image into any of the three Categories of Open, Altered Reality, or Nature.

*Open* - has no restrictions on subject matter, technique, or digital editing, as long as the image meets the basic requirements for all submitted images. (*see Image Requirements*)

As this is the broadest Category, there may be some images that overlap with the other two Projected Categories.

*Altered Reality* - includes any image in which the subject has been altered to produce a special effect not found naturally. The final image is characterized by the originality and expressiveness of the maker to Alter Reality. The final image is no longer a natural, recorded-as-is subject *and would not normally be viewed as a natural image*. Any amount or type of digital editing is allowed, but the image may not be completely computer generated.

*Nature* - includes the world of living things and the outdoors, apart from mankind. Nature and the natural world *must* be the subject of the image, and *obvious* man-made elements should be avoided. An important goal for this **Category is “telling a nature story,” and remaining true to it.**

Overall, the image should remain an accurate representation of the scene and colors that existed when the image was made. Therefore, *(from the PSA guidelines)* - **“No elements may be moved, cloned, added, rearranged or combined. No manipulation or modification is permitted except resizing, cropping, selective lightening or darkening, and restoration of original color of the scene. No special effect filters can be applied. Any sharpening must appear natural.”**

In order to more closely match what we can see with our eyes, multiple images may be combined to extend the range of tone, depth of field, or angle of view of what the camera can capture. Such combinations must be limited to images of the same scene taken within moments of each other, and must maintain the appearance of the original scene.

### Acceptable

- *Non-domesticated* animals in natural, zoo, and aquarium settings
- Flowers and plants - (cultivated and hybrid)
- Landscapes, with no obvious human elements visible
- Slow shutter speeds - in order to capture moving water, for example

### Not Acceptable *(subject matter restrictions)*

- *Domesticated* animals and pets - cows, horses, goats, cats, dogs, birds, etc.
- Cut flowers or arrangements
- Agricultural scenes such as the Palouse, fields of tulips or lavender, etc.
- Man-made elements such as buildings, roads, or fences
- People

Not Acceptable (*technique restrictions*)

- Any editing or manipulation beyond that listed, including sandwiched slides, or digital manipulation such as cloning
  - Borders around the image
  - Infrared images
  - Monochrome images
- 

If the Division Coordinator determines that an image does not meet the qualifications for the Category it is entered into, the image will be moved to the appropriate Category, or on rare occasions, disqualified.

If for any reason a submitted image is not shown, and it is the fault of SPS, the member will be allowed to resubmit the image, in the same Category, at the next meeting for that Category. Therefore a member may have more than the usual number of images allowed for that night. When re-submitting an image for this purpose, clearly mark it so that the Division Coordinator can be notified by the person who **collects the images. All images will count for that evening's awards and for the End-of-Year totals.**

## SCORING

Images entered in competition will usually be judged by three SPS members. Occasionally an outside expert photographer may be invited for commentary or judging.

Judges score entries by considering each image for Impact or Interest, Composition and Technical Qualities.

Each of the judges awards up to 15 points for a given image. The *Total Score* for a particular image is the sum of all the **judge's scores, up to a maximum of 45 points.**

*See the Judge's Scoring Guide on page 27.*

Judges do not score their own image, or the image of a spouse or significant other. In this case, the score for the image is 1.5 times the *total score* awarded by the other two judges, rounded up to the nearest whole number.

**The Division Coordinators keep track of each member's scores for each Category.** At the end of the year, a report of all these scores and accumulated totals is published in the *Cable Releases*.

### Merit Points

*Print Division* - one Merit Point is awarded to the maker of the image in each Category that receives 1<sup>st</sup> place and scores 40 points or above. There may be multiple 1<sup>st</sup> place winners, and all will receive one Merit Point.

*Projected Division* - one Merit Point is awarded to the makers of the images in each Category that receive 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place and score 39 or above. There may be multiple 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place winners, and all will receive one Merit Point.

### People's Choice Points

Everyone present on competition nights may vote for one image in each Category which he or she considers to be the best image in that Category. A member may not vote for their own image.

**The images receiving the most votes will receive a People's Choice Point.** In the event of a tie, all tying images will receive one People's Choice Point.

*Merit Points and People's Choice Points accumulate over the lifetime of the member, and are used to award Merit Awards and People's Choice Awards.* (see page 15)

# ASSIGNMENTS

The purpose of an assignment is to foster technical and creative growth. These optional assignments are specific subject themes or techniques assigned by the SPS Board. It is preferable, but not necessary, that the images be made during the current competition year. In preparing the image, the assigned subject theme *must* be the dominant theme of the image. The assigned images will be judged on the best presentation of the assigned subject.

On a Print Assignment Night, the member may submit *two* prints, but only one as an assignment, and one into any of the regular Print Categories. Two non-assignment prints may not be entered.

On a Projected Assignment Night, a member may submit only *one* image. The image may either be entered into the Category that has an Assignment, or into either of the other two Projected Categories. If the Assignment is in the Open Category, for example, only Assignment images may be entered into the Open Category that night. Non-assignment images may be entered into the Nature or Altered Reality Categories that night.

The specific requirements for each assignment will be described in detail in advance. The image presented for the assignment must comply with the definition of the assignment and with any Category restrictions. If, by consensus of the judges, an image does not conform to the assignment theme, it will be disqualified. Any disqualified image may be resubmitted on a non-assignment night, or moved to one of **the other Categories. This year's Assignments are listed on page 3.**

# END OF YEAR COMPETITION

Held at the end of the competition year, which runs from May 1 - April 30, this annual competition is judged by persons outside SPS. The results are announced at the *Annual Awards & Appreciation Banquet*.

Images entered in this competition must have been submitted during the current competition year. Each member may submit up to *two* Open images, *two* Altered Reality images, *two* Nature images and *four* Prints. The prints may be distributed among the Print Categories as the member desires. *The same image may not be submitted into the Print, Projected, and Special Award competitions.*

Entries must be the same size and medium as the original entry (print, slide or digitally projected) and entered into the same original Category - Print (Small Color, Large Color, Small Monochrome, Large Monochrome) or Projected (Open, Altered Reality, or Nature.)

1st, 2nd, and 3rd places will receive a certificate. Honorable Mentions will be acknowledged at the banquet and in the *Cable Releases*, but will not receive a certificate. From these winning images the judges will choose the *Projected Image of the Year* and the *Print of the Year*.

## SPECIAL AWARDS CATEGORIES

Entries submitted for this competition need not have been shown or accepted during the current competition year, and are eligible for future regular competitions. No image may be used in more than one Special Award Category.

<u>Category</u>	<u>In honor of</u>
Travel	<i>The Andersons</i>
Originality	Grace Lantoc
Design (patterns)	<i>Florence Turner</i>
Frost ( <i>and/ or</i> ) Snow	<i>Howard and Sadie Wilder</i> <i>George Manwaring</i>
Macro ( <i>projected only</i> )	<i>Millie Kelly</i>
Zoo / Aquarium ( <i>print only</i> )	<i>Richard I. Birchfield</i>

## **A** ANNUAL AWARDS / APPRECIATION BANQUET

Held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday in June each year, this is a social event where winners of the End of Year Competition are announced and certificates and awards are presented.

Awards presented can include:

### MERIT AWARD

Presented each time a member accumulates 5 Merit Points within a Division (Print) or Category (Projected.) Merit Points accumulate over the lifetime of the member.

### PEOPLE'S CHOICE AWARD

**Presented each time a member accumulates 5 People's Choice Points within a Division (Print) or Category (Projected.) People's Choice Points accumulate over the lifetime of the member.**

### TOTAL POINTS ACCUMULATED AWARD

Presented to members with the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd highest total scores in each Category for the competition year. *(Ties are possible)*

### HIGHEST AVERAGE SCORE AWARD

Presented to members with average scores of 39.0 and above during the competition year, to acknowledge their consistent achievement. *(Ties are possible)*

**In the Print Division, each member's score is calculated by averaging their 10 highest scores across the Division as a whole - all of the Categories (Small Color, Large Color, Small Monochrome, and Large Monochrome) are included into one average.**

**In the Projected Division, each member's score is calculated by averaging their 8 highest scores in each separate Category (Open, Altered Reality, and Nature.)**

Everyone who qualifies for the award will be acknowledged at the banquet, and in the *Cable Releases*, but only 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places will receive a certificate.

### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Presented on occasion to a member who has shown a long history of committed service to the club. Recipients of this award have been active members who have worked to improve the club in numerous ways, such as by serving on the board, by being a commentator, judging images, and conducting workshops.

## I INTERCLUB COMPETITIONS

Interclub competitions are sponsored by NWCCC and by PSA, a national organization fostering photographic excellence among its individual members and camera clubs throughout the country. All members are encouraged to enter these competitions, and are urged to submit their best works for these activities. Competitions will be announced at various meetings and in the *Cable Releases*.

## T RANSFER OF RANKS AND AWARDS

Ranks and awards given by the Seattle Photographic Society are not transferable to any other photographic club or for standings in the Photographic Society of America. Likewise, ranks and awards received while a member of another photographic club are not transferable to SPS.

## D ISCLAIMER

All possible care will be taken to safeguard the slides, prints, and digital media submitted to any SPS sponsored event or other competition. However, SPS and those persons assigned to handle the entries will not assume responsibility for loss or damage to entries while in their possession or while in transit to or from the various competitions.

## E NDOWMENT FUND

SPS established an endowment fund in 1992 to support the continued activity of SPS. All gifts must be unrestricted in their use. Contact the treasurer for more details.