

PINELANDS JURIED PHOTO EXHIBIT 2024

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Signing Up Questions

Q: I just came across this competition but, the deadline has passed, can I still enter?

A: The database to enter photographs automatically closes once the deadline has passed, and we do not have the ability to adjust the software to accept anything after the deadline. We hope you enter the exhibition next year.

Q: How do I know if a photo I took or would like to take is in the Pinelands National Reserve?

A: Refer to the map link on the photo exhibit webpage. Please note some popular photography locations such as the Manasquan Reservoir in Howell Township is not in the Pinelands National Reserve.

Q: I'm having trouble registering for the photography contest, once I am logged in, what should I do?

A: Once logged in, there should be a pull-down menu to pay for your submissions. If there are issues, there could be a pop-up blocker or some security on your browser that is holding things up. Check your browser's settings, or you may want to try switching to a different web browser to see if that helps.

Q: I need clarification on the rules.

A: Any photo that represents the categories such as **(1) Landscape, (2) Flora & Fauna and (3) Other (People, Towns, Architecture, Culture, History, Recreation, etc.)** and has been taken legally within the Pinelands boundary can be entered into the contest. Flora and Fauna must be taken in their natural habitat.

Q: In previous years, drone photography was not allowed in the competition, is drone photography allowed for this competition?

A: Yes, drone photography is permitted if the photograph was made legally following local, state, federal and FAA laws and restrictions. It is the sole responsibility of the photographer to certify that his/her photos were created legally.

Q: Do the photos need to be taken within a certain timeframe?

A: No, there is no specific timeframe and the photos can be from any time period.

Q: Can photos be entered if entered in previous PPA competitions?

A: If a photograph has not won an award in this competition in a previous year, then yes, you can resubmit a photograph however, we recommend that you enter different photo since all eligible photographs are in the online gallery whether you were selected for the exhibition or not.

Q: If I am accepted into the exhibit and asked to submit a bio, can I add a link to my website/Instagram/Facebook page in my bio?

A: Yes, we are happy to promote your work this way.

Q: Is there a Refund Policy?

A: Fees are non-refundable. Thank you for protecting the NJ Pine Barrens.

Submitting Digital Images

Q: Naming photos and labeling files: How should I label/name my photos/files when submitting images to Smarter Entry?

A: No specific naming is required but it is suggested to choose carefully and double check spelling, once the photo is entered, the name cannot be changed. The name as entered in Smarter Entry will remain the same throughout the exhibition and when on display in the online gallery.

Q: I do not have a copy of/or remember which photo I submitted, can I log back in to see and or download the image?

A: Log into Smarter Entry [here](#) to view your photos entered.

Q: I purchased photos but missed the deadline to upload them, can I still upload my photos for the competition and if not, can I receive a refund?

A: It is important that you enter your photographs before the deadline. The database automatically closes once the deadline has passed, and we do not have the ability to adjust the software to accept anything after the deadline. We recommend that you save the image for next year's exhibition! Fees are non-refundable. Thank you for protecting the NJ Pine Barrens.

Q: Can I submit my photos to you through email?

A: We cannot accept any entries through email. All photos must be submitted through the Smarter Entry website. The link can be found on the photo exhibit webpage.

Q: Watermarks: Can I add a watermark to my photo?

A: We ask that the watermark not be visible on the photo for a couple of reasons. The first is that some jurors find them distracting to the photo when viewing. More importantly, jurors should not be able to see who the photo belongs to when judging. You can rest assured that your name will be shown in the online gallery and if you are selected for the exhibition, feel free to sign your printed image or mat.

Q: I entered 6 photos and would like to remove one and add a different one, is this possible?

A: Yes, if it is before the competition deadline, simply log back into Smarter Entry and you will see options to remove images and replace your images. If it is after the competition deadline, the images cannot be changed.

Q: I submitted photos to the contest, paid the fee and uploaded my images, however my account does not show any pictures. How do I know if my photos were received?

A: If you are logged into your account, you should see your images, if you do not see them, contact us at entries@pinelandsalliance.org and we will help you. Please note that this email is monitored by volunteers, and very busy PPA staff. We will respond to you as soon as possible.

Submitting Framed Images

Q: I am having my photos printed on metal/acrylic/canvas, is that acceptable?

A: As long as the photo will hang properly on the hanging system (see next question/answer below) and the accepted artwork may not be larger than 24" x 36" (including the frame).

Q: How do I know if the back of my photo will have the right hardware to hang properly in the exhibit?

A: Our hanging system uses a hook that hangs on a wire suspended from a track in the ceiling. With a traditionally framed photograph a standard hanging wire on the back will be fine. Metal and acrylic prints have various ways of hanging. Pick the method that will allow it to be hung with a hook. If you are unsure, please contact us at entries@pinelandsalliance.org and if possible, send a photo of what the back will look like and we'll help you figure it out.

Q: Can I use a different color mat or frame? I know the recommendation is white mat with a black frame.

A: The color of the mat and frame is your decision, black frame with a white mat is only a recommendation not a requirement.

My photo was selected for the exhibit, can I sign the photo/mat?

A: Yes, we encourage you to sign your work.

Q: Is the address to drop off photos the same as the address for the awards ceremony?

A: Yes, 17 Pemberton Road, Southampton, NJ 08088. Look for signs to direct you to the drop off building.

Image Judging

Q: When and how will we be notified regarding which photos are accepted into the exhibit?

A: The jury takes great care to view and select photos for the exhibit and this process takes a few weeks, therefore everyone will be notified by ***the date listed on the photo exhibit website and the prospectus***. You will be contacted via email, please look for an email from a staff member's name and ending in "@pinelandsalliance.org"

Q: I would like to know about your judging process, is it done electronically or in person?

A: We use a 3 step jurying process.

Step 1: A jury of qualified people will review each image submitted online individually and pick the ones they judge should be in the exhibition.

Step 2: The members of the jury meet in person to review the images each juror selected to pick the images that will hang on the wall during the exhibition.

Step 3: Once the exhibition is set up, our judge will come in to select the prize winners.

Q: I am not available the day of the awards ceremony, do I have to be at the awards ceremony to win?

A: No, if you win an award, we will contact you via email to let you know that you won and to make arrangements to pick up your award and certificate.

Photo Sales

Q: How will I know if someone has purchased my photo (s)?

A: If your photo has sold, we will contact you via email, if the email we send bounces back to PPA due to an email address that is no longer valid, PPA will try to contact you by phone. To update contact information, send an email to entries@pinelandsalliance.org.