

# Photo Competition Guide Lines

## Categories and eligibility:

- 📷 Amateur Photograph Category - Division ages: 12 and under; 13 to 19; 20 and over
- 📷 Amateur Computer Manipulated Photograph Category - Division ages: 12 and under; 13 to 19; 20 & over
- 📷 Open Category - Division: ages 18 and over who are amateur or professional photographers. Photograph or computer manipulated photograph
- 📷 Contest open to residents of North Perth and all registered members of North Perth Arts and Culture Council. Membership is free of charge. Fill in the membership form on website: [NorthPerthArts.ca](http://NorthPerthArts.ca)
- 📷 Professional photographers are only eligible to enter the Open category

## Guidelines:

- 📷 Submitted prints are to be exactly 5x7 inches or 7x5 inches, (borders are to be calculated as part of the photo size). Photos must be mounted on exactly 8x10 inch solid piece of art board or mat board
- 📷 For under age 12 divisions, prints may be made using heavy weight photo paper on a home colour printer, and mounted on black Bristol board
- 📷 For 13 and over divisions and open category, prints must be processed by a photo finishing lab
- 📷 Black and white OR colour photos acceptable
- 📷 Maximum of three entries per person, per category
- 📷 Photos must be original work by the entrant, created in past two years.
- 📷 No entries will be accepted that have been submitted in past NPACC photo competitions
- 📷 Photos will be judged for:
  - ◆ impact
  - ◆ composition
  - ◆ interpretation of the theme
  - ◆ technical skills i.e. focus, exposure, saturation

## Submission:

- 📷 Entry form and labels for each print submitted are available in pdf format at [NorthPerthArts.ca](http://NorthPerthArts.ca). The entry form must be fully completed and included with photo submissions. The entry labels are to be cut out and taped to the back of each photo entry in the upper right hand corner, according to photo orientation.
  - 📷 Submission deadline: Saturday, November 18, 2017 , 12 noon
    - submissions accepted November 18 from 10:30 am to 12:00 noon, at North Perth Public Library, Listowel Branch
- Entries /Photographs to be delivered to NPACC representative Submitted photos may be picked up at the library January 3, 2018, at end of display time.

## Prize allocation, display and use of photos:

- 📷 First, second and third prizes will be awarded in each age division in each category.
- 📷 Judges decision is final
- 📷 All photos will be displayed for public viewing as part of the Artist of the Month program at the Listowel Branch North Perth Public Library, December 2017, during normal business hours.
- 📷 Winners will be notified. Prizes to be awarded at 11:30 am, December 2nd at Listowel North Perth Library.
- 📷 Pictures of winners will be used for marketing the results in local media and social media

## **Pointers for Entrants**

### Focus & Overall Sharpness:

Do your best to ensure the subject of your photograph is in focus.

Also make sure that the camera didn't move during exposure which results in a blurry image.

### Color:

While color perception is very subjective, everyone sees color slightly differently.

Warmer (yellow tones) or colder (bluer tones) color variations make the image hard to judge because, the judges have to decide if this color variance was done for creative reasons, or if the color off and the maker doesn't know it.

### Mounting:

Read the rules and make sure entries comply. Overall image size is 5x7 inches, a standard photograph image and paper size. Trim excess paper to meet requirements. If the maker wants a white border on their entry, then it must be within the 5x7 inch size. A poor mount or non compliant image size can disqualify the best image in the category.

### Cropping:

In all categories, sometimes a closer cropping, making subject bigger, or removing distracting 'stuff' on the edges of image, will make for a better entry. It can strengthen the composition of your good idea, and make it even better. Cropping can be done at home on your computer, or in the machines when you order your print, or with the camera, by carefully composing your image in the viewfinder before making the exposure.

### Backgrounds:

While its very easy to concentrate on the main subject, the photographer has to remember to keep an eye on what's going on, or showing in the background. Busy distracting backgrounds draw your eye away from the main subject.