

2021 Nature – Wildlife

Scope of Competition

For this year, we have expanded our Nature-Wildlife competition to include two new themes:

1. **Botanical**
2. **Insects, Reptiles & Amphibians**
3. **Landscape**
4. **Nature**
5. **Wildlife**

Each entrant **MUST** enter at least 1 image in 2 themes to be eligible for overall CAPA medals.

Important Note – For this competition, the entrant must preserve the submitted image's original un-retouched (not cropped, edited or renamed) JPEG or camera RAW file. For potential winning images, the entrant must provide the '*original un-retouched JEG or camera RAW file*' when requested to do so by the Director of Competitions. Director will request the original file to confirm the authenticity of the submitted image and to ensure the Restricted Editing Criteria has been met.

A DNG file is not recognized as an original file.

Failure to produce the original file will result in the submitted being withdrawn from the competition and the competition results will be re-sorted.

The provided original file will only be used for our image verification process and will be deleted shortly thereafter.

Definition

For this competition, CAPA has adopted the Nature – Wildlife definitions which was updated on January 1, 2019 by: Fédération Internationale de l'Art Photographique (FIAP); the Photographic Society of America (PSA) and The Royal Photographic Society (RPS).

These Nature and Wildlife definitions are as follows along with our supplementary themes:

Botanical – subjects such as wild flowers, plants, trees, fungi and algae. Cultivated flowers and plants grown for gardens and ornamental purposes are not permitted in this competition. Only flowers and plants emerging in their natural environment can be entered into this competition. No 'hand-of-man' can be present in the image.

Living Insect Reptiles & Amphibians — such as: ants, bees, beetles, butterflies, crickets, dragonflies, hornets, mantis, mosquitos, wasps, alligator, snake, crocodile, gecko, iguana, lizard, turtle. No 'hand-of-man' is permitted in the image. Images can be taken in the wild or in a zoo-like setting. Hand-of-man' cannot be contained in the image.

Nature – subjects such as living animals, birds, insects, reptiles and marine subjects – under the control and feeding of humans if not obvious – such as zoos, game farms, botanical gardens, animal preserves, aquarium, etc... - No feral or domesticated birds or animals are permitted. - 'Hand-of-man' is permitted provided that it is deemed as an element of an 'adaptive environment' (e.g. barn owl) and consists of less than 10% of the image.

Landscape – subjects such as weather phenomena, geological formations, landscapes, seascapes and natural phenomena, planets, stars and astronomical events.

Wildlife – ONLY living and untamed wildlife mammals, birds, insects, reptiles and marine subjects. No traditional zoo, open-range zoos, game farms or other areas where animals/birds are enclosed or confined. Nature parks are considered natural environments because animals are not in 'controlled conditions.' Wild animals and birds are permitted to have scientific bands, tags or radio collars but no tethers. No feral or domesticated birds or animals are permitted – No 'hand-of-man' is permitted.

Note: Hand-of-man – is the devoid of all human elements and impacts of human activities – The following are examples 'hand-of-man:'

1. Human – body or portions thereof.
2. Sky – cables, telephone/power lines, jet streams, aircraft, light pollution, artificial light, etc...
3. Land – man-made structures or paths, building, concrete, man-made stone, telephone poles, fences, posts, sidewalk, domesticated or

cultivated plants/food, cut grass, organized or systematic laying out of planted trees, etc...

4. Elements – cut trees or branches or stems, tree stumps, man-made food, objects or background, etc...
5. Sea – boats, ships, piers, docks, posts in the water, etc...

To assist you in determining if your image qualifies for this competition, you **MUST** review and comply with the details contained in our CAPA Nature/Wildlife Competition Checklist. The Checklist provides clarification for each theme and what type of editing is and is not acceptable.

See the checklist here: [CAPA Nature-Wildlife Chart](#)

Editing Criteria

1. **Eligibility Criteria** – Prior to submitting any photo in a CAPA competition, all entrants must first read the CAPA Eligibility Criteria relating to images submissions. – [READ ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA HERE](#)
2. **Restricted Editing** – Techniques that enhance the presentation of the image without changing the nature story or the pictorial content, or without altering the content of the original scene are permitted - adjustments including tone and contrast, burning, dodging, cropping, sharpening, noise reduction, minor cleaning up (e.g. removal of sensor dust or scratches or transparencies/scans, removal of chromatic aberration), HDR, focus stacking and in-camera multiple exposure taken at the same location at the same time (as a continuous sequence – seconds or minutes apart) are permitted provided that they comply with the CAPA's principles of authenticity so that they do not deceive the viewer or misrepresent the reality of nature.

All allowed adjustments **must appear natural**.

No techniques that add, relocate, clone, replace, or remove pictorial elements except by cropping are permitted. Images can be converted to monochrome. However, infrared images are not permitted.

Judging Criteria

1. The nature story and the depiction of the natural environment must be weighted more than the pictorial quality while maintaining high technical quality.

2. Judges will award their scoring based on key elements such as composition, technique and subject matter. However, the judges will have a strong emphasis on quality of execution, appropriateness to the competition, creative message, innovation and 'wow' factor
3. Image title should complement or contribute to the vision or message being presented in the image.

Competition Processes

- Competition Coordinator – CAPA Director of Competitions – competitions@capacanada.ca
- Closing Date of Competition – **October 15, 2020** at midnight Central Standard Time (Ontario).
- Open To – All paid-up CAPA members and camera clubs associated to CAPA.
- Two Parallel Competitions – CAPA 'Individual' Competition for only CAPA Individual members (limited to a maximum of 4 images) and CAPA 'Club' Competition for all camera clubs (limited to a maximum of 6 images). For camera club submissions, all six images must be from six different photographers.
- There will be a Merit Award Certificates awarded for each themes. In addition, CAPA medals will be awarded to three entrants who receive the highest overall accumulated score in this competition.
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- How To Enter Competition – check out our [How To Upload Images To CAPA Competition here](#).

Special Note:

Questions about the scope of the competition and/or the editing criteria should be directed to the Competition Coordinator prior to the closing day of the competition.

The top images in this competition will be considered for possible inclusion into CAPA's submission for the international Four Nations competition. For each selected image, CAPA will contact the photographer and seek their permission prior to including the image in the noted submission.