

NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY  
WINDLAND SMITH RICE INTERNATIONAL  
AWARDS 2009  
GUIDELINES



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ENTER ONLINE OR BY MAIL

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DEADLINE:

**BEGINNING JAN. 26 UPLOAD OR POSTMARK NO LATER THAN MAY 4, 2009**

The editors of NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY magazine invite all photographers to enter the 2009 NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY WINDLAND SMITH RICE INTERNATIONAL AWARDS competition. More than \$15,000 in cash and prizes will be awarded. The winning photographs will be published in the Awards 2009 Collector's Edition of NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY, and may be selected for our annual exhibition at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History in Washington, DC, and displayed in other locations and photo gallery presentations related to the Awards competition. Entries are judged on technical quality, originality, and artistic merit.

Enter a TOTAL of up to 20 images for one entry fee (\$25 US *no foreign checks*). Each submission MUST follow the guidelines as stated. **NOTE:** Prints and images on negative film are NOT accepted.

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SUBMISSIONS MAY NOW BE MADE ONLINE OR MAILED TO OUR OFFICE IN RESTON, VA

TO SUBMIT YOUR DIGITAL PHOTOS ONLINE:

Create low-resolution JPEGs (72 ppi) no larger than 500K for each of your images and label each file with your first and last name, image title, and the category. (Example: **JohnDoe\_fox\_wildlife.jpg**) Follow the instructions on [www.naturesbestphotography.com](http://www.naturesbestphotography.com) to upload your photos.

**WHEN ENTERING ONLINE:** Photographers who have images that pass into the final round for judging will be required to supply high-resolution files (*and RAW files if available*), a complete caption and camera specifications before the final judging. Failure to supply requested materials will lead to disqualification. **NOTE:** Information on how to send high-resolution files and accompanying caption information will be provided to you if your images reach the final round.

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TO SUBMIT PHOTOS VIA POSTAL SERVICE OR COURIER:

**WHEN ENTERING BY MAIL:** Be sure to include BOTH low and high resolution files or your transparencies along with the \$25 entry fee (*US dollars only*) and the completed 2009 Awards Entry Form (*page 3*) with ALL information clearly filled out. Mail your submission (*details on page 2*) to: 2009 WINDLAND AWARDS, 11411-C SUNSET HILLS RD, RESTON, VA 20190, PHONE: 703-467-9783

### MAILING DIGITAL FILES:

Digital images should be taken with the camera set for the highest possible resolution. Each electronic image must be labeled with your first and last name, image title, and the category it is to enter (Example: **JohnDoe\_fox\_wildlife.jpg**). Each CD or DVD must be labeled with your full name and phone number. **Keep your own copy of your submission on CDs or DVDs, as they will not be returned after the contest.** When sending digital images by mail, send BOTH low and high resolution images with your original submission at the following specifications:

- Low Resolution (72 ppi) jpeg copies of your images, measuring 1000 pixels on the longest side, must be burned to a single CD or DVD and labeled 'LOW RES' for preliminary judging.
- High Resolution (400 ppi) **uncompressed and unsharpened tiff** files, measuring 8000 pixels on the longest side, may be burned to as many CDs or DVDs as needed for the final round of judging, each labeled 'HIGH RES'. Tiff files, or the original RAW files, will be used for publication and/or exhibition if selected as a winner. **(Include original RAW files with your submission if available.)**

### MAILING TRANSPARENCIES:

Original slides, or large format transparencies must be sent to us in protective plastic sheets (*PrintFile brand, etc.*). Each slide or transparency mount must bear the photographer's contact information: name, phone number, e-mail, and state or country of residence. **NO GLASS MOUNTS!**

- High quality duplicate slides will be accepted for preliminary judging only.
- Digital scans of original slides or transparencies will be accepted for preliminary judging only (*follow the specifications for low-res digital images above*).
- Original film images must be made available for final round judging.

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**SPECIFY METHOD OF RETURN:** Include a self-addressed, stamped envelope of adequate size for the safe return of your materials, with sufficient postage. For courier returns, include a completed shipping form with a courier account or credit card number, expiration date, and security code for payment. Check or charge information for the amount of the return postage using the return method you request is acceptable in place of a SASE. Photos sent with insufficient return information **will not be returned.**

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### RULES:

All photographs must accurately reflect the subject matter as it appeared in the viewfinder. Nothing should be added to an image, and aside from dust spots, nothing should be taken away. Normal processing of RAW image files and minor adjustments to color and contrast are acceptable, as is minimal cropping. **EXCEPTIONS: Anything goes in the Creative Digital category! Stitched panoramas may be entered in any category, but they must be identified.** **NOTE: Images that do not comply with the contest rules will be eliminated from the competition.** Select a category that you feel is the best fit for each image. Images may be entered into more than one category. **SEE CATEGORIES ON PAGE 4.**

### ENTRY FEE AND ENTRY FORM:

If mailed, a check or money order for \$25 (**US dollars only—no foreign checks**) must be included with your entry, made out to: NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY. Or you may use a Visa, MasterCard, or American Express charge card on your entry form, or phone in your information to 703-467-9783. Each submission must be accompanied by an entry form with all information clearly filled out.

### QUESTIONS?

Call 703-467-9783 or e-mail: [Awards@NaturesBestMagazine.com](mailto:Awards@NaturesBestMagazine.com)

NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY  
WINDLAND SMITH RICE INTERNATIONAL  
AWARDS 2009  
ENTRY FORM



IF YOU ARE ENTERING BY MAIL, PLEASE USE THIS FORM

FIRST NAME / MIDDLE INITIAL / LAST NAME			DATE
BUSINESS NAME	<input type="checkbox"/> PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER <input type="checkbox"/> AMATEUR <input type="checkbox"/> YOUTH (UNDER 18) / BIRTHDATE		
STREET ADDRESS			APARTMENT NO.
CITY	STATE / PROVINCE	ZIP / POSTAL CODE	COUNTRY
HOME PHONE	OFFICE PHONE	CELL PHONE	
FAX	E-MAIL ADDRESS / WEB SITE		

ENTRY FEE \$25 (US) METHOD OF PAYMENT

<input type="checkbox"/> CHECK NUMBER	(NO FOREIGN CHECKS)	<input type="checkbox"/> CALL OUR OFFICE TO CHARGE OVER THE PHONE 703-467-9783
CREDIT CARD NUMBER <input type="checkbox"/> VISA <input type="checkbox"/> MASTERCARD <input type="checkbox"/> AMEX	EXPIRATION DATE	SECURITY CODE (3 OR 4 DIGITS ON BACK OF CARD)

NUMBER OF IMAGES IN ENTRY (SUBMISSION IS LIMITED TO 20 IMAGES TOTAL PER PERSON / ENTRY)

_____ TOTAL NUMBER OF FILM IMAGES	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> 35MM	_____ <input type="checkbox"/> LARGE FORMAT
_____ TOTAL NUMBER OF DIGITAL IMAGES <input type="checkbox"/> ON CD/DVD (PLEASE SAVE YOUR IMAGE WITH YOUR FIRST AND LAST NAME IN TITLE)		

I UNDERSTAND THAT CONTENT IN MY CDS OR DVDS WILL NOT BE RETURNED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE COMPETITION.

RETURN INFORMATION \* NOTE: WE CAN NOT RETURN SLIDE SUBMISSIONS WITHOUT THE PROPER RETURN POSTAGE.

YES I WANT MY SLIDE SUBMISSION RETURNED AT THE END OF CONTEST. A SELF-ADDRESSED, STAMPED ENVELOPE IS ENCLOSED WITH PROPER POSTAGE AND FORMS ATTACHED, OR A PREPAID COURIER FORM FILLED OUT WITH RETURN INFORMATION IS INCLUDED.

**DEADLINE: IMAGES MUST BE UPLOADED OR POSTMARKED JANUARY 26 - MAY 4, 2009**

SEND THIS FORM WITH YOUR ENTRY FEE AND IMAGES TO:

VIA US POSTAL SERVICE OR COURIER:  
NATURE'S BEST WINDLAND AWARDS 2009  
11411-C SUNSET HILLS ROAD, RESTON, VA 20190, USA

QUESTIONS? E-MAIL AWARDS@NATURESBESTMAGAZINE.COM OR CALL 703-467-9783.

FOR NBP OFFICE USE

# NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY WINDLAND SMITH RICE INTERNATIONAL AWARDS 2009 CATEGORIES



*The Nature's Best Editors reserve the right to move a submission from one category to another as they see fit.*

## ANIMAL ANTICS:

Wildlife in humorous or surprising situations.

## ART IN NATURE:

Naturally occurring artistic compositions (colors, forms, textures, etc.) in nature.

## BIRDS:

Wild birds in native habitats displaying plumage, mating rituals, nesting, feeding, or other behaviors.

## CAMERA CLUB:

Up to 20 photographs may be submitted as a group entry by a camera club. Each individual image in a camera club submission must fit within one of the contest categories, without exception.

**NOTE:** Each individual member can contribute no more than three (3) images to the group submission. The entry will be judged as a portfolio and selected on the overall excellence of the entire group of images. Participating club members are also permitted to submit their own entry (up to 20 images) separate from the Camera Club entry, and may include the same images in both submissions.

## CREATIVE DIGITAL:

Any nature-related image or combination of images that is created and/or manipulated using digital/electronic technology (such as Adobe® Photoshop®). Let your imagination go wild! Please provide the details on all techniques used. **EXCEPTION:** *Panoramic images created by digitally stitching two or more images together may be entered into other categories as appropriate.*

## ENDANGERED SPECIES:

Plants or animals that are listed as endangered species by the IUCN. Please visit [www.redlist.org](http://www.redlist.org) to confirm the endangered status of a species before submitting to this category.

## ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES:

Images that document current environmental issues, such as pollution, global warming, loss of habitat, etc.

## INDIGENOUS CULTURES:

People living within their ancient historic communities, practicing their traditional culture: dress, arts/crafts, dance, rituals, hunting/gathering, food preparation, examples of sustainable living, etc.

### LANDSCAPE:

Dramatic scenes and unusual perspectives of land providing expansive views.

### OCEANS:

The fascinating world of the sea: tide pools, coral reefs, marine life, waves, etc. Photos taken above the ocean's surface, related to ocean life, are also welcome.

### PEOPLE IN NATURE:

People enjoying the outdoors: backpackers, kayakers, divers, hikers, etc., in natural settings.

### PLANT LIFE:

Flowers, trees, and other flora in natural habitat. May include wide vistas.

### SMALL WORLD SPECTACULARS:

Shots of plants, animals, and miniature landscapes taken with macro lenses.

### WEATHER:

From dramatic storms to tranquil skies—weather in all its fury and forms. (Tornados, hurricanes, floods, rain, wind, cloud formations, etc.)

### WILDLIFE:

Wild animals (mammals, reptiles, amphibians, etc.—birds are a separate category, see above) photographed in their natural habitat (no captive animals).

### YOUTH PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR:

An entry of up to 20 photographs may be submitted by photographers 18 of age or younger. Each individual image in a youth submission must fit within the contest categories, without exception.

*NOTE: Please be sure to include your date of birth and current age on your entry form.*

### ZOOS & AQUARIUMS:

Images may include animal portraits, behavior, zookeepers working with animals, visitors (may require model release), special events, etc. All photographs must have been taken at zoos and aquariums belonging to the World Association of Zoos & Aquaria (WAZA). See the complete WAZA list at [www.waza.org](http://www.waza.org).

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### IMPORTANT NOTE:

*Entrants must not infringe on the rights of any other photographer or person, or submit images that involve the willful harassment of wildlife or damage to the environment by the photographer. Failure to comply with all of the contest provisions described here will lead to the disqualification of your entry.*

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# NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY WINDLAND SMITH RICE INTERNATIONAL AWARDS

## PHOTO USE AND RIGHTS

The winning photographs will be published in NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY magazine and may be selected for gallery exhibitions and other NBPWSRIA competition promotion opportunities, including, a compilation book or electronic collection of winners and web pages providing NBPWSRIA information, updates, rules and photography tips.

The NBPWSRIA competition is open to ALL photographers except employees of NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY magazines. Your entry to this contest constitutes your agreement to allow your photographs, your name, occupation, city and state of residence to be published as selected award winners in Nature's Best Photography magazines, print and digital exhibitions, events, and other public venues, published on websites owned by or in alliance with NBPWSRIA as award winners; and used for promotions of the NBPWSRIA. Entrants retain ownership and all other rights to future use of their photographs. Nature's Best Photography shall have the right to verify, in their sole judgment, winner eligibility.

**LEGAL CONDITIONS:** By entering these awards, you agree to certain legal conditions. By entering, participants release and hold harmless Nature's Best Publishing LLC (the Company), its respective subsidiaries, affiliates, directors, officers, employees, attorneys, agents and representatives from any and all liability for any injuries, loss, claim, action, demand or damage of any kind arising from or in connection with the NBPWSRIA, or any prize won, any misuse or malfunction of any prize awarded, participation in any NBPWSRIA-related activity, or participation in the NBPWSRIA.

Participant agrees that any and all disputes that cannot be resolved with the Company, and causes of action arising out of or connected with the NBPWSRIA, shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action, before a court of competent jurisdiction located in Virginia, which court shall apply the laws of the commonwealth of Virginia without regard for rules of conflicts of law. In any such dispute, participant shall, under no circumstances, be entitled to claim punitive, incidental or consequential damages, or any other damages, including attorneys' fees, other than participant's actual out-of-pocket expenses (if any) associated with participating in the NBPWSRIA. Participant hereby waives all rights to have damages multiplied or increased.

Any attempt by an entrant or other individual to deliberately damage any website or undermine the legitimate operation of the NBPWSRIA is a violation of criminal and civil laws, and should such an attempt be made, the Company reserves the right to seek damages to the fullest extent permitted by law.

The Company is not responsible for any incorrect or inaccurate information, whether caused by website users or by any equipment or programming associated with or utilized in the NBPWSRIA, or by any technical or human error that may occur in the processing of submissions to the NBPWSRIA, including but not limited to any misprints or typographical errors. The Company assumes no responsibility for any error, omission, interruption, deletion, defect, delay in operation or transmission, communications line failure, theft or destruction or unauthorized access to, or alteration of, entries. The Company is not responsible for any problems or technical malfunction of any telephone network or lines, computer equipment, servers, providers, computer on-line systems, software, or failure of email on account of technical problems or traffic congestion on the Internet, including injury or damage to participant's or to any other person's computer related to or resulting from participating or uploading images or information in the NBPWSRIA.

If, for any reason, the NBPWSRIA is not capable of completion as planned, including by reason of infection by computer virus, bugs, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures or any other causes beyond the control of the Company that corrupts or affects the administration, security, fairness, integrity or proper conduct of the NBPWSRIA, the Company reserves the right at their sole discretion to cancel, terminate, modify or suspend the NBPWSRIA.

In no event will the Company, its subsidiaries, affiliates and related companies, their advertising and promotional agencies, or their directors, officers, employees, attorneys, agents and representatives be responsible or liable for any damages or losses of any kind, including direct indirect, incidental, consequential or punitive damages arising out of participant's access to and use of the Company website or the downloading or uploading and/or printing of material from said sites. Without limiting the foregoing, everything on the Company site is provided "as is" without warranty of any kind, either express or implied. Some jurisdictions may not allow the limitation or exclusion of liability for incidental or consequential damages, so some of the foregoing limitations or exclusions may not apply to you. Check your local laws for any restrictions or limitations regarding these limitations or exclusions.

## NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY