

# NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY WINDLAND SMITH RICE INTERNATIONAL AWARDS 2017 GUIDELINES



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**STARTED AN ENTRY? THANK YOU!**  
**FINISH UPLOADS BY 12 NOON EASTERN TIME APRIL 28**

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NOW IS YOUR CHANCE TO REVIEW YOUR ENTRY. Finish your uploads, edit your captions, and make sure you have selected a category for each image entered in the 2017 WINDLAND AWARDS competition. The Judging process will begin on April 28. See this year's new Judging Panel: [bit.ly/nbpjudges](http://bit.ly/nbpjudges). Photos are judged on technical quality, originality, artistic merit, and overall appeal. The category Winners and a selection of Highly Honored images will be displayed as fine art prints in the annual exhibition at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., one of the most widely respected and highly visited museums in the world! All finalists will be published in the 2017 Fall/Winter Special Collector's Edition of *Nature's Best Photography* magazine (sold at the museum shops and on the NBP website) and featured in online galleries and social media.

**CONTEST ENTRY FEE:** \$30 US Adult / \$20 US Youth (age 18 and under as of 3/31/2017).

**IMAGES PER ENTRY:** For each paid contest entry you may submit up to 25 images. Start as many paid entries as you like. **SEE CATEGORIES ON PAGES 4-5.**

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## TO SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS ONLINE

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**1. PREPARE YOUR PHOTOS:** Save COPIES of your original images as 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 separated by underscores. Review categories on pages 4-5.

**Example:** [JohnDoe\\_fox\\_wildlife.jpg](#)

**2. GO TO YOUR USER ACCOUNT** on the NBP website to manage your entries, enter your photos, replace images, and update captions. Trouble logging in? Email [awards@naturesbestphotography.com](mailto:awards@naturesbestphotography.com)

**Log in:** [bit.ly/nbp\\_login](http://bit.ly/nbp_login)    **Don't have an account?** [bit.ly/nbp\\_signup](http://bit.ly/nbp_signup)

**3. USE THE "MANAGE MY ENTRY" BUTTON** at the bottom right of your account home page to get to the entry form for the current contest.

**4. UPLOAD PHOTOS** on the Entry Form. You will get a confirmation receipt by email with payment status and with a link to return to your entry.

After you start an account, you will see the "My Account Dashboard" account management tool found at the top right of the NBP website homepage. There you will be able to log in or out, update your contest account information, and go to lists of the contest entries associated with your account.

Photographers who have images that pass into the semifinal round of judging will be required to supply high-resolution files and RAW files if available, complete caption, and your camera specifications before the final judging. Information on how to send high-resolution files will be provided.

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## TO SUBMIT PHOTOS BY MAIL OR COURIER:

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1. **PREPARE YOUR IMAGES:** Save COPIES of your digital images and label each photo with your first and last name, image title, and the category it is to enter (**Example: JohnDoe\_fox\_wildlife.jpg**). See Categories on pages 4-5. Entries may be sent on CD, DVD, or flash drives and must be labeled with your first and last name, address, and phone number. *Please retain your own copy of the original submission as they will not be returned after the contest.* Prepare BOTH low and high resolution images with your original submission at the following specifications:

- **Low Resolution** (72 ppi) jpeg copies of your images, approximately 1000 pixels on the longest side, must be saved on a flash drive or disc and labeled **LOW RES** for preliminary judging.
- **High Resolution** (300 ppi) **unsharpened tiff** images, largest file available, may be saved onto flash drives, or as many discs as needed for the final round of judging. Please label them as **HIGH RES**. Tiff files, or the original RAW files, will be used for publication and exhibition if selected as a winner. (*Include the original RAW files with your submission. NOTE: we do not publish the RAW image.*)

2. **INCLUDE BOTH** low and high resolution files clearly labeled with your name on a flash drive or disc along with the \$30 (\$20 Youth) entry fee (*US dollars only*) and the completed 2017 Awards Entry Form (*page 3*). **NO FOREIGN CHECKS!** Mail your submission to this address:

**NATURE'S BEST WINDLAND AWARDS**  
**1930 ISAAC NEWTON SQUARE, SUITE 200C, RESTON, VA 20190, USA**  
**PHONE FOR COURIER: 703-467-9783**

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## IMPORTANT RULES:

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**ALL PHOTOS 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 limited adjustments to color and contrast are acceptable, as is minimal cropping. HDR photo stacking and panoramic stitching are permitted as long as all special techniques are disclosed on your entry form notes.

Select a category that you feel is the best fit for each image. Judges reserve the right to move images to another category. **SEE CATEGORIES ON PAGES 4-5.**

**ENTRANTS MUST NOT** infringe upon the rights of any other photographer or person, Federal regulations, or private land permissions, and **MUST NOT ENTER IMAGES** of **CAPTIVE** wildlife or involve the willful harassment of wildlife or damage to the environment.

**NOTE: Images that do not comply with the contest rules will be eliminated from the competition.**

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## ENTRY FEE AND ENTRY FORM:

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If mailed, a check or money order for \$30 US dollars (\$20 for Youth) per entry of 25 images must be included with your submission, made out to: **NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY. NO FOREIGN CHECKS!** Or you may use a Visa, MasterCard, or American Express charge card on your entry form, **OR** call us with your information at 703-467-9783. Submissions must be accompanied by a **LEGIBLE** entry form.

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**QUESTIONS?** Call 703-467-9783 or e-mail: [awards@naturesbestphotography.com](mailto:awards@naturesbestphotography.com)

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# NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY WINDLAND SMITH RICE INTERNATIONAL AWARDS 2017 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	<input type="checkbox"/> AMATEUR	<input type="checkbox"/> YOUTH (UNDER 18 AS OF 3/31/17) AND 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 \$30 US (\$20 FOR YOUTH) METHOD OF PAYMENT:

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 25 IMAGES TOTAL PER PAID ENTRY)

\_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL NUMBER OF DIGITAL IMAGES  ON FLASH DRIVE  ON CD/DVD

PLEASE SAVE YOUR IMAGES WITH YOUR FIRST AND LAST NAME IN TITLE. SEND CAPTIONS ALONG WITH ENTRIES.

I UNDERSTAND THAT MY FLASH DRIVES, CDS, OR DVDS WILL NOT BE RETURNED AT THE END OF THE COMPETITION.

**DEADLINE TO MAIL:** WE MUST RECEIVE YOUR PACKAGE BY APRIL 28, 2017

SEND THIS FORM WITH YOUR ENTRY FEE AND IMAGES TO:

VIA US POSTAL SERVICE OR COURIER:

NATURE'S BEST WINDLAND AWARDS  
1930 ISAAC NEWTON SQUARE, SUITE 200C  
RESTON, VA 20190 USA

PHONE FOR COURIER: 703-467-9783

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

FOR NBP OFFICE USE

# NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY WINDLAND SMITH RICE INTERNATIONAL AWARDS 2017 CATEGORIES



*Please read all category descriptions carefully as some have changed.  
Keep in mind artistic, behavioral, portrait, and humorous compositions.*

## AFRICAN WILDLIFE:

Wild animals (mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, etc.) photographed on the African continent including Madagascar and offshore island groups, taken in their natural habitat.

SPONSORED BY



AFRICAN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION®

Photographers may also choose to enter the Nature's Best Photography Africa competition operated independently of the Windland Smith Rice Awards where winning images are displayed at the Iziko Museum of South Africa. Separate fees apply. Go to [naturesbestphotographyafrica.com](http://naturesbestphotographyafrica.com)

## BIRDS:

Wild birds in native habitats displaying plumage, mating rituals, territorial battles, nesting, feeding, parenting, or other behaviors, adult with young, and portraits.



**Audubon**

SPONSORED BY THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

## CONSERVATION STORY:

Photography and video are powerful tools for bringing greater public awareness to conservation issues and recovery strategies around the globe. Please submit up to 25 images and/or video links related to a conservation driven project or projects for a specific animal, groups of animals, and/or location. We ask that you also include a detailed narrative about the project, its current status, and future goals.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE INTERNATIONAL  
LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION PHOTOGRAPHERS

## LANDSCAPES:

Dramatic scenes and unusual perspectives of the world's wild places providing expansive views, as well as images of plant life such as: flowers, trees, and other flora in natural habitat.

Includes close-up images of plants taken with micro/macro lenses.

## OCEAN VIEWS:

The world of the sea photographed above, below, and around the ocean's surface: tide pools, coral reefs, marine life, waves, landscapes, sea ice, and creatures who depend upon the ocean for survival.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DIVERS ALERT NETWORK

## OUTDOOR ADVENTURE:

People enjoying the outdoors: adventurers, backpackers, kayakers, divers, hikers, climbers, camping, caving, skiing, running, skydiving, ballooning, etc., in natural settings.

## POLAR PASSION:

Wildlife and landscapes found in the Earth's Arctic, Subarctic, and Antarctic regions.

Including polar bears of the Arctic, the Antarctic's penguins, and other wildlife including birds, seals, walruses, etc. as well as a wide view of these spectacular and diverse ecosystems and their seasonal and climatic changes.

## WILDLIFE:

Wild animals (mammals, reptiles, amphibians, etc.—birds should be entered in a separate category, see above) photographed within their natural habitat anywhere in the world outside of Africa.

Includes wildlife in humorous or surprising situations and close-up images of animals taken with micro/macro lenses.

## YOUTH:

Photographers 18 years of age or younger as of the end of the entry period (March 31, 2017). Each individual image in a youth submission must fit within any of this contest's nature and wildlife categories. **NOTE:** *Be sure to include your date of birth and current age on your entry form.*

## NATURE IN MOTION / VIDEO:

High definition video is an important tool in sharing outdoor observation and experience. We invite you to share your story, whether your entry is a produced film documentary or a video from your phone. (*Each will be judged and recognized separately.*) We are interested in impactful wildlife behavior, people enjoying nature, storytelling, and conservation messages.

Time lapse and aerial videos are welcome. Upload your submission through YouTube, Vimeo, or other viewing platforms and provide us with the link (and password, if necessary).

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE SMITHSONIAN CHANNEL AND SMITHSONIAN EARTH



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**IMPORTANT:** If your image displays a species listed as “Endangered” by the IUCN please add that information to your entry notes. Visit the [iucnredlist.org](http://iucnredlist.org) website and send us a link to the status.

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FACEBOOK.COM/NATURESBESTPHOTOGRAPHY.ORG  
INSTAGRAM #NATURESBESTPHOTOMAGAZINE  
TWITTER @NATURESBESTPICS

## 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 NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY WINDLAND SMITH RICE INTERNATIONAL AWARDS (NBPWSRIA) COMPETITION PROMOTION OPPORTUNITIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, A COMPILATION BOOK OR CALENDAR, PRINTS, SPONSOR PRESENTATIONS, ELECTRONIC COLLECTIONS OF WINNERS AND WEB PAGES PROVIDING NBPWSRIA INFORMATION, UPDATES, RULES AND PHOTO TIPS.

THE NBPWSRIA COMPETITION IS OPEN TO ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS EXCEPT EMPLOYEES OF NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY MAGAZINE. 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 USE OF THEIR PHOTOGRAPHS.** NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT TO VERIFY, IN THEIR SOLE JUDGMENT, WINNER ELIGIBILITY. NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ADD OR REMOVE CATEGORIES AT ITS SOLE DISCRETION.

**LEGAL CONDITIONS:** BY ENTERING THIS AWARDS COMPETITION, 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 AWARDS, 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.