

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS
OF THE

BEST

1995  2020

NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY
INTERNATIONAL AWARDS 2020
ENTRY GUIDELINES

NEW THIS YEAR!

\$25,000 USD IN CASH AND AWARDS

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NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY 2020 INTERNATIONAL AWARDS GUIDELINES

DEADLINE: APRIL 16, 2020

Start an entry today and finish before 11:59pm EST.

The Editors of Nature's Best Photography invite you to enter the 2020 NBP International Awards. Photos and videos will be reviewed by our Judging Panel of experts in photography, wildlife, conservation, and film. Winners are selected for overall appeal, originality, conformity to rules, and technical quality.

NEW THIS YEAR! \$25,000 USD IN CASH AND AWARDS

Grand Prize / The Windland Smith Rice Award: \$5,000 USD

Best single image. Cash prize, Awards Plaque, publication in the Awards Edition of *Nature's Best Photography* magazine, video, online presentations, and portfolio feature.

Youth Photographer of the Year Award: \$3,000 USD

Best single image by a photographer 18 years of age or younger as of April 16, 2020.

Cash prize, Awards Plaque, publication in the Awards Edition of *Nature's Best Photography* magazine, video, online presentations, and portfolio feature.

Conservation Story Award: \$2,000 USD

Recognizing outstanding documentation and public awareness outreach by an individual or a team for their conservation efforts. Cash prize, Awards Plaque, publication in the Awards edition and online presentations.

Category Winners: \$1,000 USD each (\$10,000 USD total)

Best in each category. Cash prize, Awards Plaque, publication in the Awards Edition, inclusion in video and online presentations.

Highly Honored Category Finalists:

Category finalists. Awards Certificate, publication in the Awards Edition, and online presentations.

Total value of personalized Awards Plaques, Certificates, Awards edition of the publication, video, and web presentations = ARV \$5,000 USD

SEE CATEGORIES ON PAGES 3-4.

ENTRY FEE: \$30 USD for Adults for up to 25 images per entry.

FREE ENTRY for Youth (18 or under as of April 16, 2020).

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NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY 2020 INTERNATIONAL AWARDS CATEGORIES

We are seeking images that convey the beauty and diversity of nature in the following categories. Include dramatic portraits, animal behavior, humorous displays, intimate interactions, young animals at play, macro closeups, sweeping landscapes, and other creative approaches to the art of photography.

AFRICAN WILDLIFE:

Photographs of wild animals in Africa, including Madagascar and offshore island groups. Includes mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, insects, and fish within their natural habitats.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE AFRICAN WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

POLAR PASSION:

Wildlife and landscapes found in the Earth's Arctic, Subarctic, Antarctic, and Subantarctic regions. Includes polar bears, penguins, birds, seals, walruses, whales, and other wildlife as well as wide views of these spectacular and diverse ecosystems and their seasonal and climatic changes.

WILDLIFE:

Wild animals (*outside of Africa and Polar regions*) in North and South America, Europe, Asia, and Australia. Includes mammals, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, and insects, etc., photographed within their natural habitats.

BIRDS:

Wild birds (*outside of Africa and Polar regions*) in natural habitats displaying plumage, mating rituals, territorial battles, nesting, feeding, parenting, or other behaviors, adults with young, and portraits.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY

ANIMAL ANTICS:

Wild animals from any location conveying humorous or surprising behavior in natural settings. Situations may include funny expressions, young playing, awkward positions or situations. Basically, any wildlife image that immediately makes you smile.

ART IN NATURE:

Naturally occurring artistic compositions of wildlife and landscapes, highlighting design, patterns, color, shapes, and textures. Subjects presented in imaginative, graphic, macro, and other creative perspectives.

LANDSCAPES:

Dramatic scenes (*outside of Polar regions*) taken from the ground or air of the world's wild places providing expansive views, plant life such as flowers, trees, and other flora in natural habitats.

OCEAN VIEWS:

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

The finalists in this category are also published in *Alert Diver* magazine and online website.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DIVERS ALERT NETWORK

OUTDOOR ADVENTURE:

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

VIDEO:

High definition video is an important means of sharing outdoor observations and experiences. 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 messaging. 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 SMITHSONIAN CHANNEL

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 your conservation-driven project(s). Topics include conservation efforts on behalf of a specific species or groups of animals, locations affected by natural disasters, and the process or plans for recovery.

We ask that you include a detailed narrative about the project, its current status, and future goals.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION PHOTOGRAPHERS

YOUTH ENTRANTS:

Photographers 18 years of age or younger as of April 16, 2020 may enter photos and videos in any of the categories listed above. All Youth entrants are eligible to be chosen as the Youth Photographer of the Year.

***PLEASE NOTE:** *Include your birthdate and current age in your online entry or mailed entry form.*

NOTE: If your image displays a species listed as "Endangered" on the International Union for Conservation of Nature's Red List of Threatened Species (iucnredlist.org), please add a link to that information in your entry notes.

THANK YOU TO OUR CATEGORY PARTNERS



HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR PHOTOS ONLINE

1. **PREPARE YOUR PHOTOS:** Save **COPIES** of your original images as JPEGs sized between 500kb and 5mb at about 1000 to 2000 pixels on the longest side. Name each of your photo files in this way:

FirstnameLastname_Subject (Example: JohnDoe_redfox.jpg)

Photographers with images that pass into the semifinal round of judging will be emailed and asked to supply high resolution TIFF files, original / RAW files, a complete caption, and camera specifications before final judging. Information on how to send high resolution files will be emailed.

2. **LOG IN OR START A NEW CONTEST ACCOUNT** on the NBP website to upload your photos and manage your entries, check or replace images, edit/update captions before the deadline:

Login: bit.ly/nbp_login Don't have an account? bit.ly/nbp_signup

After you start an account, you will see the "My Account Dashboard" tool found at the top right on the home page of the NBP website. 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.

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 online Entry Form. You will get a confirmation receipt by email with payment status and a link to return to your entry.

IF YOU NEED TO SUBMIT ENTRIES BY MAIL OR COURIER:

1. **PREPARE YOUR IMAGES:** Entries may be sent on USB flash drives labeled with your First and Last name and phone number. Send a list of the photos and/or videos, with categories, and short caption information. We may ask for further captions if images move into the next round of judging. Prepare **BOTH** low and high resolution images for your mailed-in submission at the following specifications. Save **COPIES** of your digital files and label each entry this way:

FirstnameLastname_Subject (Example: JohnDoe_bluebird.jpg).

- **Low Resolution** JPEG copies of your images, sized about 5mb at 1000 to 2000 pixels on the longest side, saved on a USB drive labeled **LOW RES** for preliminary judging.
- **High Resolution** (300 ppi) unsharpened TIFF images, largest file size available, saved on a USB drive for the final round of judging. Please label the drive as **HIGH RES**. Include the original RAW files with your submission. *NOTE: we do not publish directly from the RAW image.*

**Please retain a copy of the original submission as drives will not be returned after the contest.*

2. **INCLUDE BOTH** low and high resolution files clearly labeled with your name on a thumb drive along with the \$30 US entry fee (FREE for Youth) for up to 25 images/videos and the completed 2020 Awards Entry Form (*on page 7*). **NO FOREIGN CHECKS**. See next page for payment options. Mailing address:

2020 NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS
1930 ISAAC NEWTON SQUARE, SUITE 200C, RESTON, VA 20190, USA
PHONE FOR COURIER: 703-467-9783

IMPORTANT RULES

ALL ENTRIES MUST accurately reflect the subject matter as it appeared in the viewfinder. Nothing should be added to or removed from an image aside from dust spots or other minor corrections. Normal processing of RAW image files and limited adjustments to color and contrast are accepted, as is minimal cropping, HDR photo stacking, and panoramic stitching. These are permitted as long as all techniques are fully disclosed on your entry form notes and represent how you saw the scene in the field. Black and white images are accepted. There is no time limitation as to when your entry was taken.

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. This may include some uses of drone photography or videos where animals appear under stress.

GROUND FOR ELIMINATION: Entries must be of non-captive species taken in natural, wild situations! NO game farm or for-hire animals permitted. NO live baiting or placed carcasses allowed (*natural occurrences are allowed*).

SEE ALL CATEGORIES ON PAGES 3-4.

Select a category that you feel is the best fit for each image. Read each category description to make sure you are following the rules. The Judging Panel reserves the right to move images to another category.

ENTRY FEE PAYMENT

The Entry Fee of \$30 (US dollars) for Adults per entry of up to 25 images (FREE for Youth) may be paid with Visa, MasterCard, or American Express credit cards in your online Contest Entry Account OR by mailing a check or money order made out to: NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY. **NO FOREIGN CHECKS!** OR you may call 703-467-9783 to reach our Reston office Monday through Friday from 10am to 5pm EST. Calling after hours, leave a detailed message with your phone number clearly stated.

QUESTIONS OR NEED HELP?

Email: awards@naturesbestphotography.com
or call 703-467-9783

Check for contest updates online:

NATURESBESTPHOTOGRAPHY.COM/ENTER

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NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY 2020 INTERNATIONAL AWARDS MAIL-IN FORM

FIRST NAME / MIDDLE INITIAL / LAST NAME DATE

BUSINESS NAME [] PROFESSIONAL [] AMATEUR [] YOUTH / CURRENT AGE / BIRTHDATE (UNDER 18 AS OF 4/16/20)

STREET ADDRESS APARTMENT NO.

CITY STATE / PROVINCE ZIP / POSTAL CODE COUNTRY

HOME PHONE OFFICE PHONE CELL PHONE

E-MAIL ADDRESS WEBSITE SOCIAL MEDIA HANDLES (FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM)

ENTRY FEE \$30 US (FREE FOR YOUTH) METHOD OF PAYMENT:

CHECK NUMBER (NO FOREIGN CHECKS) [] CALL OUR OFFICE TO CHARGE OVER THE PHONE 703-467-9783

CREDIT CARD NUMBER [] VISA [] MASTERCARD [] 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 ENTRY)

_____ TOTAL NUMBER OF DIGITAL IMAGES / VIDEOS [] ON USB DRIVE(S)

SAVE YOUR ENTRIES WITH YOUR FIRST AND LAST NAME IN TITLE. **SEND CAPTIONS WITH ENTRIES.

[] I UNDERSTAND THAT MY USB DRIVE(S) WILL NOT BE RETURNED AT THE END OF THE COMPETITION.

PLEASE INCLUDE CAPTIONS FOR YOUR IMAGES ON A SEPARATE FILE.

DEADLINE IF MAILING: POSTMARK BY APRIL 16, 2020

MAIL THIS FORM WITH YOUR ENTRY FEE AND IMAGES TO:

VIA US POSTAL SERVICE OR COURIER:

2020 NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY AWARDS 1930 ISAAC NEWTON SQUARE, SUITE 200C RESTON, VA 20190 USA

PHONE FOR COURIER: 703-467-9783

QUESTIONS? EMAIL: AWARDS@NATURESBESTPHOTOGRAPHY.COM

OR CALL THE RESTON OFFICE: 703-467-9783

FOR NBP OFFICE USE

NBP AWARDS PHOTO USE AND RIGHTS:

THE WINNING PHOTOGRAPHS AND VIDEOS WILL BE PUBLISHED IN NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY MAGAZINE AND MAY BE SELECTED FOR GALLERY EXHIBITIONS AND OTHER NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY INTERNATIONAL AWARDS (NBPIA) COMPETITION PROMOTION OPPORTUNITIES, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, A COMPILATION BOOK OR CALENDAR, PRINTS AND OTHER PRODUCTS, SPONSOR PRESENTATIONS, ELECTRONIC COLLECTIONS OF WINNERS AND WEB PAGES PROVIDING NBPIA INFORMATION, UPDATES, RULES, AND PHOTO TIPS.

THE NBPIA COMPETITION IS OPEN TO ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS EXCEPT EMPLOYEES OR PARTNERS OF NATURE'S BEST PHOTOGRAPHY MAGAZINE. YOUR ENTRY TO THIS CONTEST CONSTITUTES YOUR AGREEMENT TO ALLOW YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS, VIDEOS, 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 NBPIA AS AWARD WINNERS; AND USED FOR PROMOTIONS OF THE NBPIA. 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.

****ENTRANTS RETAIN OWNERSHIP AND ALL OTHER RIGHTS TO THE USE OF THEIR PHOTOGRAPHS.**

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 NBPIA, OR ANY PRIZE WON AND RELATED TAXES, ANY MISUSE OR MALFUNCTION OF ANY PRIZE AWARDED, PARTICIPATION IN ANY NBPIA-RELATED ACTIVITY, OR PARTICIPATION IN THE NBPIA.

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 NBPIA, 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 NBPIA. 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 NBPIA 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 NBPIA, OR BY ANY TECHNICAL OR HUMAN ERROR THAT MAY OCCUR IN THE PROCESSING OF SUBMISSIONS TO THE NBPIA, 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 NBPIA.

IF, FOR ANY REASON, NBPIA 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 NBPIA.

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.