

PSA Nature Division
STAR RATINGS INFORMATION
January 2013

The Nature Division Star Rating activity was initiated in 1953 as a method of providing exhibitors with a form of recognition by the Division for photographic proficiency in international nature exhibitions. A member of the Photographic Society of America shall act in accordance with all applicable PSA Ethical Standards and Policy, both written and as obviously intended, and without reservation shall include only exact and true information in honors and awards proposals, and shall adhere to principles of morality, particularly with respect to the use of photography or when acting in an official capacity. Members who do not follow the above Ethical Standards will be subject to loss of PSA membership and/or awards and honors received as a member of PSA.

REQUIREMENTS

1. Membership in PSA (you must send a copy of your PSA Membership card.)
2. All acceptances must be in PSA recognized nature exhibitions. These are listed in the "Exhibitions" section of each issue of the *PSA Journal*. At the beginning of the "Who's Who in Nature" section in the May *PSA Journal*, the ND recognized exhibitions for the previous year are listed in total.
3. Acceptances used for any star beyond the first star and acquired after January 1, 2000 must be earned during membership as indicated by the date on the membership card.

ACCEPTANCE SCHEDULE

One star.....	18 acceptances with a minimum of... 6 different titles/images
Two stars.....	36 acceptances with a minimum of...12 different titles/images
Three stars.....	72 acceptances with a minimum of...24 different titles/images
Four stars.....	144 acceptances with a minimum of...48 different titles/images
Five stars.....	288 acceptances with a minimum of...96 different titles/images

Sequences: Two acceptance credits are given for each sequence accepted in a nature exhibition: each sequence counts as one title.

Essays: Four acceptance credits are given for each ND Essay Winner. Each essay counts as one title.

Judging: Acceptance credits are given for nature exhibitions judged since January 1, 1970. One judge judging more than two Nature sections at an exhibition is only allowed credits for two sections. Prior to May 1, 2001, 3 credits are allowed per section. After May 1, 2001, 3 acceptances per section if no more than 3 members on the panel; 2 acceptances if 4 or 5 on panel; 1 acceptance if 6 – 10 on panel. Acceptances are not allowed if more than 10 on judging panel. Judging credits cannot exceed 10% of the acceptance credits, or 25, whichever is lower..

Ineligibility: Acceptances of nature images in sections recognized by other divisions are not eligible. A second acceptance of the same image in the same exhibition is not eligible.

PROCESSING YOUR APPLICATION

1. The fee for each is \$8 domestic and \$10 overseas.
2. The fee must accompany the application. Make check or money order payable to Photographic Society of America. Fee includes first class/air mail return.
3. The certificate lettered with the exhibitor's name and star rating is suitable for framing.
4. Names of those receiving star ratings will be published quarterly in the *PSA Journal*.

PREPARING YOUR APPLICATION

1. Group your exhibition activity *by each calendar year and then list the exhibitions alphabetically*. Please note a few exhibitions close in one calendar year, but their exhibitions and catalogs fall in the next calendar year (e.g., Paisley, Smethwick, and IRIS). Star ratings catalogs are filed by the year shown on the catalog.
2. Use only one side of the paper. Your name and address must appear at the top of each page of your application.
3. If more than one media (print, slide, digital) is used for a single image, the title must be the same for all and it only counts as one title. Only one acceptance credit per title from a specified exhibition can be applied toward a star.
4. Use the following format for application lists:

LIST 1: Alphabetical List of Exhibitions by Year, by Exhibition (see #5 below)

<u>Exhibition/Location</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>No.</u>	<u>Title</u>
S4C	2004	1.	Zabriskie Dawn
GASO	2005	2.	Coyote Pups
		3.	Zabriskie Point
		4.	Zabriskie Point
Bristol Circle of Confusion	2006	5.	Birds of the Rio Grande
		6.	Pause That Refreshes
Detroit		7.	Orange Weaver Finch
GASO		8.	Pause That Refreshes

LIST 2: Alphabetical Titles, All stars (see #6 below)

1. Birds of the Rio Grande
 2. Coyote Pups
 3. Orange Weaver Finch
 4. Pause that Refreshes
 5. Zabriskie Dawn
 6. Zabriskie Point
5. When applying for the next star rating, *begin acceptance list numbering where the last approved rating ceased*. Do not relist previously approved acceptances.
 6. Along with each application, prepare and send a COMPLETE, alphabetical titles list of all accepted titles in the star rating activity. Make a new list **every** time you apply, incorporating all titles.
 7. Your approved application lists will be returned to you. When you apply for a new rating, also send the last approved application (both listings: acceptances and titles) in addition to your new lists.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. As soon as you receive your exhibition catalogs, check your acceptances. If they are not correct, write to the exhibition chairman for a correction and send a copy of the letter to the ND Star Director.
2. Any spare acceptances over the required number will be applied toward the next star as long as continuous PSA membership is maintained.

Your cooperation in the careful preparation of your application is appreciated. Send your application to:

Klaus-Dieter Schlein, MPSA
8 Renda Place
Green Brook, NJ 08812 USA