



# **MIPP Photographer of the Year Awards 2017**

Rules and Regulations  
MIPP OFFICIAL VERSION

**October 2016**

# RULES AND REGULATIONS

## 1. Summary

- 1) The Title of this competition is “Photographer of the Year Award (PTYA)”. This competition is open to all fully paid up members of the MIPP.
- 2) There will be 5 (five) sessions in the competition, starting from January 2017.
- 3) All session submissions will be on digital file.
- 4) The judging pool will be appointed by the organizing committee and kept secret. Only the Organizing Committee is to know the respective judges of the particular sessions.
  - a) Judges selected will be persons who the organizing committee deems competent to judge specific sessions.
  - b) The First, Second, Third and Fourth sessions will be judged by 2 (two) judges. The fifth session will be judged by 3 (three) judges.
  - c) The role of the PTYA moderator is to collate, confirm and record all the judges’ votes on each category.
- 5) There is a **participation fee of €15**. Participants will be registered and confirmed when they pay the fee before the competition starts.
- 6) Participation in this competition automatically signifies the acceptance of all these rules and regulations by the entrant.
- 7) The executive committee reserves the right to cancel the PTYA competition should there be less than 5 competing participants during the first session.

## 2. Submission Dates and Subjects

The following is the schedule of sessions for the year 2017:

Session	Subject	Qty	Max Points	Submission Deadline	Date of Judging
1	Valletta	3	60	28 Feb 17	
2	Children	3	60	30 Apr 17	
3	Interiors	3	60	30 Jun17	
4	Events	3	60	31 Aug 17	19 Sep 17
5	Food Panel	3	180	31 Oct 17	

## **Subject Definitions:**

### **1. Valletta**

The Fortress City, Citta' Umilissima, "*a city built by gentlemen for gentlemen,*" recognised as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO since it is one of the most concentrated historic areas in the world. It is abundantly rich in bastions, fortifications, Baroque palaces, natural harbours, gardens, piazzas and churches which have withstood the test of time. The city is constantly changing, especially through the introduction of the monumental City Gate project and rehabilitation of Strada Stretta. Valletta is also a living, working city, the administrative and commercial heart of the Islands. Its rich heritage will be especially recognised thanks to its title as the *European Capital of Culture 2018* and the events and cultural events which are being held in preparation towards this project. All photographs submitted for this session are to be strictly taken and identifiable to Valletta.

### **2. Children**

A challenging genre of photography and a delicate art, which seeks to capture the special moments in the lifetime of infants and children. Child photography can be posed or candid, involves different approaches and entails preparation, planning and patience. In this session, the child is to be the main subject.

### **3. Interiors**

Each space has a story to tell, a personality and a style. The ability to photograph a room in an attractive way depends mostly on the type of lighting, different angles and creative ability, be it in a house, historical or a commercial environment. This genre is often related to professional practices in architecture or interior design work.

### **4. Events**

This term is used to describe the genre of photography which captures memorable moments such as such weddings, corporate meetings, shows, concerts, musical activities etc. It often involves reportage style photos of people and interactions, with the purpose of catching the feeling, emotions and highlights of such gatherings.

### **5. Food Panel**

Food photography is a form of still life photography, with the aim of capturing tempting and irresistible photographs of food. It is a specialization of commercial photography, the products of which are used in advertisements, magazines, packaging, menus or cookbooks. This category should be undertaken as a panel - a set number of related images - which must combine and work as a group. The PTYA Organizing committee stipulates the number of images and judges will be viewing the panel as a whole and not as individual images.

### **3. Participation and Submission Rules**

#### **Eligibility**

- a. The PTYA is open uniquely to fully paid MIPP members
- b. Participants are to inform the organising committee at least one week before the submission deadline for the first session of their intention to participate. The organising committee will provide a registration number, which is to be used throughout the competition. Application is done via email to: [submissions@mipp-malta.com](mailto:submissions@mipp-malta.com).
- c. Prior to the competition's commencement, a briefing meeting will be convened for all those interested in participating in the PTYA. This meeting is for the benefit of the competitor. Entry fee is to be done on this day or before. A competitor will not be allowed to participate unless he has paid the competition fee.
- d. No new participant will be allowed to join the PTYA competition after the Second Session has been judged.
- e. Unless otherwise specified, submissions may be in colour or monochrome.
- f. At one point in the creation of the final image, the entrant must have used a camera.
- g. Plagiarism\* and copyright infringement is strictly forbidden in this competition. It is considered a serious offence and will lead to disciplinary action.
  - When such cases arise, the competition's organizers will investigate the case and their decision is final.
  - At any given point, the entrant may be requested to provide the original, unedited file, including EXIF information. Loss of data will not be accepted as a valid reason for failure to provide such information.
  - Failure to prove that the entry is an original work of the entrant will automatically incur disqualification from the competition and the loss of any accumulated points.
  - The organizers reserve the right to disqualify and /or withdraw any award or qualification if any infringement of these rules is found, even after the award or title is given. The organizers also reserves the right to take further disciplinary action as it deems fit.

*\*Plagiarism refers to the practice of taking someone else's **work or ideas** and passing them off as one's own. Entries which are deemed to closely resemble or be similarly derived from the previous work of others can be disqualified at any stage. Where multiple photographs are used to construct a final photograph, all constituent parts must be the original photographic work of the Photographer.*

- a) No entry will be eligible that has been made under the supervision of an instructor or as a class assignment. This includes, but is not limited, to seminars conventions, and

workshops held by the MIPP or other photographic associations.

- b) Any images entered in previous MIPP competitions are not eligible to compete in PTYA sessions. This restriction is also applicable to images already submitted in this year's PTYA competition.
- c) Copyright and Ownership of the Images must belong to the entrant. The authors of any images exhibited or published personally assume responsibility for any claim arising from any copyright or data protection infringements. The MIPP categorically disclaims any liability whatsoever
- d) Image Files are to abide to the following criteria:
  - o Size should be at least 2000 pixels on the longest side.
  - o Format should be JPG, compression level 10 (85%) or higher.
  - o Individual image sizes must not exceed 2MB
  - o Each image should be named as follows:

**PTYA\_[Year]\_\_[Membership Number]\_[Session Number]\_[Image Number]\_[Image Name]**

- Example: **Entries for Session 1 by Member 456:**

**PTYA\_2017\_456\_01\_01\_ImageA.jpg**

- e) Members are to send images by email to [submissions@mipp-malta.com](mailto:submissions@mipp-malta.com) strictly before the announced submitting dates. Members will receive a confirmation email receipt. If this confirmation is not received, entrants must contact the organizers to ensure that their work has arrived.

#### **4. Entry Submission**

- a) The registration number, provided upon application, is to be retained and used throughout the PTYA session. This number is to be used together with the image number to label all competition submissions as described in Clause 3.i above.
- b) To retain confidentiality, there should be no evidence or markings visible on the image, which may in any way identify the author. Such images will be automatically disqualified from the competition.

#### **5. Use of Entries**

- a) Images may be used by the MIPP for publicity, promotional and other non-commercial purposes.
- b) If entries are chosen for commercial use, the MIPP will request the author's permission and separate agreements will be made accordingly.

## 6. Voting System

- a) Judges appointed for a particular session will be required to send their votes by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month together with some critique based on the submitted entries.
- b) During the Fourth Session, Judges appointed will be required to attend the PTYA session and cast their votes on the day based on the submitted entries.
- c) During the first 4 (four) sessions, once judges have cast their votes, the scores are combined and the totals are published.
- d) During the last session, points allocated by judges are kept secret, and the winner is subsequently announced during the Awards Night in November.  
**This session will be judged as a panel and not individually.**

## 7. PTYA Awards

- a) The Photographer of the Year Award 2017 will be awarded to the winner.
- b) The Winner will be presented with the PTYA Trophy, a Super Big Deal Ticket from the Societies, a voucher of €250 from iLab.
- d) The Winner, or the *Photographer of the Year*, will be the one who has accumulated 273 points (65% of the points) at the end of the competition.
  - In case of a tie, the winner will be the participant who has achieved the overall higher positions throughout the year's PTYA sessions.
  - If a tie still exists, the award will be equally shared amongst the tied participants.
  - The winner must obtain a minimum of 273 points (65%). If no participant has achieved this minimum, a winner will not be declared.
  - In the event that an entry is later found to have violated any of the above rules, the MIPP committee reserves the right to take any action they deem necessary.

## 8. Judging Guidelines

- a) A theme description for each session is included within this document. These descriptions are also to be sent by email to all MIPP members as well as the judging pool at least two months before the first session of the competition
- b) Judges should be made aware that entries will not necessarily be shown in a specific order. This is to make the judge conscious of any repetition or subject duplication.
- c) Participants are to refrain from any interaction with the judging panel, which may relate to their submissions. Participants who in any way compromise or reveal their identity to judges will be immediately disqualified from the respective session.

- d) Judges are to be briefed on the maximum amount of points, which can be scored for each entry.
- e) The PTYA committee is to oversee all submissions. If any submission is clearly not relevant to the theme or theme restrictions, the committee may decide to disqualify the particular image.
- f) Each image must score from 0 to 20 points for each particular session. Judges are free to follow their own methodology when scoring an image however the following may act as guidelines:
- **0-2 points:** Technically incorrect images (e.g. out of focus), clearly not done purposely, particularly if aggravated by further defects mentioned below.
  - **3-5 points:** Images, which are deemed to be below the standard of a professional competition, unprofessional presentation, bad overall tonal quality, incorrect, post processing etc.
  - **6-8 points:** Images, which are of competition standard, but lack impact, originality and creativity.
  - **9-10 points:** Images, which stand out as being of exceptional standard.
- g) Judging results are considered final and uncontested. Entrants may not approach the judges or the PTYA organisers to contest or appeal the decision. Participants are expected to show respect to the judges at all time and, while they may approach them for discussion at the judge's discretion, no untoward behaviour will be tolerated at any time, both verbally and written.

*October 2016 Martin Agius & Kevin Casha*