

# AWARDS FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC MERIT IN AUDIO VISUAL (APM/AV)

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION, CONDITIONS OF ENTRY AND NOTES FOR GUIDANCE OF APPLICANTS

The Rules and Conditions relating to the Awards for Photographic Merit may be obtained from your Federation's Awards Officer. The Rules are also published in the PAGB Handbook, but since they are still evolving and the PAGB Handbook is only printed every two years, you should check that they are still current. These notes are intended to help you understand the Adjudication process.

**Awards** The Awards are open to all members of clubs affiliated to the PAGB through their Federations. They are at three levels:

**Credit (CPAGB/AV)**

**Distinction (DPAGB/AV)**

**Master (MPAGB/AV)**

**Certificate and Blue Badge**

**Certificate and Red Badge**

**Certificate and Yellow Badge**

The Awards are normally held for life without any annual fee and holders are entitled to use the designated letters after their name.



## The Photographic Alliance of Great Britain

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# INFORMATION LEAFLET SIX

**1 QUALIFICATION** All applicants must qualify and apply via their Federations. Entrants must have been active members of an affiliated Club for a minimum of 2 years for CPAGB, 3 years for DPAGB and 5 Years for MPAGB. A retrospective period of 10 years may be considered. Applications for MPAGB must have held DPAGB for at least 11 months on the date of adjudication. Please contact your Federation Awards Officer for an application form and further guidance.

**2 AUDIO VISUAL** An Audio Visual production submitted for a PAGB Award should predominantly consist of sequences of still photographic images, the majority of such photographs being the original work of the entrant, together with an accompanying synchronised sound track. The use of third party images, animated graphics, video clips or other visual material, whilst not excluded, should be limited and should be appropriate to the production. Applications with more than 25% of third party images, animated graphics or video, in photographs or duration, are unlikely to be successful.

**3 PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETENCE** An AV sequence includes many more pictures than are required for an APM in "Single Image" Photography and individual pictures cannot be expected to be of the same standard. However, they must show photographic competence and, even better, at the higher levels.

**4 ORGANISATION** The APM/AV will be organised by the APM Sub Committee appointed by the PAGB and Adjudications will be overseen and hosted by the Chair of the APM Sub Committee. In addition, a "permanent" Chair of Judges is appointed to help select the Adjudicators, to help oversee the organisation of the Adjudication Day and to join every panel as a voting participant

**5 HOW TO APPLY FOR AN AWARD** In the first instance you must apply to your Federation PAGB Awards Officer who will confirm you have pre-qualified, according to the criteria laid down by your Federation, and will provide you with an application form. If you are unsure who is your Federations Awards Officer your Club Secretary should have a PAGB Handbook with this information

**6 DECLARATION** By completing the Application Form the Applicant confirms that they have read this Explanatory Leaflet and accept the Conditions for Entry and also confirm that their submission meets the PAGB Definition outlined earlier in these notes. Entrants must confirm that they have legal consent for the use of any visual material or audio material used in the production other than their own original content.

**7 APPLICATIONS** Applicants may apply either singly or jointly for an Award in AV. Adjudications will be held when there is sufficient demand.

**8 WITHDRAWAL OF ENTRY** It is difficult to fill places in the event of cancellations and nearer the Adjudication it is almost impossible. Therefore, anyone withdrawing from the event after their initial acknowledgement letter but more than 13 weeks from the date of their Adjudication specified in the letter will have their fee refunded less a £25.00 Administration charge. Anyone withdrawing later than 13 weeks from the date of their Adjudication will forfeit their entire fee. In either case, should the Applicant wish to take part in a future Adjudication they will need to complete a new Application Form, including the Certificate of Qualification by their Federation Awards Officer. The full fee, not the re-submission fee, will be payable.

**9 ONLY DIGITAL SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED** Entries must be submitted on a CD which must contain only the sequences for the submission and these must run with no additional software requirements. Typically, these will be .exe files. The file names on the CD must match those on the Entry Form. The CD must be indelibly labelled with the entrant's name and number. The CD containing the sequences forming the entry must be received by the organiser by the date required, probably 2 months before the Adjudication date.

**10 COPYING OF SEQUENCES** The CD will be copied to a hard drive for adjudication, and will be deleted afterwards if unsuccessful. Successful sequences will be retained and may be used for educational purposes including use in the PAGB Recorded Lecture Service.

**11 ALL REASONABLE CARE** will be taken with entries, but no liability of any kind is accepted for loss or damage.

**12 RESUBMISSION** A new application form has to be completed, including the Certificate of Qualification signed by their Federation Awards Officer

**13 ADJUDICATIONS** are normally open to spectators. Applicants receive one free ticket. Further tickets may be purchased from the organising Federation. Details will be included in the Entry Information pack.

## **14 ADJUDICATION METHOD**

14.1 Adjudications for the Awards for Photographic Merit in Audio Visual will be carried out by a panel of Five Adjudicators including the (permanent) voting Chair of Adjudicators. The Adjudicators will normally be selected from the PAGB Approved List for their photographic and AV skills and their extensive experience.

14.2 In addition to the Chair, at least two and not more than three of the Adjudicators will be AV Specialists. The others will usually have at least a limited experience of AV.

14.3 The Non-Voting Chairman of the event will observe closely throughout the proceedings and will have the authority to initiate a review of near misses on the day, in conjunction with the Chair of Adjudicators and with the full panel of Adjudicators if required.

14.4 Each of the 5 Adjudicators will Vote, without discussion, on the total sequences submitted by each entrant.

14.5 After an initial vote the Event Chairman will invite one or two of the Adjudicators to comment briefly and may invite the Chair of Adjudicators to summarise.

14.6 Then a second and deciding Vote will be called. The result will be announced later, probably at the end of each day, which will allow the opportunity for any Reviews that may be required.

## 15 SPECIFICATION

15.1 The sequences must be programmed without a 'run box'. If using Pictures to Exe software, please ensure that 'Hide mouse cursor during show' (not Auto Hide) is activated, that the "Show Navigation Bar "is not ticked and 'Close show after last slide' is ticked so as to return to the desktop at the end of the production. 'Full Screen' should be chosen.

15.2 For Proshow Producer and Proshow Gold in the Options Menu, select "start playback in full screen". Un-tick "enable on screen playback controls" and "loop show". Also un-tick both "Protection" boxes. In the Branding Menu un-tick "Start Up Screen".

15.3 For all programs you must ensure that the cursor does not appear on the screen during projection. Failure to comply may be penalised.

15.4 The aspect ratio used is at the discretion of the applicant. A 1920px by 1200px digital projector, a Windows Laptop and a sound system, provided by the organisers, will be used.

**16 FEEDBACK** Adjudicators are invited to comment on entries as specified in 14.5 and, in addition, will make themselves available at the end of the day to any Entrant who wishes to discuss their sequences. No written feedback can be provided and entrants are encouraged to attend to hear what is said and to see the standard of the other works which succeeds.

**17. IMMEDIATE REVIEW OF RESULTS** After every section the Chairman of the Event, together with the Voting Chairman and the other Adjudicators will review all of the results to ensure continuity and fairness. There is no right of appeal and, after this Review, the decision on the day cannot be changed.

## CREDIT AWARD OF THE PAGB IN AV (CPAGB/AV)

The entry fee is £60.00 and the standard is that of an Audio Visual Sequence which might win an annual competition in a club with several AV producers. Photo Harmony productions are positively encouraged at this level\**Appx One*

One or more sequences are required, with a total running time not less than 10 minutes and not more than 15 minutes. Overlong sequences will be disqualified.

Competent photography taken by the entrant is required. The Adjudicators are unlikely to forgive basic faults such as poor focus and poor exposure and, for a better chance of success, there should be some good photographs, equivalent to those that might succeed at CPAGB in the APM for Still Photography. *(see also Appendix One Photo Harmony)*

## DISTINCTION AWARD IN AV (DPAGB/AV)

Application can be made for the DPAGB Award without first gaining the CPAGB.

The entry fee is £90.00 and the standard is that of Audio Visual Sequences which might win an annual Federation AV competition. Photo Harmony productions are permitted but should be of a high standard.

Two or more sequences are required with a total running time of not less than 15 minutes and not more than 20 minutes. Overlong sequences will be disqualified.

Better than simply competent original photography is required, with no major faults, such as poor focus and poor exposure.

Better than competent photography is required, taken by the entrant, with no basic faults such as poor focus and poor exposure. For a better chance of success, there should be some very good photographs, equivalent to those that might succeed at DPAGB in the APM for Still Photography. *(see also Appendix One Photo Harmony)*

## MASTER AWARD OF THE PAGB IN AV (MPAGB/AV)

Applicants for MPAGB must have held DPAGB for at least 11 months on the date of the adjudication.

The entry fee is £120.00 and the standard is the very best of UK AV production. Audio Visual Sequences are required which are likely win major national or international competitions.

Three or more sequences required with a total running time of not less than 20 minutes and not more than 30 minutes. Overlong sequences will be disqualified.

Entries should predominately consist of much better than just competent original photography, with interesting content and without any major faults.

For a better chance of success, there should be a good sprinkling of excellent photographs, at least equivalent to those that might succeed at DPAGB, or even MPAGB, in the APM for Still Photography. *(see also Appendix One Photo Harmony)*

## APPENDIX ONE

PHOTO HARMONY is encouraged in the PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit in Audio Visual, particularly at CPAGB but also at DPAGB and even at MPAGB.

### DEFINITION

**PHOTO HARMONY** should demonstrate skill in the production and visual progression of still photographs linked to sound. No script or commentary with a specific beginning, middle and ending are required but the images must flow well in a pleasing progression, not just in a random manner. The emphasis is on visual harmony in colour, tone or graphic design.

The aim is not only to display a collection of photographs which may be excellent when considered individually, but rather a sequence of pictures which blend well with each other and with the sound chosen. Good technique is essential and it is expected that the sound and the pictures will start and finish together and that the original ending of the music is preserved, rather than an arbitrary fade out.

In a successful Photo Harmony sequence the Adjudicators will expect virtually all of the pictures to be the entrants own photography with a proportion better than just competent standard at CPAGB and much better than competent at DPAGB. To succeed at MPAGB the photography in a Photo Harmony production must be must be of an exceptionally high standard in both content and quality.