

# PSA Star Ratings Conversion Procedures

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The Board of Directors of the Photographic Society of America (PSA) approved a Universal Star Ratings Program at the September 2009 annual conference. The Star Ratings Directors will perform the conversion process and begin using the new requirements July 1, 2010. **Individuals with stars may convert to the new system at any time beginning July 1, 2010.** Some will not need to do anything and will be converted automatically with the submittal of their next application for a star. Only one conversion is allowed per star holder in each Division, except PPD which has 4 different stars. The new Star Ratings requirements are shown in Appendix A.

- There is no change for either the Nature Division's Photo Naturalist or Stereo Star program. In addition, the requirements for the first five stars do not change for Nature, Class B Pictorial Prints and EID.
- There is no change to the judging credits (UPAC PART A III), Photojournalist published image criteria (UPAC PART A II), credits for annual Divisional competitions (UPAC PART A IV), acceptance limits for Star Ratings (UPAC PART A V) and titles and acceptance credits (UPAC PART A VI).
- The new Star criteria are effective July 1, 2010 and all acceptances received after July 1, 2010 will be based on the new criteria. Note: Acceptance date is the **closing date** of the exhibition.
- Any unused acceptances received prior to July 1, 2010, which will **no longer** be eligible must be submitted at the time of conversion or the acceptances will be lost.

## WHO NEEDS TO CONVERT?

**CPID**—Anyone above the current 3<sup>rd</sup> star level with more than 288 acceptances

**Nature**—Anyone with acceptances beyond the current 5<sup>th</sup> star

**Photojournalism**—Anyone above the current 4<sup>th</sup> star with more than 288 acceptances

**Photo Travel**—Anyone above the current 4<sup>th</sup> star with more than 288 acceptances

**Pictorial Prints Class A**—Anyone above the current 3<sup>rd</sup> star level with more than 288 acceptances

**Pictorial Prints Class B**—Anyone with acceptances beyond the current 5<sup>th</sup> star

**EID**—Anyone with acceptances beyond the current 5<sup>th</sup> star

Individuals with lower levels than those listed above may convert if they wish; otherwise the conversion will be done when they apply for another star.

## WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONVERTED?

Current star holders listed above that are working towards the next star may have reached the new 5<sup>th</sup> star level and have additional accumulated acceptances. These were earned under the old rules and may not qualify for the new Galaxies (too many acceptances for the titles or not new titles). These acceptances must be listed for the conversion in order to prevent the loss of the acceptances.

Members working towards Galaxies have been earning more acceptances per title than required for the new Galaxies or Diamonds. In order to prevent the loss of acceptances earned prior to July 1, 2010, the titles and acceptances must be listed in the conversion. For example, a CPID Galaxy 3 exhibitor who's accumulating 4 acceptances per title for the next Galaxy must submit those titles and acceptances at the time of conversion since they exceed the new criteria of 3 acceptances per title.

Pictorial Print members did not have the requirement of new work for awards beyond the 5<sup>th</sup> star. The new criteria will apply to them after July 1, 2010, therefore they need to list all acceptances earned with old titles or when there are more than 3 or 6 acceptances (depending on their level) per title to avoid losing acceptances.

All other acceptances, including judging credits, will be listed on applications for new awards and the new criteria will apply.

## HOW TO APPLY FOR THE CONVERSION

**Note:** These steps must be followed for *each* application for conversion. Contact the Division Star Ratings Director for division specific instructions.

1. Determine if the current star rating for the division requires a conversion. Applications for conversion can be sent after July 1, 2010 or with the member's application for additional awards.

2. Determine which acceptances must be claimed during the conversion to prevent their loss. They must be valid under the old requirements but not under the new criteria. (i.e. – if working on a Galaxy requiring 4 acceptances per title, only four acceptances can be claimed for that title).
3. Prepare a listing of the acceptances determined in Step #2
  - a. Sort by year, then alphabetically by exhibition
  - b. Number the acceptances
  - c. Notate which are old titles and which are new
  - d. Label each page with name and “Conversion Acceptances”
4. Prepare a complete, alphabetical list of all titles used for all stars including conversion titles.
5. There is no fee for the conversion.
6. Send the following to the proper Division Star Ratings Director
  - a. Prior approved acceptance list, if not held by the Star Ratings Director
  - b. Prior approved titles list, if not held by the Star Ratings Director
  - c. Copy of Membership Card
  - d. Conversion acceptance listing
  - e. Complete titles list
  - f. Name as it is to appear on the certificate(s) and an e-mail address if available
7. New levels attained will not be listed in the *PSA Journal*, nor will tabs, medals, pins nor trophies be issued. Certificates will be issued for all new levels and the cover letter will indicate the amount of carry-forward due to the conversion.
8. If applying for additional awards, proper application and applicable fees must be included.

### Appendix A Photographic Society of America Star Ratings Chart effective July 1, 2010

Star Rating	New Titles	Cumulative Titles	Cumulative Acceptances
1	6	6	18
2	6	12	36
3	12	24	72
4	24	48	144
5	48	96	288
Galaxy 1	25 new titles with 3 acceptances each	121	363
Galaxy 2	25 new titles with 3 acceptances each	146	438
Galaxy 3	25 new titles with 3 acceptances each	171	513
Galaxy 4	25 new titles with 3 acceptances each	196	588
Galaxy 5	25 new titles with 3 acceptances each	221	663
Galaxy 6	50 new titles with 3 acceptances each	271	813
Galaxy 7	50 new titles with 3 acceptances each	321	963
Galaxy 8	50 new titles with 3 acceptances each	371	1113
Galaxy 9	50 new titles with 3 acceptances each	421	1263
Galaxy 10	50 new titles with 3 acceptances each	471	1413
Diamond 1	50 new titles with 6 acceptances each	521	1713
Diamond 2	50 new titles with 6 acceptances each	571	2013
Diamond 3	50 new titles with 6 acceptances each	621	2313
Diamond 4	50 new titles with 6 acceptances each	671	2613
Diamond 5	50 new titles with 6 acceptances each	721	2913
Diamond 6	75 new titles with 6 acceptances each	796	3363
Diamond 7	75 new titles with 6 acceptances each	871	3813
Diamond 8	75 new titles with 6 acceptances each	946	4263
Diamond 9	75 new titles with 6 acceptances each	1021	4713
Diamond 10	75 new titles with 6 acceptances each	1096	5163

### Electronic Imaging Division Creative Competition, 1st Session 2010 Results



*Fantasy in Venice* © Bill Hodges

The Electronic Imaging Division (EID) Creative Competition is held three times in one calendar year—Session 1, February; Session 2, June and Session 3, October. Three different PSA Camera Clubs in the USA judge the three sessions. You must be a PSA member to participate in this competition. The Suncoast Camera Club of Clearwater, Florida judged the 1st Session of the 2010 EID Creative Competition for Individuals March 2010. There were 164 creative images from 41 members in the 1st session competition, with 5 countries represented. The Best of Show (PSA Gold Medal) was awarded to **Bill Hodges** from New Zealand, for his image *Fantasy in Venice*. 20 members received Honorable Mentions.

The RESULTS link button, showing the award-winning images, are shown on the Internet web page: <http://www.photographybuynick.com/Page6.htm>