



Pasco Audubon and the Pasco Fine Arts Council



2026 Nature and Wildlife of Tampa Bay Photography Competition Rules
Submission Deadline: Saturday March 21, 5pm Awards: Saturday April 11

1. **All entries must be original works**, created from your own idea and operation of equipment. You must be sole owner of the copyright. You may not use any photos taken by any other person. Any digital editing must be your own.
2. **All entries must conform to the stated theme, wildlife and nature of Tampa Bay.** This may include animals in the wild (no captive animals from zoos, aquaria, or rescue/rehab facilities), plants in the wild, or natural landscapes taken in the Tampa Bay area (Pasco, Hernando, Pinellas, Hillsborough, Sumter, Manatee, and Polk counties).
3. **All entries must have been created within the past three years.** Works previously exhibited at Pasco Audubon Art and Photography exhibitions cannot be exhibited a second time. Works that have won other contests may not be exhibited.
4. **Digital modification of the original image is limited** to cropping, light adjustments, color adjustments, sharpening, and removal of dust and scratches. No additions or removals of elements (other than dust and scratches) is allowed. All submitted images must reflect reality. No composite images (placing a subject on a different background, placing multiple subjects from multiple frames into the same frame, changing the sky, etc.), are allowed. Use of multiple images to create a single image is limited to HDR, focus stacking, or other techniques to allow extension of focal range or range of light.
5. Size and format: **Photos must be submitted digitally, no larger than 5MB.** Please use your last name, first initial, and title of the piece as the file name (Ex: "Goldberg_P_Spoonbill_at_Dawn.jpeg"). If you have trouble with this let us know and we can help.
6. Submissions must remain anonymous for formal judging. Do NOT sign your work. Your name and title of the piece will be added when judging is completed.
7. **Entry Fees: \$15 for one image, \$25 for two images, or \$30 for three images.** Exhibitors are limited to three entries. You are encouraged to submit at least one image that is in the "Nature (non-bird)" category and/or one image taken within Starkey Park to maximize your chances of winning! However, when you submit and pay for 3 entries you may submit an additional photograph to the Conservation category (see details on the entry form).
8. Submission: **Digital images must be e-mailed to Halldor Sigurdsson (coordinator) at PascoAudubonPhotos@gmail.com.** Payment may be made online through our PayPal link (Pasco Audubon Society, treasurer@pascoaudubon.com) or via check made out to "Pasco Audubon" and mailed to: Pasco Audubon, PO Box 1456, Elfers, FL 34680. **Both payment and images must be received no later than close of business (5 pm) March 21, 2026** to allow for construction of the exhibit webpage and formal judging.
9. Decision of the judges is final and non-negotiable. Winners will be announced at the end of the event. Prize distribution will occur concurrently. One prize per person. Unclaimed prizes revert to Pasco Audubon.

10. Artist retains all copyrights. However, Pasco Audubon may use images of the event, which may include any entry, for promotion purposes, including an annual calendar production.



Pasco Audubon and the Pasco Fine Arts Council

Nature and Wildlife Photography Competition 2026



Entry Form *Registration and Payment Deadline Saturday March 21!*****

The submitted work must be original and in compliance with all entry rules. Any entry found to be in non-compliance will not be allowed to remain in the show and entry fees will not be refunded.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

e-mail: _____

For each entry, please indicate the title of the work, the category (Birds or Nature [plants, non-bird wildlife, or landscapes]), and the location the image was taken (city, park, or beach). Please circle "Y" for "yes" or "N" for "no" to indicate if the image was taken in **Starkey Park** and if the image is considered a **conservation photo**.

<u>Photo 1</u>	<u>Photo 2</u>	<u>Photo 3</u>
Title: _____	Title: _____	Title: _____
Cat: Birds or Nature	Cat: Birds or Nature	Cat: Birds or Nature
Location: _____	Location: _____	Location: _____
Starkey Park? Y / N	Starkey Park? Y / N	Starkey Park? Y / N
Conservation Photo*? Y / N	Conservation Photo*? Y / N	Conservation Photo*? Y / N

*****If you submit three photographs, you are eligible to submit an extra conservation photo at no additional cost.*****

Fees: \$15 (one entry) \$25 (two entries) \$30 (three entries)

***Conservation Photos**

If you are submitting a conservation photo, you have the option to include a brief paragraph to give context to your photograph. Please limit yourself to 3-4 sentences. The judge for this category will be able to read this, in addition to viewing your photograph.

Photo 4 (conservation category only)

Title: _____ (Conservation Category)

(Continue on the next page)

Please write or type your paragraph into the box below.

“By my signature, I certify that the submitted artwork meets all requirements, and is original in concept and execution, as defined by the contest rules. I understand that failure to comply with these rules will result in disqualification from judging and any prizes received will be forfeit.” All works will be handled with the utmost care, but artists understand WPA cannot be responsible for loss or damage.

Signature of artist: _____

Please send completed form digitally to PascoAudubonPhotos@gmail.com OR mail to Pasco Audubon, PO Box 1456, Elfers, FL 34680.

Fees may be paid through PayPal (Pasco Audubon Society, treasurer@pascoaudubon.com, note “Photo Entry Fee”) OR by check payable to “Pasco Audubon” to Pasco Audubon, PO Box 1456, Elfers, FL 34680