

***Submission Deadline is Jan. 15, 2025  
Digital Submissions Now Welcome (see below)***

Click here for a PDF form of [EIC, Keesler 25](#)

## **NYSOWA Excellence in Craft Writing, Janice M. Keesler Memorial Photo Award Guidelines & Rules**

We are making entry to the awards program easier than ever. At least, we hope you will find that to be the case as we have now converted the entry process exclusively to a digital format. No more dealing with snail mail and the costs and time that entails. No more entry forms for each entry; instead, you'll list your entries on one form. As for your entry fee of \$25, (covers all EIC entries; a separate \$25 fee covers all photo award entries), you can still send in a check or money order, or you can go to our NYSOWA.org website and pay by credit card.

So, if you've never entered your work in our awards program, this is the year to start. Review your work from 2024 (2023 and 2024 for the TV, Radio, Video and Audio category) and begin to prepare entries for the writing and photo awards recognition program. Of course, photos could have been taken at any time, not just in 2024.

All you need for each entry is a file of the original article as a PDF or JPG and a file of that article that deletes or blocks out your byline, the name of the publication and any other identifying information, including photos with your image. The entry form below requires a listing of all of your entries

Because the awards presentation will take place at our banquet scheduled for the spring, **entries must be received by the administrators of the writing and photo recognition programs by Jan. 15, 2025**

Deb Brosen is chair of the Janice M. Keesler Memorial photo awards. This year I am co-administering the Excellence in Craft writing awards program with our president, Chris Paparo, and he looks forward to processing your submissions.

—*Glenn Sapir*

Deadline for receipt of entries for both writing and photo award entries is **Jan. 15, 2025**.

### **EIC & Photo Contest Rules & Entry Form**

#### **EIC CATEGORIES**

The categories for 2024 work are: Magazine Column, Magazine Feature, Newspaper Column, Newspaper Feature and Online Publication; and TV, Radio, Video and Audio (aired or released in 2023 and 2024). Those categories are defined as such:

**Newspaper Column:** A regularly appearing article, typically shorter than a feature, that has a reappearing name, slug, etc., such as “On the Trail,” “Fishing,” “Hunting,” etc.

**Newspaper Feature:** A newspaper feature does not regularly appear with a slug or name, is typically longer than a column, usually includes graphics and may have a sidebar(s).

**Magazine Column:** A regularly appearing article, typically shorter than a feature, that has a reappearing name, slug, etc., such as “On the Trail,” “Fishing,” “Hunting,” etc.

**Magazine Feature:** A magazine feature does not regularly appear with a slug or name, is typically longer than a column, usually includes graphics and may have a sidebar(s).

**Online Publication:** Online publication may be a feature, column, blog post or other electronic communication that was paid for—and was first posted online before it might have otherwise been published.

**TV, Radio, Video and Audio:** Entries may be outdoor-related topics/formats, including, but not limited to, TV show, outdoor-themed commercial, movie, radio show, podcast recording, podcast, audio book et al.

## **SUBMISSIONS**

All entries should be sent to [nysowaEIC@gmail.com](mailto:nysowaEIC@gmail.com). Chris Paparo will review your entry to be sure you’ve met all of the requirements and will acknowledge your entry. **You may submit entries in different emails and on different dates without having to pay an additional entry fee. Of course, you must be a member in good standing, that is, your dues for 2025 must have been paid for your entries to be eligible.**

Each submission should include:

–one file of the work as published

–one file of the same article, with the name and date of publication and any mentions of the author’s name, in the byline, photo credits, captions and body text, as well as any images of the author, blocked out or deleted

–a single, all-inclusive completed entry form for all EIC submissions.

–Proof of payment of \$25

**Make payment here:** <https://app.joinit.com/o/nysowa/g349rGbhYT2M4dERX>

EIC entries should be sent to [nysowaEIC@gmail.com](mailto:nysowaEIC@gmail.com). Checks or money orders sent for entry fees should be payable to NYSOWA and sent to Chris Paparo, NYSOWA EIC, 153 South River Rd., Calverton, NY 11933. All entries must be received by Chris by Jan. 15, 2025, to be eligible for entry in the EIC Awards Program. Pay your entry fees online at <https://app.joinit.com/o/nysowa>.

Important Information:

- Writers may submit a maximum of two entries in each category.
- The author must have been paid for the work entered.
- Work must have been published between Jan. 1, 2024, and Dec. 31, 2024 (TV, Radio, Video and Audio entries must have been aired or produced in 2023 or 2024).
- All entries must be the author's original work.
- Each entry must have an original version of the work and one redacted as described above. Each file should be labeled as:

(Last name)\_category\_(original or redacted)\_(and if entering more than 1 in this category, number it). For example, if entering TWO entries in the magazine feature category, label the files as:

Your last name\_magazine feature\_original\_1  
Your last name\_magazine feature\_redacted\_1

Your last name\_magazine feature\_original\_2  
Your last name\_magazine feature\_redacted\_2

- Awards will not be given in any category that receives entries from less than three members.
- If entries are from fewer than three members in either the Magazine Column or Newspaper Column category, the entries for those two categories will be combined into a Column category.
- If entries are from fewer than three members in either the Magazine Feature or Newspaper Feature category, the entries for those two categories will be combined into a Feature category.
- Members entering must be in good standing, that is, have paid their dues for 2025.
- Failure to follow the guidelines and rules above can lead to disqualification of entries. This is left to the discretion of the EIC chairman.
- By entering your submission, you are allowing NYSOWA to reprint your entry for promotional purposes.

NOTE: THIS FORM MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR SUBMISSION

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone  
Number \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

EIC Category  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Title or Headline of Entry (and URL for online publication  
entries) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Publication Name and Date.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

EIC Category  
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Title or Headline of Entry (and URL for online publication  
entries) \_\_\_\_\_  
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Publication Name and Date.  
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EIC Category  
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Title or Headline of Entry (and URL for online publication  
entries) \_\_\_\_\_  
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Publication Name and Date.  
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EIC Category

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Title or Headline of Entry (and URL for online publication entries)

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Publication Name and Date

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EIC Category

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Title or Headline of Entry (and URL for online publication entries)

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Publication Name and Date.

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EIC Category

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Title or Headline of Entry (and URL for online publication entries)

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Publication Name and Date.

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EIC Category

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Title or Headline of Entry (and URL for online publication entries)

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Publication Name and Date.

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EIC Category

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Title or Headline of Entry (and URL for online publication entries) \_\_\_\_\_

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Publication Name and Date.

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EIC Category

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Title or Headline of Entry (and URL for online publication entries) \_\_\_\_\_

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Publication Name and Date.

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**All entries and payment must be received by Jan. 15, 2025. Send entries to [nysowaEIC.com](http://nysowaEIC.com).**

DON'T FORGET:

A \$25 fee must be paid at the time of submission. [One \\$25 fee covers all EIC writing contest](#) submissions

## **Janice M. Keesler Memorial Photo Awards Program Rules**

**Prints are no longer accepted as entries.**

NOTE: YOU MUST LABEL DIGITAL PHOTO ENTRIES WITH YOUR NAME, CATEGORY AND, IF ENTERING TWO IN THE SAME CATEGORY, WITH "1" FOR THE FIRST AND "2" FOR THE SECOND. E.G., JOHNDOE HUNTINGFISHING1. ENTRIES NOT PROPERLY LABELED WILL BE RETURNED FOR PROPER LABELING BY THE PHOTO AWARDS ADMINISTRATOR!

ENTRIES NOT PROPERLY LABELED WILL BE RETURNED FOR PROPER LABELING. ALSO, NOTE THE NEW EMAIL FOR SUBMITTING ENTRIES IS [eicphotoentries@gmail.com](mailto:eicphotoentries@gmail.com).

**1. Only members in good standing (dues paid for 2025) are eligible.**

2. A maximum of two photos per category may be entered. Submissions must be received by Jan. 15, 2025. A one-time submission fee of \$25 must be paid at time of submission. Late entries will be disqualified. No title or caption should be provided.

Chairman will assign a number to each photo and keep a record of photographer and photo number separate from the photos.

3. Each photo can only be submitted to one category. Photos from previous contests may be resubmitted if they did not place (1st, 2nd or 3rd).

4. All categories will be judged prior to the Annual Conference, and awards will be made at the Conference.

5. The following are the categories for the contest:

a. Hunting/Fishing—Hunting/fishing photographs, including hero shots, action, hunting or fishing equipment.

b. Outdoor Action—Outdoor-oriented action photographs, excluding hunting and fishing but including boating, camping, RVs, shooting sports, hiking, skiing, windsurfing, etc.

c. Outdoor Scenic—Scenic photographs of either flora or fauna, landscapes, close-ups, panoramic. These may include people, though the people should be part of the scene, not the subject of the photo.

d. Wildlife—Though the judges may take into consideration unusual aspects of the wildlife subject, such as size of antlers, length of beard and length and girth of fish, primary consideration should be given to the technical photographic aspects and general appeal of the image.

e. People—As the category suggests, the focus is on “people” in the outdoors.

6. Categories “A” through “E” do not exclude photos taken in black-and-white.

7. Photo enhancement is limited to standard editing, such as: color correction, contrast control, filter use and image cropping. Digitally produced photos should not be substantially manipulated. Photos may not be manipulated with the use of AI.

8. All entries must be the member’s original work. If a dispute leads to a challenge, the member must defend that image and prove it is original work. Use of royalty-free photo images of clipart is prohibited. Their use is subject to disciplinary action by the NYSOWA Board of Directors.

9. Judges shall be recruited who preferably are associated with the outdoor industry and have a professional appreciation of the specific challenges of outdoor and wildlife photography. In the absence of judges meeting the criterion, judges with an expertise as photographers or photo editors will be recruited. At least two people must participate as judges, and three is preferable to minimize the possibility of ties. No minimum number of entries must be submitted in a category to validate the judging of that category. First, second and third place prizes must be awarded if at least three entries have been submitted. No honorable mentions will be made.

10. By entering photographs in the competition, the owners agree that NYSOWA has the right to print and publish any award-winning image in New York Outdoors, or an NYSOWA awards publication or other form of promotion unless the member objects in writing when submitting the entries. Unless the copyright owner of a photograph specifically objects in writing, NYSOWA has the right to reproduce winning images for display purposes, including display at venues selected by contest sponsor(s), subject to the approval of the NYSOWA board of directors.

11. Entries should be submitted to Deb Brosen at [eicphotoentries@gmail.com](mailto:eicphotoentries@gmail.com).

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Janice M. Keesler Memorial Photo Awards Entry Form

NOTE: THIS ALL-INCLUSIVE FORM MUST ACCOMPANY THE PHOTO SUBMISSION

Name:

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Address

\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Photo Category \_\_\_\_\_ Photo Identification:

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Photo Category \_\_\_\_\_ Photo Identification:

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Submit entries to Deb Brosen: [eicphotoentries@gmail.com](mailto:eicphotoentries@gmail.com)

DON'T FORGET:

Proof of payment of **your \$25 entry fee** must be submitted to Deb at the time of submission.

**Here is the link for the fee:** <https://app.joinit.com/o/nysowa/As8opGkcMZccyykYK>

Submissions for both the Janice M. Keesler Memorial Photo Contest and the Excellence in Crafts Awards for writing must be received by the awards administrators **by Jan. 15, 2025.**

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