

Greetings shutterbugs, nature enthusiasts, and birders! West Pasco Audubon is pleased to announce registration for our 2022 Nature and Wildlife Photography of Tampa Bay competition has opened. Due to continuing Covid concerns, this year's competition judging and public exhibit will be held in a virtual format. Last year's digital exhibits were a great success, with all our artists' far-flung friends and family enjoying their work. Hopefully you have been able to get outside this year and enjoy the beauty and wildlife we have here in Tampa Bay. Please do take the opportunity to share that with us!

Entries must be received by March 11st so that the exhibit can opened for public viewing and People's Choice voting from March 22 – March 31. Contest winners will be announced April 2 during our season-ending monthly talk. Pasco Fine Arts Council is sponsoring the Best of Show prize (\$100) and other cash prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in each category will be awarded. All entry fees are split, with half going towards award prizes and the other half supporting West Pasco Audubon's conservation projects. Past proceeds have helped fund construction of our bird blind at Grassy Lake; Bluebird, Kestrel, and Wood Duck nesting boxes; and the refurbishment of the park's native plant garden. In addition, we support a growing Conservation Leadership Initiative (CLI) program, in which we partner with college undergraduate students to introduce them to Audubon's mission and goals. In return they help us reach the next generation of conservation leaders. Our former CLI students' projects ranged from conducting research on the relationship between water level and lake use by species of concern here at Starkey Park to the development of a program specifically designed to recruit and engage young adults in our chapter. Plans for the upcoming year include research on Bachman's Sparrows, right here at our home park, as well as the continuation (and hopefully growth) of WPA Adventures Club!

Registration information is available online at our website, right on our homepage, <http://westpascoaudubon.com/>. But you only need to submit three things:

- 1 - A completed entry form (included below). You can either snap a picture of it with your phone and e-mail it along with your photo entries (projects@westpascoaudubon.com) or mail a hard copy to our PO Box.
- 2 - Digital copies of your entry photos (no larger than 5MB each). Please email to the contest coordinator, Patricia Goldberg, at projects@westpascoaudubon.com.
- 3 - Entry fees. These can be submitted via our PayPal account, West Pasco Audubon Society, (treasurer@westpascoaudubon.com) or via check to our PO Box. Easy!

We sincerely hope you join us this year in celebrating and sharing Tampa Bay's natural wonders.

With thanks,

Patricia Goldberg

West Pasco Audubon,
Special Projects Coordinator



West Pasco Audubon and the Pasco Fine Arts Council

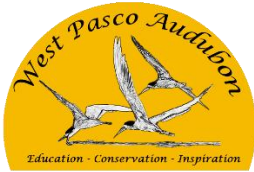


2022 Nature and Wildlife of Tampa Bay Photography Competition Rules

Submission Deadline: Friday March 11

Awards: Saturday April 2

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 West 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 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 "non-bird" category and/or one image taken within Starkey Park to maximize your chances of winning!
8. Submission: **Digital images must be e-mailed to Patricia Goldberg (coordinator) at projects@westpascoaudubon.com.** Payment may be made online through PayPal (West Pasco Audubon Society, treasurer@westpascoaudubon.com) or via check made out to "West Pasco Audubon" and mailed to: West Pasco Audubon, PO Box 1456, Elfers, FL 34680. **Both payment and images must be received no later than close of business (5 pm) March 11, 2022** 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 West Pasco Audubon.
10. Artist retains all copyrights. However, West Pasco Audubon may use images of the event, which may include any entry, for promotion purposes.



West Pasco Audubon and the Pasco Fine Arts Council

Nature and Wildlife Photography Competition 2022



Entry Form

*****Registration and Payment Deadline Friday March 11, 5 pm!*****

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 Other Nature [plants, wildlife other than birds, or landscapes]), the location the image was taken (city, park, or beach name). It is especially important to note if the image was taken in **Starkey Park**.

Photo 1

Title:

Cat: Birds or Other

Location:

Photo 2

Title:

Cat: Birds or Other

Location:

Photo 3

Title:

Cat: Birds or Other

Location:

Fees: ☐ \$15 (one entry)

☐ \$25 (two entries)

☐ \$30 (three entries)

"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 projects@westpascoaudubon.com OR mail to West Pasco Audubon, PO Box 1456, Elfers, FL 34680.

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