



FELLOWSHIP APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

Dennis D. Craft ASP Fellowship Chairman
ASP Fellowship Committee

If eligible, you may apply for the highest earned ASP honor ...
THE FELLOWSHIP DEGREE.

It is the most prestigious award for creativity, artistry and technical competency of the American Society of Photographers.

Requirements to apply:

- 15 PPA Print Merits since receiving Master's degree.
- 3 consecutive calendar years membership in ASP and PPA

The Fellowship is awarded for exemplary photography, artistic philosophy, inspiring career experiences and notable achievements. Unlike the PPA, it is not awarded for scored prints or accumulated merits, which you have already achieved. Ken Whitmire stated, "...*the judges are looking for more than the skills to produce flawless prints*". Fellowship is not easily obtainable without thorough preparation and dedication to your best work. If you are talented and committed the Fellowship is a challenging and rewarding goal, highlighting your career.

If you have applied before and were unsuccessful, you are strongly encouraged to apply again.

The Portfolio (25 photographs) and Personal Paper (min. 2,000 words) is evaluated by a critical panel of five carefully selected judges that remain anonymous. This is to protect the integrity of the judges, and insure the committee and ASP officers from outside criticism or partiality. Five judges, comprise the panel in scrutinizing and evaluating each applicant's Portfolio and Personal Paper. All judges hold the Master's degree and four hold the Fellowship degree. A judge cannot serve for another 2 years, thus allowing applicants to frequently re-submit to a complete change of judges.

JUDGING PROCESS

Each applicant is treated fairly and his or her identity is carefully guarded. The judges vote individually 3 times, monitored by the Chairman, on the applicant's Portfolio and Personal Paper. After each vote, the judges have an opportunity for discussion and debate. Analysis and critique can be intense among the judges, without time constraints in reaching a final decision. The process is fair and thorough for each applicant. A 4 out of 5 vote by the judges is required for the Fellowship degree. Each candidate is notified by the Chairman of acceptance or rejection.

Only successful applicant(s) will be announced.

THE PORTFOLIO

The selected 25 images should represent your area of expertise ... commercial, portraiture, weddings, children, fine art, scenic/nature, and documentary/editorial. travel, etc., it may represent a single area, or mixture of subjects. Past work should have an enduring timeless quality. Diversity of subject matter and a unique visual interpretation, rather than a single focused theme, is favored. Avoid repetitions and similarity ... each photograph should be a distinctive visual expression and imaginative interpretation. New and exciting project work is expected!

Your portfolio needs to consist of twenty-five of your finest images. These prints need to complement your Personal Paper and further tell the judges who you are and what vision you have for your photography. Since your prints will initially be viewed together, it's important to realize that they must work together in telling your story. So don't be afraid to pull a particular image, no matter how great it is, if it demands too much attention or takes attention away from the other prints. For example, if twenty-four of your prints are black-and-white and one is sepia, the sepia will take attention away from the black-and-whites and more than likely hurt your overall portfolio. Also try to keep your images from looking too conventionalized. I've heard the expression, "this looks too PPA-ish." Now, in your professional life, PPA-looking prints will definitely make you money, but for your ASP Fellowship Portfolio I'd advise you to strive to be more imaginative and unique. You will also want to make sure that each print is impeccably printed and mounted. When using images from print competitions, make sure that you don't use the actual print that was in the competition, as it's probably been marked and scuffed.

Portfolio Requirements:

- 1) Images can be black & white and/or color and must be a minimum of 11"x14" and a maximum of 20"x20" on mounts suitable for ASP's display at the PPA Imaging USA Convention.
- 2) For any entry to be returned, it must be shipped in an approved print case. It is recommended that a metal print case be used for maximum protection in shipment.
- 3) Or, entries may be shipped in any serviceable box but they will not be returned. ASP assumes no responsibility for damage to entries or print cases.
- 4) Accepted entries shipped in an Approved Print Case, must be picked up following the ASP banquet
- 5) Not accepted entries shipped in an Approved Print Case, will be returned within 30 days after your notification from the Fellowship committee.
- 6) Images should be impeccably printed, mounted and presented and only use titles or legends on the front of the print, if it's an integral part of the image.
- 7) Avoid using previous competition images that are aged, marked, scratched, scuffed, dog-eared corners or appear "PPA-ish" in style and presentation.
- 8) Your name and address must be included on the back of each image.
- 9) Images should be numbered on the back in the sequence as displayed for the judging and to include a reference "Title Sheet".
- 10) Be selective and judicious in arranging the order of your images for display and judging. You can arrange your twenty-five images on three rows.
- 11) Work for a harmonious and balanced flow that is cohesive.
- 12) Finally you are required to provide a CD or DVD of your portfolio images, in JPEG format (.jpg), a current headshot, and the digital format of your Personal Paper in Microsoft Word (.doc) or text (.txt) format.

The initial overall impact of your entire portfolio collection is important!

NOTE: Copies of Fellow recipient's Portfolio and Personal Paper are available for study by any applicant applying for the degree. Contact the Chairmen to assist with any additional information, procedures or download this material at www.ASofP.com.

THE PERSONAL PAPER

You need to submit a Personal Paper that will be judged along with your Portfolio images and it will be of the utmost importance in awarding the degree. Your Personal Paper, needs to emphasis's your artistic photographic philosophy providing substance about your conceptual images and artistic expression, your work ethic and imagination. The Personal Paper should and needs to reflect the nature and spirit of your Portfolio.

Your Personal Paper is a personal statement; so don't try to make it an exercise in a technical writing or an instruction manual on how to take a photograph. Remember that your audience consists of five experienced photographers, all who hold PPA Master's degrees and all but one who hold ASP Fellowships. So, don't talk down to them and explain f/stop's and lighting ratios. Rather share with them who you are, how you became a photographer, your philosophy of photography, and so on. Also, be sure to explain your portfolio. Describe your images, how they exemplify your photographic philosophy, the journey you took to achieve them, and so on.

Personal Paper Requirements:

1. The Personal Paper needs to be a minimum of 2,000 words, incorporating your artistic philosophy in photography (ideas, concepts, vision, techniques, etc), life work, career achievements, major influences, future aspirations and personal experiences. Influences may include others outside photography ... artists, poets, designers, writers and other thinker/does of our culture and time. What you think precedes your photograph. Avoid rambling stories ... be succinct and articulate.
2. At the end of the Personal Paper, you need to include a resume summarizing your biography, formal education/training, professional experience and awards.
3. Prepare and send a **PDF**, to the ASP Fellowship Chairman by the published Personal Paper deadline date. The Personal Paper is to be neatly typed and **signed**. Images or other graphic material is not permitted in the Personal Paper.
4. Accepted Fellowship papers are retained on file for reference and the permanent collection of ASP.
5. When you submit your Portfolio of images, make sure you provide a CD or DVD of your portfolio images, in JPEG format (.jpg), a current headshot, and digital format of your Personal Paper in Microsoft Word (.doc)

Though the Personal Paper is important, you are not judged on your writing skills, but good phrasing and structure of content is expected. This can be a daunting task and professional writing help is encouraged. Often papers are rejected as they are poorly written, with no care in preparation, originality and or thought. Accepted Fellow's Personal Paper's will be published in the ASP Magazine and on the ASP website.

What you THINK, as well as what you do, is important to knowing and judging you for the highest ASP earned award and honor. The judges want to know you as a person and your artistic voice.

Now get busy to reach for the pinnacle, the ASP Fellowship!

Submission deadline for judging:

Application **June 1st**
Personal Paper Deadline **July 27th**
Portfolio Deadline **August 10th**

ASP Dues must be paid for the past 3 (consecutive calendar) years.

A copy of your PPA Merit list

With your Print Merits and the 15 Print Merits you attained after Master's Degree highlighted.

Along with:

The Application and Processing fee of \$300.00 is required with your Application on or before
June 1st.

RETURN YOUR APPLICATION, FEE & MERIT LIST TO:

Dennis Craft
101 East Michigan
Marshall, MI 49068
269-209-2252 c
269-781-8907 w
craftphoto@aol.com