

# Photographic Alliance of Great Britain AWARDS FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC MERIT



*Lone Tree by Des King*

## APM LEAFLET 4 APPLYING WITH AUDIO VISUAL

The Rules and Conditions relating to the Awards for Photographic Merit are published on the PAGB Website. These notes are intended to help you understand the process for Audio Visual.

**Awards** The Awards are open to all members of clubs affiliated to the PAGB through their Federations. They are at three levels:

<b>Credit (CPAGB/AV)</b>	<b>Certificate and Blue Badge</b>
<b>Distinction (DPAGB/AV)</b>	<b>Certificate and Red Badge</b>
<b>Master (MPAGB/AV)</b>	<b>Certificate and Yellow Badge</b>

The Awards are normally held for life without any annual fee and holders are entitled to use the designated letters after their name.

**1. QUALIFICATION.** All applicants must qualify and apply via their Federations. Entrants must have been active members of an affiliated Club for a minimum of 2 years for CPAGB/AV, 3 years for DPAGB/AV and 5 Years for MPAGB/AV. Applications for MPAGB must have held DPAGB for at least 11 months on the date of adjudication. Please contact your Federation Awards Officer for an application.

**2. AUDIO VISUAL.** An Audio Visual production submitted for a PAGB Award should predominantly consist of sequences of still photographic images, most of which are the original work of the applicant, together with an accompanying synchronised sound track. The use of third party images, animated graphics, video clips or other visual material, whilst not excluded, should be limited and should be appropriate to the production. Applications with more than an aggregate of 25% of third party images, graphics and video, in photographs or duration, are very unlikely to be successful.

**3. PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETENCE.** An AV sequence includes many more pictures than are required for an APM in "single shot" photography, and individual pictures cannot be expected to be of the same standard. However, they must show photographic competence, and, better at the higher levels.

**4. ORGANISATION.** The APM/AV will be organised by the APM Sub Committee appointed by the PAGB and Adjudications will be overseen and hosted by their Chairman. In addition, a Chair of Judges is appointed to help select the Adjudicators and to join every panel as a voting participant. Adjudications will be held when there is sufficient demand.

**5. HOW TO APPLY FOR AN AWARD.** In the first instance you must apply to your Federation PAGB Awards Officer who will confirm you have pre-qualified, according to the criteria laid down by your Federation, and will provide you with an application form.

**6. DECLARATIONS.** By completing the Application Form the Applicant confirms that they have read this Explanatory Leaflet and accept the Conditions for Entry, and further confirm that their submission meets the PAGB Definition. Entrants should ensure that they have legal consent for the use of any visual material or audio material used in the production other than their own original content. The PAGB holds the appropriate licences to cover them for this event but, for the use of commercial music, you are advised to hold all the relevant licences. *Contact;* [music-copyright@theiac.org.uk](mailto:music-copyright@theiac.org.uk)

**7. APPLICATIONS** Applicants may apply either singly or jointly for an Award in AV. A joint application is two people applying and, if successful, two awards are presented with two badges and two certificates. Both applicants may use the letters after their names. Each applicant gets equal benefit and, therefore, each applicant must pay the entry fee.

**8. WITHDRAWAL OF ENTRY** It is difficult to fill places in the event of a cancellation and nearer the Adjudication it is almost impossible. Anyone withdrawing more than 6 weeks after their paid application is received will not be eligible for a refund. Should the Applicant wish to take part in a future Adjudication they will need to complete a new Application Form, including the Certificate of Qualification by their Federation Awards Officer. The full fee, not the re-submission fee, will be payable.

**9. ONLY DIGITAL SUBMISSIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED.** Entries must be submitted online by the published closing date and the sequences must run with no additional software requirements. Typically, these will be .exe files. Entrants accepted to the Adjudication will be sent specific instructions.

**10. COPYING OF SEQUENCES.** The sequences will be copied to a hard drive for adjudication and will be deleted afterwards if unsuccessful. Successful sequences will be retained and may be used for PAGB educational purposes including use in our Recorded Lecture Service.

**11. ALL REASONABLE CARE** will be taken with entries, but no liability of any kind is accepted for loss or damage.

**12. RESUBMISSIONS.** A new application form must be completed, including the Certificate of Qualification signed by the Federation Awards Officer

**13. ADJUDICATIONS** are normally open to spectators. Applicants receive one free ticket. Further tickets may be purchased from the hosts. Details will be included in the Entry Information pack.

#### **14. ADJUDICATION METHOD.**

14.1 Adjudications for the Awards for Photographic Merit in Audio Visual will be carried out by a panel of Five Adjudicators including the voting Chair of Adjudicators. The Adjudicators will normally be selected from the PAGB Approved List for their photographic and AV skills and their extensive experience.

14.2 In addition to the Chair, at least two, but not more than three, of the Adjudicators will be AV Specialists. The others will usually have at least a limited experience of AV but will be selected for their experience judging “single shot” photographs..

14.3 Each of the 5 Adjudicators will Vote, without discussion, on the total sequences submitted by each entrant.

14.4 After an initial vote the Event Chairman will invite one or two of the Adjudicators to comment briefly.

14.5 Then a second Vote will be called. The results will be announced at the end of each day, which allows the opportunity for a final Review by the Adjudicators.

## 15. SPECIFICATION.

15.1 The sequences must be programmed without a 'run box'. If using Pictures to Exe software, please ensure that 'Hide mouse cursor during show' (not Auto Hide) is activated, that the "Show Navigation Bar "is not ticked and 'Close show after last slide' is ticked to return to the desktop at the end of the production. 'Full Screen' should be chosen.

15.2 For all programs you must ensure that the cursor does not appear on the screen during projection. Failure to comply may be penalised.

15.3 The aspect ratio used is at the discretion of the applicant. A 1920px by 1200px digital projector, a Windows Laptop and a sound system, provided by the organising Hosts, will be used.

**16. FEEDBACK.** Adjudicators may be invited to comment on entries as specified in 14.4 and, in addition, will make themselves available at the end of the day to any Entrant who wishes to discuss their sequences. No written feedback can be provided, and entrants are encouraged to attend to listen carefully to what is said and to consider the standard of the other works which succeeds.

**17. REVIEW OF RESULTS.** The Chairman of the Event, together with the Voting Chairman and the other Adjudicators will review the results on the day, to ensure continuity and fairness. There is no right of appeal and, after this Review, the decision on the day cannot be changed.



See the PAGB General Conditions at -  
[www.thepagb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/general\\_conditions.pdf](http://www.thepagb.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/general_conditions.pdf)

## CREDIT AWARD OF THE PAGB IN AV (CPAGB/AV)

The entry fee is £60. Resubmission £50

Audio Visual Sequence which might win an annual competition in a good club with several AV producers are likely to be successful. Photo Harmony productions are positively encouraged at this level\*<sup>Appx One</sup>

One or more sequences are required, with a total running time not less than 6 minutes and not more than 9 minutes. It is often a mistake to seek to fill the entire 9 minutes. Overlong sequences will be disqualified.

Competent photography taken by the entrant is required. The Adjudicators are unlikely to forgive basic faults such as poor focus and poor exposure and, for a better chance of success, there should be at least a few good photographs, equivalent to those that might succeed at CPAGB in the APM for Still Photography.

## DISTINCTION AWARD IN AV (DPAGB/AV)

The entry fee is £90. Resubmission £80

*Application can be made for the DPAGB/AV Award without first gaining the CPAGB, provided the applicant meets their Federation requirement.*

The requirement is for Audio Visual Sequences which might win an annual Federation AV competition. Photo Harmony productions are permitted but must be of a high standard.

Two or more sequences are required with a total running time of not less than 9 minutes and not more than 12 minutes. It is often a mistake to seek to fill the entire 12 minutes. Overlong sequences will be disqualified.

Better than competent photography is required, taken by the entrant with no basic faults such as poor focus and poor exposure. For a better chance of success, there should be some very good photographs, equivalent to those that would probably succeed at CPAGB in the APM for single shot photography.

# MASTER AWARD OF THE PAGB IN AV (MPAGB/AV)

The entry fee is £120. Resubmission £110

*Applicants for MPAGB/AV must have held the DPAGB Award for at least 11 months on the date of the adjudication.*

The standard is the very best of UK AV production. Audio Visual Sequences are required which are very likely to win major national or international competitions.

Three or more sequences are required with a total running time of not less than 15 minutes and not more than 20 minutes. It is often a mistake to seek to fill the entire 20 minutes. Overlong sequences will be disqualified.

Entries should predominately consist of good original photography, with interesting content and without any major faults.

For a better chance of success, there should be a good sprinkling of excellent photographs, equivalent to those that might succeed at DPAGB, or even MPAGB, in the APM for single shot photography.

## APPENDIX ONE

**PHOTO HARMONY is encouraged in the PAGB Awards for Photographic Merit in Audio Visual, particularly at CPAGB but also at DPAGB and even at MPAGB.**

### DEFINITION

**PHOTO HARMONY** should demonstrate skill in the production and visual progression of still photographs linked to sound. No script or commentary with a specific beginning, middle and ending are required but the images must flow well in a pleasing progression, not just in a random manner. The emphasis is on visual harmony in colour, tone or graphic design.

The aim is not to display a collection of individually excellent photographs, but rather a sequence of good pictures which blend well with each other and with a suitable soundtrack. Good technique is essential, and it is expected that the sound and the pictures will start and finish together and that the original ending of the music is preserved, rather than an arbitrary fade out.

In a successful Photo Harmony sequence the Adjudicators will expect virtually all of the pictures to be the entrant's own photography with a proportion better than just competent standard at CPAGB/AV and much better than competent at DPAGB/AV. To succeed at MPAGB/AV the photography in a Photo Harmony production must be must be of an exceptionally high standard in both content and quality.