



14th PELAGOS - INTERNATIONAL SEA FESTIVAL

Rome 18th - 26th February 2012

PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

1. The competition is open to all photographers, whether specialised in underwater photography or not. There is no entry fee and no set theme - entries will be divided into the following sections:
 - **Environment:** the photo must be a panoramic view of the underwater environment, human presence may be included in the image as a complementary element. Digital elaborations are not permitted.
 - **Macrophotography:** the image must represent whole subjects or details of subjects of the underwater life. It must demonstrate the best aesthetic taste in the choice of composition, refined graphics, lighting effects and colour. Digital elaborations are not permitted.
 - **Water:** the subject for this category is WATER in all its forms; fresh or sea water, ice, snow, rain, steam, water as part of a landscape, water in the sky, underground water, the water of rivers and lakes, water sports, etc. The presence of humans and/or animals is permitted. Images taken under the water's surface will not be admitted.
 - **Mediterranean Reportage:** a visual story, underwater or otherwise, made of a series of 3 photographs that document a place or a theme, exclusively linked to the Mediterranean Sea. The photographs must demonstrate the photographer's technical capacity as well as his/her talent in composing a story in 3 shots.
 - **Digital Elaborations:** this category includes all images inspired by the photographer's pure imagination and creativity, obtained with the support of digital technologies. Digital elaborations must exclusively portray underwater elements and subjects.
2. Each competitor may submit up to **2 photographs** for each category, with the exception of the "Mediterranean Reportage" category in which 3 photographs must be presented for each theme, with up to a maximum of **2 themes per competitor. Photos must be numbered in sequence from number 1 to 3.** Judging will be based on individual photo or theme in the case of the "Mediterranean Reportage" category. Photographs must also be submitted in electronic format (jpg, 300dpi, original dimensions of maximum 3 Mb) and sent on a CD together with the prints.
3. Formats required: 30x45 cm, 30x40 cm for the categories: Environment, Macro and Mediterranean Reportage; A4 format for images submitted under the Digital Elaborations category.
4. Each photograph must have the photographer's name, surname, and category in which the image is entered clearly marked on the back of the paper, as well as the word "bottom" on the lower side of the photo in order to clearly identify the orientation of the image.
5. In order to participate in the Festival, the entry form must be completely filled out and signed.

6. The original photographs (in the format specified at point 3), the CD containing electronic images and the entry form must be sent by **20th January 2012** to: **Associazione MAR-PELAGOS, Via Padre Perilli, 46 - 00125 Roma - Italia** - ph/fax +39 06 5211794 e-mail: festival@pelagosarea.eu
7. All postage and delivery charges are at the competitor's expense.
8. Competitors authorise the Festival's use of their works for its promotion, including on Pelagos webTV and on the website www.pelagosarea.eu. The photographer's name will always be mentioned, but no royalties or payments of any kind will be granted. The organisers undertake not to use the images for commercial profit of any kind. Anyone interested in purchasing the images will be put in contact with the photographer.
9. Works submitted will remain of the property of the competition organisers, without prejudice to the undertakings specified in point 8.
10. The organisers, in accordance with copyright regulations, consider the works submitted to be exempt from any artistic property rights or any third party rights. By participating in the Festival, photographers undertake to hold the organisers harmless from any action which could be raised against them by claimants. The organisers of the Festival may not be held responsible in any way in the case of dispute or controversy.
11. Following the expiry of the deadline for the submission of works, the Jury will meet to judge the works, without knowledge of the photographer's name, and will award points to each photo. A list will then be drawn up for each category, including the best photo of each competitor. The Jury's decision is final.
12. The Jury, at its own discretion may decide not to assign prizes or award special mentions, or to mention photographers and works that have not received prizes but are particularly worthy of note.
13. The organisers undertake to treat all works with the maximum care. However, the organiser may not in any case be held responsible for the loss or damage of the works during the Festival or dispatch. Competitors must therefore, if necessary, take out personal insurance to protect against these risks.
14. The Festival Jury will be composed of professionals working within the sector (journalists, magazine's directors or editors, photographers, marine biologists).
15. **Prizes will be awarded to the top three photographers in each category.** .
16. The award ceremony will be held during the Festival.
17. Participation in the competition implies the unconditional acceptance of these regulations.
18. By participating in the competition, competitors authorise the processing of their personal data by the organisers in order to receive news on the progress of the competition. It is understood that competitors' personal details will in no case be transmitted to third parties, in accordance with Law no. 196/2003 governing personal data protection.

Competitors will be informed of any changes to the program.