



ANZA-BORREGO DESERT PHOTO CONTEST -2010-



The theme of the contest is **the unique and natural beauty of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park®**. All photos must reflect this theme, be in good taste, and be suitable for family viewing, as determined by the judges.

CONTEST DIVISIONS

Adult Division: Photographers 14 years of age and older

Youth Division: Photographers 13 years of age and younger

(Please see exclusions under Contest Rules, below)

CATEGORIES

Five categories are open in each of the two divisions:

- A. Desert plants
- B. Desert animals
- C. Desert landscapes/skyscapes/natural features
- D. People enjoying the desert
- E. Macro Photograph of a desert subject – *NEW! *see definition below*

AWARDS

- Best of Show in each division
- First, second, and third place winners in each category and division
- Up to 10 honorable mention awards in each category and division
- People's Choice Award for each division - gallery visitors vote for their favorite youth and adult photo between January 29 - February 6, 2010 (selected from all winning photos in all categories)

Winning photos will be exhibited at Borrego Springs Art Institute January 29 - February 6, 2010, and on our website (www.theabf.org). Outstanding photos may also be displayed by Anza-Borrego Institute for promotional purposes at other locations and on our website.

Important Note: By submitting your photograph(s), you GRANT PERMISSION to ABI to sell your submitted print(s) in a silent auction, with all proceeds to benefit ABI programs.

**A macro photograph is usually taken from a distance of a few inches and shows the subject larger and in more detail than is commonly seen by the human eye. For the purpose of this category, a view of one or two petals of a flower, the wing of a butterfly, or a raindrop on a cactus spine would be appropriate, while a head and shoulders portrait of a bighorn sheep would not – it's too big.*

To enter, see Contest Rules below

CONTEST RULES

Please read carefully. Submissions not conforming to these standards cannot be accepted.

DEADLINE: All photos must be received in the ABFI office no later than January 15, 2010. Late entries will not be accepted.

ENTRY FEE: There is a non-refundable fee of \$5.00 per photo. Checks should be made out to Anza-Borrego Foundation.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

- You may enter up to five (5) photos. Photos may be any size, up to 11" x 14"
- Each photo must be accompanied by an entry form and valid **model release** signed by all persons in the photograph. *See Subject Matter: People, below*
- **The following persons may not enter this contest:**
 - ABF staff and trustees
 - Photo contest judges and committee members
 - Borrego Art Institute staff and board members
 - Employees of the Colorado Desert District
 - Immediate family members of any of the above persons

PRESENTATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Each photo must be permanently affixed to white 11" x 14" foam core or mount/matt board, no thicker than 3/16 inch (available at photography or art supply stores)
- The photo itself may be any size up to 11" x 14", color or b/w, vertical or horizontal
- An entry form must be completed and affixed to the **rear** of each mounted photo. (Please print clearly)

What not to do:

- No frames, mattes, glass or plastic covers of any kind may be used. ABI will insert all prints into protective sleeves upon arrival in our office.
- No signature or other identifying information may appear on the front of entries. This ensures that participants remain anonymous throughout the judging process
- To prevent damage to other prints, keep the back and front free of any exposed adhesives
- **Photographs have been rejected in the past for the following reasons:**
 - submitting photos in the wrong category, like a flower photo in the landscape category
 - use of mats - no mats are permitted
 - photos submitted on foamcore larger or smaller than 11" x 14" inches in size
 - the inclusion of frames and/or glass

SUBJECT MATTER:

Subject matter should be naturally-occurring scenes or objects found within Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, or people enjoying those objects or scenes. The following types of subject matter **should not** be included in your images:

- Buildings and other man-made objects, unless of historic or archaeological significance in the Park
- Agricultural or non-native species of plants (e.g. oleander, rose bushes, petunias)
- Agricultural or pet animals (dogs, cats, horses, etc), unless they are associated with people in the "people enjoying the desert" category

Composite photographs will be excluded from judging. A composite photograph is one which combines two or more unrelated items in the same image. An example would be superimposing an animal from one location onto a rock in another location using photo-editing software or double exposure.

Photo Editing: there are no restrictions on photo editing, with the exception of the composite image exclusion mentioned in the previous paragraph. Black and white conversions, color alterations and other enhancements will all be judged within the context of the contest's theme.

People: If your photo contains identifiable people, you must attach a release form, signed by each person in the photo (or each minor's parent or guardian). This form is available on our website, or by calling our office at (760) 767-4063.

RIGHTS:

By entering the contest, you represent that the photography you submit is original and of your own creation, and that you have secured all necessary permissions and model releases. Rights to all submitted images remain the exclusive property of the photographer. However, by entering the contest, **you grant ABI permission to reproduce your artwork** as well as your name and state (or country) for promotional and/or educational purposes and **to offer submitted prints for sale in a silent auction to benefit ABI.**

Please note – ABI will ask winners to submit digital files of photos for use on our website (to create an image gallery of winning entries) and other promotional materials.

SUBMITTING PHOTOS:

- Mail your photos (postage prepaid) to:

**Anza-Borrego Desert Photo Contest
Anza-Borrego Institute
P.O. Box 2001
587 Palm Canyon Drive, Suite 220
Borrego Springs, CA 92004**

- Hand deliveries are also accepted at the street address above. ABI's offices are open Monday – Friday, 8:00 am - 12:00 pm; 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm. To make special arrangements for weekend drop off, please call us during business hours at (760)767-4063
- Claim checks will be issued by e-mail upon receipt of photo(s). Keep your claim checks; they will be required to pick up any unsold photos
- All materials will be handled with reasonable care. However, ABI assumes no responsibility for the safety of any photos

RETURN OF PHOTOS:

Unsold entries must be picked up in person with claim check at the ABI office. ABI is unable to return photos by mail. ABI is not responsible for any submissions not claimed by April 1, 2010.

JUDGING CRITERIA

A panel of judges will evaluate all entries, and grant awards, based on the following criteria, listed in no particular order. The decision of the judges is final.

- Adherence to Contest Theme
- Impact (e.g., does the image reach out and grab the viewer?)
- Originality or creativity
- Composition
- Sharpness (e.g., proper focus, appropriate shutter speed, camera motion)
- Proper exposure
- Color (e.g., are colors or shades of gray correct or appropriate?)
- Presentation (e.g., is the mat dirty or poorly cut, is the print clean and mounted well, are the edges intact?)

IMPORTANT DATES:

November 14, 2009	8:30 am – 4:30 pm: <i>Macro Photography</i> class with Paul Johnson; registration required
December 5, 2009	8:00am - 12:00pm: <i>Success in a Photo Contest</i> workshop at Borrego Art Institute; registration required
January 15, 2010	Entry submission deadline
January 29 - February 6	Exhibition of all winning photos in Borrego Springs
February 6, 2010	6:00 pm – Awards Ceremony at Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center 7:00 pm – Reception at Borrego Art Institute 8:00 pm – Close of silent auction
February 7, 2010	<i>Morning Light Photo Safari</i> with Paul Johnson; registration required
April 1, 2010	Deadline for pickup of all photos not sold at auction (ABI shall have no obligation to store or hold pictures after this date)

FINAL CHECKLIST BEFORE SHIPPING YOUR SUBMISSION

- Your photo is properly mounted on white 11" x 14" mount board
- You have included your entry fee (\$5.00 per photo) in the form of a check payable to Anza-Borrego Foundation. Please do not send cash
- Each photo has a completed entry form affixed to the rear of the mount board
- Photos of identifiable people are accompanied by a signed model release