



# 2012 ANZA-BORREGO DESERT PHOTO CONTEST



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 Photography\*

*\*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.*

## 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 February 18 – March 10, 2012 (selected from all winning photos in all categories)

Winning photos will be exhibited at Borrego Springs Art Institute, February 18 – March 10, 2012 and on our website ([www.theabf.org](http://www.theabf.org)). Outstanding photos may also be displayed for promotional purposes at other locations and on our website.

***Important Note: By submitting your photograph(s), you GRANT PERMISSION to ABF to sell your submitted print(s), with all proceeds to benefit ABF programs.***

***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 ABF office no later than January 29, 2012.

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

**The following persons may not enter this contest:**

- ABF staff, Trustees and Board Committee members
- 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

**SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:**

- You may enter up to five (5) photos
- Photos may be any size, up to 11" x 14", color or b/w, vertical or horizontal
- Each photo must be permanently affixed to white 11" x 14" foam core or mount/matte board, no thicker than 3/16 inch (available at photography or art supply stores)
- Each photo must be titled
- Each photo must be accompanied by an **entry form** affixed to the rear of each mounted photo
- If the photo includes people, a valid **model release** signed by all persons in the photograph is required. *See Subject Matter: People, below*

**What not to do:**

- No frames, mattes, glass or plastic covers of any kind may be used. ABF 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 mattes - no mattes 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 above. 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 ([www.theabf.org](http://www.theabf.org)) or by calling our office (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 ABF permission to reproduce your artwork** and utilize the photograph(s) submitted for any purpose, including but not limited to publication on the Internet and/or use as part of interpretive publications and **to offer submitted prints for sale, to benefit Anza-Borrego Foundation.** Entrants further grant to Anza-Borrego Foundation the right to use and publish their proper name, city and state online and in print, or any other media, in connection with the Contest.

Please note: ABF will ask winners to submit digital files of photos for use in our newsletter, on our website ([www.theabf.org](http://www.theabf.org)) or other promotional and/or marketing materials.

#### **SUBMITTING PHOTOS:**

- Mail your photos (postage prepaid) to:

**Anza-Borrego Desert Photo Contest  
Anza-Borrego Foundation  
P.O. Box 2001  
587 Palm Canyon Drive, Suite 110  
Borrego Springs, CA 92004**

- Hand deliveries are also accepted at the street address above. ABF's State Park Store is open every day, 10:00 am - 4:00 pm. To make special arrangements for drop off, please call us during business hours at (760) 767-4063
- All materials will be handled with reasonable care. However, ABF assumes no responsibility for the safety of any photos
- A confirmation email will be sent upon receipt of photos. Please keep this email confirmation for future reference and photo pickup

#### **RETURN OF PHOTOS:**

Unsold entries must be picked up in person with confirmation email at the ABF office. ABF is unable to return photos by mail. ABF is not responsible for any submissions not claimed by June 1, 2012. Any photos left after June 1, 2012 become the property of Anza-Borrego Foundation.

## 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:

Entry submission deadline:	January 29, 2012
Judging:	February 5, 2012
Winners notified:	February 6 - 7, 2012
Exhibition of all winning photos at Borrego Art Institute**:	February 18 – March 10, 2012
Awards Ceremony at Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center* :	March 10, 2012 at 5:00 pm
Reception & Silent Auction at Borrego Art Institute**:	March 10, 2012 at 6:00 pm
Deadline for pickup of all photos not sold at auction (ABF shall have no obligation to store or hold pictures after this date):	June 1, 2012

\*Borrego Springs Performing Arts Center  
590 Palm Canyon Drive  
Borrego Springs, CA 92004

\*\*Borrego Art Institute  
587 Palm Canyon Drive  
Borrego Springs, CA 92004

## **FINAL CHECKLIST BEFORE SHIPPING YOUR SUBMISSION**

- 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
- Each photo is TITLED
- Photos of identifiable people are accompanied by a signed model release