PAA News and Updates



Photographic Alliance of America (PAA)

By Joanne Stolte, HonFPSA, MPSA, EFIAP, ESFIAP

President, Photographic Alliance of America • FIAP Liaison Officer for the United States of America

2024 PAA Honors Presented and PAA Honors Pins Introduced

Beginning in 2023, PAA recognized the PAA and FIAP service of its members to those organizations and to the advancement of USA photography around the world. The first PAA Honors were presented at the 2023 PAA Annual General Meeting (AGM) during the PSA Photo Festival in Williamsburg, VA.

PAA Honors pins were created following the 2023 AGM and the first pins were presented at the 2024 AGM in Tucson, AZ. The pins are red (SSPAA), white (RSPAA), and blue (XSPSA), and a combination of red, white and blue (LSPAA).

No written Proposal or Endorsement is required, instead the PAA Honors spreadsheet maintained by the PAA Director of Service Recognition (Honors) lists the service activities that each candidate may have performed and the point value for each service. There are also spaces where a service may be added and the points for that service will be determined by the PAA President or, in time, a PAA Honors Committee. Any new service submitted by a PAA Honors candidate may be added to the spreadsheet. There is no fee to apply for or receive a PAA Honor. Holding a position is not considered for PAA Honors points, instead the tasks completed while in a position are given points and counted.

PAA Honors Requirements:

There is a minimum requirement of **five consecutive years of membership in PAA.** This means being a PSA member living in the USA for a minimum of five consecutive years.

Have a **FIAP Photographer's Life Card for at least five years.** Since a FIAP Photographer's Life Card is required to apply for a FIAP Distinction, dates for those PAA members who have applied are known. If proof of the date of receipt of a FIAP Photographer's Card cannot be confirmed from PAA records, the Director of the FIAP Card Service will be contacted to identify the date.

PAA Honors are earned and presented annually. Each PAA Honor must be earned and presented at least one year before the next

honor is earned and presented.
That means that if someone already has 105 points when they apply for their first PAA Honor, they will be awarded the first PAA Honor (SSPSA-50 points)



Michael Jack receiving SSPAA

and can achieve the second PAA Honor (RSPAA-100 points) the next year.

PAA Honors

SSPAA (Significant Service) – Awarded to a PAA Member for Significant Service to PAA and to other members of



Service to PAA and J.R. Schnelzer receiving SSPAA

PAA as accounted for by earning 50 points.

RSPAA (Relevant Service) – Awarded to a PAA Member for Relevant, Exceptional Service to advance PAA and provide visibility for USA photographers and USA photography. Additionally, this



Nan Carder receiving RSPAA

honor requires extensive service to other members of PAA. The Relevant Service Honor is awarded as accounted for by earning 100 points.

XSPAA (Exemplary Service) - Awarded to

a PAA member for Exemplary Service and Leadership to advance PAA nationally and internationally, provide international visibility for USA photography, and mentor PAA members to achieve FIAP Distinctions and provide leadership for PAA. The Exemplary



XSPAA Honors pin

Service Honor is awarded by earning 150 points, including at least 10 leadership points.

LSPAA (Leadership & Service) – Awarded to a PAA member for Extensive Service and Leadership to ensure the future of PAA and the potential for USA photographers to continue to earn FIAP Distinctions. The Leadership & Service Honor is awarded as accounted for by earning 200 points, including at least 25 new leadership points.

Honorary PAA Honors

HonFPAA (Founder's Honorary Award) – Awarded to the Founder of PAA who is not eligible for any other PAA Honor (only one Founder's Honorary Award was bestowed).

HonAPAA (Honorary Advisor to PAA) -Awarded to non-PAA Members who provide outstanding, unique, and extraordinary advice to advance PAA internationally through specific activity/action. The PAA Executive Committee will suggest persons who are not PAA members, but have provided outstanding, unique,



Lewis Choi receiving HonAPAA

and extraordinary advice/counsel to advance PAA internationally through specific activity/action. All members of the PAA Executive Committee must approve of those to receive Honorary PAA Honors.

If the recipient of an Honorary PAA Service Award attends the PAA AGM, the HonAPAA pin will be formally presented at the PAA AGM. If not in attendance, an Honorary PAA Service Award will be presented during a FIAP meeting or a national photo meeting.

Service Points Awarded for:

- Publishing a mini recommendation in the FIAP News describing a photography opportunity in the USA (10 points)
- Publishing an article (10 points) or section (4 points) of an article in the FIAP News.
- Publishing a photograph (not a head shot) in the PAA News in the PSA Journal (5 points).
- Attending a FIAP Photo Academy online program (5 points).
- Presenting a program to the FIAP Photo Academy (15 points).
- Attending a PAA Annual General Meeting in person (10 points).
- Attending a FIAP Photo Meeting or Congress (10 points).
- * Arranging & Chairing a PAA Program/Presentation for a minimum of 20 participants at/for a USA PSAmember Club, Council, Chapter (10 points).
- Judging one section of a PAA-Patronage salon after January 1, 2023, for a maximum of two sections in any one PAA-Patronage salon (5 points).
- Serving as General Chair of a PAA-Patronage salon after January 1, 2023. (General Chair of a Circuit is counted as one salon and considered the same as a single salon) (12 points).
- Judging a PSA-recognized and FIAP-Patronage salon not in the USA after January 1, 2023, to a maximum of two sections in any one salon. For this purpose, a Circuit will be considered one salon (2 points).
- Serving on the PAA Board as the Director of a PAA Service (1 point).
- Accomplishing the tasks of a PAA Service Director (up to 9 points).
- Providing unexpected, unplanned service as a PAA Service Director (variable).
 Providing ideas, suggestions, plans, or concepts for the
- continued development and future of PAA (variable).

 Preparing a chart, graph, report, sample, example,
- certificate, artwork, etc., for PAA operation (variable).
 Helping with PAA Annual General Meeting physical set-up and take down, including the audio-visual equipment needed, and layout of the certificates, pins, and cards (variable).
- Taking and providing photos of the PAA Annual General Meeting (variable).