

# PPLA Awards and Degrees Merit Rules 2017

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Committee Chairman

Members,

We have compiled this chart to clarify more easily the Merit and Degree system. Each category is color coded for easier viewing. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me your questions and I will respond.

## Chart Color Legend

**Print** Merits towards ARTISTRY DEGREE (min. 13 required)

**EDUCATION** Merits Towards ARTISTRY DEGREE

**SERVICE** Merits towards SERVICE DEGREE (25 required)

## ARTISTRY DEGREE



### ***PPLA Imaging Artistry Degree (PPLA Artist)***

***One must accumulate 25 merits from the Artistry Category, and be a member of PPLA in good standing, for a minimum of two consecutive years in order to be eligible to apply for the PPLA Imaging Artistry Degree.***

A **Print Merit** is a merit earned from entering the Official PPLA State Print Competition, held annually at the PPLA Convention (SPX), and scoring a minimum of an 80 on a print. *(A score of an 80-89 receives 1 print merit.) (a score of 90-100 receives 2 merits)* an image may receive a maximum of 2 merits to be applied as Print Merits. Any other special award(s) that an image may receive will be applied as **Education Merit(s)**. Once an image has merited it may not be entered again in any PPLA Competition.

**Please Note:** The PPLA Spring competition is an educational critique opportunity designed to promote and prepare members for the PPLA State print competition. Therefore, no merits will be given for participation in this event. However, for images scoring 80 and above, we encourage the maker to re-enter for their images to be judged at the PPLA State Print Competition.

An **Education Merit** is a merit earned by attending PPLA functions such as PPLA State Convention (SPX), Spring Seminar, and PPLA educational and hands-on workshops. An education merit may also be earned by entering a full print case, which is 6 images, at State Print competition. Any merits for special awards on prints will be applied as Education Merits.

This degree's emphasis is photographic excellence and education. It concentrates on learning the craft of photography and learning the business of photography. Those who have earned the Artist degree will be known by the medal they will be required to wear at all PPLA and affiliate functions. These degree holders must uphold the spirit of intent set forth by the PPLA Mission Statement, to share and impart knowledge.

Please refer to the chart below for clarification on merits that can be earned and applied to your PPLA Artistry Degree.

Artistry Merit Category	Name of award or event	Number of Merits
State Print Competition Merits: (Applied toward Artistry Degree as Print Merits)		
Print Merit	Court of Honor (score of 80-89) STATE convention print competition	1
Print Merit	Court of Excellence (score of 90-100) STATE convention print competition	2

Artistry Merit Category	Name of award or event	Number of Merits
State Print Competition Merits: (Applied towards Artistry Degree as Educational Merits)		
Education Merit	Photographer of the Year	3
Education Merit	Best in Show PPLA state convention print competition	2
Education Merit	Gallery, Masterpiece or Lexjet Award	2
Education Merit	People's Choice Award	1
Education Merit	First Place in a Category	1
Education Merit	President's Award	1
Education Merit	Best Print by an ASP Member	1
Education Merit	6 for 6	2
Education Merit	5 for 6	1
Education Merit	Best 1st Time Entrant	1
Education Merit	CPP Award	1
Educational Merit	Full Print Case Submission	1

Artistry Merit Category	Name of award or event	Number of Merits
<b>Attendance Educational Merits:</b>		
<b>Education Merit</b>	<b>PPLA seminar or convention (requires full participation and paid attendance)</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Education Merit</b>	<b>SWPPA Convention or Texas State Convention (requires full participation and paid attendance)</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Education Merit</b>	<b>PPA Convention (Imaging USA) (requires full participation and paid attendance)</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>PPA Degrees, Awards and Certification Merits Issued Only Once</b>		
<b>Education Merit</b>	<b>Photographic Craftsman</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Education Merit</b>	<b>Master of Photography</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Education Merit</b>	<b>Master Artist</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Education Merit</b>	<b>PPA Certified Professional Photographer</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Education Merit</b>	<b>National Award</b>	<b>1</b>

## ***PPLA Service Degree***



***One must earn 25 Service Merits, and be a member of PPLA in good standing, for a minimum of two consecutive years in order to be eligible to apply for the PPLA Service Degree.***

One may earn Service merits by working on committees, chairing committees, presenting educational programs and teaching. One may also earn service merits by presenting programs for a LA guild, or at PPLA State or SWPPA, as well as PPA Convention.

\*Merits for serving as a committee member must be approved and submitted by the committee chair at the end of service year. Committee Chair or Member time served is from end of SPX to the end of SPX the following year and merits will be posted then.

\* To receive credit for out of State service, information must be submitted to the PPLA Executive Director for approval. Note: SWPPA or PPA Convention

Please refer to the chart below for clarification on merits that can be earned and applied to your **PPLA Service Degree**.

<b>Merit Category Service Merits</b>	<b>Service Position</b>	<b>Number of merits</b>
<b>Executive Board and Board of Directors, Service</b>		
<b>Service</b>	<b>PPLA President</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Service</b>	<b>PPLA Vice President</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Service</b>	<b>PPLA Secretary</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Service</b>	<b>PPLA Board of Directors</b>	<b>2</b>

Merit Category Service Merits	Service Position	Number of merits
<b>Convention Chair Positions, Service</b>		
Service	State Convention Chairman	4
Service	Spring Chairman	3
Service	Winter Chairman	1
<b>Affiliate Council Positions and Volunteer Service</b>		
Service	SWPPA State Representative	2
Service	PPA Council Rep for LA	2
Service	Volunteer PPA Convention or Print Competition	2
<b>Louisiana Professional Photography Guilds, Service</b>		
Service	LA Guild President	2
Service	LA Guild Vice President	1
<b>PPLA, SWPPA, PPA or LA Guild speaker per program, Service</b>		
Service	Program / Speaker	2
Service	Super Monday Speaker	2
<b>PPLA Committees (merits per year of committee service)</b>		
Service	Committee Chairman	2
Service	Committee Member	1

## ***PPLA Associate Fellowship Degree***

After you have successfully earned both your PPLA Service and Artistry Degrees, you will have a minimum of 50 merits, (with at least 25 merits from each degree category.) This achievement will entitle you to become a *PPLA Associate Fellow*, having earned the *PPLA Associate Fellowship Degree*. *This award will be designated by a GRAY RIBBON with both of the existing medals on it.*

## ***PPLA Fellowship Degree***



To earn a PPLA Fellowship degree and become a “Full Fellow,” a total of 100 merits are required. You must first have obtained an Associate Fellowship with an additional 25 merits from the artistry category, and an additional 25 merits from the Service category. (**Please note:** You are only required the original 13 print merits needed to complete your Imaging Artistry Degree.) The additional 25 merits needed from the artistry category may all be education merits, all print merits, or any combination thereof from this category.

***A PPLA Fellowship*** is the highest *degree* a Louisiana Photographer may obtain.

***A PPLA Fellowship*** symbolizes a status of respect and achievement for one who has steadily and consistently demonstrated responsibility with honor and humility.

***A PPLA Fellowship*** symbolizes a willingness to share knowledge with other photographers and a desire to give back to the organization that has facilitated the education and personal growth of so many.

***A PPLA Fellowship*** inspires artistic excellence and the ability to recognize it.

## **+25 BAR**

This is a bar that is to be placed onto your PPLA **Artistry**, **Service** or **Fellowship ribbon** for each (25) merits after the initial (50) in each category. A **GOLD BAR** will be awarded for Artistry and a **SILVER BAR** will be awarded for Service.



Thank you,  
Sherry Owens, M.Photog, CPP  
Awards and Degrees Chairman