



RULES OF COMPETITIONS
ORGANIZED FOR THE
14TH SUBLIMAGE FESTIVAL

International Underwater Image Festival
of New Caledonia

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OBJECTIVES

The Sublimage association is holding the 14th Sublimage Festival from 30th september to 6th october 2024. The organising committee for the festival is made up of certain active members of this association and representatives from its Steering Committee. The Festival Organising Committee is responsible for preserving copies and for copyright compliance.

The main objectives of the festival are:

- to reveal underwater imagery to as large an audience as possible by showing the works,
- to help raise public awareness about protecting the marine environment.

ARTICLE 1 - PARTICIPANTS AND WORKS

The various competitions of the SUBLIMAGE festival are open to any natural person, with parental consent for minors. Entries must be created using a photographic camera or a video camera.

Works that have been previously presented in the same festival in past years are no longer eligible to compete. The organizers, in accordance with established copyright rules, consider that the works presented are free of any rights, artistic ownership, or other claims that a third party might hold. By participating, the authors commit to indemnify the organizers against any action that may be taken against them by rights holders. The organizers cannot, in any way, be held responsible in case of dispute or litigation.

Members of the jury and their close relatives are strictly prohibited from participating in the various competitions.

Presenting works created by other authors/directors is strictly prohibited.

ARTICLE 2 - COMPETITION CATEGORIES

"PHOTOGRAPHY" CATEGORY :

1. Wide Angle (GA)
2. Macro-Proxy (MP)
3. Black and White (NB)
4. Freshwater (ED)
5. New Caledonian Authors (AC): This category is reserved exclusively for residents of New Caledonia for photographs taken solely in New Caledonia.
6. "Stars of the Coral Sea" (SP): This category is dedicated to emblematic species of the Coral Sea Park captured in New Caledonia, such as humpback whales, sharks, turtles, marine birds (captured underwater)... (refer to the [document](#) in french)

Each author may submit only one photograph per sub-category. Photographic works must be still images without overlays or frames and must have been taken in an underwater environment.

Given the potential overlap between different categories, it is the responsibility of the photographer to indicate on the registration form in which categories their photos are being submitted. A work cannot be presented in two different categories.

Photographs presented must adhere to the following specifications:

- For all GA, MP, NB, ED, AC, and SP categories:
 - Fixed format: 60x90 cm (3/2)
 - Minimum resolution: 200 dpi
 - Minimum definition: 3024x2016
 - Maximum file size: 10MB.
- The file name for each image should be in the following format:
<CATEGORY_ACRONYM>_<LAST_NAME>_<FIRST_NAME>.jpg (example:
GA_SMITH_JOHN.jpg)
- Accepted file formats are .jpg and .jpeg.

"THEMED COLLECTION" CATEGORY (ST):

This category involves series of five (5) photographs on a theme chosen by the author, all captured by them. Photographic works must be still images without overlays or frames and must have been taken in an underwater environment.

Photographs in the themed collection (ST) must adhere to the following specifications:

- For submitted photographs
 - Fixed format: 60x90 cm (3/2)
 - Minimum resolution: 72 dpi
 - Minimum definition: 1920x1280
 - Maximum file size: 10MB.

- The file name for each photo in the thematic series should be in the following format: ST_<LAST_NAME>_<FIRST_NAME>_<NUMBER (from 1 to 5)>.jpg

"FILM" CATEGORY:

- **Short Film (CM):** This category combines the clips, short film and slideshows categories with a maximum duration: 26 mins
- **Feature Film (LM):** This category includes documentary, reportage, or fiction films of more than 23 minutes and less than 92 minutes.

Accepted file formats are .mov, .avi, .mp4 with H264 codec in 1080P. The "FILM" categories are open to both amateurs and professionals who are invited to compete jointly.

ARTICLE 3 - REGISTRATIONS

Registration files must be completed on the association's website: www.festivalsublimage.nc. Works in the photography and thematic series categories should be submitted using the online form, and works in the FILM category should be sent via the WeTransfer platform (<https://www.wetransfer.com>) to the following address: festival@sublimage.nc.

Registration for any of the competitions is solely through the use of the duly filled festival registration form on the festival's website.

The deadline for registration and receipt of documents (Registration Form + work(s)) has been set by the organizing committee for **Friday, May 31, 2024, at midnight (GMT+11, Nouméa, New Caledonia time)**.

Participation in all competitions is free of charge. Participation in any of the festival's competitions implies the acceptance of all conditions established by this regulation.

ARTICLE 4 - THE JURY

The jury's role is to select the winners of the various competitions. The jury presidents, along with its members, are appointed by the organizing committee. If deemed necessary, the jury is authorized to place a received work in a competition category it deems more suitable. The jury evaluates works based on criteria of technical and artistic quality.

In alignment with its goals and values, the SUBLIMAGE association desires that among the criteria selected by the jury to judge the works, it may consider the degree of manipulation applied to the presented photographs. In case of doubt, the jury is free to request the original file. The jury is sovereign, and its decisions are final.

ARTICLE 5 - COMPLIANCE

Only works meeting the criteria set by the organizing committee, whose decisions are also final, will be presented to the jury. Works not meeting the detailed specifications above will not be examined by the jury. Works displaying obvious disturbance to fauna or flora, or more generally, a lack of environmental respect by the author, will not be accepted. All works must be suitable for all audiences.

ARTICLE 6 - USE OF WORKS

Participants authorize the use of their works by the organizing committee throughout the entire duration of the festival and during subsequent exhibitions held across the entire territory of New Caledonia. The association reserves the right to sell prints of exhibited photos (6x90 format) to the public at the price of 25,000 XPF to cover part of the exhibition costs.

Participants grant permission for the duplication or reproduction of their works for the festival's archives. Works will always be used with the mention of the author's name but without any payment of copyright or compensation in any form. The works may later be used for festival promotion indefinitely, especially for the creation of short promotional films for future festivals.

If they agree, and without obligation to participate in the festival, authors may also authorize the SUBLIMAGE association to use their works for events organized by festival partners.

ARTICLE 7 - PRIZES AWARDED

The jury will evaluate the works based on technical and artistic quality criteria. The judges are free to award prizes or limit their number and may, if appropriate, make special mentions regarding particular works.

The ranking for the top 3 works in each category will be as follows:

"PHOTOGRAPHY" CATEGORY:

- Gold, Silver, and Bronze **Manta Ray** for the Wide-angle category,
- Gold, Silver, and Bronze **Manta Ray** for the Macro-Proxy category,
- Gold, Silver, and Bronze **Manta Ray** for the Pure water category,
- Gold, Silver, and Bronze **Manta Ray** for the Black & white category,
- Gold, Silver, and Bronze **Manta Ray** for the Caledonian authors,
- Gold, Silver, and Bronze **Star for the Coral Sea** category.

CATEGORY "THEMED COLLECTION":

- Gold, Silver, and Bronze **Giant Clam**.

CATEGORY "FILM":

Short Film Video:

- Golden **Turtle** for the best documentary or fiction,
- Golden **Turtle** for the best work on the theme of "Diving Journey" *
- Golden **Turtle** for the most original work, **
- Golden **Turtle** for the best non-professional work, ***
- **Alain Gerbaut Award** for the best work on the theme "Ode to Nature."

Feature Film:

- Golden, Silver, and Bronze **Nautille** for the best documentary or fiction.

*Note: "Dive trip" can be about 1 dive that you consider exceptional, several dives in the same region, or a dive trip.

**The originality may concern one or more of these characteristics: subject matter, editing, scenario, audio, etc...

***Any work that mentions a production company in its credits will be considered professional and therefore cannot win this prize.

Each winner will receive a trophy made in New Caledonia.

SUBLIMAGE Grand Prizes

The jury will finally designate the winners of two **SUBLIMAGE Grand Prizes**:

- **SUBLIMAGE Grand Prize for Still Image**: Best photograph with a prize of 120,000 XPF (or 1,000 euros)
- **SUBLIMAGE Grand Prize for Moving Image**: Best film with a prize of 240,000 XPF (or 2,000 euros)

The prizes for the SUBLIMAGE grand prizes will consist of vouchers to be used at a designated online store specializing in equipment for underwater imaging.

Audience Award

The Audience Award will honor a photograph featured in the exhibition associated with the competition.

The jury is free to award the prizes or limit their number and may, if appropriate, issue a special mention. The organizing committee reserves the right not to award prizes if the number of participants in a category is less than five (5). The organizing committee will publish the list of winners at the end of the festival on its website.

ARTICLE 8 - COMPLAINTS

The organizing committee cannot be held responsible if, due to a force majeure event or any cause beyond its control, changes in dates occur, or if the festival is modified or canceled.