

Federation International de l'Art photographique International Federation of Photographic Art International Verband de Fotografischen Kunst

Structure

FIAP is an International Federation whose members are national photographic federations, one per country. In 1998 83 countries, and over 500,000 photographers, were represented in FIAP.

Aims

The aims of FIAP are to promote photography as a means of creating understanding and friendly links between photographers in all corners of the globe. All considerations of a political, ideological, or racial nature are absolutely banned from the activities of FIAP.

Activities

Because of the large number of languages spoken in its member countries FIAP does not publish a journal. Instead, every other month, on average, communications are sent out in three or four languages (English, French, German and sometimes Spanish) to all member societies, by the Secretary General, by the Services and by the Commissions. These communications include reports of meetings, texts of general interest, news, list of international salons recommended ('patronised') by FIAP, regulations, etc, which are then published in Member Societies journals, bulletins, newsletters as appropriate.

FIAP organises Biennial exhibitions of colour and monochrome prints; colour slides; nature photography; youth photography and audio-visual programmes. These Biennials are exhibitions where member countries can show their photographers' best work. A competition for a World Cup is run as part of each event, The Biennials take place in a different country each time, and are major events, with 500 to 600 photographs exhibited.

FIAP supports international exhibitions by offering its Patronage (i.e. agreeing to recommend) those which meet the minimum standards laid down by its regulations. The regulations are decided by discussion among member countries, and can be varied to suit particular local conditions, but in all cases FIAP Patronage guarantees to entrants that the patronised exhibition is properly run. Lists of patronised exhibitions are sent out regularly to Member Societies for publication in their journals.

As additional encouragement to photographers to take part in international events FIAP created a world-wide system of photographic Distinctions, earned by success in FIAP patronised exhibitions. These distinctions are the Artist (AFIAP) and the Excellence (EFIAP). Holders of EFIAP may also apply for the Master (MFIAP) by submitting work. The MFIAP is probably the greatest photographic honour in the world.

Important work is done by the FIAP Commissions. These are committees of specialists studying international problems in different fields. These are commissions for monochrome photography, colour photography, audio-visual, nature photography, stereo photography, copyright, and some others.

Organisation

The Congress is FIAP's most important body. It meets every other year, each time in a different country. Congress determines FIAP policies. Every Member Society has one vote. At most Congresses, 40-45 countries are represented. Congresses also act as meeting places for international photography. They are occasions where delegates can study new ideas, create and renew contacts, exchange news and views.

FIAP has no employees; everybody involved in the organisation, from the President down, gives his or her services on a voluntary basis; only actual expenses are ever paid.

Summary

FIAP is a wholly international organisation, run democratically on an entirely voluntary basis, aimed at encouraging understanding and friendship between photographers in all parts of the world. It does not compete with any national or local photographic organisation. In spite of its modest income, it has succeeded in the 40 years of existence in creating services of great value to amateur photographers everywhere, thanks to its practical sense of its ideals, and to the dedicated efforts of photographic organisers in many countries.

Great Britain is a member of FIAP through the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain. Enquiries on all FIAP matters, including applications for Distinctions, for loan of print, slide and AV portfolios, for Patronage on international exhibitions, for Historical portfolio sales, and for information on Congresses and Biennials, should be addressed to the FIAP Liaison Officer, enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.

PAGB Liaison Officer: Ian W Platt, FRPS, MFIAP, HonEFIAP, HonPAGB, Prospect Cottage, Serrells Mead, Langton Matravers, Swanage, BH19 3JB (01929) 424496

Scotland and Wales: are members of the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain through the Scottish Photographic Federation and Welsh P.F. but are separately affiliated to FIAP. All services as listed on the previous pages such as Patronage for International Exhibitions. Honours and Distinctions, etc, are available to member clubs of the Scottish and Welsh Photographic Federations by applying direct to the FIAP Liaison Officer for Scotland or Wales.

Scotland, Wales and the Photographic Alliance of Great Britain have agreed to apply identical minimum standards for FIAP Honours and the conditions detailed for PAGB applications also apply to Scottish and Welsh applicants. The closing date for FIAP Honours applications in Scotland is 1st December each year.

Scottish Liaison Officer: Rod Wheelans, MPAGB, APAGB, EFIAP, ARPS, 43 Lovers Walk, Dumfries DG1 1LR
Tel: (01387) 257906

Welsh Liaison Officer: Jan Cawley, Rose Cottage, Higher End, St Athan, Vale of Glamorgan CF62 4LW
Tel: (01446) 751686

FIAP HONOURS and DISTINCTIONS

Honours and Distinctions are awarded for outstanding service to photography and for notable photographic merit, and these are awarded for life.

There are two honours for services to photography:

ESFIAP	Excellence for services rendered FIAP
HonEFIAP	Honorary Excellence FIAP

ESFIAP is only awarded at National level and cannot be applied for. HonEFIAP is only awarded by FIAP.

There are seven distinctions for photographic merit:

AFIAP	Artist FIAP
EFIAP	Excellence FIAP
EFIAP/b	EFIAP Bronze
EFIAP/s	EFIAP Silver
EFIAP/g	EFIAP Gold
EFIAP/p	EFIAP Platinum
MFIAP	Master Photographer FIAP

The main criteria for the award of AFIAP and EFIAP distinctions are:

- (a) Acceptance in FIAP approved print/slide Exhibitions over a prescribed period of time, plus submissions of a portfolio of work to FIAP that should be examples of the candidate's best exhibition photography, and be of the highest possible standard. Or
- (b) Acquisition of a specified number of FIAP Audio Visual points over a prescribed minimum period of time (details of specific requirements for AV applicants are available in a separate leaflet).

PAGB, SPF and WPF require that:

Applicants for AFIAP in prints or slides should have been exhibiting in FIAP approved exhibitions over a period of 5 years (60 months) or more; (no upper time limit), and should have received a minimum of 75 points, where a slide acceptance = 1 point and a print or digital acceptance = 2 points. 20% of this minimum should have been achieved outside UK. To have used a minimum of 10 different prints or 20 different slides/digital images, and to have received at least 2 awards. The reduction in the value of a digital acceptance to be effective from 1st January 2008.

Applicants for EFIAP in prints and slides should have received a minimum of 60 acceptances since gaining AFIAP, over any period of 3 years or more; (no upper time limit). 25% of this minimum should have been achieved outside the UK. To have used a minimum of 15 new works since AFIAP and to have received at least 3 awards.

Applicants for EFIAP must have received acceptances in at least five different countries during their entire AFIAP + EFIAP years.

'Note: 'Award' is taken to mean Medal, Commendation, Diploma, Prize etc.

Applicants for the EFIAP Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum must be holders of the basic EFIAP or MFIAP and are required to achieve **the following minima with all new work**.

LEVEL	MINIMA	PORTFOLIO REQUIREMENT
EFIAP Bronze	75 acceptances with at least 25 different works	three prints totalling four awards in four different countries
EFIAP Silver	150 acceptances with at least 50 different works	four prints totalling five awards in five different countries
EFIAP Gold	300 acceptances with at least 100 different works	five prints totalling six awards in six different countries
EFIAP Platinum	600 acceptances with at least 200 different works	six prints totalling seven awards in seven different countries

At least 25% of the minimum number of acceptances should have been gained outside the United Kingdom.

More detailed information on these EFIAP awards is contained in a separate leaflet that is automatically sent to each recipient of the EFIAP, and is also available to others on request.

Slide exhibitors may also apply for these awards, but their portfolios must consist of prints made from award-winning slides.

Candidates for AFIAP, EFIAP, and EFIAP Further Awards may apply with a mixed presentation of prints and slides provided the required minimum number of points has been gained.

Candidates for MFIAP must be holders of EFIAP, and can only apply with prints or AV work. A separate leaflet is available on request giving full details.

All applicants must comply with the rules laid down in the Application Form, which includes submitting a portfolio of work. For the AFIAP and basic EFIAP the portfolio should consist of not less than 5 prints/slides up to a maximum of 10 prints/slides, and for the EFIAP further awards, as per the table. Prints should be previously unused, maximum size 50 x 30cm and unmounted. Prints and slides should be in excellent condition and ideally relate to the best of the applicant's exhibition successes.

Fees

A fee of £56 is payable for each proposal, which covers the examination of the dossier and forwarding of the certificate and badge if the distinction is granted. This fee cannot be repaid, but in cases where the distinction is not awarded it will be kept in reserve for re-application. Please make cheques payable to PAGB, SPF or WPF.

FIAP Liaison Officers

It has been agreed that applications for distinctions should be sent to the FIAP Liaison Officers and that the closing dates will be 31st December (1st December in Scotland) in each year. Forms to make up the dossier are available from the Liaison Officers and an SAE (10" x 7") should be enclosed.

FIAP Approved Exhibitions

From 1979 onwards, FIAP have ruled that only acceptances in FIAP approved exhibitions will be taken into account for AFIAP, and EFIAP distinctions. Lists of FIAP approved exhibitions are available from each Federation within the PAGB. Photographers working towards FIAP Distinctions should apply to their own Federations for this information.

FIAP Patronage and Auspices

FIAP Patronage is the approval that can be awarded to Exhibitions which have a marked International Character. For Exhibitions which do not have an International Character it is possible to obtain approval in the form of FIAP Auspices.

Different medals are available for each of these categories. Only FIAP Patronage acceptances are counted towards FIAP Distinctions.

UK HOLDERS of FIAP SERVICE AWARDS

HonEFIAP	William McCance	Don Morrison	Ian Platt	
ESFIAP	Terry Chapman	Margaret Collis	George Cruikshank	John Donlevey
	Arthur Downes	Tony Eycott	John Hill	Daisy James
	David Lindsay	Leslie Saye	Mildred Sothern	Robert Strathdee
	Alec Watson			