Congratulations to all the 2025-2026 N4C "Best of the Best" Competitions and Annual Award Winners

version 11/02/2026

Contest Category	Year End Award	Photographer	Name of Club	Title
Digital – Altered Reality	1st	Mike Barker	Omaha	Reading Can Change Your Perspective
	2nd	Allen Kurth	Omaha	Colorful Dew Drops
	3rd	Bob Rude	Iowa City	Taking a Walk at Sunset
	HM	Deb Shoning	Des Moines	Is the Water Cold
	HM	Connie Wedemeier	Iowa City	Snowflake Serenade
	HM	Bob Rude	Iowa City	Midnight Stroll
Digital - B&W	1st	Diane Lowry	Des Moines	Whale of a Tail
	2nd	Allen Kurth	Omaha	Day Lily
	3rd	Diana Borash	Iowa City	Dust in the Desert
	HM	Randy Ficken	Wichita Area	End of Day
	HM	Gary Gilbert	Sioux City	Safe
	HM	Ken Cheung	Minnesota Valley	Senior Year
	HM	Diane Lowry	Des Moines	Cowboy
	HM	Jackie Feil	Fargo-Moorhead	Saint Paul's Cathedral
Digital - Journalism	1st	Nikki McDonald	Omaha	Color Me Terrified
	2nd	Doug Conrad	Sioux City	Choreography in the Clouds-1
	3rd	Craig Peterson	Minnesota Valley	Firefighters Against the Beast
	HM	Allen Kurth	Omaha	Steer One, Cowboy Zero
	HM	Diana Borash	Iowa City	Round Up Gets Under Way In Montana
	HM	Paul Rogne	Saint Paul	Icy Cold Anti-Ice
Digital - Nature	1st	Allen Kurth	Omaha	Mid-air Duel
	2nd	Andrea Pellerito	Dubuque	Wildebeest on the move
	3rd	Lona Marks	La Crosse Area	Talkeetna Sunrise and Fog
	HM	Kelly Matrquardt	La Crosse Area	Getting Cleaned Up
	HM	Steve Fleagle	Iowa City	Mirror Reflection Catch
	HM	Edgar Evans	Wichita Area	White Pelagone
	HM	Mariann Cyr	Western Wisconsin	White-booted Racket-Tail
	HM	Eric Williamson	Des Moines	My Fish
Digital - Pictorial	1st	Diane Sisko	Western Wisconsin	Peaceful Morning
	2nd	Terry Butler	Western Wisconsin	Hello there!
	3rd	Kevin McTeague	Dubuque	Canals of Amsterdam
	HM	Al Kieker	Minnesota Valley	Along the Animas River
	HM	Laurie McShane	Duluth-Superior	Little Sleepyhead
	HM	Crystal Johnson	Minot	Burrowing Owl Portrait
	HM	Marianne Dierks	Western Wisconsin	Loving Embrace
	HM	Peggy Volden	Fargo-Moorhead	Milky Way

Digital - Travel	1st	Christine Garbe	Minnesota Valley	Red Sails in Disko Bay Greenland
	2nd	Margaret West	Omaha	The Pier, Lofoten, Norway
	3rd	Mariann Cyr	Western Wisconsin	Mexican Morning Stroll
	HM	Jerry Ranch	Des Moines	Nocturnal Goblins, Utah
	HM	Cindy Carlsson	Saint Paul	Rotterdam at nightfall, Holland
	HM	Diane Lowry	Des Moines	Saguaro National Park AZ
	HM	Elliott Lindgren	Saint Paul	Moonrise Over New York City
Print – Pictorial - B & W	1st	Ed Hohenstein	Sioux City	Unforgotten
	2nd	Doug Conrad	Sioux City	Yearling
	3rd	Robert Lahti	Duluth-Superior	Silhouetted Leaves
	HM	Diane Lowry	Des Moines	What Remains
	HM	Deb Shoning	Des Moines	The Darkened Stairway
	HM	Ed Hohenstein	Sioux City	January 1938
Print – Pictorial - Color	1st	Ed Hohenstein	Sioux City	Condo by the Sea, Mexico
	2nd	Ken Johnson	Des Moines	Purple Iris
	3rd	Janie Lawson	Des Moines	Young Hummer
	HM	Stephonie Schmitz	Dubuque	Is This Heaven?
	HM	Terri Dermody	Des Moines	Little Bee Eater
	HM	Terri Dermody	Des Moines	Showing Off
Print – Altered Reality	1st	Stephonie Schmitz	Dubuque	Painted Raven
	2nd	Ty Smith	Mitchell	True Grit
	3rd	Patty Foster	Des Moines	Horses
	HM	Robert Lahti	Duluth-Superior	A Dingus
	HM	Peg Gilbert	Sioux City	Bella Eleazer
	HM	Robert Lahti	Duluth-Superior	Zooming In
Print - Journalism	1st	Robert Lahti	Duluth-Superior	Wheelchair Racer
	2nd	Jim Harvey	Des Moines	Forging on at Living History Farms, Des Moines, IA
	3rd	Dwight Tomes	Des Moines	Hold On Ice
	HM	Bob Felderman	Dubuque	Wicked Awesome House Fire
	HM	Robert Lahti	Duluth-Superior	Breakaway
	HM	Robert Lahti	Duluth-Superior	Gotcha
Print - Nature	1st	Doug Conrad	Sioux City	Hummingbird Moth No. 2
	2nd	Diane Lowry	Des Moines	Puffin Sticks
	3rd	Patty Foster	Des Moines	Snowshoe Hare
	HM	Kevin McTague	Dubuque	Short -Eared Owl 2
	HM	Jim Harvey	Des Moines	Catch of the Day
	HM	Tim Zeltinger	Minot	Sunrise at Hollow Rock, Mn
Print - Travel	1st	Doug Conrad	Sioux City	Echoes of Time and Light, Sturgis, SD
	2nd	Karen Durant	Dubuque	Cascade Falls, Watkins Glen, NY
	3rd	Shane Monahan	Sioux City	Hawaii From the Lava Tube
	HM	Stephonie Schmitz	Dubuque	Deep in Capitol Reef NP - Utah
	HM	Doug Conrad	Sioux City	Ulysses S Grant Rapid City S.D. Photo Shootout
	HM	Casey Klein	Dubuque	Star Brewery Reflections - IA

Panorama Digital	1st	Ron Nicolls	Sioux City	Glacier Lake Reflection
	2nd	Patty Foster	Des Moines	Mississippi Catch
	3rd	Laurie McShane	Duluth-Superior	Banff
	HM	Mitch Keller	Sioux City	View from the Citadella
	HM	Nancy Heather Brown	Des Moines	Family Feud
Photo Journalism Story	1st	Bob Rude	Iowa City	Small Ship Cruising to Alaska
	2nd	Linda Rutherford	Women's Photo	Trollhaugen's Annual October Rail Jam
	3rd	Stephonie Schmitz	Dubuque	More Than a Trophy
Photo Essay	1st	Bob Rude	Iowa City	Fun With ICM
	2nd	Ken Johnson	Des Moines	Wild Lights at Blank Park Zoo, Des Moines, Iowa
	3rd	Ron Tigges	Dubuque	Dubuque Air Show and Fireworks
	HM	Steve Daggs	Des Moines	A Robin Family
	HM	Lori Ollendick	Dubuque	Living With Disability!
Video Essay	1st	Stephonie Schmitz	Dubuque	Protect What We Love
	2nd	Kathleen Wolleat	Duluth-Superior	A Postcard from Italy
	3rd	Steve Daggs	Des Moines	Birth of an Eagle Family
	HM	Tom Schoening	Sioux City	Easter Egg Hunt in Sioux City
	HM	Doug Conrad	Sioux City	Robin Nest on our Patio Ceiling
Club Communications – Newsletter	1st	Laurie McShane	Duluth-Superior	DSCC *"Snapshot"*
	2nd	Carl Hardy	Sioux City	SCCC *"Sioux Scope"*
	3rd	Peggy Boike	Saint Paul	*"SPCC Newsletter"*
Club Communications - Web	1st	Marty Welter	Omaha	https://www.omahacameraclub.net/
	2nd	Michelle Cox	La Crosse	https://lacrosseareacameraclub.org/
	3rd	Terry Butler	Western Wisconsin	https://wiphotoclub.com/
	HM	Doug Conrad	Sioux City	https://www.sccameraclub.com/
	HM	Sharon Watson	Fargo-Moorhead	https://www.fmcameraclub.org/
Small Club of the Year			**Great River Camera Club**	
Large Club of the Year			**Dubuque Camera Club**	
Photographer of the Year		**Stephonie Schmitz**	**Dubuque Camera Club**	