

FIAP Bulletin
January 2024 Edition

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FIAP Distinctions Applications For 2024 Have Commenced

The lodgement months for FIAP Distinctions applications in 2024 have commenced as of 1st January. The closing date is strictly at 5pm AEDT on the 28th February. Please see the main Distinctions notice in e-News for further information.

Applications for FIAP Distinctions can only be lodged via the country where a person is a citizen or a long-term resident. If you are living permanently or very long term in Australia, you should be entering salons under your Australian address unless you have an ongoing address in the country where you are a citizen and where you intend to apply for your FIAP Distinctions via that country.

Use of International Salon Entry Agents

There have been instances in the past where FIAP Distinctions applicants living in Australia are found to have been using agencies in another country that lodge salon entries for photographers. This raises two major issues. Firstly, you remain responsible for your entries such that if a photo is entered in a restricted section of a salon and is not permitted in that section, you remain responsible for that entry even if another party sends the entry on your behalf!!

Secondly, mistakes can be made by agencies, including when they list the country of the entrant as the entries are often listed under the country of the agency, even when the entrant has relocated to live in another country and has asked the agency to send entries under the country where the entrant has lived permanently for many years. This means results for that person are listed on the database under more than one country and it causes significant problems when the person tries to apply for FIAP Distinctions.

If you are living permanently in Australia, please provide your Australian address when you enter salons and please lodge salon entries yourself as this will save you major complications that may result in some salon results not being verifiable.

Change of Country Name on Salons and FIAP Distinctions

Many of you will have noticed that when entering salons that the country Turkey is now referred to as Turkiye on the FIAP Salon list and the salon's own details. This transition to a new name is as per the country's wishes and has been gradually implemented by the different FIAP Services.

Please amend the country name for all salons listed as Turkey in your own results records as this country should now also be shown as Turkiye on your FIAP Distinctions applications.

Future First Time Distinctions Applicants

If you have been considering entering international salons with a view to possibly seeking FIAP Distinctions in the future, it is a good idea to start in January or February with the aim of entering a salon that has a closing date before the 28th Feb.

Each year there are a few people who enter salons and find themselves doing well. They get all the results they need to be able to apply for their AFIAP (first FIAP Distinction) but cannot apply in the Australian applications months of Jan and Feb because they have not been entering salons for a full year. FIAP require that applicants have been entering salons for a full year before they are eligible to apply for their AFIAP. Only results from salons that have FIAP Patronage can be counted on FIAP Distinctions applications.

Each country can only lodge applications for FIAP Distinctions once per year. This can be any date the country chooses but is generally kept strictly consistent so that people can apply for their next level in

consecutive years and still meet the minimum one year requirement between levels. Australians lodge FIAP Distinctions applications with APS during Jan and Feb with a final strict closing date of 28th Feb, after which the applications are sent to FIAP. So, if you think you have photos that might be successful in an international competition, give it a go in a salon that has FIAP Patronage, and that has a closing date before the 28th Feb, so that if you get some acceptances, you have covered the one year entry requirement for the following year's application lodgement months.

FIAP Nature Biennial

This is a reminder that the FIAP Nature Biennial is coming up in 2024. This is a huge competition between FIAP affiliated National Photographic bodies around the world, such as APS. Each country selects images from its photographers for both print and digital sections.

Each country must enter a cohesive set of photos on a subject of their choosing for each section. The two subjects that APS have chosen are "Dragonflies" and "Fungi".

There is **no cost** to participate!

You just submit photos for possible selection to represent Australia as per the APS entry information and APS does the rest. Being the Nature Biennial, images MUST comply with the FIAP Nature definition. Photos are all submitted in digital format and APS will organise the printing of the photos going in the print section. The cost of this and the postage is all paid by APS, so all you have to do is send in the best photos you have for each of these subjects.

It is essential to have as many people as possible participate in order to pick the most cohesive set of competitive photos. In the Biennial judging, points are given not only for individual photos but there is also a large number of points added for the cohesiveness of each set of photos.

If you have images selected to represent APS in this competition, you can use these results for your APS honours. If your photos score 8 or more points in the Biennial itself, you can count these and any personal awards gained by your photos, for your FIAP Distinctions.

The coordinator for the APS entry for the FIAP Nature Biennial is the Nature Group Chairman, Brian Russell. The closing date for submitting images is the 15th Feb 2024.

Full details about how to participate in this event are available on the FIAP Biennials forms page in the FIAP area of the APS website. You can download the document in either Word or pdf format:
<https://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php/fiap-biennials>

Two New Australian Salons With FIAP Patronage

In the last couple of months, two new Australian International Salons have sought and gained FIAP Patronage. The organisers have previously run National Salons. These are digital salons and they are based in Victoria. Like all other international salons that have FIAP Patronage, results from these can be counted towards both your APS Honours and your FIAP Distinctions applications.

As with all salons that have FIAP Patronage, you will find these on the FIAP Salon list. The link for the list of salons with FIAP Patronage is always shown with these FIAP Bulletins. I also list the Australian Salons that have FIAP Patronage on the FIAP Information landing page on the APS website where you can link to the websites of these salons directly but here are the links for these two new international salons.

Outback International Photography Exhibition – entries open 1st Feb and close 11th May
<https://outbackinternational.myphotoclub.com.au/>

Terra Australis International Photography Exhibition – entries open 1st March and close 1st June
<https://terraaustralis.myphotoclub.com.au/>

New FIAP Bulletin Page on the APS Website

FIAP Bulletins such as this one you are now reading are regularly placed in the APS e-News to keep people informed about FIAP matters and opportunities to participate in FIAP events. People who are

entering international salons, those applying for FIAP Distinctions and APS Verifying Officers should always be reading these FIAP Bulletins which are written by the FIAP Liaison Officer for Australia. These are how you stay up to date during the year. These Bulletins provide the latest updates, information and reminders. There are times when each of us misses seeing something and times when the timing of information coming to me from FIAP does not align well with the timing of the APS e-News. On the rare occasion, there is also a Bulletin that has to go out directly over email and these are obviously not searchable via the old e-News editions. The FIAP Bulletins will continue to be placed in e-News, but to help you all keep up to date, and to make past Bulletins easy to find and easy to search for a recent topic, a new web page has been added to the FIAP area of the APS website. It is labelled in the menu as "Liaison Officer Bulletins":

<https://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php/aps-fiap-bulletin>

This page now has the FIAP Bulletins from the last 12 months. Under each edition is a list of the topics covered. So, at a fast skim, you can locate something I may have written about in detail in a past Bulletin. This makes it quick and easy for you to find the latest updates. If you are wanting to know about possible recent changes, look for the topic on this page. In future, if emailed a question covered fully by a recent Bulletin, people will be directed to the relevant Bulletin on this page. This new resource will hopefully help everyone.

New Page on the APS Website for Salon FIAP Patronage Applications

This new webpage has been set up to assist current and prospective Australian organisers of international salons. It guides new and existing Australian salon organisers through the process of seeking FIAP Patronage for their salon. Here they will find collated the information and documents required. Whilst the documents have always been available amongst other FIAP documents on the Other FIAP Docs and Forms page, this new page gathers them all together and indicates which ones you need for your salon during this transition period to the new salon regulations. As new documents that are relevant to FIAP Patronage are sent to the FIAP Liaison Officer, they will be sent to existing salons directly, as usual, but will also be placed on this page where they can be readily located by both current salons and people considering organising a salon under FIAP Patronage.

It is hoped that this new page, along with the documents page on the salon's myfiap account, will assist salon organisers navigate the application process and be a valuable ongoing resource to save time and ensure they can easily find the latest information at any time of day.

<https://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php/salon-patronage-applications>

Important Links

FIAP website: <https://www.fiap.net/en>

List of Salons with FIAP Patronage: <https://www.myfiap.net/patronages>

FIAP area of the APS website: <https://www.a-p-s.org.au/index.php/about-fiap>