



PAA News and Updates

Photographic Alliance of America (PAA)

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PAA Website: paausa.org

The New FIAP Portfolio Distinction

The FIAP Portfolio Distinctions are new for 2026 and can be earned by submitting ten images of one theme that are reviewed for quality and coherence. There are three submission dates each year: January 1, May 1, and October 1. The applications of fifteen participants maximum per country can be submitted on each of these three dates. There must be a minimum of one year between each successful application.

There are five levels of FIAP Portfolio Distinction: PFIAP, PFIAP/B, PFIAP/S, PFIAP/G, and PMFIAP. For 2026 one portfolio can be submitted for the PFIAP Distinction. More information regarding the FIAP Portfolio Distinctions is available at: <https://paausa.org/fiap-portfolios>.

In the second application round (May 2026) photographers from 33 countries submitted one hundred and thirty-seven (137) portfolios. One hundred and four (104) photographers succeeded in obtaining the PFIAP distinction. This is a 76% success rate. PAA had an 86.6% success rate.

Thirteen PAA Members Received the PFIAP Distinction in 2026 Round 2

The thirteen PAA members who received the PFIAP Distinction represent **12.5% of the PFIAP Distinctions awarded in Round 2**. PAA members received more PFIAP Distinctions than any country in Round 1 and again in Round 2. PAA has a total of 25 PFIAP Distinctions from Rounds 1 and 2, with Turkey and the United Kingdom next with 17 PFIAP

Distinctions each. Hong Kong has a total of 15, India and Ireland have 14 each, and Australia has 12 PFIAP Distinctions.

Three of the Round 2 PAA PFIAP portfolios were black & white and ten were color portfolios. Of the thirteen PFIAP recipients, seven are women. For the first time some nature themes were submitted in Round 2 including *Grizzly Bears Salmon Feast*, *The Tale of the Polar Bear Family*, and *Various Ospreys Hunting for Fish*.

Composites of the 2026 Round 2 PAA PFIAP Portfolios are on the PAA web site at:

paausa.org/fiap-portfolios-gallery. All the images in the 2026 Rounds 1 and 2 can be seen on the FIAP Portfolio site at: tinyurl.com/4hcfwfj6

The ten images for three Round 2 PAA PFIAP portfolios have been combined in the sequence that they were reviewed to be included with this article. The FIAP Portfolios do not require an Overview Image or Statement of Intent. The title and images are reviewed in sequence.



The Wells Cathedral © Peter Nicholls, GPSA, PFIAP



Derelict and Abandoned Interiors © Lisa Schnelzer, APSA, EPSA, EFIAP, PFIAP



Palouse © Michael Jack, APSA, PPSA, AFIAP, PFIAP