

# PAA News and Updates



## Photographic Alliance of America (PAA)

By Joanne Stolte, HonFPSA, MPSA, EFIAP, ESFIAP, HonFPAA

President, Photographic Alliance of America • FIAP Liaison Officer for the United States of America

PAA Website: [paausa.org](http://paausa.org)

### New FIAP Portfolio Distinction

The FIAP Portfolio Distinction is new for 2026 and can be earned by submitting ten images 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: [paausa.org/fiap-portfolios](http://paausa.org/fiap-portfolios).

This inaugural application round attracted photographers from 35 countries. One hundred and eighteen (118) photographers succeeded in obtaining the PFIAP distinction.

### Twelve PAA Members Received the PFIAP Distinction in 2026 Round 1

The twelve PAA members who received the PFIAP Distinction represent **10% of the PFIAP Distinctions awarded in Round 1**. PAA members received more PFIAP Distinctions than any country.

Five of the PAA PFIAP portfolios were black & white, one was mostly black & white with the addition of a human skin tone, and six were color portfolios with only one being a bright, strong color. Of the twelve PFIAP recipients, two are women. Prevalent themes of half of the submitted portfolios showed decay, abandoned buildings, erosion, or vintage artifacts.

The 2026 Round 1 PAA PFIAP Portfolios are at: [paausa.org/fiap-portfolios-gallery](http://paausa.org/fiap-portfolios-gallery). All the 2026 Round 1 PFIAP Portfolios are available at: [tinyurl.com/4hcfwfj6](https://tinyurl.com/4hcfwfj6)

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



Eroded Presence  
© Paul Bock, PFIAP

For the Love of Boats © JR Schnelzer, HonPSA, GMPSA, PFIAP



Pre WWII Automobiles © Larry Dunn, APSA, SPSA, PFIAP