



# PAA News and Updates

## Photographic Alliance of America (PAA)

By Joanne Stolte, HonFPSA, MPSA, EFIAP, ESFIAP

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

### FIAP Holds 2024 Congress in Jaipur, Agra, & Delhi, India

The International Federation of Photographic Art (FIAP) held its 36th Congress and 11th General Assembly in India, from November 1 to 7, 2024. The FIAP Congress is the formal meeting of the FIAP-member country's Liaison Officers every other year, the last Congress being held in Asturias, Spain, in 2022. The FIAP General Assembly meets once a year between August and December, every other year during the FIAP Congress. In 2023 the FIAP General Assembly was held in Armenia.

The PAA President and FIAP Liaison Officer for the USA, **Joanne Stolte, HonFPSA, MPSA, EFIAP, ESFIAP**, attended. FIAP Liaison Officers submitted their credentials prior to the Congress in order to vote. Some Liaison Officers assigned their proxy to Liaison Officers who were attending, to a maximum of three ballots per person. Joanne had the proxies from Israel and South Africa.

The 2024 Congress was called to order by FIAP President, **Riccardo Busi, QPSA, HonAPAA**, and FIAP General Secretary, Ioannis Lykouris, performed a roll call of the delegates. Both then presented their report of the past year's activity. Some countries had not paid their membership and were unable to vote. Riccardo announced the retirement of **Freddy Van Gilbergen, EPSA**, from his position as FIAP Vice President.

FIAP Treasurer, Kurt Batschinski, provided a report of the 2023 and 2024 financial status, the report of the auditors, and secured approval of the 2025 budget. The annual country membership fees will remain the same. All FIAP Service Directors then reported on the activity of their programs over the past year.

### Proposal for new FIAP Distinctions Program

A proposal for a comprehensive new FIAP Distinctions program to begin in January 2026 was introduced. Highlights include: an optional, simpler PHFIAP distinction before the AFIAP; print acceptances will not be

required for the AFIAP and EFIAP; a new, five-level, themed portfolio distinction program; the extension of the diamond distinctions, requiring print acceptances, to diamond 8.

Significantly all images (titles) will only be allowed to be used a maximum of ten times.

### Election of FIAP Directory Board

The second meeting of the 36th Congress began with the election to four-year terms of Ioannis Lykouris as Secretary General, **David Tay, FPSA, GMPSA/B, HonAPAA**, as Vice

President, Luis Alberto Franke, GMPSA/B, and Romain Nero continuing as directors, and Paul Stanley as a new FIAP Board member. The proposal for the 2025 General Assembly and FIAP Photo Meeting to be held in China was unanimously passed, as was the proposal for the 2026 FIAP Congress to be held in Brazil.

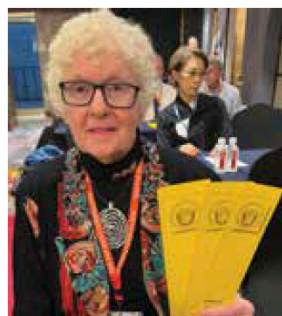
Group photos were taken of the new FIAP Directory Board, the 36th Congress Liaison Officers and delegates, and the female Liaison Officers prior to the Gala Dinner and closing ceremony.



2024-2026 FIAP Directory Board



2024 FIAP Congress Liaison Offices & Delegates



Joanne with Ballots



Female FIAP Liaison Officers