

MAJOR / SPECIAL AWARDS

1). TAXIDERMIST OF THE YEAR

A “Taxidermist Of The Year” competitors must pay the additional Twenty-Five dollar (\$25.00) entry fee. A “Taxidermist Of The Year” competitor must have four (4) entries, one entry in four (4) of the five (5) Standard Competition Category Divisions: One in Birds; One in Game Heads; One in Life-size Mammals; One in Fish or Reptiles.

The Competitor’s entries may be in any combination of the Masters or Professional Classes of competition, as determined by which Class he/she is qualified for. The competitor receiving the highest total score for their four (4) entries can qualify as the winner.

In order to qualify as “Taxidermist Of The Year”, at least Two (2) of the competitor’s Four (4) entries must be awarded First Place Ribbons.

No Interpretive and Novelty entries will qualify for this award.

Justification: As Interpretive and Novelty do not adhere to a strict standard of anatomical accuracy, it is prone to vast inconsistencies in scores from judge to judge.

2). PRESIDENT’S AWARD - DIRECTOR OF THE YEAR

The President will select the CAT Board Member to receive this award.

3). THE VICE PRESIDENT’S AWARD

The Vice President's choice of the Best Flying Bird.

4). WESTERN STATES TEAM CHALLENGE

Each team must have a Captain and one (1) to three (3) members. There is a fifty (50.00) dollar entry fee per team. There must be four (4) entries per team, one entry in four (4) of the five (5) Standard Competition Category Divisions: One in Birds; One in Game Heads; One in Life-size; One in Fish or Reptiles.

The team's entries may be in any combination of the Masters and Professional Classes of competition, as determined by which class each individual team member is qualified for. The team receiving the highest total score for the four (4) entries is the winner. Plaques are presented to each team member and their names will be engraved on the "perpetual Western States Team Challenge Trophy". **This Trophy will remain property of CAT and will remain in the possession of CAT.**

The Captain of the entry team is responsible for providing the entry fee to the Convention Registrar and supplying the Competition Registrar with the names of all team members, species of animals being entered and their entry numbers.

No more than two (2) members of the winning team may form a team on consecutive years.

No Interpretative or Novelty entry will qualify for the Team Challenge. **Justification:** As Interpretative and Novelty entries do not adhere to a strict standard of anatomical accuracy, it is prone to vast swings in scores from judge to judge. This variance in consistency will cause animosity and inconsistency and thus negatively impacts the Team Challenge.

5). VAN DYKES MOST CREATIVE AND ORIGINAL AWARD

Selected by the the Judges.

6). CHAD HORNBUCKLE MEMORIAL AWARD - MOST IMPROVED

This **Belt Buckle Award** shall be given to the competitor with the largest improvement in score in a given division on a year to year basis. Eligible entries must be in consecutive years and in the same Sub-categories of competition. Example; you bring a deer this year and you get a score of 72, next year you bring a deer and you get a score of 84. Your improvement over last year's score is 12.

For the purpose of establishing a measurable gain in anatomic knowledge, this award shall **not** be given to Novelty or Interpretative entries.

7). MCKENZIE SUPPLY TAXIDERMIST CHOICE BEST OF SHOW AWARD

Voted on by all Taxidermists that are paid CAT members at the show's competition that year. The entry that receives the most votes in each of the four (4) categories of Birds, Life-size mammals, Gameheads and Fish wins.

8). WASCO AWARD - MOST ARTISTIC AWARD

Selected by the Judges.

9). WASCO AWARD - POLYTRANSPAR AWARD

Selected by the Judges.

10). BEST PRESENTATION OF A FISH CARVING

The highest scoring entry in this category wins.

11). HIGHEST SCORING ENTRY AWARD

Only the Judges scores of Taxidermy Art Show Competition entries in the Standard Categories, 1 thru 23R, 25 & 27, are considered for a Highest Scoring Entry Award.

The Highest Scoring Entry Awards are presented to the Highest Scoring Entry in each of the four (4) CAT Taxidermy Art Show Classes: Masters, Professional, Novice and Junior.

12). HORIZON AWARD

The Horizon Award is to be presented, when possible, in the Professional, Novice and Junior Classes of competition.

The Horizon Award recognizes the achievements of persons who are first time competitors in a Taxidermy Art Show Competition. To be eligible to compete for the Horizon Award, a competitor must be entering a Taxidermy Art Show Competition for the first time ever. By definition, a competitor is eligible to compete for the Horizon Award only once.

The Horizon Award Competitors, whose competition entries receive the highest scores from the competition Judges of the Professional, Novice and Junior Classes of competition, will receive the Horizon Award.

13). UNITED TAXIDERMY ASSOCIATION (UTA) BEST OF SHOW AWARD

Selected by the Judges.

14). LAUREN JOHNSON MEMORIAL AWARD

Only Taxidermy Art Show Competition entries in the Standard Competition Categories, 1 thru 23R, 25 & 27, are eligible to receive the Lauren Johnson Memorial Award.

This Award will be presented to the “most artistically presented” Taxidermy Art Show Competition entry in each of the five (5) divisions of Competition Categories; Birds, Fish, Life-size Mammals, Gameheads and Reptiles.

Each Judge will select the entry that he/she deems is the most artistic representation of the relevant division of categories. The selected entry may not always be the most highest scoring entry in it's category.

Each Judge will consider the overall presentation, of competition entries, in selecting the winner.

15). BREAKTHROUGHS BEST OF SHOW AWARD

Selected by the Judges.

16). BEST OF CATEGORY

Highest scoring entry in each of the Taxidermy Art Show Competition Categories, 1 thru 27.

17). BEST OF HABITAT

Highest scoring entry in each of the Taxidermy Art Show Competition Categories, 1 thru 27.

18). JIM BARRANGO MEMORIAL AWARD

The Jim Barrango Award was established by the CAT Administrative Board in 2002. This award honors the memory of long time member and supporter Jim Barrango. Jim and his wife were charter members of CAT's parent organization. Jim and Jeanne members from 1989 until his passing in 2002. Jim specialized his taxidermy skills in mounting upland game birds and other birds. Jim was especially fond of mounting peacocks. Jim was only one (1) Blue Ribbon away from receiving his Masters in Birds.

Selection Criteria:

The current CAT Administrative Board will, by consensus opinion, choose the winner of the Jim Barrango Memorial Award. When possible, in remembrance of Jim's specialized taxidermy skills, the Jim Barrango Memorial Award will be presented to an upland game bird or other bird.

19). RESEARCH MANNIKINS BLACKTAIL AWARD + \$200.00.

Selected by the representative from Research Mannikins.

20). BEST HORNED GAME MAMMAL AWARD

Sponsored by the “Pheasants Forever - Yolo County Chapter”.

The highest scoring entry wins.

21). GOLD-FISH AWARD

Sponsored by Jeff Davis, C.A.T. Board Member
Highest scoring Replica entry.

22). MATUSKA'S COMPETITOR'S AWARD

To be eligible for this award, the competitor must submit four (4) entries in the Professional or 4 entries in the Masters category.

All 4 entries must have a 1st or 2nd place ribbon with a combination score of 350 or greater.

23). GOLDEN STATE CHALLENGE

2017 - Water scene.

2018 - Any Open Mouth.

2019 - Best description of “Life In Motion” as chosen by the judges.

2020 -

24). SECOND 2 NATURE AWARD

This award must be on a **SECOND 2 NATURE** form. The winning entry will be verified by them (Second 2 Nature). The criteria is: The highest scoring entry on a **SECOND 2 NATURE** form.