



CYCLONE DITWAH & AFTERMATH

"Winds of Fury, Spirit of Lanka."

Cyclone Ditwah & Aftermath - Photography Competition Framework

Prepared for: America Sri Lanka Photographic Art Society (ASPAS)

Exhibition: The Beauty of Sri Lanka – USA Tour 2026

Date: December 2025

SECTION 1: CONCEPT NOTE

Title: The Beauty of Resilience

ASPAS launches a national photography competition to document the impact of Cyclone Ditwah and the strength of Sri Lankan communities in its aftermath. The winning images will form a Special Official Selection and be showcased during the 2026 USA Exhibition Tour in Los Angeles and Washington D.C.

SECTION 2: THEMATIC CATEGORIES

1. Nature's Power

Images capturing the strength and impact of Cyclone Ditwah, dramatic skies, rough seas, and environmental changes.

2. Hands of Hope

Photographs showing people supporting each other during and after the cyclone, highlighting courage and unity.

3. Green Recovery

Images showing renewal and rebuilding - new growth, restored landscapes, and community recovery.

SECTION 3: AWARDS & INCENTIVES

Grand Prize: USD \$500

2nd Place: USD \$300

3rd Place: USD \$200

Official Selection - 50 Images Total

Top 20 Images:

- Framed and exhibited in Los Angeles & Washington D.C.
- Digital Certificate of Excellence
- Included in the official exhibition catalog

All 50 Selected Images:

- Digital Certificate of Official Selection

SECTION 4: SUBMISSION RULES

- Up to 6 images per category.
- Each image must include: Title (max 10 words) + 150-word description.

METHOD OF SUBMISSION

All photographs **must be submitted exclusively through a digital file-sharing platform**, such as **WeTransfer**, **Google Drive**, or **Dropbox**, and sent to the following email address:

aspasusa@gmail.com

SECTION 5: TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

- JPEG format, 3000px minimum, 300 DPI preferred, 3MB–10MB.
- High-resolution originals required if selected.
- No watermarks, logos, borders, or text.
- No AI-generated images.
- Allowed: Colour correction, exposure adjustments, cropping.
- Not allowed: Object addition/removal, composites, heavy HDR.
- EXIF must remain intact.
- Naming format: Category_YourName_ImageTitle.jpg

Eligibility

Open to all photographers - amateur and professional.

Images must be taken within the Cyclone Ditwah period, specifically from:
26th November 2025 to the present date of submission.

Only photographs captured during or after Cyclone Ditwah will be accepted.

SECTION 6: COPYRIGHT & USAGE

Photographers retain full copyright.

ASPAS receives a non-exclusive license to print, frame, and exhibit selected images.

SECTION 7: JUDGING

Competition judging will be take place on 20th, 22nd, 23rd & 24th of January 2026

Judges' decision is final.

PANEL OF JUDGES

JOHN ANDREW HUGHES FPSA, PPSA, AFIAP, SSPAA

PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY OF AMERICA WORLDWIDE



JOANNE STOLTE HONFPSA, MPSA, EFIAP, ESFIAP, HONFPAA

PRESIDENT, PHOTOGRAPHIC ALLIANCE OF AMERICA, FIAP LIAISON OFFICER FOR THE USA



RAVI RANASINGHE EFIAP, HON. MLMG, MCAS, ANPAS

STREET/TRAVEL & ART PHOTOGRAPHER



ANDY SAMARASENA

WILDLIFE, LANDSCAPE & TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHER



LAKSHITHA KARUNARATHNA FRPS

WILDLIFE PHOTOGRAPHER



SECTION 8: DEADLINES

Submission Deadline: December 31, 2025

MEDIA PARTNER USA

Finn TV USA

EXHIBITION TOUR:

24th April 2026 Los Angeles (UCLA)

29th April 2026 New York (Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United Nation)

02nd May 2026 Washington DC (Embassy of Sri Lanka to the United States)