

# National Taxidermists Association Competition Awards

Competitors must attend the Convention Banquet in order to win awards and be photographed and recognized.

In Addition to Cash Awards all winner will all receive plaques or ribbons

1. **NTA TAXIDERMIST OF THE YEAR/ \$1,500 Cash Award** - Selected by the judges collectively from all mounts entered in the Division of Excellence. In making the selection judges are not bound by any numerical score an individual mount may have received, but will make the selection based upon the mounts overall merit.
2. **THE BREAKTHROUGH BEST OF SHOW/ \$1,200 Cash Award**– Selected by the judges collectively from all Division of Excellence and Open Division entries. In making the selection judges are not bound by any numerical score, but will make the selection based upon the mounts overall merit.
3. **WASCO AWARD/ \$250 Cash Award**– Limited to entries in the Division of Excellence and the Open Division. To be selected by the judges as the most artistic entry.
4. **NTA BEST ALL AROUND TAXIDERMIST/ \$1,000 Cash Award**–Competitors entering this must enter in four of the following: Birds, Fish or Reptiles, Life-size Mammals (large or small), and Game heads (half life-size are included in the Game head category). Competitors must identify their four Best All Around entries where indicated on the competition entry forms. The person with the highest total numerical score with four entries will win this award. Entries may be composed of mounts entered in both the Division of Excellence and Open Division. **There is an additional entry fee for this category.**
5. **NTA DISTINGUISHED TAXIDERMIST AWARD/ \$150 Cash Award**-Limited to competitors whose entry has previously won a “Judges Best of Show” at a state, regional or WTC event where only one “Judges Best of Show” is awarded. It will be the responsibility of the competitor to obtain forms from NTAHQ in order for eligibility. Entries are limited to the same entry that won the Best of Show. The judges will select the winner of this award collectively and numerical score does not bind them. Selection will be based on the mounts overall merit. **There’s an additional entry fee for this category.**
6. **NTA CHALLENGE OF THE ART /1<sup>st</sup> \$250/ 2<sup>nd</sup> \$150/ 3<sup>rd</sup> \$100 Cash Awards** – Limited to entries competing in the Challenge of the Art Division. A first, second, third, place will be selected by the judges. This is judged on artistic interpretation.

Entries may be entered by a single, multiple, or taxidermy studio entry. **There's an additional entry fee for this category.**

7. **NTA BEST OF SHOW, COLLECTIVE ARTISTS/ \$500 Cash Award** – Limited to entries competing in the Collective Artists Division where more than one taxidermist has worked on the entry. The winning entry is selected by the Judges from the first-place ribbon winners in each Collective Artists category.
8. **NTA MASTERS CHOICE AWARDS** – A first, second, third, place ribbon will be awarded. Selected by the voting of the registered convention members. Ballots are included in registration packets and ballot box is located in the competition room.
9. **HENRY WICHERS INCHUMUK AWARD/\$150 Cash Award** – Limited to entries in the Division of Excellence and Open Division. The Mount must be the size of a squirrel or smaller that are not involved in the freeze-dry process. Based on the Highest Numerical Score
10. **JOSEPH BRUCHAC MEMORIAL AWARD/\$150 Cash Award** – Selected by the whitetail judge from the National Champion or North American Champion Divisions. In making the selection, judges are not bound by score but will consider the mounts overall merit.
11. **CHRIS BARNHARDT MEMORIAL AWARD/\$150 Cash Award** – Selected by the Gamehead judge from the National Champion and North American Champion Divisions. In making the selection, judges are not bound by score but will consider the mounts overall merit.
12. **BRIAN HARNESS MEMORIAL AWARD/\$150 Cash Award** -- Selected by the Life Size judge from the National Champion and North American Champion Small Life Size Mammals. In making the selection, judges are not bound by score but will consider the mounts overall merit.
13. **NATIONAL WILD TURKEY FEDERATION AWARD/\$150 Cash Award**-- Selected by the Bird judge from the National Champion and North American Champion Turkeys. In making the selection, judges are not bound by score but will consider the mounts overall merit.
14. **NTA NORTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONS/15 Categories \$250 Cash Awards Each** – Limited to NTA members competing in the Division of Excellence. A maximum of fifteen North American Champions will be named from the categories in the Division of Excellence based on the Highest Numerical Score in each category. In the case of Re-creations, one North American Champion will be selected based on the Highest Numerical Score in the three Re-creation subcategories. Freeze-Dry entries are not eligible for North American Champion. To be eligible for North American

Champion, the highest scoring entry must be a first-place ribbon. In the case of a tie the judges will make the determination based upon the mounts overall merit.

- 15. NTA NATIONAL CHAMPIONS/15 Categories \$150 Cash Awards Each** -Limited to NTA members competing in the Open Division. A maximum of fifteen National Champions will be named from the categories based on the Highest Numerical Score. In the case of Re-creations, one National Champion will be selected based on the Highest Numerical Score in the three Re-creation subcategories. Freeze-Dry entries are not eligible for National Champion. To be eligible for National Champion, the highest scoring entry must be a first-place ribbon. If no mount scores a first place, no award will be given in that category. In the case of a tie the judges will make the determination based upon the mounts overall merit.
- 16. NTA BEST OF SHOW NOVICE/ \$100 Cash Award** - There are five categories. The best of show will be selected from one of the five best of categories based on the Highest Numerical Score.
- 17. PEOPLE'S CHOICE-CHARLEY HAYNES MEMORIAL AWARD/ \$150 Cash Award**  
Selected by convention members as the best entry in the competition.
- 18. TAXIDERMIST CHOICE BEST WHITETAIL AWARD/\$ 100 Cash Award**– Limited to whitetail entries competing in the Division of Excellence and the Open Division. Selected by the registered competitors.
- 19. TAXIDERMIST CHOICE BEST LIFE-SIZE MAMMAL AWARD/ \$100 Cash Award**– Limited to life-size mammal entries competing in the Division of Excellence and the Open Division. Selected by registered competitors.
- 20. TAXIDERMIST CHOICE BEST FISH AWARD/ \$100 Cash Award**– Limited to fish entries competing in the Division of Excellence and the Open Division. Selected by the registered competitors.
- 21. TAXIDERMIST CHOICE BEST BIRD AWARD/ \$100 Cash Award**– Limited to bird, turkey, or waterfowl entries competing in the Division of Excellence and the Open Division. Selected by registered competitors.
- 22. NTA BEST OF SHOW, TAXIDERMY SCULPTURES/ \$150 Cash Award** – Selected by judges collectively from all first-place winners in the seven taxidermy sculpting categories. There are no score sheets, judges will consider overall merit.
- 23. NTA BEST OF SHOW, ORIGINAL ART/ \$150 Cash Award** – Selected by the judges collectively from all first-place winners in the five original art categories. There are no score sheets, judges will consider overall merit.
- 24. PEOPLE'S CHOICE, TAXIDERMY SCULPTURES/\$100 Cash Award** – Selected by registered convention members from the seven taxidermy sculpting categories.

- 25. PEOPLE'S CHOICE, ORIGINAL ART/\$100 Cash Award** – Selected by registered convention members from the five original art categories.
- 26. NTA INTERNATIONAL AFRICAN/ EXOTIC AWARD/\$100 Cash Award** – Selected by competition judges as the best large life size mount or game head. Limited to entries in the Division of Excellence and Open Division. In making the selection, judges are not bound by the highest numerical score but will consider the mounts overall merit.
- 27. DELIA AKELEY AWARD/\$100 Cash Award** – Limited to women competing in the Division of Excellence and Open Division. Selected by registered convention members. Ballots are included in registration packets. **There's an additional entry fee for this category.**
- 28. VAN DYKE'S AWARD/ \$100 Cash Award** – Selected by the judges as the mount that displays the most originality and creativity in the mammal, game head or whitetail category in the Division of Excellence and Open Division. In making the selection judges are not bound by the highest numerical score but will consider the overall merits of each entry with judges focusing on the impact of presentation.
- 29. NEW WAVE AWARD/ \$100 Cash Award** – Selected by the fish judge as the Best Reproduction Fish in the Division of Excellence or Open Division. In making the selection the Judge is not bound by the highest numerical score but will consider the overall difficulty, originality and creativity in presentation.
- 30. NTA BEST HABITAT AWARD/\$100 Cash Award** – Selected by the judges. Judges will pick a habitat that combines difficulty with a realistic presentation that should complement and not overpower the overall artistic expression of the mount. Chosen from all area of the competition.
- 31. NTA BEST OF SHOW YOUTH HORIZON AWARD/\$100 Cash Award** – Selected by the judges collectively as the best mount in the Youth Division. In making the selection judges are not bound by the highest numerical score, but will consider the mounts overall merit.
- 32. NTA BEST OF SHOW, CHILDREN'S HORIZON AWARD/ \$100 Cash Award** – Selected by the judges collectively as the best mount in the Children's Division. In making the selection judges are not bound by the Highest Numerical Score, but will consider the mounts overall merit.