

APS 2018 Web Award Winners



The American Philatelic Society is pleased to announce the winners in this year's Chapter and Affiliates Web Awards recognizing website excellence. A total of nine groups participated in this competition, which was open to all APS chapter clubs, all clubs or federations that run stamp shows, and their qualified affiliates.

It is difficult to overestimate the importance of the Internet to commerce and communication in 21st-century America. From ages 9 to 90, more of us turn to websites and other web connections for ideas and information, knowledge, advice and learning at every level than any other resource. Whether we're trying to reach complete beginners or advanced specialists, the presence of the stamp hobby on the worldwide web is a potent voice for our pastime, and a bright path of a long and creative future.

Each of this year's websites in the APS competition was evaluated according to a variety of categories, which assessed their overall content, structure and navigation, visual design, functionality and interactivity. The judges for the 2018 Web Awards were Terry Dempsey of Grayson, Georgia; Charles "Chip" Gliedman of Ridgefield, Connecticut; and Jessica Rodriguex of San Jose, California.

Special mention must be made of two of this year's Gold Award medalists. It's a "three-peat" for the Ebony Society of Philatelic Events and Reflections, which marks its third straight year as a Gold Award recipient, while the American Topical Association is a seven-time Gold Award winner, having been ranked in the top class ever since the awards were first bestowed in 2012.

All entrants received a certificate and distinctive electronic award badge to post on their site signifying their award level and competition year.

Gold



American Topical Association (www.americantopicalasn.org)



Collectors Club of Chicago (www.collectorsclubchicago.org)



Ebony Society of Philatelic Events and Reflections (www.esperstamps.org)



Empire State Postal History Society (www.esphs.us)



Philatelic Society of Lancaster County (www.lcps-stamps.org)



Rhodesian Study Circle (www.rhodesianstudycircle.org.uk)



U.S. Philatelic Classics Society (www.uspcs.org)

Vermeil



COMPEX Show Committee (www.compexstampshow.org)



San Jose Stamp Club (www.sanjosescc.com)

Congratulations to one and all!

By no means are these awards intended just to celebrate long-active well-established websites like these. The idea behind these awards is to encourage more stamp clubs, specialty organizations and affiliates to try their hand at creating websites of their own, to serve current members better and to reach out to new members as well.

The detailed scoring sheets used by the expert judges, who have considerable Internet experience themselves, are intended to showcase the strengths and to suggest areas for potential improvement in new websites, helping its sponsoring organization make progress in serving the hobby. Entry is free.

The 2019 American Philatelic Society Web Competition is eager for more entries, including submissions from first-time webmasters eager to get feedback on their Internet presence. The competition will be held in the Spring, with details available at www.stamps.org/Club-Benefits.