

The American Iris Society 2026 Photo Contest

May 1st to August 1st MIDNIGHT—California Time

The American Iris Society invites you to participate in their Annual Photo Contest. This contest is free and open to everyone, with the exception of contest judges and the contest coordinator, who are not eligible to enter. The winning photo of each category will be published in the AIS bulletin, *IRISES* and placed on the AIS web site. The 2026 winner of each category will receive a 2026 introduction (within USA only). The winners will also receive a single e-membership or annual membership extension to AIS. (Winners who are AIS Life Members will receive an e-membership or annual membership in an AIS section of their choice). Runners-up of each category will receive a 2024-2025 introduction (within the USA only). International winners will receive digital AIS memberships.

How to Enter: **NO PRINTS ACCEPTED.**

Completely fill out the entry form designating in which category you are entering your “digital” photos (i.e. Cat3 Margaret Hart with “Snow Flurry”) and use the same for your photo file name.

Then email (or snail mail a CD) of your digital high-resolution photos, along with the entry form, to the AIS Photo Contest Coordinator, at the address indicated.

You may submit up to 6 photos total for this contest. They may be all entered in one category or separate categories.

Irises must be the primary subject of the photo, and the photos should be of the Genus Iris. The deadline for entries is Midnight, August 1st, California Time.

Entries will be judged in the following 6 categories:

1. Irises in a landscape or garden (Show the iris in the garden).
2. Irises in the wild. (Species iris in the wild, field or planting).
3. A person or people at iris events or tours.
4. Close up of an iris or irises. (Whole flower is showing).
5. Iris photos-macro. (Close-up of bloom segments).
6. Photos of pets, wildlife or garden art with the irises.

*****youth photographers (under 19) can choose to enter any of the categories as an adult or a youth, but not both. Per the AIS Youth Protection Policy, youth entrants must disclose their age, even when competing in the adult category.**

Photos must be HIGH Resolution digital photos or RAW digital photos (300 dpi or higher) with a minimum file size of 2.1 MB. Prints will NOT be accepted for this contest.

Entries can be emailed (maximum two photos per email) to:

susandriver801@gmail.com

For snail mail, place “High Resolution” files on a CD (double-check the photos are there) and mail said CD along with your entry form. Include name of the variety or person in each photo (if known) and the photo file name on the entry form.

NOTE: Check your email the next 24-48-hours after sending your entries, in case of problems and your response is needed.

A panel of 3-5 judges will judge the photos received and their decisions will be final.

Where to send:

**The American Iris Society Photo Contest,
c/o Susan Driver, 177 Spring Valley Road,
McMinnville, TN 37110**

E-mail photos & entry form to:

SUBJECT – AIS Photo Contest

susandriver801@gmail.com

Entry Form:

Please designate Category #, photo name(s) and name of persons in photos, if any, to match name on digital file.

- 1 _____
- 2 _____
- 3 _____
- 4 _____
- 5 _____
- 6 _____

*****Youth entrants, please tell us your age, even if competing as an adult Age**

I am the person who took the photograph(s) enclosed, and I have not assigned any of my rights associated with these photographs to any third party. By entering the photo contest I am hereby authorizing The American Iris Society a royalty free, non-exclusive right to use winning photograph(s) and photographs worthy of honorable mention in publications, in brochures and calendars, on the Internet, and for other promotional uses. (Forms submitted by email do not require actual signature. By filling in the information below, either fully or partially, and submitting the form by email, you grant The American Iris Society the rights specified in the paragraph above).

Check that you agree with the above statement.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Email _____

Phone (_____) _____

Receipt of photos will be acknowledged by email.

Send entries and inquiries to: **susandriver801@gmail.com**