

**EXHIBIT PROSPECTUS**  
**National Topical Stamp Show 2012**  
**American Topical Association**  
**Lancaster Host Resort & Conference Center**  
**2300 Lincoln Highway East**  
**Lancaster, PA 17602**  
**June 22-24, 2012**

**Rules and Regulations Governing Exhibits**

The American Topical Association (ATA) defines a topical/thematic exhibit as one that develops a theme or story line based on the image or wording of the material shown.

1. This exhibition is open to all collectors regardless of society affiliation. Exhibits must be organized so as to be thematic in nature, but may fall into the thematic, display, illustrated mail or Cinderella divisions, or the post card, youth, or one frame classes, as defined by the APS Manual of Philatelic Judging. They will be judged according to the standards of the division or class in which they are entered. Exhibits must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor, and the preparation of the exhibit must represent the owner's efforts. The Exhibition Committee reserves the right to limit or reject any exhibit at its discretion without giving any reason. In such cases, a refund of the entry fee will be made. Each exhibitor will be notified of its acceptance or rejection within 30 days after the receipt of the complete application with required attachments.

2. All entries must be submitted on the official entry form (photocopies are acceptable). The entry form must include the exhibitor's name (a nom de plume may be used), the exhibit title, and a brief description of the exhibit for the official program. Each entry must be accompanied by the appropriate frame fee (see options on the Official Entry Form), and six copies of the title page/plan page, and synopsis. Applications will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis, and must be received no later than May 1, 2012, or until such time as all frames have been fully subscribed. Failure to show after an exhibit has been accepted forfeits the entry fee.

3. All exhibits are limited to a maximum of ten frames. Use one entry form for each exhibit.

4. Frames will hold 16 individual 8.5" x 11" (or European A4) pages. Each page must be enclosed in a sheet protector and must be identified on the reverse side of the page with the owner's name and a clear indication of mounting sequence. Exhibits should not show on their face any identifying marks of ownership aside from names on the covers.

(continued)

5. There will be a panel of five judges, three of whom shall be APS-ATA accredited judges and two may have only APS accreditation. The ATA urges judges to use the ATA "Official Thematic Score Sheet" to help them determine award levels for adult thematic exhibits. Judges will use the Uniform Exhibit Evaluation Form to report their opinions to exhibitors. Youth exhibits will be judged using the APS Thematic Youth Evaluation form.

6. There will be a Grand Award (eligible for the American Philatelic Society Champion of Champions Competition) and a Reserve Grand for the best and second best exhibits in the general class. Gold, vermeil, silver, silver-bronze, and bronze level awards will be available for all exhibits; adult and youth. Other awards of national philatelic organizations and ATA affiliates may be granted by the judges according to the rules of the sponsoring organization. All exhibitors will receive a copy of the APS UEEF (Uniform Exhibit Evaluation Form) or APS Youth form following the exhibition, representing the composite views of the judges. Exhibits are eligible for the ATA Grand Award except for those which have won an International Grand Prix, or three international Large Gold awards. No exhibit which has won the NTSS Grand Award in the last five years shall be eligible for the current Grand Award unless extensively re-written.

7. Exhibits will be mounted and dismounted under the supervision of the Exhibition Committee. Exhibitors or their agents desiring to mount and/or dismount their exhibits must so indicate on the entry form. Exhibits will be mounted from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Thursday, June 21, 2012. Dismounting will begin at 3:00 p.m., Sunday, June 24, 2012, and no early dismounting will be permitted for any reason.

8. Each exhibitor should arrange for insurance for the period of time that the exhibit is in transit, in storage prior to and following the exhibition, and while on display. Every precaution will be taken to safeguard all exhibits, including the provision of security personnel. However, the officers, representatives, and employees of the American Topical Association and the Lancaster Host Resort & Conference Center will not assume any liability or responsibility for loss or damage of any material due to any cause or reason.

9. Shipping instructions as well as frame assignment will be provided to exhibitors no later than May 15, 2012. Exhibitors who want ATA to return their exhibits must include the full anticipated cost for postage/insurance/registration with their application.

10. Any questions that may arise that are not covered in these Rules and Regulations shall be decided by the ATA Board of Directors at their sole and absolute discretion. For further information on the National Topical Stamp Show 2012, please contact Douglas N. Clark (Exhibits Chair), PO Box 427, Marstons Mills, MA 02648-0427. Email: [dnc@math.uga.edu](mailto:dnc@math.uga.edu). Telephone 1-(508)-428-9132.