

EXHIBIT PROSPECTUS
National Topical Stamp Show 2017
American Topical Association
Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport, 6401 So. 13th St., Milwaukee, Wis.
June 23 - 25, 2017

Rules and Regulations Governing Exhibits

Eligibility

1. This exhibition is open to all collectors, regardless of society affiliation, who conform to the rules contained in this Prospectus. The Exhibit Committee reserves the right to reject any Exhibit in whole or in part, and refund all fees, without giving reasons.

2. Consistent with the APS Manual of Philatelic Judging and Exhibiting (7th ed. 2016) (MOJ), exhibits need not fall within any of the conventional exhibit types. However, **regardless of the type of exhibit, it must develop a theme or story line based on the image or wording of the material shown.** Examples include, but are not necessarily limited to, conventional Thematic exhibits, as well as Topical exhibits and thematically organized exhibits falling within the conventional categories of Display, Illustrated Mail, Cinderella, Maximaphily, and Picture Postcard exhibits.

3. Exhibits must be the bona fide property of the exhibitor, and the preparation of the exhibit must represent the owner's efforts.

4. Exhibits that have won the APS Champion of Champions, a National or International Grand Prix, or three International large gold medals are ineligible to compete. No exhibit which has won the NTSS Grand Award in the last five years shall be eligible for the current Grand Award unless extensively rewritten.

5. Youth exhibitors must be under 21 on June 23, 2017, and have never exhibited as an adult.

Frames and Floor Plan

1. The exhibition will consist of approximately 190 frames.

2. Exhibits will be mounted in standard AMERIPEX type aluminum frames which hold 16 pages (up to 9 x 12 inches) in four rows of four (or

equivalent).

3. When mounted every effort will be made to insure that no exhibit will be split between rows, or turn a corner.

4. The Committee reserves the right to place exhibits according to its own plan, and its decision is final.

Exhibits

1. Adult multi-frame exhibits must comprise a minimum of two frames with a maximum of ten frames. Youth exhibits must comprise a minimum of one frame with a maximum of five frames. One frame adult exhibits are entered in a separate class.

2. An exhibitor may request consideration of more than one exhibit providing a separate Official Entry Form is submitted for each exhibit. No more than two multi-frame and two single frame competitive exhibits will be accepted from the same person.

3. The exhibit must be mounted on pages numbered on the back in sequential order. Each page must be enclosed in a transparent sheet protector, preferably closed on three sides.

4. Exhibits that require special frames or configurations of frames require approval of the show committee.

5. Exhibits should not show on their face any identifying marks of ownership aside from names on the covers.

Security and Liability

1. Insurance of any material is the sole responsibility of the Exhibitor and should include time in transit, storage, and while the exhibition is in progress. Every precaution will be taken to safeguard all exhibits, including the provision of security

personnel. However, no liability shall attach to the American Topical Association, the Crowne Plaza Milwaukee Airport, or their officers, members, volunteers, or employees for loss or damages.

Judging and Awards

1. The Committee will appoint a panel of five judges, three of whom shall be APS-ATA accredited judges and two may have only APS accreditation.

2. Judging will be on an open competition basis. Each exhibit will be judged on its own merits, against accepted standards of philatelic achievement, and in accordance with the APS Manual of Philatelic Judging and Exhibiting (7th ed. 2016). The decisions of the judges are final and without appeal.

3. Exhibits will be judged on the basis of eight levels of award: Large Gold, Gold, Large Vermeil, Vermeil, Large Silver, Silver, Silver/Bronze, and Bronze. There will be no limitation on the number of awards that may be made at any level.

4. The Committee will make every effort to obtain special awards and make them available to the jury.

5. A Grand award will be given to the multi-frame exhibit determined by the judges to be the best in the General Class. A Reserve Grand award will be given to the next best exhibit. A Single Frame Grand Award will be give to the best exhibit in the Single Frame Class. Also, a Most Popular Award will be given, as well as a Youth Grand Award.

6. The winners of the adult Grand Awards shall be eligible for, and are expected to enter, the respective APS Champion-of-Champions competition.

Fees and Entry Procedures

1. Entry must be made on the Official Entry Form supplied by the Committee, accompanied by all fees paid in full. As exhibit space is usually at a premium, early application is recommended. Each exhibitor will be notified of its acceptance or rejection within 30 days after the receipt of the complete application with required attachments.

2. **Two (2) copies each of a Title Page and a Plan Page (required) and a Synopsis**

(recommended) of the exhibit must accompany the Official Entry Form. PDF SCANS of your title page, synopsis, and any important but hard to find research materials may be emailed to the Exhibits Chair: henak8010@sbcglobal.net. Subsequent updates are accepted.

3. Applications will be considered on a first-come, first-served basis, and must be received no later than April 22, 2017 (March 29 to be included in the *Topical Time* listing), or until such time as all frames have been fully subscribed. Contact the Exhibits Chair if in doubt about availability of frames.

4. Failure to show after an exhibit has been accepted forfeits the entry fee.

5. Exhibitor's name will appear in the Program as per their instructions on the Official Entry Form.

6. Signature on the Entry Form constitutes acceptance of these RULES & REGULATIONS.

Logistics

1. Exhibits will be mounted and dismantled under the supervision of the Exhibition Committee. Exhibitors desiring to mount and/or dismount their exhibits themselves or by their agents must so indicate on the entry form.

2. Shipping instructions as well as frame assignment will be provided to exhibitors no later than April 30, 2017. Exhibitors who want ATA to return their exhibits must include the full anticipated cost for postage/insurance/registration with their application.

Miscellaneous

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 2017, please contact Robert R. Henak, NTSS 2017 Exhibits Chair, P.O. Box 170832, Milwaukee, WI 53217. Henak8010@sbcglobal.net 414-331-9301.