

# WESTERN REGIONAL COMPETITION

## Hosted by New Mexico Taxidermy Association

### Official Show and Competition – NMTA MAJOR AWARDS

Updated as needed according to previously unanimous voting by members and/or directors.

#### **NMTA MAJOR AWARDS:**

##### **The Suppliers Award**

This award is awarded to the piece chosen at the show by the corroborative decision of the suppliers/vendors in attendance at our NMTA Convention. This award is open to all divisions and categories including Gameheads, Large & Small Life-size, Birds, Fish, Reptiles, Reproduction and Collective Artists, therefore providing an opportunity for all competitors.

The suppliers/vendors in attendance at the NMTA Awards Banquet will present the award to the recipient.

##### **The Southwest Award**

To be eligible for this special award, the piece should represent something about our State or the Southwest in a positive manner. This award is open to game species native to New Mexico and the Southwest, including mammals, birds, fish, and reptiles, but would of course exclude species such as those found in Alaska, Africa, Europe, etc., including introduced species such as Oryx, Barbary Sheep, Ibex and feral hogs. The piece can also achieve and enhance the "Southwest" theme by including habitat (natural or man-made) found in New Mexico or the Southwest.

The piece will be deemed best overall at the show by the corroborative decision of the judges and is open to all divisions and categories including Gameheads, Large and Small Lifesize, Birds, Fish, Reptiles, Reproduction and Collective Artists, therefore providing an opportunity for all competitors.

Species eligible include:

Mule deer, white-tail deer, coues deer, elk, black bear, antelope, bighorn (desert and rocky mountain), turkey, javelina, cougar.

Furbearers include: raccoon, badger, weasel, fox, ringtail, bobcat, muskrat, beaver, nutria, coyotes, porcupines, & skunks.

Upland game include: blue grouse, quail (bobwhite, gambel's, Montezuma, and scaled), dove, pheasant, and squirrel (Albert's, red, gray and fox). Migratory birds are included.

Fish include: trout (rainbow, brown, brook, Gila, Rio Grand cutthroat), bass (small mouth and large mouth), panfish, perch, catfish (flathead, blue and channel), crappie.

Any reptiles found in the Southwest.

##### **2018 Annual Taxidermist Challenge** – ELK

All determined species for the challenge will automatically be entered into the challenge category. To qualify for this award, the piece will be deemed best overall challenge mount as the show by the corroborative decision of the judges. The winner will choose the challenge species for the next year.

##### **Collective Artists**

This award is for competition pieces where more than one person worked on the piece or group of pieces within one competition entry.

**Best Antelope** - All Pronghorn wall or pedestal mounts will automatically be entered into the Best Antelope Category. To qualify for the is award, the piece will be deemed the best overall pronghorn antelope mount at the show by the corroborative decision of the judges.

**Best All-Around** - This award goes to the individual who has entered a piece in three of the designated categories. To qualify for this award the entrant must designate the three entries to be scored, has won at least 2 blue ribbons and have the highest cumulative scores from the pieces entered in the category. The designated categories shall be gameheads (wall or pedestal), lifesize (small or large), birds, fish, or reptiles.

**Judge's Choice** - Awarded to the piece chosen by the judges.

**People's Choice** - Awarded to the piece as chosen by the voting public.

**Taxidermist Choice** - Awarded to the piece as chosen by the voting registered taxidermists.

**NMTA President's Award** - Award chosen by the NMTA President

**Roy Cogburn Award** - Chosen and Awarded by Roy Cogburn, One of the Original Founding Fathers of the NMTA

**Best African Award** - Highest scoring African entry sponsored by the NMTA

**Best of Category Awards** – Professional Division- Western Regional Best of Category Award – See categories page

**Best of Category Awards** – Master's Division- "Best in the West" Belt Buckle Award – See categories page

**WAYNE PRENTICE Memorial Award** – Highest Scoring Bird (Single or Group):

Wayne Prentice was a devoted educator and naturalist. He served as the NMTA Treasurer for several of the earlier years. Wayne was instrumental in providing the association with a place to hold some of its very 1st competitions at Apache Elementary School in Albuquerque, NM, where Wayne was a beloved teacher. Wayne's passion in taxidermy was birds and creating a wildlife museum for the students of Apache Elementary. We lost Wayne in May 2017. The NMTA is proud to present this NEW award in his honor and it will be presented to the highest scoring bird (single or group).