

Nebraska State Taxidermists Association



37th Annual Competition

WHEN: June 4-6, 2021

Where: Ramada Mid-Town, 2503 S. Locust St, Grand Island, NE 68801

How to Contact Hotel: (308) 384-1330

Reserve room by May 12th

Room Rates: If Booked by May 12th \$105.95 (Be sure to mention NSTA)

Early Show Reservation Deadline: May 20th, 2021

What to expect: Seminars by award winning Taxidermists, Taxidermy Supply Vendors, Auctions, Network with other Taxidermists, Raffles & Games, Family Fun, and plenty more.

For Your Convenience Online Registration Available

Check it out at nebraskastatetaxidermy.org

Vendors

Matuska Supply, Fatheree Stands
Roostin' Ridge, H&H Tannery
H-S Panels, Shell Creek Fur
Rhonda's Ruggery, Dave Furgeson Supply

Judges

Cory Caruthers– *Birds:* Cory is an amazing bird taxidermist from Iowa, well known for his bird products sold through Matuska Supply. We are excited to have Cory come back again, and sharing his expertise in bird taxidermy. Cory will be doing a seminar on standing pheasants.

Pat Wagner– *Whitetails:* We are privileged to have Pat back for our whitetail judge again this year. Pat is from Black Creek, WI, where he has his taxidermy shop and sculpts forms for Matuska Supply. Pat is an excellent taxidermist and judge, known mostly for his whitetail work. Pat will be doing a seminar on painting & finishing whitetails.

Clint Weber– *Game Heads and Mammals:* Please welcome Clint Weber to our judging family. Clint hails from Baggs, Wyoming, where he operates a full time taxidermy & butcher shop. Clint is excited to share his expertise in the area of mammals, and will be doing a seminar on test fitting and mannikin adjustments.

Jimmy Lawrence– *Fish:* Jimmy will be re-joining our Judging team to do fish this year. Jimmy is an extremely talented fish artist from Iowa, and brings a vast array of knowledge in the area of fish taxidermy. We are honored to have Jimmy as a judge, and look forward to a very informative fish seminar on finish work and repairs.

Competition Divisions

Youth – This division is for children. Anything their little minds and hands can create are welcome. Register these pieces at the registration table, not on the registration form.

Amateur (18 years old and under) – This division is for the young novice taxidermist and hobbyist.

Amateur Adult – This division is for the adult novice taxidermist and hobbyist.

Professional – This division is for the taxidermist engaged in the taxidermy industry for profit.

Masters – This division is for the taxidermist who has won 2 “Best of Category” awards at any time in any state, national, or world competition in a particular category or anyone who chooses to compete at the highest level.

Collective Artist – This division is for two or more taxidermists who have composed a piece together. They must compete at the level of the highest taxidermist. One ribbon will be given for each award. Ribbons may be purchased for the other taxidermists on the team. *Not* eligible for Best of Category, Best of Show, Competitor’s Award, or WASCO awards.

Commercial – This division is for *any mount from any category and any skill level*. Mounts will be reviewed from a slight distance and no flashlights will be used. One ribbon per mount will be awarded. Mounts entered in this division *are not* eligible for any other awards.

Challenge of the Art – This year’s challenge will be any **Horned Exotic Gamehead**. Pronghorn antelope do not qualify. All mounts will be given the same consideration by the judges regardless of division. The highest scoring mount out of all of the **Horned Gameheads** entries from this category will be the award winner. This year’s award winner will choose the 2020 challenge species. Mounts entered in this challenge are also eligible for all other ribbons and awards.

Avian Challenge– Rules are the same as Challenge of the art. This year’s challenge is **Pintail Duck**.

Best All Around Taxidermist– Must do a bird, fish or reptile, game head or deer head, and a life-size, highest cumulative score will be the award winner.

Competitor’s Award– 2 divisions Master’s or Professional, highest accumulative score of 4 mounts, all must be in Master’s or Professional.

Categories

Bird– any non-waterfowl bird; permits must accompany protected species.

Waterfowl– any waterfowl; permits must accompany protected species.

Turkey– any turkey.

Fish– any fish with actual skin; cast head and artificial fins allowed.

Whitetails– whitetail deer shoulder or half-lifesize only.

Game heads– all game heads including mule deer; excluding whitetail deer; including half-lifesizes; no rugs.

Life-size Mammals (amateur categories)–any mammal.

Small Life-size Mammals (pro & master)– any mammal coyote size and smaller.

Large Life-size Mammals (pro & master)– any mammal larger than a coyote.

Reptiles– any reptile.

Reproductions– any medium other than skin mounted taxidermy; commercial and self-made reproductions will be accepted; including acrylic, fiberglass, bronze, and woodcarving.

Live Mounting Competition– 3 hours will be provided for each competitor to put a mount together. Skin and form may be prepped, and form may have replacement nose attached, ear butts sculpted, etc. Eyes must be set and ear liners glued in during the competition. A short amount of time will be allowed the next day for final grooming, and then mounts will be moved to the competition room for voting. First, second, and third place will be awarded based on a vote of your peers.

NSTA Point System

All ribbons (except the commercial division) will be awarded based on the following point system:

First	90-100
Second	80-89
Third	70-79

For a full list and qualifications for each award offered at the NSTA show, please contact Daryl Keyes

Schedule

Thursday, June 3rd, 2021

12:00pm-2:00pm

4:00pm-9:00pm

Friday, June 4th, 2021

8:00am-1:00pm

11:00am-5:00pm

11:00am

10:00am-12:00pm

1:30pm-2:30pm

2:00pm

2:00pm-3:00pm

3:00pm-5:00pm

5:30pm-6:30pm

7:00pm-10:00pm

9:30pm

Saturday, June 5th, 2021

8:00am-10:00am

9:00am-5:00pm

10:00am-12:00pm

12:00pm-1:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

1:00pm-4:00pm

2:30pm-4:30pm

5:30pm-6:15pm

6:15pm-7:00pm

7:00pm

7:00pm-10:00pm

After Banquet

10:00pm-11:00pm

Sunday June 6th, 2021

8:00am-9:30am

8:00am-10:00am

8:00am-10:00am

10:00am

Vendor and Competition Room set-up

Registration open

Registration & entries accepted for competition.

Vendor Room open

Competition Room closes; Entries placed by committee after this

Seminar 1– Clint Weber– “Test Fitting & Mannikin Adjustments”

Seminar 2– Tyler Hohenstein- “Tax Laws and Benefits for Taxidermists”

Silent Auction open

Kids Seminar- All kids are welcome

Seminar 3- Pat Wagner- “Painting & Finishing Whitetails”

Picnic- Everyone is welcome. Free to all Attendees

Seminar 4– Live Mounting Competition

Executive Board Meeting

Seminar 5– Todd Kranau– “Carcass Anatomy & Lifesize Alteration”

Vendor Room open

Seminar 6– Jimmy Lawrence– “Finish Work & Repairs on Fish”

Competition Room open for Competitor’s Choice voting

Competition Room Open for Critiques

Show Room open to public

Seminar 7– Cory Caruthers- “Mounting a Standing Pheasant”

Social time

Banquet

Silent Auction Closes

Awards presentation and auction

Pictures taken of mounts with ribbons/awards and Taxidermists

Competition Room open

Business meeting– Everyone is welcome to attend. Elected officials announced.

Competition Room open for critiquing

Vendor Room open

Mounts are released

Reminder:

Challenge of
the Arts this
year is a

**Horned
Gamehead**



Avian Challenge is **Pintail**

Scholarships

Nebraska State Taxidermy Scholarship: (\$500). The NSTA Scholarship is awarded to the best candidate and is chosen by the Executive Board. Write a letter of application to tell why you would like to receive the scholarship. Explain some of the following: How is the money going to be used? How will it further your taxidermy knowledge and skills? Why are you a good candidate for the scholarship?

The Scholarship money must be used within 1 year, before the next annual convention. You will be awarded the money once we have confirmation of where and when you are using the money. Use of scholarship money is up to the discretion of the executive board members and may be denied at any time.

Deadline for submitting an application to the NSTA for the Scholarship is August 21st, before registration closes. If you would like to submit your application sooner (recommended), mail a letter to the president. You may also use email to submit your application. Addresses are listed below. Any other questions, please call Daryl Keyes at (402) 276-1005

Justin Suurvarik Scholarship (\$250.00)

I created The Justin Suurvarik Memorial Scholarship to help any taxidermist who would like to attend a class to better their skills and advance the art of taxidermy. Justin was about the “art” of taxidermy. He did not like looking at a “dead fish on a stick”, but a fish that showed movement and was artistic in the mount. He was primarily a fish and reptile taxidermist, but was branching out to learn game heads when he died. When I choose a winner for the scholarship, I want to know who you are, what you want to learn, the class you hope to attend, and above all read the passion for taxidermy in your words. It does not need to be a long letter but could be a short paragraph, just include the things mentioned above. The scholarship is worth \$250, and will be paid through the association to the class of your choice.

Thank you for allowing me to continue to honor Justin in this way. ———**Jennifer Suurvarik**

Justin Suurvarik Scholarship expires in 1 year at the next year’s show. Submit your applications to Daryl at the address below.

Send your application to:

Daryl Keyes

29497 205th Ave

Columbus, NE 68601

darylkeyes93@gmail.com

