

## Hidden Hollow '25 IMAGING COMPETITION

The Astronomical League will host an astrophotography and art/sketching competition at the 2025 Hidden Hollow Star Party. Winners will receive engraved gold, silver, and bronze medals along with award certificates. Here are samples of the 3-inch gold medals awarded at the 2025 NCRAL convention in Minneapolis:



Competitions will be held in five categories as follows:

- Deep Sky (>500 mm focal length; no solar system)
- Solar System (>500 mm focal length)
- Rich Field (201-500 mm focal length, including SeeStar)
- Wide Field (up to 200 mm focal length)
- Art and Sketching

Images will be voted on by convention attendees using anonymous ballots distributed as people sign-in or register at the convention. Attendees will select and rank their top three images in each category.

Zipf's Law will be used to accumulate ranking points (1 pt. for a first-place vote, 1/2 point for a second-place vote, 1/3 point for a third-place vote). This is the method recommended by mathematicians to avoid outlier votes from affecting outcomes.

You may enter up to 6 images in each category, but each image stands alone in the voting. To prevent your images from competing against each other, we recommend entering a maximum 3 images in the contest and displaying any additional images as "exhibit only."

Instructions on registering your images and sketches will be conspicuously posted by 5 pm on Friday.

Schedule:

**Register and display images by 10 am Saturday.**

**Voting takes place from 10 am to 3 pm Saturday.**

Best of luck!

-- Chuck Allen and Terry Mann