On the PSA Website
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Navigating the PSA Website

From a website's perspective, one of the worst things that can happen is to have a user get lost. And with a site like PSA's, with over 5000 pages (choices), it could easily happen if the navigation failed.

But navigation, though seemingly logical, can be a guessing game. You try to give people the option of getting somewhere else and hope that they think like you do—or you think like they do when giving navigation options. But it's impossible to predict how someone else will think.

The PSA website's navigation has several types of navigation on each of its pages, divided into global and page-specific. Global navigation appears on every page of the site and page-specific may or may not appear on an individual page.

Global Navigation

Every page of the PSA website contains three rows of black buttons with white writing—these lead to the main areas of the site and most, when selected, show several sub-categories when you hover over them. In addition, if you ever want to return to the home page of the PSA site, just click the PSA logo and you'll be taken there. Other logos will take you offsite, such as the Facebook®, Twitter®, and Instagram® logos. All pages also contain breadcrumbs on them, a row of words separated by colons that appear directly above the off-white square of each page. The last entry in that row of words is the current page you are on and if you click back on any of the words between colons, you'll cycle backwards through that section of the website. For example, if the row says: Galleries : ROPA Galleries : PPSA Galleries : A – D: Alma Apple, that would mean you were on Alma Apple's gallery page and if you were to click A – D (one backwards), you'd get to other PPSA galleries of people whose last name started with A – D. One backward from that would get you to all PPSA Galleries, back again to ROPA galleries and back again to Galleries. It's a quick way to get to another location within the same subject.

Page-Specific Navigation

This is navigation that is particularly placed on a page to help you navigate intuitively through the site. Page-specific navigation can appear on the top or bottom of a page as well as the left column. For example, in the ROPA galleries section, you may be on a particular gallery page, but the left column will display other types of ROPA galleries, assuming you may want to see them.

On a country page? The left column will have links to other countries from the region while the bottom of the page will have links to all the countries listed in PSA.

On a division page? The left column will list the four sections of each division (info, for individuals, for clubs, and recognition & exhibitions), as well as the subcategories of the page you are on. For example, if you are on an info page in a division, the other choices for info will also be listed in the left column. The bottom of the page usually is reserved for the next level down, all the other divisions.

Sound confusing? Hopefully not! The main point is that we try to give you as many choices to find like-minded topics if you are on a particular topic. We don't want you getting lost! ■

Online Courses for PSA Members

PSA Online Courses are a PSA-member benefit, designed to help beginning and advanced photographers improve their skills in a guided manner. The courses are free to all members and usually take place over a period of months. To enroll in a course, visit the PSA website and fill out the corresponding online Enrollment Form. You will be contacted shortly thereafter to set up the course.

https://psa-photo.org/index.php?education-online-courses