# UBTheJudge

Michal Lebl, 2009

This software simplifies evaluation of entries by panel of judges. It can be applied in different competitive situation when individuals or teams submit their entries (photographs, paintings, sculptures, poetry, technical designs, business proposals, various skills like singing or dancing performance, etc.) and panel of judges is submitting their votes for individual entries at the same time. All judges have to cast their vote before the next item is presented. Program was written for judging of entries in the photographic club and its performance will be explained here using photographs as example items.

Entries should be supplied in the form of text file where each line contains the following data fields separated by commas (,):
Entry number, Entry Title, Entry Author, Entry Category, Entry picture location (if available - this last field is not compulsory - it could be link to the location on the hard drive of the computer or URL for the Internet file). Comma must not be placed inside of any data field. To understand the input file structure, it is advised to open the supplied file "TestFileLocal.csv" or "TestFileInternet.csv". The first file asks for picture files installed on the local computer in subdirectory "Pictures". Optionally, entries can be added at the time of the judging one by one, but it slows down the judging progress.

When you start the software it automatically opens the "ModelFile.csv" and populates the grid of entries. This file can be used for testing all aspects of the program and test the judging process. If this file cannot be located, program will populate the table with default entries.

When you are ready to start your judging, click the *File Open* menu and open file with your entries. During judging this file is not modified and stays the same. Judging results are stored in the file with name generated from your input file by adding "-judged-category" to the name of your file (so "YourFile.csv" will become "YourFile-judged-Portrait.csv" or "YourFile-judged-all.csv" if you did not specify any category). New version of the renamed file is saved after each round of voting, and therefore the results are not lost in the case of computer problem or power failure.
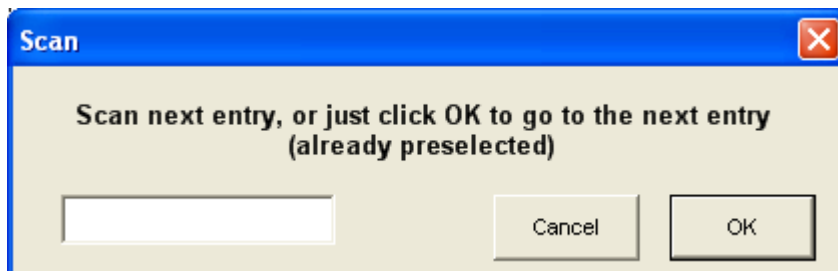
When you open your file, you have two options - either click on the entry to be judged or click *Scan* button. At the click on the entry the file details are filled into the fields on the left bottom side of the form, entry name is highlighted with red background in the table grid, and picture of the entry is shown (if it is available). At this point judges can enter their score (1 to 9) either on the keyboard of the computer, or via individual keypads attached to the computer (through USB cables, or wirelessly).

The best way to obtain these keypads is to go to your local electronic store and ask for USB keypad, or order them on the internet – go to www.amazon.com and in the search field enter "usb keypad".

If a judge enters invalid symbol (character or command), program will ask for revote. You can also force revote at any time by clicking on the selected entry. Clicking on the entry which already has the scores assigned will result in a question whether you want to rejudge that entry.

If the voting was successful, program will display the score, fill it in the table, save the file, and open the *Scan* form again. In this form you can either fill in the number of entry to be judged next, or scan it in if

you are using bar coding for your entries. The scanned entry will be selected after pressing *OK*, and voting for that entry can start. If you would not fill any number or scan anything and press *OK*, then the unscored entry which is next in the list will be filled in and readied for judging. If you press *Cancel* button, nothing will be selected and program will wait for you to either click the entry in the table or click *Scan* button. For smooth judging operation it is advised that you pre-sort your entries in the spreadsheet and load this pre-sorted file to this program. Then you will be able to just press "Enter" to load the next item for judging once the previous entry has been scored.

When you are done with judging all entries, you can click *Awards* button and the awards and honorable mentions (according to your award structure) will be selected. In case of the same point value in these places you will be asked whether to give more awards for the same place or whether you want to break ties. For breaking ties, click *Find ties* button and then click again on the entries with a tie. The particular entry will be selected and ready for new vote - in this case, however, the original score will be kept and new vote will be added as the decimal points. The process can be repeated until all ties are resolved.
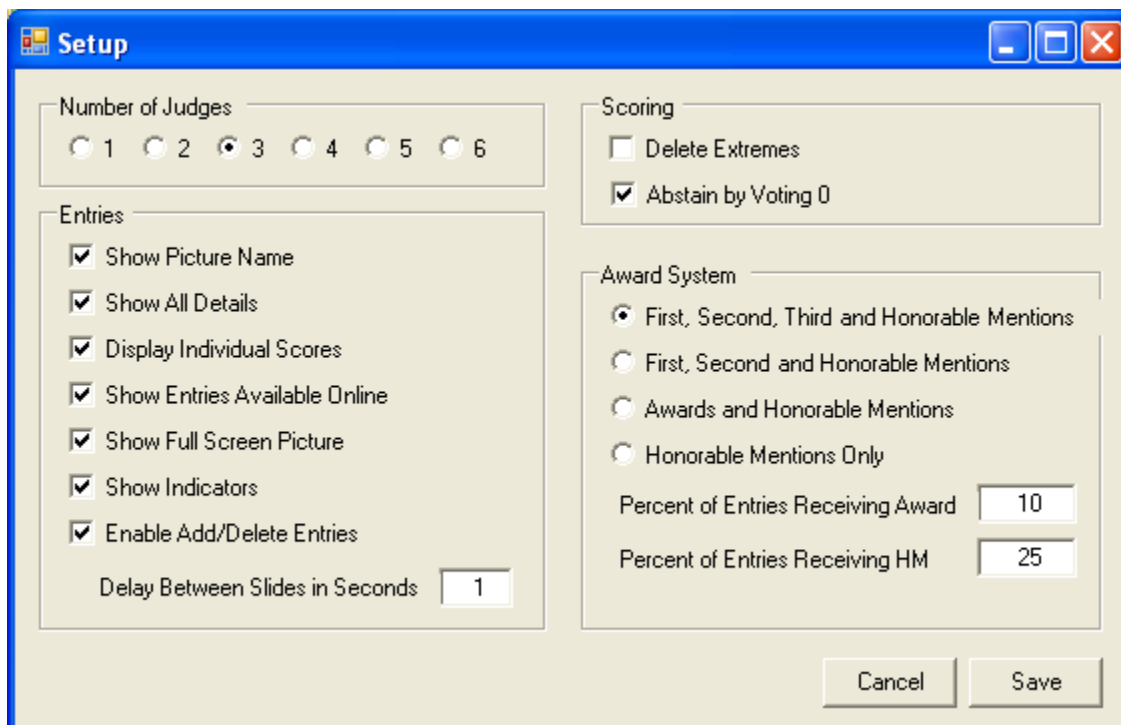
The *Setup* menu allows you to select:

In the Entries section
   - number of judges
   - whether you want the entry details (Author's name, file name and used directory) to be visible on screen
   - whether you want the individual scores to be displayed (the colored rectangles on the top of the screen only change color to show how many judges already casted their vote – and if you choose this option, after the total is calculated, individual scores are revealed. The order – left to right – signifies time order in which the votes were casted, not the seating order of individuals casting their votes.)
   - whether you want the pictures available on line to be displayed (showing the on line available entries may slow down the process if there is slow Internet connection)
   - whether you want the full screen version of the picture to be shown for judging (if you would be using two displays, picture can be shown on the first screen and the program on the second one)

- whether you want to have small green indicators being displayed on the full screen to show how many judges already voted
- possibility to delete and enter new entries to the table
- delay between slides in slide show or after each completed judging round (this time is also used to display final score before going to the next entry)

In the Scoring section
- whether you want to delete lowest and highest score inputs to eliminate biased opinions (it makes sense only if you have three or more judges)
- whether the judge can abstain from the vote by voting 0 (for example not voting on his own entry - in this case his vote will be replaced by an average of other votes rounded up to the integer number)

In the Award System section you can define your award system. Entries are self explanatory.

Clicking on the text <u>Category</u> under the table will change the option to select entries based on the <u>Author</u>. The text will change to <u>Author</u> and clicking on it again will bring back <u>Category</u> based selection. Clicking on the *Sort* button will sort the table according to the key specified on its right. Second click will sort in the opposite order (ascending/descending).

If you will be judging digital pictures available either on your local hard drive or available on the internet, you can utilize couple of specific functions. Clicking *Slide Show* will let you preview all digital pictures, *Award Show* will show only pictures selected by judging process. Clicking on the picture shown on the left side of the grid (if available) will open the full screen version of that picture (of course only if the setup entry <u>Show Full Screen Picture</u> is checked – this is actually default setting). If the picture is open in this way, judges can input their entries without interference with the picture. As soon as the inputs are collected, total number of points is displayed on the bottom of the screen for defined time and original screen will return. After selection of the next entry to judge, full screen picture will resume. The full screen picture projection can be disabled by un-checking <u>Show Full Screen Picture</u> in the Setup window.

Following screen captures will illustrate how the program works.
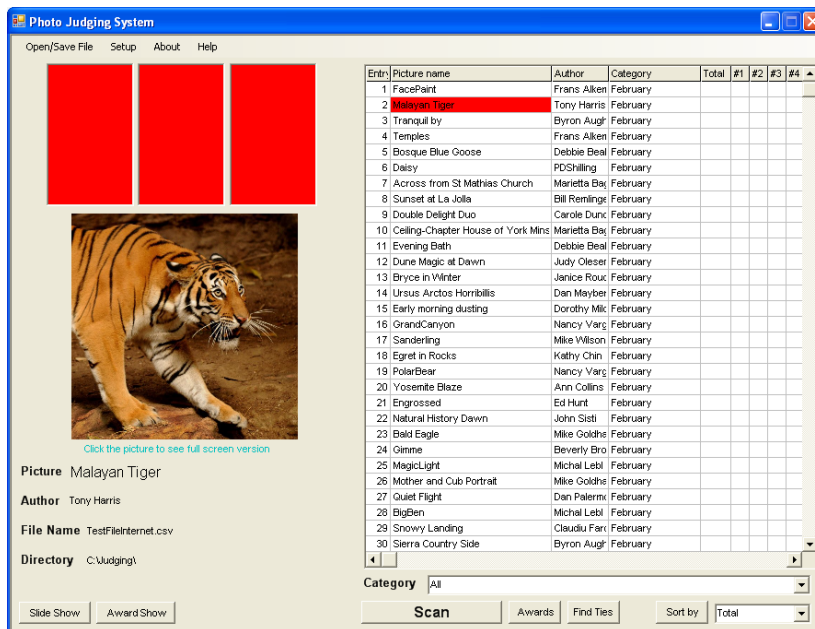
The picture number 2 was selected and is ready for judging. All details are being shown. If you don't want the details being displayed, uncheck Show All Details in the Setup window. If you don't want anybody to see the names of the authors in the table, make the width of the Author column very small by grabbing the field separator on the right hand side of "Author" field title and drag it to the left (result is shown below.)
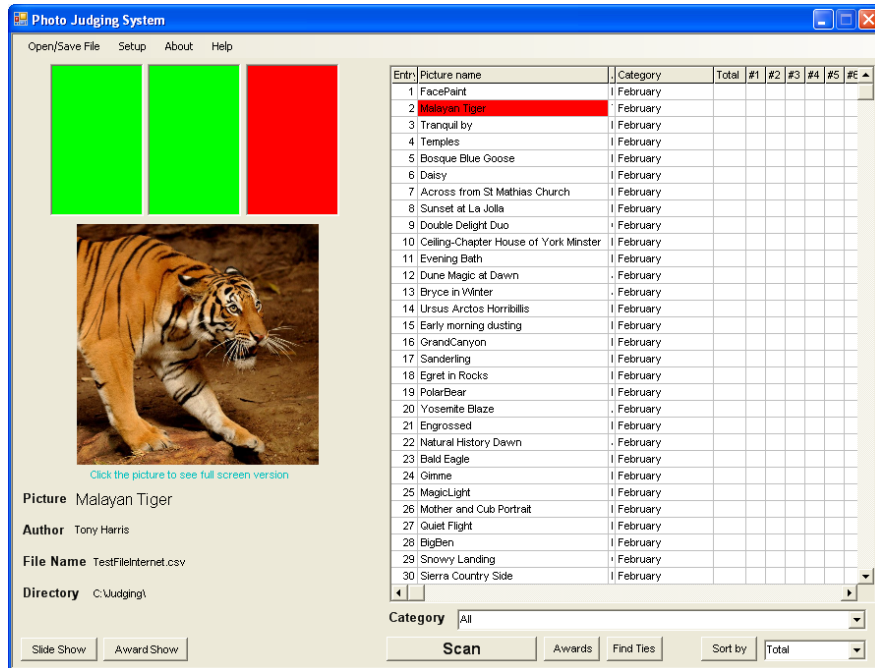
Two judges entered their input and we are waiting for the third judge.

Clicking on the small version of the picture opened the full screen version and the third judge could enter his entry at this time. Little green squares on the top left show judging progress (two judges voted).

As soon as the third judge entered his value, the total appeared under the picture for several seconds (in this case the picture was rejudged for breaking the tie and therefore it received decimal points value) and original window came back to get another picture ready for judging.

The need to break ties was realized by clicking button "Find Ties"

Tie break?

There is a tie. Do you want to break tie? If you answer No, you may want to give more awards for the same place.

Yes   No

After clicking button Awards and answering previous question "No", the awards were distributed according to the award system defined in Setup window. In this case first, second and Third prizes were awarded and multiple awards were given without breaking the ties.

Photo Judging System

Open/Save File   Setup   About   Help

Entry	Picture name	Author	Category	Total	#1	#2	#3
21	Engrossed by Ed Hunt	pp	First place	25	8	9	8
19	PolarBear.jpg	Nancy Varga	Second place	24	8	8	8
13	Bryce in Winter.jpg	Janice Roudebus	Second place	24	8	8	8
15	Early morning dusting by Doroth	pp	Second place	24	8	8	8
25	MagicLight.jpg	Michal Lebl	Second place	24	8	8	8
9	DOUBLE DELIGHT DUO by Carol	pp	Third place	21	6	7	8
10	Ceiling-Chapter House of York N	Marietta Baginsk	Third place	21	7	8	6
23	Bald Eagle.jpg	Mike Goldhamer	Third place	21	7	7	7
6	Daisy_PDShilling	pp	Third place	21	7	8	6
3	Tranquil by Byron Aughenbaugh	pp	Third place	21	7	8	6
5	Bosque Blue Goose.jpg	Debbie Beals	Third place	21	6	7	8
24	Gimme-Beverly Brock	pp	Third place	21	8	7	6
12	Dune Magic at Dawn by Judy Ol	pp		20	7	7	6
2	Malayan Tiger.jpg	Tony Harris		20	6	7	7
28	BigBen.jpg	Michal Lebl		20	7	7	6
18	egret in rocks-by Kathy Chin	pp		19	6	7	6
4	Temples.jpg	Frans Alkemade		18	6	6	6
1	FacePaint.jpg	Frans Alkemade		18	6	6	6
8	Sunset at La Jolla.jpg	Bill Remlinger		18	5	6	7
17	Sanderling.jpg	Mike Wilson		18	6	6	6
29	Snowy Landing.jpg	Claudiu Farcas		17	5	6	6
20	Yosemite Blaze.jpg	Ann Collins		17	7	5	5
27	Quiet Flight by Dan Palermo	pp		16	5	5	6
22	Natural History Dawn.jpg	John Sisti		16	5	5	6
11	Evening Bath.jpg	Debbie Beals		15	5	6	4
26	Mother and Cub Portrait.jpg	Mike Goldhamer		15	5	5	5
7	Across from St Mathias Church.	Marietta Baginsk		15	5	5	5
14	Ursus Arctos Horribillis.jpg	Dan Mayberry		13	5	4	4

Picture

Author

File Name TestFile.csv

Directory C:\Judging\

Category All

Slide Show   Award Show   Scan   Awards   Find Ties   Sort by Total
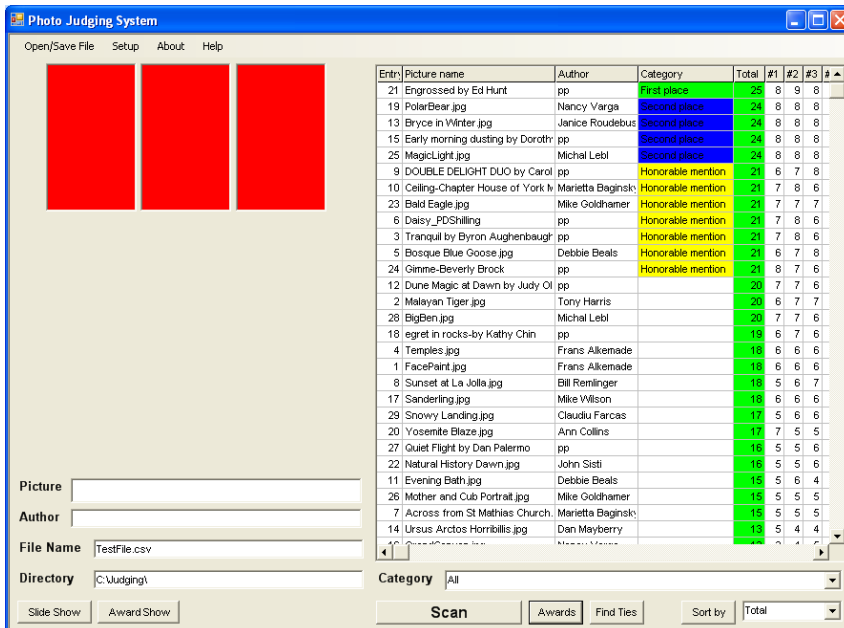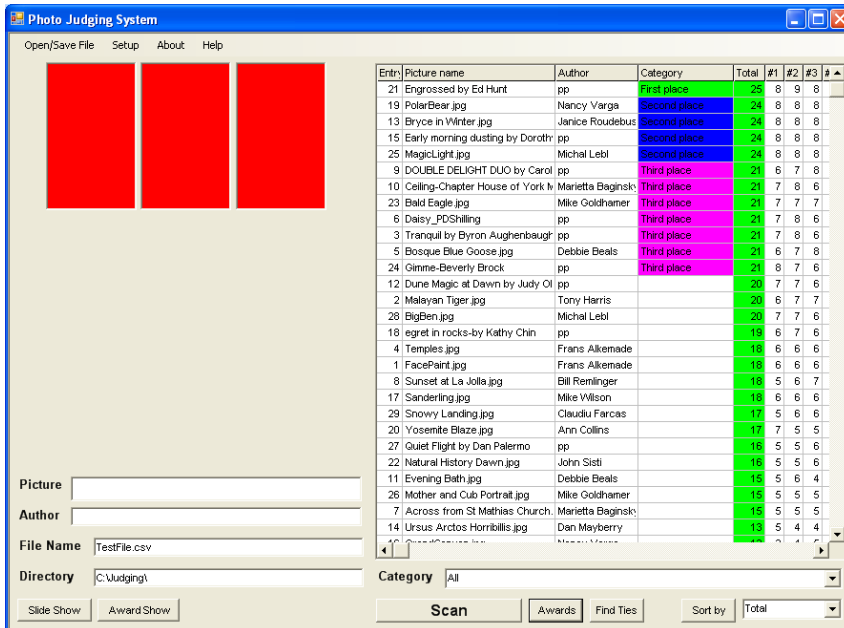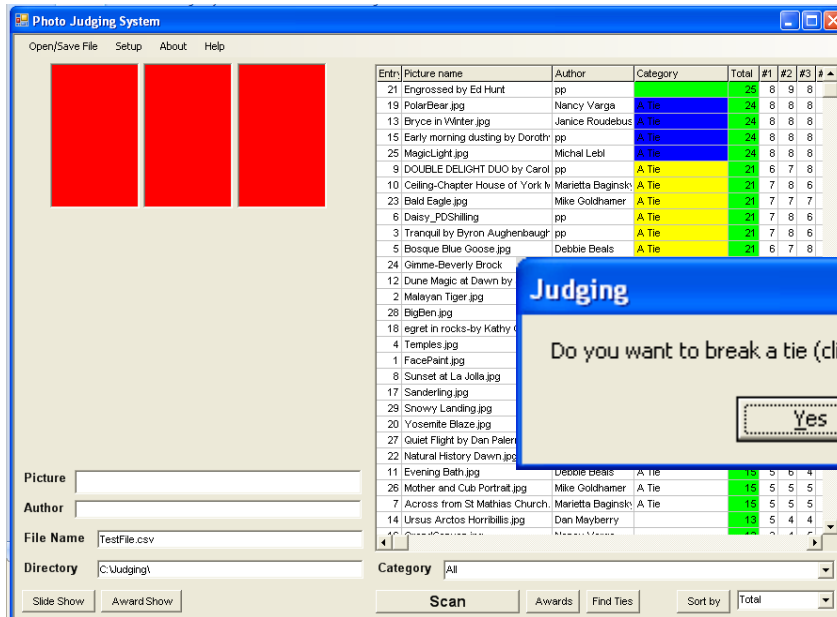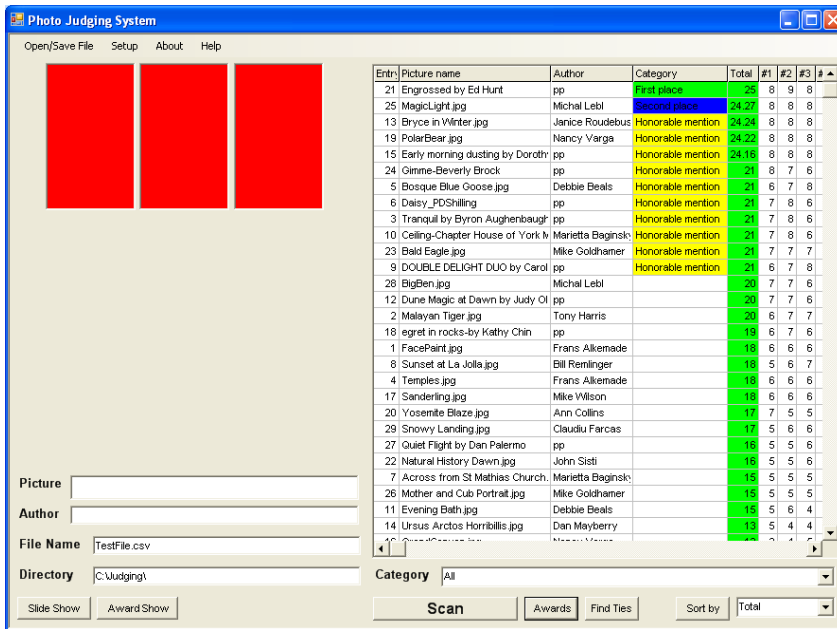
In this case First, Second prize and Honorable Mentions were distributed.

Photo Judging System

Open/Save File   Setup   About   Help

Entry	Picture name	Author	Category	Total	#1	#2	#3
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15	Early morning dusting by Doroth	pp	Second place	24	8	8	8
25	MagicLight.jpg	Michal Lebl	Second place	24	8	8	8
9	DOUBLE DELIGHT DUO by Carol	pp	Honorable mention	21	6	7	8
10	Ceiling-Chapter House of York N	Marietta Baginsk	Honorable mention	21	7	8	6
23	Bald Eagle.jpg	Mike Goldhamer	Honorable mention	21	7	7	7
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7	Across from St Mathias Church.	Marietta Baginsk		15	5	5	5
14	Ursus Arctos Horribillis.jpg	Dan Mayberry		13	5	4	4

Picture

Author

File Name TestFile.csv

Directory C:\Judging\

Category All

Slide Show   Award Show   Scan   Awards   Find Ties   Sort by Total

In this case ties were found by clicking Find Ties button, and the window asking about breaking the ties appeared.

After the ties were resolved, only one first and one second prize were awarded, plus Honorable Mentions up to the percentage defined in the setup window.

Notes:

If you are connected to Internet, the program will always check for the new version of the software and will give you the option to download the latest version.

Any comments and suggestions for improvement address to michallebl@gmail.com.