



**13th ANNUAL IPA COMPETITION GROWS GLOBAL REACH  
WITH REGIONAL PROGRAMMING IN THE PHILIPPINES**

**REGIONAL WINNERS TO COMPETE FOR TOP PRIZES AT THE LUCIE AWARDS**

**Presented by the Lucie Foundation**

**Zankel Hall at Carnegie Hall, NYC, Tuesday, October 27, 2015**

MANILA, PHILIPPINES, (June 8, 2015) - International Photography Awards continues to expand its regional programming to include the Philippines. 2014's competition saw the addition of Russia and China as the first countries to have their own focused IPA programs and now the Philippines will also be included in this year's installment of The Lucie Awards gala ceremony. The expanded mission will showcase the enormous photographic talent of the Philippines.

The top winners of these regional competitions will be showcased alongside the IPA Best of Show at Splashlight Studios later this year in addition to an exhibition in Manila. These top winners will compete alongside the IPA's finalists for IPA's top cash prizes in New York City on October 27, 2015. IPA Philippines will also focus on engaging university and college students to help provide an opportunity for exposure to them at an early stage in their photographic career.

To launch IPA Philippines, Hossein Farmani, founder and president of the Lucie Awards will visit Manila to meet with key professionals in the local photography community, including media partners Digital Photographer Philippines, the organizers of Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation (FPPF), De la Salle College of Saint Benilde and the Camera Club of the Philippines, the oldest and largest camera club in this region. These individuals will form the Advisory Committee to best advance the program and promote the exhibitions connected to it. "It is our mission to make the IPA the premiere, truly international photographic competition. By expanding into the Philippines this year, we are reaching another milestone," said Mr. Farmani. "There is much talent to be discovered in the Philippines, as we found in China and Russia."

Cat Jimenez, Project Director of IPA Philippines and Executive Director of Lucie Foundation stated, "I am exceptionally proud to launch this particular competition and the surrounding exhibitions, given that the Philippines are my motherland. I have always known that this is a country with visually sophisticated photographers and it is my pleasure to bring that imagery to the world at large."

Winners from IPA Philippines will be invited to compete against all IPA International and Regional finalists at The Lucie Awards in New York City on October 27, 2015. The top four prizes are: **INTERNATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR (\$10,000US)**, **DISCOVERY OF THE YEAR (\$5,000US)**, **DEEPER PERSPECTIVE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR (\$5,000US)** **MOVING IMAGE PHOTOGRAPHER OF THE YEAR (\$2,500US)**. To date,

the International Photography Awards have given over \$250,000 in cash prizes to these winners. IPA PI regional winners will also receive separate cash prizes.

**Submissions to IPA Philippines will open online before the end of June 2015 at [www.photoawards.pi](http://www.photoawards.pi)**

# # #