

CHICAGOPEX 2026 / AAPE AmeriStamp Expo - Philatelic Exhibitor's Prospectus
Our 140th Anniversary **November 20-22, 2026**

Rules and Regulations Governing Philatelic Exhibits

CHICAGOPEX is a World Series of Philately Exhibition. All WSP rules also apply.

1. **Each prospective exhibitor must submit an entry application, properly signed and completed, payment for exhibit and accompanied by one copy of the title page of the exhibit and a synopsis. Title and synopsis may be sent electronically.** Neither the exhibitor's name nor any other personally identifiable information should be included on the title page or the synopsis. A separate application must be submitted for each entry. Each exhibit must be the property of the exhibitor. The CHICAGOPEX Philatelic Exhibits Committee will decide whether an application is accepted or rejected; no reason need be given for a rejection. Decisions of the Committee are final.
2. Exhibits can be mounted on any size sheets, encased in transparent sheet protectors for mounting in the frames. CHICAGOPEX frames have an inside display dimension of 35" wide, 56³/₄" high and 1/2" deep (88'145'1cm). Each frame will hold 16 pages of size 9"x11¹/₂" (22.5x 28cm) or smaller, in four rows of four pages each. Eight 11"x 17" pages can be used. Larger pages can be accommodated with prior notice and approval by the Committee.
3. The entry fee is \$15 per exhibit plus \$10 per frame, except for applicants under the age of 21 for whom the fee is only \$1 per frame. Single frame exhibits are a flat \$30. Exhibits Committee reserves the right to limit the number of frames per exhibitor to the available space, or to refund entry fees of exhibits which in the opinion of the Exhibits Committee cannot be accommodated. Failure to exhibit after an entry has been accepted will cause forfeiture of all entry fees.
4. An exhibitor can enter up to two multi-frame (2-10) exhibits. **Single frame exhibits entered under the AAPE Single-Frame Team competition will be given preference. If you are entering outside the Team competition, your single frame exhibit will be held until the number of Team requirements are known, at which time additional single frame exhibits may be accepted if space is available.**
5. A panel of APS Accredited judges will act as jury. The decisions of the jury shall be final. The Grand Award recipient will be eligible to participate in the APS "Champion of Champions" World Series of Philately. The Single frame Grand and two Reserve Grand exhibits will be eligible to participate in the AAPE Single Frame "Champion of Champions" event to be held at next years Chicagopex.
6. **Special FIP Option for 2026.** Exhibitors interested in exhibiting on the international level may request the "FIP Option". This is in addition and independent of the regular competition and will be judged by separate FIP qualified judges. No separate awards are provided for FIP Option exhibits. The FIP Option provides exhibitors with a point breakdown, written comments, and the opportunity to meet with the FIP judges at the show. The FIP jurors may decline to judge any exhibit they deem outside their collective area of expertise in which case the FIP Option entry fee of \$30 will be refunded. **The FIP Option is limited to the first 12 exhibits that apply.** Exhibitors selecting the option should have read the appropriate GREVs and SREVs for international exhibits. These can be found on the FIP website www.f-i-p.ch.
7. Exhibit title and exhibitors' names will be listed in the show program and palmars. You may indicate on the entry form whether you want to be unlisted or use an alias.
8. **Exhibits will be mounted on the evening of Thursday, November 19, between 3:00pm and 6:30pm.** After the exhibitor checks in at the Exhibits Committee table, a member of the Chicago Philatelic Society will assist the exhibitor with mounting his or her exhibit.
9. **No exhibit may be removed prior to the close of the exhibition on Sunday, November 22, at 3:00pm.** Travel plans should be made accordingly. Please note that our show site is at least 30 minutes from O'Hare Airport.
10. The application deadline is September 15, 2026. Notice of acceptance or rejection will be made no later than September 30, 2026.

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11. Mailed in exhibits must be sent prepaid, and will be returned at the expense of the owner. **Only mail via USPS** will be accepted **unless prior arrangements are made**. **Mailed in exhibits must be sent so that they will arrive between Tuesday, November 10 and Monday, November 16, to the address supplied in the acceptance letter.** We welcome exhibits from overseas collectors, but are unable to deal with customs matters; we therefore suggest that you secure a third party to act as "Commissioner" for such exhibits.
12. Exhibitor must arrange for **private insurance** during transit to and from the exhibition, and at the exhibition.
13. Due precautions will be taken to protect exhibits against loss or damage, including security guards on 24-hour duty. No responsibility of any kind or character shall attach, however, to CHICAGOPEX, the Chicago Philatelic Society, the American Association of Philatelic Exhibitors, the Westin Chicago Northwest, or to any of their officers, agents, members or employees, for any loss, damage or costs arising from any cause or reason whatsoever.
14. Exhibitor's signature on the application constitutes acceptance of the Rules and Regulations in this prospectus.

Awards

Regular Awards: CHICAGOPEX is an "Open Class" competitive exhibition. An unlimited number of Large Gold, Gold, Large Vermeil, Vermeil, Large Silver, Silver, Silver-Bronze, Bronze medals will be made available to the jury.

Special Awards: CHICAGOPEX Grand (Bernard Hennig Award), Reserve Grand (Felix Ganz Award), CPS/AAPE Single-Frame Grand and two Reserve Grands, and Best Youth Exhibit award (Bette & Ralph Herdenberg Award); **Chicago Philatelic Society Awards:** Best Exhibit by a CPS member, other than the Grand or Reserve Grand; Best Exhibit by a First Time Exhibitor at National Level; other awards, including APS, AAPE and specialty society awards will be made available as determined by the Awards Committee.