

ANIMALS-DOMESTIC: Photos focusing on the various animals that have been tamed and made fit for a human environment. To be considered domesticated, the animal must have their behavior, life cycle, or physiology systemically altered as a result of being under human control for many generations.

Examples include: Chickens, cows, dogs, cats, geese/ducks (domestic use), hamsters, horses, pigs, sheep, goats, etc.

ANIMALS—WILDLIFE: Category focuses on animals not tamed or domesticated and commonly found in the wilderness or the bodies of water throughout the country or world. Photos can be of wildlife in nature, zoos, and/or petting zoos.

Examples include: Birds, deer, elephants, snakes, whales, etc.

CATCH-ALL: Photos that do not fit into one of the other categories. **NOT ALLOWED:** A duplicate photo also entered in another category. Examples: Polaroid image & emulsion transfers, still-life (inanimate objects), flat lay photography.

DETAILS & MACRO: Getting in close is the name of the game for this category. The goal is to zoom in close on an object to see its finer details or to make small objects appear life-sized or larger than we do not normally get to see with the naked eye. Examples: Insect eyes, veins on a leaf, a reflection in a water droplet, etc.

ELEMENTS OF DESIGN: Images use of graphic elements of design. Photos that showcase line, shape, pattern, form, texture, perspective, etc. Photo can consist of any subject matter.

Examples: Line, pattern, perspective, shape, etc.

NOT ALLOWED: Digital creations or graphic designs made in software such as Photoshop, InDesign or Illustrator

ENHANCED: A single photo that has been technically manipulated to be an abstract, panoramic, stitched or composite image. Other variations are all owed as well. Examples: Software edited composites and creations, images greatly manipulated with a variety of filters, photos with artistic borders, photos stitched into a panoramic, etc.

FOOD: A still life specialization of photography, aimed at producing attractive photographs of food for use in such items of advertisements, packaging, menus and/or cookbooks.

Examples: Cakes/pies, Easter eggs, fruits and place settings, ingredients, sandwiches, Thanksgiving dinner, etc.

Not allowed: A photo of alcohol beverages.

LANDSCAPE & NATURE (NON ANIMAL): The focus of this category includes landscapes, outdoor scenic, nature images, sunsets, urban landscapes, seascapes, cityscapes, and farms. Images focus on the beauty of the outdoors. Examples: Gardens/landscapes, outdoors, scenic, etc. Not allowed: Primary subject is a person or wildlife.

LEADING LINE (NEW): This image composition technique features lines that draw the viewer's eye from point A to point B, which is the primary subject. Example: A river that begins in the foreground and draws your attention to a photogenic bridge in the background.

LONG EXPOSURE (NEW): Also known as time-exposure or slow-shutter, this technique involves using a long-duration shutter speed. It can be used to sharply capture stationary elements of an image while blurring, smearing, or obscuring the moving elements. It is also used in low-light conditions. Examples: fire-works, moving water, light trails, Milky Way, light painting, night or low-light conditions, etc.

Motion/Action: The capture of movement within a single photo. The subject appears stopped or frozen. Examples: Ferris wheel spinning, sporting events, horse running across a field, etc.

People: People focus from all walks of life, parenting and family, children, babies, models/fashion, and couples. All individuals in the photos must have provided consent and permission as a subject. If requested, a release will be needed from the photographer and subject. Examples: Babies, families, kids, portraits, models/fashion, etc.

Plant/Flora: Photos of interesting, unique, and beautiful flowers and flora. Photography can occur outdoors or indoors. Photo subject should be that of a single flower, plant, bush, tree, etc. Large collections of plant/flora should be considered for entry in the Nature & Landscape category.

Examples: A rose, an upward shot of a tree, etc.

Shadow/Silhouette: A silhouette is an outline that appears dark (typically a single color) with little or no details/features against a brighter background. Recording patterns of light and shade for a desired effect or emphasis is the definition of a shadow. The silhouette or shadow must be the primary subject and focus of the image. Examples: shadows/silhouettes of people, plants, animals, structures, architectures, or natural structures.

NOT ALLOWED: reflections

Theme (NEW): The 2022 theme is "What does the Pandemic look like to you?". What does the Pandemic look like to you? Did you stay at home? Did you sit through numerous zoom calls? Did you try a nre project? What did the pandemic look like to you? **NOT ALLOWED: photos manipulated by soft-ware.**
