

PHOTOGRAPHY GUIDELINES

PHOTOGRAPHY EVALUATION CRITERIA

Each entry will be evaluated on criteria established by LCS Festival including the following:

- Selection
 - Appropriate—appropriate level of difficulty; appropriate for this festival in subject and taste; overtly “religious” subject, symbols, or theme are not required.
 - Fresh concept – demonstrates a fresh approach
 - Style – keeps with genre (traditional or digital)
- Communication
 - Range of appeal – relevant and appealing to multiple audiences
 - Originality – displays an individualistic style; avoids overused ideas or concepts.
 - Initial impression – meaning and general intent readily grasped; immediate visual impact.
 - Visual impact – imagery that is visually compelling; forceful, subtle, or vivid.
- Presentation/Technique
 - Elements of design – incorporation of shape, line, pattern, texture, space, framing, size, angle, and cropping.
 - Flow – a natural flow of image(s) for viewer’s eye.
 - Organization – apparent focal point; organization of compositional elements.
 - Lighting – effective use of light; develops mood and nuance.
 - Consistency – consistent use of medium.
 - Proportion – appropriate use of space.
 - Use of color/contrast – black and white reveals contrast; color is clear and appropriate for image.
 - Technique – proper use of the medium.
 - Finished presentation – completeness; photograph must be mounted (no framing other than matte) with overall size no smaller than 4 by 6 inches and no larger than 32 by 32 inches.
- Effectiveness
 - Effectiveness – produces an overall effective visual impression or impact
 - Preparation – an apparent effort of time and thought in preparation.
 - Understandable concept – the combination of subject selection, communication, presentation/technique, and effectiveness in attaining a response.

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Photography – Still Life

1. The photograph may be color or black and white of a still life, macro photography, or design.
2. Photo entries must be submitted online prior to the Festival. Information is provided after registration.
3. Each entry should consist of one photograph only.
4. Photos from a traditional or digital camera are acceptable.
5. Digital Alterations: All photographs should accurately reflect the subject matter and the scene as it appeared. Photos that have been digitally altered beyond standard optimization will be disqualified. Acceptable are adjustments to color, contrast, brightness and sharpness; removal of dust and scratches; cropping; black and white conversions; and use of HDMI (high dynamic range imaging), where multiple exposures of the same scene are combined for a greater tonal range.

Photography – Landscape and Architecture

1. The photograph may be color or black and white of landscape or architecture.
2. Photo entries must be submitted online prior to the Festival. Information is provided after registration.
3. Digital Alterations: Acceptable artistic alterations are adjustments to color, contrast, brightness and sharpness; removal of dust and scratches; cropping; black and white conversions; and use of HDMI (high dynamic range imaging), where multiple exposures of the same scene are combined for a greater tonal range.
4. Other acceptable artistic alterations are selecting objects/subjects within a picture or selecting the whole picture to apply the use of artistic digital filters and effects. Examples of artistic filters and effects are watercolor, neon glow, posterizing, stained glass, and others which do not show the scene in its originality.
5. The addition, duplication, deletion or moving of objects in the photos is also acceptable.

Photography – People and Animals

1. The photograph may be color or black and white of people or animals.
2. Photo entries must be submitted online prior to the Festival. Information is provided after registration.
3. Each entry should consist of one photograph only.
4. All photos from a traditional or digital camera only. Photographs taken with a cell phone are not acceptable.
5. Digital Alterations: All photographs should accurately reflect the subject matter and the scene as it appeared. Photos that have been digitally altered beyond standard optimization will be disqualified. Acceptable are adjustments to color, contrast, brightness and sharpness; removal of dust and scratches; cropping; black and white conversions; and use of HDMI (high dynamic range imaging), where multiple exposures of the same scene are combined for a greater tonal range. Not acceptable are photo composites (combination of two or more photos, not of the same scene); the addition, duplication, deletion or moving of objects in the photos; or the use of artistic digital filters and effects. Examples of artistic filters and effects are watercolor, neon glow, posterizing, stained glass, and others which do not show the scene in its originality.