

Cherry Blossom Festival's Celebration of Photography

Presented by Macon Memorial Park Funeral Home & Cemetery

ELIGIBILITY RULES. General.

The focus of the competition is photography. All images submitted must originate from a camera, either film or digital, and must be printed and mounted.

All images entered must be the original work of the contestant, printing and mounting excepted.

All entries must depict the subject based on a reasonable fidelity to reality. If any adjustments or manipulations are readily apparent on the face of an image, then it does not fit the definition of a reasonable fidelity to reality, and the competition chairperson has the discretion to either move the image to the

Creative Class or disqualify it. For the photojournalism class, special restrictions apply.

Images of photographs, television pictures, moving pictures, paintings, nudes, or any subject matter not suitable for a family audience are subject to being disqualified, at the discretion of the competition chairperson.

Judging in all Classes, except the Creative Class, will weigh technical photographic factors, such as exposure, lighting, composition, effective use of depth of field, and focus, as well as the subjective impact of the image.

This contest is open to all photographers.

DIVISIONS:

The competition contains the following Divisions: Beginner; Advanced Amateur; and Open. Please read the following Division Criteria carefully to determine the proper Division for your entries.

Beginner Division: Contestant has been practicing photography for less than five years as a hobby, and has no experience doing photography professionally. If the contestant has previously entered regional, state, or national photography contests in the Beginner Division, by entering the Beginner Division in this competition, the contestant is certifying that he/she has not won 12 First Place ribbons, or 2 Best of Show/Award of Excellence ribbons in the Beginner Division. A contestant who has won 12 First Place ribbons, or 2 Best of Show/Award of Excellence ribbons, in the Beginner Division, must move up to the next higher Division.

Advanced Amateur Division: Contestant has approached photography seriously for five years or more, or contestant has extensive experience in shooting, developing, and/or printing images, but has not pursued photography as a profession, either full or part time; or a contestant who has won 12 First Place ribbons or 2 Best of Show/Award of Excellence ribbons in the Beginner Division. A contestant who has entered regional, state, or national competitions in the Advanced Amateur Division, and has won 12 First Place ribbons, or 2 Best of Show/Award of Excellence ribbons at that level, must move up to the Open Division.

Open Division: Full-time and/or part-time professional photographers are those who pursue photography primarily as a source of revenue. All professional photographers, whether full-time or part-time, must enter in the Open Division. Any non-professional contestant who has won 12 First Place ribbons, or 2 Best of Show/Award of Excellence ribbons in the Advanced Amateur Division must enter the Open Division.

A contestant who has not won the requisite number of ribbons in a Division, but who feels that his/her work is competitive at a higher Division level, may choose to enter at a higher level. In all MGCC sponsored

competitions, once a contestant competes at a certain division level, he/she may not move down from that division in subsequent contests to a lesser division, i.e., you may not enter as an advanced amateur in one contest and as a beginner in another. The only exception to this would be if a particular contest does not offer the same level as the contestant belongs. In such a situation the rules for that competition would apply.

SECTIONS:

Images may be submitted in one of two sections: Color or Monochrome.

Color includes all images which have color in the image.

Monochrome images include those shot with black and white film, with the color sensor on a digital camera set to black and white, or color digital images that have been desaturated of all color. Monochrome also includes sepia images and toned prints.

CLASSES:

There are nine [9] Classes in each Section. Entries are limited to two [2] entries per Class.

People: Images in which adults, children, babies, alone or in a group, are the dominant subject rather than the surroundings. This class includes portraits, and character studies.

Animals: Live animals, either alone or in a group, in which the animal(s) dominate the image. This class includes mammals, fish, birds, insects, and reptiles.

Scenic: Landscapes, seascapes, architectural structures, and industrial scenes.

Still Life: Inanimate objects, indoor or outdoor stills, in which the principle subject is non-living matter. NOTE: Images of cut flowers should be entered in the Still Life Class.

Plant Life: Living plant material, i.e., flowers, trees, fungus, etc., in which the plant material dominates the image. NOTE: Images of cut flowers should be entered in the Still Life Class.

Photojournalism: Subject matter must consist of a story telling image or sequence of images, such as would be seen in the news media, including human interest, documentary, and sports news. The story telling, emotional impact, and accuracy of the depiction will be granted more weight than technical photographic factors. Editing should maintain the integrity of the photographic images, content and context. Do not manipulate in any way that could mislead viewers or misrepresent subjects. Any image in this class in which substantive adjustments or manipulations are apparent may be disqualified at the discretion of the competition chairperson. NOTE: If a sequence of images is used, all images must be at least 5x7 inches, and all images needed to tell the story must be mounted on a single backer board no larger than 16x20 inches. Matting is permitted.

Creative/Digital Darkroom: Any photographic images created or drastically altered using a creative process, whether in camera, with a software program like Adobe Photoshop or Corel Painter, or in a wet darkroom.

This class is exclusively for showcasing such artistic alteration. The alteration/manipulation should be apparent. A brief explanation of the process used to create the image must be included on the back of the image.

Cherry Blossom Festival: Images in which the subject is The Cherry Blossom Festival.

PRIZES:

First place, Second place, Third place, and Honorable Mention ribbons will be awarded in each Class. Two "Best of Show"/"Award of Excellence" awards will be given in each Division - one for Color images and one for Monochrome images. Regardless of the number of entries in each class, judges are instructed to award

Cherry Blossom Festival's Celebration of Photography

Presented by Macon Memorial park Funeral Home & Cemetery

ribbons only to images that are worthy of merit.

Monetary prizes will be awarded based on the judges' scoring sheets, not based on whether a ribbon is attached to the entry.

RULES FOR PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGES

All images must be printed, and mounted on proper backing board, such as foam-core or gator board. Images taped to the back of an overlay mat without a proper backer board are not acceptable.

Outside dimensions of entries may not exceed 16 x 20 inches, in even inches [no fractions], and 1/4 inch in thickness.

Total print area of the image(s) must be at least 65 square inches. For a single image, the minimum size allowed is 8x10 inches. For a multiple image presentation [see Photojournalism Class], the minimum size allowed is 5x7 inches, but there must be more than one image.

Matted images should approximate the following proportions:

Image	Mat
8x10	11x14
11x14	16x20

An 8x10 inch image mounted in a 16x20 inch mat is subject to disqualification.

No plastic or wire hangers on the back of the backer board, and no frames are allowed.

Images may be covered with plastic shrink wrap for protection.

Each entry should have an entry information form mounted on the back upper right corner. Proper location is necessary to determine the correct orientation of the image as determined by the photographer. Identifying information on the front of the entry, such as signature or watermark, is not allowed. Entry information must be typed or printed legibly and fixed firmly to the back of the image. The entry information should include, in the following format:

Entry Title: _____

Division: _____
[Beginner; Advanced Amateur; or Open]

Section: _____
[Color; or Monochrome]

Class: _____
[e.g., People, or Animal, or Scenic, etc.]

Photographer: _____ [Full
name, mailing address with zip code, and phone
number]

DATES AND DEADLINES

1. Entries should be turned in by February 29, 2008, at the Cherry Blossom Festival Office at 794 Cherry Street, Macon, Georgia, weekdays from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm.

2. Entries may also be mailed to arrive at the Festival Office no later than February 29, 2008. Send entries

with entry blanks properly filled out to: Photography Contest, Cherry Blossom Festival Office, 794 Cherry Street, Macon, GA 31201. All entries sent by mail or express delivery must be prepaid. For return of entries by mail or express delivery, include an appropriate sized self-addressed, stamped mailer. Cherry Blossom Festival cannot accept responsibility for return of entries.

3. Entries must be picked up on the last day of the festival, Sunday, April 6, 2008, between 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm, in the building where the images are shown at Central City Park, Macon, GA. Entries may also be picked up from the Cherry Blossom Festival Office after April 7, 2008, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 4:30 pm.

4. All reasonable care will be taken to protect entries from damage or loss. However, Cherry Blossom Festival will not be responsible for any loss, damage or unclaimed entries after April 18, 2008.

5. All entries must be accompanied by an Official Entry Form. Photocopies of the Official Entry Form are acceptable.

6. Any image that has been awarded a ribbon in a prior Cherry Blossom Festival Photography Contest is ineligible for entry in the 2008 contest.

7. Photographers not complying with the above rules, or falsifying information, will be disqualified from competition.

8. Cherry Blossom Festival shall have final authority for interpretation of the rules and eligibility issues.

EXHIBIT

Entries will be exhibited during the Cherry Blossom Festival in The Round Building at Central City Park. The exhibit will be open to the public March 28-April 6, 2008, during park hours. The exhibit will include all winning entries. However, all entries may not be displayed. The Cherry Blossom Festival Celebration of Photography chairperson will determine the entries selected for display.

ENTRY FEES

There is an entry fee of \$2.00 per photograph, with a maximum of \$30.00. Make checks or money order payable to Cherry Blossom Festival, and include with the Official Entry Form. The deadline for contest entries is 4:30 pm, Friday 29, 2008.