



2019 RPCA Photo Contest Rules

The City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities (RPCA) invites all photographers, both amateur and professional, to share your best original photos taken at any City of Alexandria RPCA park, center, program, or event. We're especially looking for high resolution photos that best represent our mission to "enrich the City of Alexandria by creating meaningful experiences through public space, cultural activities, and programming." All photos have the possibility of being used in publications and promotions, with photographer acknowledgment when feasible.

Photo submissions accepted: 9/13/19 – 10/15/19

Public voting: 11/1/19 – 11/15/19

Winners announced: 12/2/19

Prizes

Prizes will be awarded for each category: "Parks", "Recreation", and "Cultural Activities". There will also be one "Grand Prize" winner. Winners are scheduled to be announced on 12/2/19 on the City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities website and contacted by email that week. Prizes will awarded at the 1/16/20 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. All winning photographs will be displayed on the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities website and at various recreation centers, and all winning photographers will receive an award certificate in addition to their prize.

Rules

1. Eligibility -The contest is open to the public, except for Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities employees and their immediate families.
2. Deadline – Photo submissions are accepted from 9/13/19 – 10/15/19. Photos must be submitted to the City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities via the online submission form by 11:59 p.m. on 10/15/19 to be considered.
3. Photographer's Rights - By entering the contest, the photographer grants the City of Alexandria through its Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities the rights set forth below and others as more fully set forth in the attached Copyright Agreement:
 - (i) a nonexclusive, worldwide, irrevocable, royalty-free license to reproduce, distribute, use in publications and associated trade magazines, publicly display and publicly perform the photographs you submit to the City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, and
 - (ii) the right to use your name, city, state and country of residence in promotions and other publications.



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4. **Photographer's Responsibility** - If you choose to include close-up shots of people in your submission, you are responsible for obtaining the necessary releases from the individuals depicted, and must be able to provide copies of those releases to the City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities upon request. (a model release form is available on the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities website).
5. **Photograph Criteria:**
 - (i) All photographs must have been taken within the past three years at a City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities park, center, program or event to be considered.
 - (ii) Photos should accurately reflect the subject matter and scene as it appeared. Photos should not be digitally altered beyond standard optimization (removal of dust, cropping, reasonable adjustments to exposure, color and contrast, etc.). Multiple exposures that have been combined to produce a single "high dynamic range" image are acceptable.
 - (iii) Image orientation may be portrait or landscape. Images must be submitted in digital format. Images should be high resolution of at least 3.2 million pixels (3.2 megapixels) or greater. Resolution can be calculated by multiplying the pixel width of the image with the pixel height. For example, a setting of 2000 x 1600 pixels = 3.2 megapixels.
 - (iv) Images that do not meet these requirements may or may not be judged at the judging panel's sole discretion.
6. **How to Submit:**
 - (i) Digital photos only (no prints) in jpeg format must be submitted via the City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities website with a completed and signed copyright agreement.
 - (ii) A maximum of ten photographs per photographer may be submitted in any combination of the contest categories.
7. **On the Photographer Agreement and Submission Form, information should be filled out completely, including:**
 - (i) Photographer's name and contact information
 - (ii) Location - identify the park, recreation center, or other location where photo was taken.
 - (iii) Photo title
 - (iv) Category - choose one of the three photo contest categories: "Parks", "Recreation", and "Cultural Activities." (Judges reserve the right to adjust the category selected when deemed appropriate.)
 - (v) Year Taken - (No photographs older than three years.)



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8. Judging - The judges appointed by the Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities Department shall determine finalist and winner eligibility in its sole and absolute discretion. All decisions made by the judges are final. Photograph entries will be judged on the following criteria:
 - (i) Overall impact
 - (ii) Originality/creativity
 - (iii) Technical excellence
 - (iv) Artistic merit
 - (v) Relevance to theme: " Enrich the City of Alexandria by creating meaningful experiences through public space, cultural activities, and programming."
 - (vi) Adherence to the Photo Criteria as outlined above.

9. Indemnification - By entering this contest, all participants agree to indemnify and hold harmless the City of Alexandria against any and all loss, liability, damage and expense (including reasonable attorneys' fees) to the extent permitted by law arising out of any demand, claim, suit or judgment for damages to any property or bodily injury to any persons, including, without limitation the agents and employees of the City of Alexandria out of or be caused by such party, its employees, servants, contractors, and/or agents in connection with the exercise of its rights and obligations under the terms of participation in this contest.

10. Other:
 - (i) The City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities is not responsible for lost entries.
 - (ii) The City of Alexandria Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities reserves the right to adjust any deadline(s) as the result of causes beyond its immediate control.
 - (iii) This contest is void where prohibited by law.