

# The official rules of The Monte Vista Crane Festival's 2017 Digital Photo Contest.

## **ELIGIBILITY**

The Digital Photo Contest ("Photo Contest") is open only to legal residents of the United States who are at least ten (10) years old. Trustees, Board Members, Employees, interns, or partners of Crane Festival, as well as the immediate family (spouse, parents, siblings, and children) and household members of those employees, are not eligible to enter.

## **SPONSOR**

The Photo Contest is sponsored by The Monte Vista Crane Festival, P.O. Box 585, Monte Vista, CO 81144. ("Sponsor"). This Photo Contest is in no way sponsored by, endorsed by, administered by, or associated with, Facebook.

## **ENTRY PERIOD**

The Photo Contest begins at **12:00am MST on January 12, 2017** and ends at **11:59pm EST on February 15, 2017** (the "Entry Period"). Entries submitted before or after the Entry Period will not be eligible. Sponsor's computer is the official time-keeping device for the Photo Contest.

## **WHAT TO ENTER**

The Crane Festival is committed to a future for people and nature and we want to see it through your eyes. For our 2017 Photo Contest, we'd like to know: "what do you love most about Nature in the San Luis Valley?" Capture those vibrant moments and express what nature in the Valley means to you!

To ensure eligibility for the contest, please submit files no larger than 500KB at the time of entry. Higher resolution files of at least 240 dpi/ppi may be requested should an entry be preselected to be awarded a prize or an honorable mention. Contestants should also have available RAW files to verify ownership and to ensure that post-capture processing meets the contest rules. There should be no identifying marks, logos, names, etc. on the submitted entries. All photographs should accurately reflect the subject matter and the scene as it appeared. Photos that have been digitally altered beyond standard optimization (removal of dust, cropping, reasonable adjustments to exposure, color and contrast, etc.) will be disqualified. Black and white treatments will be acceptable, but sepia tones, selective coloration, etc. will be rejected.

Entries may originate in any format — including, but not limited to digital files, digital prints, color transparencies, color prints, or black and white prints — so long as they are submitted electronically in a .JPEG .jpg, or .png form. Multiple exposures that have been combined to produce a single "High Dynamic Range" image are acceptable.

Entries should include metadata if at all possible. Caption information should include:

- Location in the San Luis Valley
- Name of location (ex: Monte Vista National Wildlife Refuge)
- City
- State/Province
- Detailed caption of subject matter

Previously published material for which non-exclusive rights were granted may be entered as long as you still maintain the right to grant us a license (see "Your Rights" below). You must be able to disclose when and where the photo appeared previously upon request.

*If you choose to include 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 Crane Festival upon request.*

The following submissions are ineligible:

- Photographs of pets or domestic animals.
- Images of captive animals photographed in zoos and commercial game farms.
- Photos that violate or infringe upon another person's rights, including but not limited to copyright.
- Photos that contain sexually explicit, nude, obscene, violent or other objectionable or inappropriate content.
- Images that involve the willful harassment of wildlife, or damage to the environment by the photographer.
- Images that involve putting any individual or animal in danger.
- Images taken more than three years prior to the beginning date of the Contest (January 2, 2017).

The Crane Festival shall determine entry eligibility in its sole and absolute discretion.

## **HOW TO ENTER**

Entries will be submitted to: [Cranephot17@ci.monte-vista.co.us](mailto:Cranephot17@ci.monte-vista.co.us)

You can select an image directly from your computer desktop, or submit images from Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for consideration in the contest.

You may enter up to three (3) times, but you may not use an agency or automated system to enter. Sponsor reserves the right to reject any additional entries or entries that do not comply with these Official Rules. By entering, you indicate your unconditional agreement to, and acceptance of, these Official Rules and Sponsor's decisions, which are final and binding. You cannot win a prize unless you comply with all requirements in these Official Rules.

Entrants may be asked to supplement their submission (such as with a paragraph about their photo or the highest resolution version of their photo) anytime on or after February 15, 2017.

## JUDGING

Photos will be judged on originality, technical excellence, composition, overall impact, artistic merit and subject matter relevance to humans and nature, except that the People's Choice award will be determined based on which of the category winners receives the most votes at the Festival. Judging will be conducted by a panel of selected Crane Festival volunteers and a group of guest judges to be selected by the Festival at its sole discretion (the "Panel"). The Panel will evaluate all valid entries and pick the following winners in the following categories:

1. **Overall** (2 winners. 1 first prize, 1 runner-up): You've nailed it. Your images rise above the rest and encapsulate our natural world in a stunning way.
2. Categories:
  1. **People & Nature** (1 winner): Illustrates above and beyond the hope that people and nature can thrive together on this planet.
  2. **Young Photographer** (1 winner): Best vibrant moment of living in nature, taken by a 10 – 20 year old.
  3. **Wildlife**: (1 winner) Best wildlife moment. Note that Images that involve the willful harassment of wildlife, or damage to the environment by the photographer will be ineligible.
  4. **Adventure**: (1 winner) Best action/adventure nature moment.
3. **Honorable Mentions** (10 honorable mentions will be selected): Amazing images that showcase and illustrate moments of life and its interaction with our natural world.
4. **People's Choice** (1 winner), to be chosen by popular vote during the Crane Festival.

All judging decisions are final. Please do not contact us about the status of entries or judging.

The Festival will notify the winner via the contact information provided at the time of entry.

## **POTENTIAL WINNER REQUIREMENTS**

Except where prohibited, a potential winner may be required to complete and return an affidavit of eligibility, including proof of age, and liability/publicity release within 14 days. If a potential winner is a minor, his/her parent or legal guardian will be required to sign the documents on his/her behalf. If a potential winner fails to return these documents on time, an alternate potential winner may be selected in his/her place.

## **PRIZES—**

The Festival will award prizes for: **People’s Choice, One (1) Overall grand prize winner, One (1) Overall runner-up winner, Four (4) Category winners (People and Nature, Wildlife, Adventure, Young Photographer).**

**10 honorable mention winners will receive recognition at the Festival.**

Prizes will only be shipped to an address in the United States.

All winners are responsible for paying any income taxes and any and all other costs and expenses not listed above. If the prize value equals or exceeds \$600, a winner will need to complete, sign and return an IRS W-9 form prior the award of any prize. Any prize details not specified above will be determined by Sponsor, in its sole discretion. A prize may not be transferred and must be accepted as awarded. A winner may not request cash or a substitute prize; however, Sponsor reserves the right to substitute a prize with another prize of equal or greater value if the prize is not available for any reason, as determined by Sponsor, in its sole discretion.

In addition to the prizes, winners photographs will be displayed at the Monte Vista Visitor’s Center for up to 6 months, then the framed photo will be sent back to the contestant.

## **YOUR RIGHTS**

**You will retain all rights to any photograph you submit -- including ownership if applicable.**

If you submit a photograph to enter the Photo Contest, you grant The Crane Festival a royalty-free, nonexclusive right during and after the Photo Contest to:

- Display the photograph on the Photo Contest submission website
- Allow third-parties to share the photograph on the following social media platforms: Twitter, Facebook

If your photograph is formally honored by the competition as a winner or an honorable mention, you grant The Sponsor a royalty-free, nonexclusive right, in perpetuity, to:

- Use the photograph on the Internet and in Social Media in support of our mission.

- Use the photograph in The Crane Festival's internal and external communications materials including but not limited to web sites and web publications, fact sheets, fund raising publications, advertising, multimedia, presentation and membership services, and annual report.
- Provide your photograph to other individuals and organizations for Crane Festival-related use in news stories, newsletters, reports, slide shows, displays, web pages, videos, membership premiums, and the like.
- Use, in connection with the Photo Contest, your name, city, state and country of residence in promotions and other publications.
- Retain a digital copy of your photograph that will be archived in the Festival photo library and accessible to Festival staff via the Festival's internal online photo archive.

The Crane Festival will endeavor to credit all photographs with the caption "Person's Name" when the full name is available.

## **GENERAL CONDITIONS**

In the event that the operation, security, or administration of the Photo Contest is impaired in any way, Sponsor may, in its sole discretion, either: (a) suspend the Photo Contest to address the impairment and then resume the Photo Contest; or (b) award the prize(s) from among the eligible entries received up to the time of the impairment. Sponsor reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to disqualify and seek damages from any individual who tampers with the operation of the Photo Contest, violates these Official Rules, or acts in a disruptive or unsportsmanlike manner. Sponsor's failure to enforce any term of these Official Rules shall not constitute a waiver of that provision. Proof of sending any communication to Sponsor by mail shall not be deemed proof of receipt of that communication by Sponsor. In the event of a dispute as to the owner of an online entry, the authorized account holder of the e-mail address used to enter will be deemed to be the owner. The Photo Contest is subject to federal, state, and local laws and regulations and is void where prohibited.

## **RELEASE AND LIMITATIONS OF LIABILITY**

By entering, you agree to release and hold harmless Sponsor, Facebook, their respective parent, subsidiaries, affiliates, and each of their respective officers, directors, employees, and agents (the "Released Parties") from and against any claim or cause of action arising out of participation in the Photo Contest or receipt or use of any prize, including, but not limited to: (a) unauthorized human intervention in the Photo Contest; (b) technical errors; (c) printing errors; (d) late or undelivered mail; (e) errors in the administration of the Photo Contest; or (f) injury or damage to persons or property. You waive the right to claim any attorneys fees and any damages whatsoever, including, but not limited to, punitive, consequential, direct, or indirect damages.

## **PRIVACY AND PUBLICITY**

Any information you submit as part of the Photo Contest will be used in accordance with Sponsor's [Privacy Policy](#). The information you provide when you enter is provided to Sponsor, not to Facebook. Except where prohibited, you consent to Sponsor's use of your name in any list of winners (if applicable) and for promotional purposes in any media without further payment or consideration.

## **DISPUTES**

You agree that any and all disputes, claims and causes of action arising out of, or connected with, the Photo Contest or any prize awarded shall be resolved individually, without resort to any form of class action, and exclusively by the appropriate court located in Colorado. All issues and questions concerning the construction, validity, interpretation and enforceability of these Official Rules, your rights and obligations, or the rights and obligations of Sponsor in connection with the Photo Contest, shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of Colorado, without giving effect to any choice of law or conflict of law rules (whether of Colorado or any other jurisdiction), which would cause the application of the laws of any jurisdiction other than Colorado.

## **RESULTS**

To request a winners list, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with your request to The Monte Vista Crane Festival, Digital Photo Contest, P.O. Box 585, Monte Vista, CO 81144, by May 1, 2017.

## **QUESTIONS**

Questions and inquiries about contest rules can be emailed to:

[Cranephot17@ci.monte-vista.co.us](mailto:Cranephot17@ci.monte-vista.co.us)