

# Captured: HIGHLANDS COUNTY

## ..... Photography Competition .....

### Submission Guidelines

The Highlands Museum of the Arts (MotA) will host its 4<sup>th</sup> annual photography exhibit from August 18- October 6th featuring local and regional photography talent, which includes youth photographers (under 18). This year's theme for the competition: "Captured: Highlands County". Photographs must be submitted for consideration for the exhibit, which will be reviewed by the MotA curatorial staff. Submission does not guarantee that your work will be accepted. We will notify you as soon as possible as to whether your work will be accepted for exhibition. An Opening Reception is planned for Friday, August 18 from 5-7 PM. Winners must be present.

**To have your portfolio reviewed by MotA, please either complete the online submission form at [www.HighlandsArtLeague.org](http://www.HighlandsArtLeague.org) or send/deliver the following to MotA (351 W. Center Ave):**

- A CD or DVD of digital images
- A short statement about the work, as well as the title and short description of each photograph
- A current resume and an artist statement
- Images and payment must be submitted online for review by 12:00 PM/Noon on Friday, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

### Please note:

- MotA does not accept or review submissions sent via email.
- Editing of photos is acceptable.
- Digital images must be submitted as **high-resolution JPEG files** (300dpi)
- Digital images must be sized to **1000px at their longest dimension**
- Digital files that do not follow these specifications will not be considered.
- No more than 15 images/person will be reviewed. (only 8 will be accepted per artist)
- Supporting text should be saved on the CD/DVD as a WORD document
- If younger than 18, a parent or legal guardian must submit for you.
- If images are for sale, please indicate the asking price. NFS (not for sale) is also appropriate.
- **Photographer must be able to frame accepted work according to Framing Guidelines (see next section).** MotA will not pay for framing.
- Accepted and framed photographs must be delivered to MotA by Friday, August 11 at 4:00 PM and must be picked up at MotA by October 12 by 4:00 PM or they become property of MotA.
- All submitted photos must have been taken by the photographer making the entry within the Highlands County area (visit [www.VisitHighlandsCounty.com](http://www.VisitHighlandsCounty.com) for a map). If you are a parent or legal guardian submitting for a minor, please make it clear who you are actually submitting for.

- Up to four images may be submitted for a non-refundable fee of \$30 (non members); \$10 (member and student rate). Additional images may be submitted for an additional \$5/per image.

### **Photography Framing Guidelines & Suggestions:**

- All work must be presented ready-to-hang, with a wire attached to the frame between 1/3 and 1/4 of the way down the sides of the piece. Stainless steel braided picture wire works best for smooth hanging and deters rusting.  
\*Do not use sawtooth hangers. They are not strong enough to support the weight of a frame safely.
- Works on canvas must be framed or have finished edges. Gallery Wrapped Canvas is acceptable, provided that no staples are showing and the edges are clean and free of smudges and smears that are not in keeping with the stylistic intent of the artwork.
- Framing is to be done in a contemporary style. Contemporary Frames are minimalist in design with clean lines and little to no decoration. Avoid over powering the art with brighter, bolder, or busier framing materials that distract from it visually and look amateurish, cheap, or out-of-place. Frames must be in good condition (no scratches or loose corners).
- Do not use "snap on" frames, corner-clips with glass or "easel" frames designed for tabletop use.
- Photographs and all two-dimensional work on paper should be matted with neutral tones (white, gray or black only) and covered with clean, scratch-free glass or Plexiglas. The artwork should stand alone without being enhanced or abated by the mat and frame.
- **Please do not post your name on the front of the photo.**
- Mats must be clean and smoothly cut. Mat size should be appropriate to the piece. A wide mat is better; it expands the work and makes it appear larger. A three to four-inch mat with an extra half-inch on the bottom gives a nice visual feel to a finished piece. But, do not use extra wide mats just to make a piece fit in a standard size frame.
- Float-mounting the artwork over the mat, so that the edges are seen, is an option when an artwork has a deckle edge or is constructed with handmade paper. A spacer within the frame should be used to keep the art from touching the glazing.
- The Exhibition Coordinator must be notified in advance if an unconventional method of presentation or hanging is required. Policies of the host gallery will prevail.
- **Final Photo Print size must be no smaller than 8"x10"**
- **If Framing Guidelines are not met, or photos are not "Gallery Ready", The Hanging Committee may request changes to your framing, with notice, or work may not be hung for competition.**

**Once an accepted piece of artwork is installed in a show, please do not ask to change its location.** It is up to the Hanging Committee to place and hang artwork.

### **Rights:**

Photographers retain all rights to their work, except for submissions accepted for exhibition: artists grant Highlands MotA, and the Highlands Art League (HAL), the right to use their images to promote the exhibition and for display on the organizations' websites, social media channels and print materials.

**Awards:**

Winners will be announced at the Opening Reception on August 18, 2017. Awards will be presented as follows:

**(1) Best in Show (Any Age)** – winner will receive \$(TBD) and a complimentary booth at the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Fine Arts Festival on Nov. 4, 2017.

**(1) Best Photo by Young Photographer (under 18 years of age by August 4th)** – winner will receive \$(TBD) and complimentary Emerging Artist exhibit space at the 51<sup>st</sup> Annual Fine Arts Festival on Nov. 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

**(3) Honorable Mentions** – winners will receive recognition during the exhibit. One winner will be selected from each category and receive \$(TBD):

- **Life Downtown-** Photos depicting life in Downtown Sebring, Avon Park, and Lake Placid, from historic buildings and homes to art and culture in our communities.
- **Authentic Highlands County-** Captivating images and landmarks of authentic Highlands County including historical landmarks, nature, lakes, rivers, groves, ranches, etc. These photos depict what makes Highlands County unique.
- **Highlands County Happenings-** Shoot action images of authentic Highlands County events showcasing the many activities we have to offer. Images may include fishing, golfing, nature hiking, sporting events/complex, fairs, the 12 Hours of Sebring, etc.

**Sales:**

For submissions that are selected, photographers may offer their work for sale and establish their own price for framed and unframed prints.

- MotA retains 30% commission on the sale of featured art.
- Local sales tax of 7.5% is collected on all sales at the Highlands Art League and Highlands Museum of the Arts.

Due to the volume of unsolicited materials that MotA receives, submissions will be reviewed in the order in which they are received. Responses may take up to several days. Please be patient and **DO NOT** contact MotA regarding the status of your portfolio. Your patience is appreciated.

**Please address questions/deliver art (once accepted) to:**

**Highlands Museum of the Arts (MotA), 351 W. Center Avenue, Sebring, FL 33870.**

Questions? Please contact the office at (863) 385-6682 or [Manager@HighlandsArtLeague.org](mailto:Manager@HighlandsArtLeague.org)

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