FotoKozma Festival 2024 Open Call

Terms and Conditions

We are looking for photography projects on Nature, Our Footprints and Solutions topics that correspond to this year's theme Nature Future to be presented outdoors.

1. Eligibility

- The Open Call is global and open to photographers of all nationalities who will be aged 18 or over on 5th June 2024.

- It is the responsibility of each entrant to ensure that they have read and will abide by these rules Terms and Conditions. By submitting an entry, each entrant agrees to these rules, that their entry complies with these rules, and that they will be liable to the Vértes Kozma Foundation in respect of any damages or losses incurred as a breach of the rules.

- Employees or agents of the Vértes Kozma Foundation, their families or other persons connected with this promotion (excluding the sponsors) are not eligible to enter.

2. Submission Rules

- All entries must be submitted via the PICTER online platform, before the closing date of 11:59 (CET) on 15th July 2024.

- Photographers can enter complete photo projects including 5 to 20 photos. Each participant can submit up to two projects.

- Submission fee is 30 EUR per each submitted project.

- Submitted images must have been shot within the past 5 years. The shoot date must be no earlier than 5th July 2019.

- All submitted images must be free of watermarks, text, copyright symbols, logos, frames, signatures, or any reference to the author. Inclusion of any of these or similar additions to the image will invalidate the entry.

- Each participant is personally responsible for the images they submit to the contest, the additional information they provide about those images, and all information provided by them on the entry form.

- It is essential that submitted projects include descriptions that will assist the Jury in making their decisions (especially the name of the species represented and the exact location of the photo). When uploading images there will be the opportunity to add a title and description to each image.

- There is a required minimum image size of 5000 pixels on the longest side of the image. Images should be saved as jpegs at the highest quality available, at 300 dpi resolution, with a colour profile attached - preferably sRGB.

- The welfare of the people, animals and habitats in any images submitted to the award is of great importance to the Foundation, our partners and the Jury.

- Photographers taking part in the award are required to observe behavior that is respectful of people, animals, and the environment. By submitting an image to the awards, you confirm that all subjects in those images were interacted with before, during and after the image-making process in a way that treated them respectfully and did not result directly or indirectly in them experiencing damage, distress, injury or death.

- With these policies in mind, we reserve the right to ask for further information from the photographer about their photographic methods and the state of the animals and habitat before, during and after the shot was taken.

- In the case of nature photos and documentary photos, we do not accept manipulation. Adding or removing objects (e.g. animals, plants, people, items of civilization and traces thereof) are not permitted. Photographers may make reasonable use of digital darkroom techniques which enhance quality but do not distort the photograph. Major alterations are not allowed, the cloning out/removal of elements in an image is forbidden. Pictures must contain EXIF data.

- Adjustment to levels, curves, color balance, color saturation, dodging and burning, selective adjustments using layers and blemish and dust spot removal are all examples of acceptable manipulation, when used in moderation.

- In other genres, such as art, still life, or conceptual photography, where Entries are manipulated, or AI generated, must be described in the image description section when submitting. However, manipulated entries must originally be from either an analogue or digital photograph which may have then been manipulated, except the AI generated images.

- Participants whose images will be considered in the final round of Jury deliberations, the organizer reserves the right to request an original camera file and/or a higher resolution image from the author.

- The organizer reserves the right, in their sole discretion, to disqualify or remove any entry that does not comply with the rules or the spirit of the Festival, at any stage of the process.

3. Prizing

- A jury will select 8-10 projects/series to exhibit at the FotoKozma Festival, they will receive €300 (three hundred euros) artistic fee, certificate and products.

- The jury will select the winner, which will receive the FOTO KOZMA AWARD, the festival's Golden Fox trophy, and €500 (three hundred euros) artistic fee.

- For four foreign (non Hungarian) winners: reimbursement of travel costs up to €200.

- For all exhibitors we provide accommodation during the opening weekend of the festival.

4. Award Judging

4.1 Once the entry period has closed, the jury will convene to determine the selection, the grand prize winner. The voting procedure for the jury members on the platform is anonymous.

4.2 The selected projects will be publicly announced on the FotoKozma Festival's website and on 10th August 2024, and all entrants will be emailed with this announcement.

The grand prize winner will be publicly announced at the opening of the exhibition in the Csákvár city, Hungary on 5th September 2024.

4.3 The Jury's decision is final and binding in all matters and no correspondence will be entered into regarding the decisions.

4.4 If you do not respond to our messages (e-mail and/or phone) within three months of the Award announcement, your prize will expire.

5. Copyright and permissions

5.1 All imagery MUST be the exclusive work of the submitting photographer and may not include any element that is the copyright of another or shot or created by another.

5.2 The Copyright for each image entered will remain with the submitting photographer.

5.3 By entering to the FotoKozma Festival and submitting your project/series/essay, you hereby grant the Vértes Kozma Foundation, and the award's sponsors a non-exclusive, irrevocable license to use your photographs free of charge for any purpose connected with the FotoKozma, including (but not limited to), promoting the Festival within printed and online media, the inclusion within printed and digital versions of the Festival catalog, display at the exhibition in the Hungary, use in press, promotional and institutional materials, and social media networks related to the FotoKozma Festival. The Foundation undertakes to display copyright information alongside all uses of submitted images.

No photographs entered in the awards will be offered for sale or used for any commercial purposes without prior approval of the photographer.

5.5 If recognizable individuals appear in submitted images, the author must have obtained their consent and, if the subject is a minor, the consent of the legal representative.

6. Publicity

6.1 You agree to participate in related publicity and to the use of Your name and likeness for the purposes of advertising, promotion, and publicity without additional compensation.

During the exhibition period, which will run from 6th of September to 3rd of November 2024, FotoKozma has the right to exhibit the photographer's work publicly. After Exhibition outdoor prints will be damaged and recycled.

FotoKozma reserves the right to use any images provided before, during and after the exhibition to promote the FotoKozma Foto Festival on website, social media etc…

The exhibition will be produced, curated and hung by the festival staff.

FotoKozma will not publish, share or redistribute any of the work to any individuals or organizations external to us for the duration of the submission process or post-submission process.

7. Liabilities

7.1 Vértes Kozma Foundation, Econtest.hu are excluded from liability for any loss, damage or injury which might occur to any of the winners arising from their entry into the Award or their acceptance of the prizes.

7.2 Entrants indemnify the Vértes Kozma Foundation, Econtest.hu for all liabilities, including legal costs, in relation to any action or complaint taken by any third party against the Entrants indemnified in relation to the entrant’s photograph(s).

8. General

- Unfortunately, it is not possible to give individual feedback to applicants who are not selected for the exhibition due to the huge numbers or applications.

-Vértes Kozma Foundation reserves the right to cancel this Festival at any time without further explanation.

-Vértes Kozma Foundation, reserves the right to amend these Terms and Conditions.

-These Terms and Conditions shall be governed by Hungarian law.

- When a photograph is submitted and the entry date has passed, the entry cannot be changed or withdrawn.

- Entry to the Festival shall be deemed full and unconditional acceptance of the Terms & Conditions.

- Any breach of these Terms and Conditions shall result in the exclusion of the photographer and their submitted images from the Festival, without prejudice to the Vértes Kozma Foundation or the Festival sponsors.

8.7 In the event of any difficulties concerning the interpretation or performance of these terms, the Parties shall make every effort to settle their dispute amicably.

8.8 Should an amicable settlement fail, the dispute shall be settled by final and compulsory arbitration in accordance with the Permanent Court of Arbitration's optional rules for arbitration involving international organizations and private parties, in force on the date of the request.

8.9 You have the right to access and update your personal information. To exercise this right, please write to the Vértes Kozma Foundation at: alapitvany@verteskozma.hu

9. The Promoter

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