



# **Contest Rules and Guidelines**

## CONTEST TERM

The American Evolution 2019 Reflections Photo Contest begins October 17, 2019 at 9 AM and ends January 5, 2020 at 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time. Contest winners will be announced January 24, 2020. By submitting an entry, participants accept and agree to the rules of the contest, and certifies that he or she is 18 years of age or older at the time of entry.

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE

The American Evolution 2019 Reflections Photo Contest is free to enter.

Past and present American Evolution employees, contractors, officers, trustees, emeriti or judges and their immediate family members (spouses, siblings, parents and children) are not eligible for any prize. However, these individuals are invited to submit photos for posterity on a non-competitive basis by using the [American Evolution 2019 Photography Archives Submission Form](#). Such photos would be considered for inclusion in the online archive at [www.2019library.com](http://www.2019library.com). American Evolution reserves the right to include or exclude any and all non-competitive submissions in its sole discretion.

The American Evolution 2019 Reflections Photo Contest is open to submissions from those who are 18 years of age or older at the time of entry.

American Evolution will determine winners' eligibility in its sole discretion and reserves the right to seek to secure required consent, releases or any other necessary documentation or verification as applicable. American Evolution reserves the right to disqualify incomplete entries and/or contestants who fail to provide required documents.

## ELIGIBILITY OF PHOTOS

All photographs must have been taken during the 2019 Commemoration calendar year, specifically between the dates of January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019. Contestants may enter up to 5 photographs in one of three contest categories. A separate entrance form, including a descriptive text of the photo or the inspiration for the photo, will be required for each photograph submission.

Additionally, to be eligible to compete for a prize, a photograph must be visibly aligned with the 2019 Commemoration, American Evolution or it must illustrate one or more of the Commemoration's themes: Democracy, Diversity and Opportunity. For purposes of this contest, a photograph will qualify if it was taken during the commemorative calendar year (January 1 to December 31, 2019) and meets one or more of the following conditions:

- o The photograph was taken at an official **2019 Commemoration event**; or
- o The photograph was taken in conjunction with a **2019 Commemoration Legacy Project** (i.e., an exhibition, etc.).
- o The photograph was taken at an official **Virginia History Trails Site** (the site must be identified as such on the Virginia History Trails App)
- o The photograph was taken at a **2019 Commemoration partner** site, event or project (i.e. museum, etc.).
- o The photograph was taken in conjunction with a **2019 Schools** project or programming.
- o A photograph that illustrates one or more of the 2019 Commemoration themes: **Democracy, Diversity and Opportunity.**

American Evolution will determine photograph eligibility in its sole discretion.

By submitting a photograph, the entrant certifies that he or she owns the rights to the photo.

If a photograph includes an identifiable person or persons, the entrant must be prepared to provide a model release from the subject(s) or, in the case of minors, the subject's parent or legal guardian, to American Evolution upon request. [A SAMPLE MODEL RELEASE IS HERE](#)

If a photograph depicts other people's work (such as sculptures, paintings, statues and other copyrightable works), the entrant must be prepared to provide a release from the rights holder to American Evolution upon request. [A SAMPLE ART RELEASE IS HERE](#)

If the entrant is unable to provide all required releases, American Evolution in its sole discretion reserves the right to disqualify the submission, seek to secure the required releases, or permit the submission to remain in the contest.

Photographs that violate or infringe upon another person's rights, including but not limited to copyright, are not eligible. Photos that contain sexually explicit, nude, obscene, violent or other objectionable or inappropriate content, as determined by American Evolution in its sole discretion, are ineligible for all categories of this contest.

## SUBMISSION CATEGORIES

Contestants may choose to submit to one of the following three contest categories based on category criteria:

- 1. Professional Photographers:** The Professional Photographer category is open to individuals 18 years of age or older at the time of entry and who derives at least 25% of their annual income through photography, belongs to a professional photography organization, or provides photography services within his or her employment responsibilities.
- 2. Professional Organizations and Schools:** Entrants in the Professional Organizations and Schools category are submitting photographs on behalf of a designated organization or school. By submitting a photograph, the entrant certifies that the designated organization or school owns the rights to the photograph(s), and understands that any potential prize money will be paid directly to the designated organization or school, for the benefit of the designated organization or school.
- 3. Non-Professionals/Amateurs:** The Amateur category is open to individuals 18 years of age or older at the time of entry, who derive less than 25% of their annual income through photography, and who are competing on their own behalf.

Submitting to multiple categories could result in disqualification, to be determined at the sole discretion of American Evolution.

Photographs may be submitted on a non-competitive basis for potential inclusion in the archives by using the [American Evolution 2019 Photography Archives Submission Form](#).

## PRIZES & AWARDS

A \$3,000 cash grand prize will be awarded to the 1st Place winner in each of the three categories. Honorable Mention awards will also be announced for each category but no prizes will be given for Honorable Mentions. Winners' names may appear in news articles and on the American Evolution website.

## HOW TO ENTER

All entries must be submitted online through the American Evolution website at [www.americanevolution2019.com/photocontest](http://www.americanevolution2019.com/photocontest). Up to 5 photographs may be submitted by individual participants but each photograph must be submitted separately with a completed submission form each time. All entries must be received during the competition submission window of October 17, 2019 through January 5, 2020.

By submitting an entry, participants accept and agree to be bound by these rules and the decisions of contest judges, whose decisions are final, and participant certifies that he or she is 18 years of age or older at the time of entry.

By submitting a photograph and accompanying text, the entrant certifies that he or she owns the rights to same.

## TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Photographs must be submitted in digital format only.
- Photographs must be submitted in .jpeg, .jpg, or .gif format
- Photographs must be at least 1500 pixels wide and no larger than 10 MB
- For professional photos, resolution should be no less than 300 DPI
- Where possible, photographs should be edited for web in sRGB color space.

## ENTRY DEADLINE

The contest is open to submissions starting October 17, 2019. All entries must be received through [americanevolution.com/photocontest](http://americanevolution.com/photocontest) by 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time on January 5, 2020.

## JUDGING

A panel of three judges will select the winners. Winning photographs will be based on quality, originality and responsiveness to the prompt and overall impact.

American Evolution will notify winners via the contact information provided at the time of entry. American Evolution may disqualify anyone who fails to respond to the notification within five business days. Winners will be revealed online in late January or early February 2020.

Please do not contact American Evolution about the status of entries or judging.

## LICENSING AND RELEASES

- By submitting an entry to the contest, each entrant certifies that the entrant owns the rights to creative work and, to the best of the entrant's knowledge, does not infringe, misappropriate or otherwise violate the work of others, as protected under U.S. copyright, patent, trade secret or trademark law.
- Entrants retain the copyright to their images and accompanying text; however, by entering the contest, entrants grant American Evolution (and those authorized by American Evolution) a royalty-free, world-wide, perpetual, non-exclusive license to publicly display, distribute, edit, reproduce and create derivative works of the entries, in whole or in part, in any media now existing or later developed, for any purpose, including advertising and promotion. Reproduced photographs will include a photographer credit as feasible. American Evolution will not be required to pay any additional consideration or seek any additional approval from entrants.
- If the photograph contains any elements not owned by the entrant and/or are subject to the rights of third parties, the entrant is responsible for obtaining any and all releases and consents necessary to permit the use and reproduction of the image as described in these rules. Failure to provide this release may result in disqualification.
- Photographs that include sculptures, statues, paintings, and other works of art are eligible provided they do not constitute a copyright infringement. Entrants must be prepared to submit a signed Release form upon request. Failure to provide this form may result in disqualification.
- Entrants must be prepared to provide a signed release from any individual appearing in their entry. In cases where the individual is under the age of majority in their state/ province/ territory of residence, the signature of a parent or legal guardian is also required on the release. Failure to do so may result in disqualification.
- American Evolution will not be responsible for any claims or complaints from third parties about any disputes of ownership regarding the ideas or images contained in entries.

## OTHER RULES & CONDITIONS:

- The contest is void where prohibited or restricted by law.
- Any entry found in violation of any rule will be disqualified.
- Winners are responsible for all taxes or other fees connected with the prize received.
- American Evolution reserves the right to modify or cancel the competition at any time during the duration of the competition for any reason, including but not limited to an insufficient number of qualified entries received.
- American Evolution has the right to make the final decision on any point or issue not included or addressed in the entry rules.
- Submitting a competition entry constitutes an agreement to adhere to the rules and stipulations set forth by the contest sponsors.
- By entering the contest, the entrant agrees to hold harmless, American Evolution for all legal and administrative claims, damages or losses, including associated expenses that may arise from any claims related to the submission or use of a contest entry.
- All judges' decisions are final and may not be appealed.
- Content must comply with all local, state and federal laws of the United States of America. Content must not 1) promote illegal behavior; 2) support racial, religious, sexual or other invidious prejudice; 3) advocate sexual or violent exploitation; 4) violate rights established by law or agreement; 5) invade the privacy of any person; or 6) be otherwise inappropriate as determined by the American Evolution or the contest judging committee, in each case in its sole and conclusive determination.
- Entries must not, in the sole and unfettered discretion of the judges, contain obscene, provocative, defamatory, sexually explicit, or otherwise objectionable or inappropriate content.
- Entries may not defame or invade the privacy or publicity rights of any person, living or deceased, or otherwise infringe upon a person's personal or proprietary rights.
- By submitting a photograph and accompanying text, participants agree to release American Evolution and its respective officers, directors, employees, agents and assigns from liability of any kind or nature for any loss, claims, damages or injuries of any kind associated with acceptance, possession, participation in or use of any prizes.

[SUBMIT YOUR 2019 COMMEMORATION PHOTOS](#)