



American Evolution 2019 Reflections Photo Contest FAQs

Q) What are the contest dates?

- A) The contest will open on October 17, 2019 at 9 AM and closes to submissions on January 5, 2020 at 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time.

Q) When will the winner be announced?

- A) Winners will be announced in late January or early February 2020

Q) What are the prizes?

- A) The first place winner in each of the three categories will receive \$3,000 (the contest has a total prize purse of \$9,000). Honorable Mentions in each category will also be announced but will not receive prizes. For full details, see the official [Contest Rules & Guidelines](#).

Q) Who selects the winners?

- A) A panel of judges designated by American Evolution will select the winners.

Q) Will I be notified if I was not chosen as a winner?

- A) No. Due to the anticipated high volume of submissions, only the winners will be notified of their status. If you do not hear from American Evolution by February 15, 2020, you are not a winner.

Q) Is there an entry fee to submit photographs?

- A) No. There is no charge to submit photographs to either the contest or for the American Evolution 2019 Photography Archives.

Q) How many photos can I enter in the contest?

- A) Each photograph must be submitted separately and each competitor may enter up to 5 photos in the contest. However, additional photos may be submitted but only on a non-competitive basis for inclusion in the 2019 Commemoration historical archive, using the dedicated [Archive Submission form](#).

Q) How can photographs be submitted?

- A) All entries must be uploaded to our website using the online [entry form](#).

Q) Do I have to live in Virginia to enter the contest or submit photos?

- A) No. The contest is open to everyone aged 18 and older at the time of entry.

Q) Do you accept non-digital photographs?

- A) No. All photo submissions must be uploaded online with the completed entry form. We do not accept hard copies of photographs.

Q) Can I enter if I live outside the United States?

- A) Yes, but photographs must be submitted by 11:59 PM Eastern Standard time on January 5, 2020.

Q) I took a related photo last year. Can I enter it?

- A) No. Photographs taken before January 1, 2019 are not eligible. This date applies to all images used in a composite.

Q) Do I need release forms for people in my photo?

- A) If they are recognizable and especially if they are children, you must be prepared to obtain a release form and provide it to American Evolution upon request. A sample release is available [HERE](#).

Similarly, entrants whose photographs depict other people's work (i.e., sculptures, statues, paintings, and other copyrightable works) must be prepared to obtain a release form from the rights holder and provide it to American Evolution upon request. When photographing the work of others, it must be as an object in its environment and not a full-frame close-up of another person's creation. A sample art release is available [HERE](#).

Q) Can photographs be cropped, manipulated, or enhanced?

A) Yes. Cropped, manipulated, and enhanced photos are eligible in all categories.

Q) Do you accept black and white photographs?

A) Yes. Additionally, colored photographs converted to grayscale are acceptable in all categories.

Q) What size should my digital image be for uploading?

A) 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.

Q) What if my photograph does not have a resolution of 300 DPI and is not at least 3000 pixels on the longest side?

A) Without this requirement, judges cannot consider your photograph as a possible winner, however, there is the possibility that your photo will be included in the Archives for posterity. This decision will be made by American Evolution in its sole discretion.

Q) Will you accept photos with watermarks?

A) No. We do not accept photos with watermarks or descriptive text on the photo itself. We will display a credit alongside images as feasible.

Q) Can I enter composite or montaged images?

A) Yes, composite and montaged images can be entered.

Q) Is it okay to enter a photo that has been on my website?

A) Yes, your photo remains eligible for submission.

Q) I am an American Evolution contractor. Can I compete in the contest?

A) No. Past and present American Evolution employees, contractors, officers, trustees, emeriti or contest judges and their immediate family members (spouses, siblings, parents and children) are not eligible for any prize. However, these individuals are invited to submit on a non-competitive basis for posterity by using the [American Evolution 2019 Photography Archives Submission Form](#). American Evolution reserves the right to include or exclude any and all non-competitive submissions in its sole discretion.

Q) I'm 17 years old. Can I enter the contest?

A) No, we are sorry but you must be 18 years old at the time of entry in order to qualify.

Q) What rights to my photograph(s) do I retain?

A) You retain your rights to your submitted photograph(s); however, by entering the contest or submitting for the archives, you grant American Evolution a royalty-free, non-exclusive license to publicly display and use your photo(s). Please refer to the official [Contest Rules & Guidelines](#) for more details.

Q) How do I report a complaint about an image?

A) If you believe a submission is in violation of our contest rules, please contact us at info2019@jyf.virginia.gov.

Q) Where can I send questions and feedback?

A) Please email further questions and feedback to info2019@jyf.virginia.gov. Due to the high volume of emails that we receive, we may not be able to respond to each individual email. Please do not contact us about the status of entries or judging.