

For Immediate Release

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Arts Commission Announces Smartphone Photography Contest

EVERETT, Wash., May 12, 2016 – Think you take the best pictures with your smartphone? Are you just that good with the Valencia filter? Did your post of the Mukilteo Lighthouse earn you fifty new followers? Then it's time to get those images off of your phone and in front of more than just your Facebook friends.

The Snohomish County Arts Commission invites Snohomish County residents to enter their best smartphone pictures in the 2016 Snohomish County Smartphone Photography Contest. The deadline for entry is September 5, 2016.

Submissions need to be original, photography-based artwork that was created using a smartphone or tablet of subjects in Snohomish County. The highest-rated entries will be selected for a group exhibit to take place at the Hampton Inn and Suites on September 22nd. 13 images will be selected for inclusion in the 2017 Snohomish County Arts Commission promotional calendar. A purchase prize of \$100 will be awarded to each photographer whose image is selected and used.

“Every day, people are capturing amazing images using their hand-held phone devices,” said Robert Fairfax, Chair of the Snohomish County Arts Commission. “New technology and apps are allowing amateur photographers the capability to create captivating imagery that until recently were only available to professional photographers with expensive equipment and software. Our goal is to recognize the talent of ordinary people with a phone and a creative point-of-view.”

Criteria:

- Artwork must be original photography shot and edited using a mobile hand-held device. i.e. smartphone or tablet.
- Photo manipulation is encouraged. Only photo editing apps that are on your device are allowed.
- Photos must be printed on standard size 11" x 17" good quality, matte or gloss photo paper. (Images do not need to be 11"x17" just the paper).
- Images submitted on plain paper will not be accepted.
- No more than three images per participant will be accepted.

- Photo Submissions must not contain obscenity, explicit sexual material, nudity, profanity, graphic violence, calls or incitement to violence, commercial solicitation or commercial promotion. Submissions must not contain content or images that could be considered abusive, inflammatory, denigrating, or disrespectful. The selection committee will have the final authority to determine the appropriateness of selected works.

A full description of the criteria and selection process can be found at www.snocoarts.org

A tip from Snohomish County Arts Commission Chair, Robert Fairfax, "Photographs that other people find remarkable always have emotional content. Remember to convey feeling if you want people to react to your shot. When using an app to artistically enhance the photo, try to find an effect that magnifies the emotion you're going for."

For more information on the 2016 Snohomish County Smartphone Photography Contest or other programs developed by the Snohomish County Arts Commission, contact Cultural and Economic Development Manager, Wendy Poischbeg at (425) 388.3186 or wendy.poischbeg@snoco.org.

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