

## 2025 RMOWP PHOTOGRAPHY & WRITING COMPETITION

We look forward to members sharing their writing and photography work through the 2025 RMOWP competition. Submissions lead to recognition of your talents. Your material will also provide professional growth and enhancement for everyone in RMOWP. You must be a member of RMOWP to enter this contest and you can join RMOWP when you enter. Entries must be **postmarked or dropboxed** no later than Monday, June 9, 2025. The entry fee is \$20.00 for all entries. Submitted work will be displayed at the 2025 conference in Taos, New Mexico, September 14 to 17, 2025. The awards will be presented at the conference banquet.

- The judges will award first, second and third place for each category and the winners will receive certificates. A Best of Show will be chosen for Photography Categories 01-12 and a Best of Show will be chosen for Written Works Categories 24-28 & 35. The best of show winners will each receive a \$50 award. The judges may also give discretionary honorable mention awards.
- All photographs entered must have been produced since January 1, 2024, except for Member's Choice and published photographs. There are no time frame limits for Member's Choice photographs. Published images must have been published since January 1, 2023. There is no time limit for the creation or publication date of written works, books, video and video clips; however, they may not have been entered in a previous RMOWP contest.
- Images that have received an award in a past RMOWP contest may not be entered in any category of this contest. Images can only be entered in one category. If an image qualifies for more than one category, you must choose only one category for the image.
- Entry material can be taken or based anywhere in the world.
- Entries are limited to three (3) per category except for Member's Choice which is limited to two (2).
- Fill out the entry form and include a paper copy with your submission. Type or print the information clearly. Use as many pages as necessary. The entry form and rules will be available for downloading from the RMOWP website.
- Submit digital images for categories 01 through 13 and 40. They can be submitted on a CD, a DVD, or a USB flash drive that can be read on a PC, or through Dropbox. Do not attach tape, stickers or labels to a CD or DVD. Do not submit slides; however, scanned images from film are eligible.
- The image size should be six inches on the longest side at 300 ppi at the highest quality jpg format. (If you do not have the software to resize the image, submit the file as produced by your camera and note this on the entry form.) The file name of each digital image should be the 2-digit *category number underscore photographer's first name underscore photographer's last name underscore image title*. (Example: 04\_Ron\_Smith\_Elk Bugling at the Moon.jpg) The file name should be a maximum of 50 characters long.
- Members are on their honor to not alter or manipulate the images submitted (except categories 09, 12 and 13). Removal or insertion of features is not allowed. A stitched panorama and a HDR processed image is not considered manipulated. Use of a digital darkroom for either film or digital images is considered the equivalent to developing, dodging and burning, color correction and the use of filters with film and is not considered manipulation. Removal of dust spots or scratches is not considered manipulation.
- Entries can be picked up at the awards banquet, designated to not be returned or **please provide postage for return mailing**.
- If you have questions, please call or email Awards Committee Chair, Frank Zurey, 303-358-4610, [frank@zureyphoto.com](mailto:frank@zureyphoto.com).

## PHOTOGRAPHY

You may enter up to three images each in categories 01 through 12.

01. Images from Last Conference – Must have been shot in conjunction with RMOWP’s 2024 conference in Fort Davis, Texas. Photos may be of organized events or by individual initiative at the site of the conference and its workshops and field trips.
02. Scenics – Depicts the natural world in which the center of attention is not flora, fauna, people, or man-made structures, although these subjects may be included as part of the larger scene. Scenics may include broad landscapes, such as waterfalls, streams, and rock formations, as examples.
03. Flora – Can include flowers, trees, leaves, cactus, and other plants that can be part of a larger scene, but should clearly be the center of attention in the picture.
04. Fauna – Can include a single subject or group of subjects. Includes all of the animal kingdom; mammals, fish, birds, reptiles, insects or any living creature except humans. The fauna can be part of a larger scene, but should clearly be the center of attention in the picture.
05. People in Nature – Depicts people (a single person or a group) in a natural setting.
06. Historical – Are generally scenes and/or structures depicting an area of historical interest, such as old mines, ghost towns, ancient Indian dwellings, old forts, churches or similar historical sites.
07. Cultural – Depicts outdoor festivals and would probably include people in the photos. Examples would be Cinco de Mayo, harvest festivals, dances, parades, etc.
08. Natural Phenomena – Includes occurrences in nature, such as storms, floods, forest fires, aurora, etc.
09. Altered/Composite – Are manipulated by adding or deleting components; combining images or other manipulations not considered part of normal dark room processing. A stitched panorama or an HDR processed image is not considered manipulated.
10. Black and white images - Only outdoor subjects in Categories 1 - 8 are eligible. A quality B&W image requires more skill and processing than simply changing a color file to gray scale. Submit a digital file of the B&W image.
11. Novice images - Open to members who have not been competitive in any RMOWP photo category, other than Novice, and consider themselves to be novice-level photographers. Enter only outdoor subjects included in Categories 1 through 8. A novice can also enter any of the other categories. Getting a first-place award in the novice category does not disqualify you from continuing to enter images in the novice category. We would like to see novice photographers continue to enter this category until they are competitive in the other categories.
12. Published Images - Submit a digital file of your image. Subjects may include anything qualifying for categories 01 through 10. Images must have been published since January 1, 2023. Photographs may be entered that were published in newspapers, books, magazines, calendars, postcards, posters, newsletters, eBooks, eMagazines, etc. If several photographs are published in a publication, only one photograph from the publication is to be submitted for competition. A PDF of the publication can be submitted with the entry in this category. Include the internet location of ePublications.

**MEMBERS' CHOICE - PHOTOGRAPHY**

13. Members may submit no more than two matted prints. The entries can be in any category. (Categories 1 through 10.) Print size is a maximum of 8 x 12 inches that is matted with a final size not to exceed 12 x 16 inches. The entries should not be framed. These entries will be displayed at the conference. Members will judge entries at the conference. Entries may be brought to the conference or may be submitted along with your other entries. **DO NOT PLACE YOUR NAME ON YOUR ENTRY.** Put the title of the photo and "Members' Choice" **on the back** of each submission. Submit a digital file of your entry either with your contest entry, at the conference or by email to [frank@zureyphoto.com](mailto:frank@zureyphoto.com). You might consider contributing your entry to the annual auction. There is **no a time frame limit** for having taken the photograph for Member's Choice.

**WRITTEN WORKS**

Entries will include outdoor topics such as scenic areas, travel, history, wildlife, natural resource management, regulations, legislation or environmental issues. There is **no time limit** for the publication date; however, a written work may not have been entered in a previous RMOWP contest. If an individual has more than one written work in a publication, individual articles from that publication can each be submitted for competition. **Record the title, publication and publication date on the entry form.** Submit a printout of the article, a copy of the written work or a PDF of the publication. For ePublications, provide the website where the article can be found.

24. Newspaper, Magazine, or other publication - Articles/Columns/Editorials/Short Stories.
26. Newsletter Writing and Web Writing - Articles/Columns/Editorials/Short Stories.
28. Unpublished Written Works: If the unpublished work is a book, submit one chapter. An unpublished written work may be entered in only one RMOWP contest.

**VIDEO AND BOOKS**

30. Full Length Video: A video should tell a story through the process of editing. Entries will include outdoor topics. Documentaries accomplish this with interviews, narration, images and with video of pertinent material to the story line. In this way, the viewer will hear the story and see the corresponding video. Another way to do this is with text on screen. The text tells the story along with images and video clips. Please provide a trailer of less than 60 seconds that can be used to illustrate the video.
31. Video Clips: Video clips are nominally 10 to 30 seconds long with a few seconds of lead-in and lead-out before the subject comes into frame. They are the building blocks of full length videos. Judging criteria include proper exposure, good composition, focus, proper white balance, steady camera work, and degree of technical difficulty. It is critical to pan, tilt, or zoom smoothly so as not to introduce a jarring motion. Enter only outdoor subjects included in Categories 1 through 8. Do not include sound or titles. Submit your video clips in the .mov or .mp4 format at the highest resolution that your camera produces (but not 4K). Use of the digital darkroom is encouraged for preparation of your video clip. Lightroom supports editing video. Examples of other video editing software are iMovie, Final Cut Pro, Adobe Premier, Adobe Premier Elements, Adobe After Effects, etc
35. Books: Entries will include outdoor topics and may be portions of the book when more than one author contributed. A stand-alone chapter in a book should be entered in Category 24.

## ART

Subject matter must follow an outdoor theme. Sketches and paintings from any media or mixed media are eligible. Two-dimensional and three-dimensional photographic-based art or a sculpture from any other media is eligible. Due to the size and delicate nature of most artwork, do not send originals. Submit digital images of your art. Although not mandatory, please bring the work to the conference so others may enjoy your talent. You might consider contributing your art to the annual auction.

40. Art works with an outdoor theme.

### Angelo Sciuli Humorous Photo Challenge

There is **no time limit on when the image was taken** (cave paintings included). You can submit three humorous photos. The humorous photo should be a digital image with an outdoor theme that fits into contest Categories 01 through 08. Include a caption or description with the humorous photograph. Altered or composited images are not eligible. Follow the contest rules for sizing. The **file name** of the humorous entry should be *hum underscore photographer's first name underscore photographer's last name underscore image title*. (Example: hum\_tom\_smith\_elk dancing). You do not have to enter the annual contest to submit humorous photos. A slide show of all the funny and frequently tacky entries is presented at the conference.

Send all entries on a CD, a DVD, or a USB flash drive to:  
Frank Zurey, 31901 Warrens Road, Golden, Colorado 80403

For Dropbox, the email is [frank@zureyphoto.com](mailto:frank@zureyphoto.com).  
Put your entire entry in one folder with your name on the folder.

**Enclose \$20.00 to cover all entries (checks payable to RMOWP)**

Deadline – Postmarked or Dropboxed Monday, June 9, 2025