



The OHIO Wildlife & Nature Photography Scholarship: Rules/Entry Form

Sponsored by the Biological Sciences Department

*Adapted from the Natural History Museum Wildlife Photography of the Year Contest

Entry to the Competition

Entries and the required entry form must be submitted electronically to https://ohio.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_9T9YJ2LjYJnpspw by 12:00pm EST on Friday, December 2nd, 2022.

The Competition is open to any currently enrolled undergrad student at Ohio University who will not be graduating in the Fall of 2022, the Spring of 2023, or the Summer of 2023

Eligible participants may submit up to a total of 5 photographs (1 max in each category).

Photos submitted must have taken place after December 31st, 2019, and must have occurred only within Athens County, Ohio, or the surrounding areas (60-mile radius).

By submitting an entry to the Competition, you agree:

- i. To abide by the Rules and ensure that your entry complies with the Rules
- ii. To maintain the highest standards in all matters relating to the Competition

It is your responsibility to ensure that:

- i. Any images you submit were taken with the consent of:
 - a. anyone who is identifiable in that image; or
 - b. the consent of their parent/guardian if they are under 18
 - c. a signed OHIO Photo Release form must be signed by anyone identifiable in your image(s); and
- ii. Those individuals have been advised:
 - a. that the image may be submitted to the Competition; and
 - b. that their photograph may be used in accordance with these Rules

You are not permitted to submit images that:

- i. Feature farm animals/zoo animals/family pets; or
- ii. Breach any of the ethical obligations set out below

Any entry found not to comply with the Rules at any stage of the Competition will be disqualified. If a breach has occurred, but is discovered after the award is given, the return of the scholarship prize money is required within fourteen (14) days of sent notification.

Ethical Requirements

You must not do anything to injure or distress an animal or damage its habitat in an attempt to secure an image. This includes flying a drone too low or noisily over an animal – an animal’s wellbeing must come first.

Live baiting is not permitted, neither is any means of baiting that may put an animal in danger or adversely affect its behavior, either directly or through irresponsible habituation.

If we suspect that an entry has been achieved through cruel or unethical practices, including the use of live or irresponsible bait or in any way in breach of these Rules, the entry will be disqualified, and we reserve the right to report you to the applicable authorities.

Awards

1st place and 2nd place awards will be made for each category. 5 talented first-place winners will receive a \$300 scholarship, and 5 talented second-place winners will receive a \$200 scholarship.

The photos that place will be printed and put on display during the 2023 Student Expo.

Entries will be judged based on environmental content, originality, technical aptitude, representing nature in an authentic way, and overall impact.

The Use of Photo Editing Software

All photographs should accurately reflect the subject matter and the scene as it appeared. Photos that have been digitally altered beyond standard optimization (cropping, spotting for dust, reasonable adjustments to exposure, color and contrast, etc.) will be disqualified.

Digital adjustments including tone and contrast, burning, dodging, cropping, sharpening, noise reduction, minor cleaning work, HDR, stitched panoramas, and focus stacking are permitted, providing they do not deceive the viewer or misrepresent the reality of nature.

Submission Process

To ensure functionality on our submission platform, please submit either .jpeg or .jpg images with a file size no larger than 25 MB per photo. All images submitted must be accompanied by this completed entry submission form. Failure to complete and submit a signed entry submission form will result in automatic disqualification.

Please name submission files with your last, first name, followed by the category.

- For Example: Doe, Jane, Wildlife
- For Example: Doe, John, Macrophotography

IMPORTANT: we need your name on each image file – image file names that do not include the photographer’s name cannot be identified – unidentified files will be disqualified

Using the submission chart on the next page, please fill out the appropriate sections for your images.

	File Name	Title of Work	Location	Date of Image Taken	Category	Photo Description
<i>Example</i>	<i>Doe, Jane, Wildlife</i>	<i>Acorns and Autumn</i>	<i>The Ridges, Athens, Ohio</i>	<i>September 15th, 2022</i>	<i>Wildlife</i>	<i>A squirrel prepares for Fall</i>
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						

Rights and Liability

You will retain all rights and ownership to any images you submit.

By submitting this entry form, entrants are agreeing to grant Ohio University, its subsidiaries, and its agents, unrestricted use of their photograph(s).

All decisions of the judges are final. The contest organizers reserve the right to disqualify entries which do not meet the stated contest rules, criteria, or spirit of the contest.

In signing this entry form, I affirm that the above information is complete and accurate, that the entries are my own work, and that I have read, understand, and am complying with all conditions and rules of the competition.

Signature: _____

Date: _____