



Entry Rules and Requirements

2025 Resthaven Photography Exhibit

Benefits

The residents of Resthaven Care Center, 280 W. 40th Street, Holland, Michigan are the primary beneficiaries of the photography project. However, the benefit extends to their guests and the many visitors to the skilled nursing campus. The wall space of Anna's and Jacob's units and the main dining room are perfectly suited to showcase the scenic beauty of the region through photography. And finally, the photographers and artists who have their work chosen are affirmed in their efforts, skills, and generosity in supporting this activity.

Theme: "Up Close Along the Lakeshore"

The 2025 photography exhibit will feature the theme of "Up Close Along the Lakeshore." Ideally, images will represent and capture the beauty of the numerous lakeshores of West Michigan. While that does not exclude the many amazing views of Michigan, we would encourage the capture of more "local" landscapes, points of interest, and places of familiarity to Southwest Michigan (Allegan, Ottawa, Muskegon, Kent, Van Buren, Barry, Newago, Berrien, Oceana, and Kalamazoo Counties). This could include subjects as small as macros or close-ups, but could also include patterns found within larger scenes, or images that capture the idea of the lakeshore so long as they are part of the landscape or represent the cultural character of the area.

Use your imagination to apply this theme. We will not reject any images for not fitting the theme, but the judge will be looking for images that speak to this vision. And all of the rules and guidelines below still apply. Photographs capturing images outside of Michigan will be rejected.

Subject Matter

"Desired subjects should highlight the beauty and activities found along the lakeshore and Southwest Michigan and be representative of the people, places and pursuits found in this region." Natural subjects, including landscapes, isolated scenes or arrangements, wildlife, wildflowers, insects or macros and the like are preferred. Cityscapes and local cultural events (e.g. Tulip Time, Coast Guard Festival, etc.) are also accepted as they apply to the theme.

Buildings and other structures are acceptable, particularly if they showcase the historic or cultural character of the Southwest Michigan or are part of the landscape. Abstract images, without a recognizable subject, are discouraged. Photo illustrations, such as composites, panoramas or strongly altered images are acceptable so long as they do not, in the opinion of the judge, misrepresent the subject or its context or otherwise tend to mislead the viewer. Images that portray abuse, misuse or degradation of nature are not acceptable. Images including people are acceptable, but images of recognizable people are not acceptable unless a signed release covering public exhibition and potential commercial use is available. This must be provided at time of photo submission. AI (Artificial Intelligence) generated images are excluded, both generative fill and fully generated. Raw files may be requested for photographs in question. All judging decisions are final.

Display of Images

Resthaven will select 20 images for a curated exhibit that will be prominently displayed on Anna's and Jacob's hallways (hallways known as "The Square"). These images for the curated exhibit will be printed at a larger size of approximately 30 x 45 inches or 45 x 30 inches (horizontal, vertical and square images will be accepted).

Additional wall space will be made available for a gallery display of approximately 15 images. The gallery will be able to include pictures of different sizes, horizontal or vertical, or with wider aspect ratios. The gallery images will be selected by the judge and Resthaven staff. Images may be chosen, arranged and grouped by theme, size and space availability. Images will be printed on stretched wrapped canvas using Giclée printing technology. All prints will be displayed with a plaque with print title and recognition to the photographer.

Orientation and Aspect Ratio

There are two types of images that can be submitted:

For Large Prints, exhibited on Anna's and Jacob's Hallway: Entries can be in vertical, square, or horizontal orientation and will be printed at the most appropriate aspect ratio. Preferred aspect ratios for the curated exhibit 3:2, 2:3, 1:1. For an entry to be considered for this exhibit a high-resolution file must be available to be used for printing. The image should be at least 13 megapixels (MP). A 13 MP picture with a 3:2 ratio would be about 4500 x 3000 pixels. **Do not submit the high-resolution file as your entry.** If your image is selected, we will ask you to send in the high-resolution file separately.

For exhibition in the Resthaven Gallery: Entries can be in vertical, square, or horizontal orientation and the aspect ratio is not limited. A high-resolution file is not required, although low-resolution images, if used, may be printed small.

At the time of submitting your entry you will specify whether or not you want it considered for the Large Print (Curated) exhibit or the Gallery exhibit.

Preparing Entries

The images will be judged using a web page viewed through a browser, so they should be sized to fit on a single screen, without scrolling. Images that are too large may be reduced to fit the screen and may suffer loss of sharpness as a result. If possible, it is best to submit images close to, but no larger than, about 2400 pixels in the horizontal direction and 1600 pixels in the vertical direction. Use your photo software to resize the image to these dimensions and save it as a separate file for submittal. It is recommended that you apply sharpening to the images at their final size, and be careful not to over sharpen. The DPI or PPI setting doesn't matter. **Again, do not submit a high-resolution file as your entry.** Because not all systems and browsers are calibrated and color-managed, it is best to save the image in sRGB color space. If you aren't sure, don't worry – unless you changed it on purpose, your image is probably in sRGB. Save the image as a jpeg with medium-high to high quality setting (that is, with low compression.) **The size of the image file should be no more than 4 megabytes (MB).** *Do not include any signature, watermark, border, frames or any graphic overlay. Images containing such markings will not be judged.*

Submitted Entries

The 2025 competition submission window will be February 1 – February 28. There is no cost for submitting entries, but a maximum of two images is allowed per photographer. Depending on initial participation and the number of images submitted, an additional request for images may be made. Due to the time requirement for judging we will be limiting the total number of submissions to around 150-175 images. Photographer submissions can be split between the large print curated exhibit and gallery exhibit or can both be one or the other, but the maximum is still two. If submitting for the curated exhibit you must have a high-resolution version of the print available for printing if the image is selected. Entries should be submitted/mailed to photos@resthaven.org. When emailing an image include the name of photographer, title of the image, and if you would like for the images to be considered for the curated exhibit or gallery exhibit in the body of the email. Images should be saved in the following format: PhotographerName.ImageTitle.CE.jpg (e.g. JohnDoe.SunsetDunes.CE.jpg). CE for Curated Exhibit or GE for Gallery Exhibit.

Photographer's Rights and Use of Images by Resthaven

The photographer retains all rights to the photos, both photos that are submitted and selected for display, and those that are not selected. If a photo is selected for display, it will be printed at Resthaven's expense, and the photographer is agreeing to donate one copy of the image to Resthaven for printing. An acknowledgement of the donation will be provided to the photographer. The exhibits will remain displayed until replaced by prints from the next competition. The canvas prints will be made available for sale during the year with proceeds going towards funding future year's exhibits. The photographer will have the first opportunity to purchase their printed image at a cost to print price. Resthaven reserves the right to market or promote the sale of any unsold prints through other outlets such as an auction or through display at local businesses. There is potential for incidental use of the prints for publicity or promotion of Resthaven or the exhibition itself. **It is not Resthaven's goal to profit from the photographer's work and generosity, but to create a financially sustainable project in which the sale of the prints covers the future printing costs of the exhibit.**

Announcing Selected Images

Resthaven will host an event where selected and winning images will be revealed. Photographers, Resthaven residents and families, staff, and the general community will be invited to the unveiling event. The 2024 unveiling event is planned for mid-April 2025 and will be held at the Resthaven Care Center. Of the selected images there will be a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place Judge's Choice and there will be a People's Choice award. Resthaven will be responsible for all communication and marketing associated with the event. Resthaven swag will be given to photographers of selected images and prizes of \$200.00 for 1st place, \$150.00 for 2nd place, and \$100.00 for 3rd place Judge's Choice. The People's Choice winner will receive a cash prize of \$150.00.