



2021 Essex National Heritage Area Photo Contest RULES & REQUIREMENTS

Deadline for submission: December 17, 2021

Photographers Get Snapping!

All photographers are invited to submit images that capture the unique character of the Essex National Heritage Area and showcase the historic, cultural, and natural places of Essex County.

Photographs must be taken within the Heritage Area (Essex County) and represent one of three contest categories listed below. A list of communities in the Essex National Heritage Area can be found at: EssexHeritage.org

2021 CONTEST CATEGORIES: Images will be judged in three categories:

Contest Category	Criteria
Historic Essex County	Which current-day places remind you of the Heritage Area's past? Essex County contains many sites connected to notable and lesser-known local histories. Show us how people interact with these places today or tell us in your descriptions what memories they hold for you!
New Perspectives	Shoot a landmark from an uncommon angle, a familiar landscape at a unique moment, or capture people and objects that are often out of frame. We want to see your favorite places in the Heritage Area from new perspectives!
On the Move	The Essex National Heritage Area offers many unique and fun activities for residents and visitors. Share scenes of people biking paths, painting sunsets, volunteering in your community, or gardening at home. Capture people being active in the outdoors and spending leisure time!

NEW!	
Young Photographers! (Ages 5-17)	Young photographers of all skill levels are invited to submit photographs to the Photo Contest! Share pictures taken in Essex County this year. Capture photos at home or while visiting parks, beaches, streets, farms - wherever you find exciting shots!

HOW TO ENTER & SUBMIT PHOTOGRAPHS:

1. **ENTRY FORMS:** Entrants must complete and sign one Entry Form for their photographic submission(s). A Model Release may also be necessary. Forms are printable from EssexHeritage.org/PhotoContest. A maximum of **FOUR (4)** photographs per photographer is allowed. Entrants are encouraged to submit no more than **TWO (2)** photographs per contest category.
2. **ENTRY FEE:** Individuals must include a \$10 entry fee with their submission(s) to the contest. For Essex Heritage members, the discounted entry fee is \$5. Checks should be made payable to: Essex Heritage. Electronic payment options will be available. Please note: the entry fee is PER PERSON, not per image.

Essex Heritage relies on your participation and active engagement to fulfill our mission, support our partners, and encourage stewardship of our treasured resources.



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JUDGING: Entries will be judged on the basis of creativity, photographic quality, and effectiveness in conveying the beauty and/or unique character of the Essex National Heritage Area in one of the contest categories.

A panel of three guest judges will select three winners from each category, in addition to an overall Grand Prize winner. All eligible photographs will then be shared via Essex Heritage's social media for public voting of the People's Choice award (Entrants should indicate on the Entry Form images they wish to remove from public voting).

RIGHTS: Photos that violate or infringe upon another person's copyright are not eligible. For a photo in which a person is recognizable, you must provide a model release from the subject or, in the case of a minor, the subject's parent or guardian. A **Model Release** is printable from EssexHeritage.org/PhotoContest.

Photographers retain all rights to their work. Artists grant Essex Heritage and our partners, including but not limited to the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission, the right to reproduce, distribute, publicly display and/or use submitted photographs in print or electronic publications, including promotional materials. **Essex Heritage will always attempt to credit any reproduced photograph(s).**

WINNING IMAGES: Winners will be notified and announced by early February 2022. There will be up to eleven (11) prizes awarded. (Upcoming prizes will be announced in Spring of 2021.)

Winning images will be displayed at the National Park Service Visitor Center in Salem (2 New Liberty Street, Salem, MA) and at the office of the Merrimack Valley Planning Commission (160 Main Street, Haverhill, MA) for up to one year. Winning images will also be used in Essex Heritage publications as well as posted on the Essex Heritage website at EssexHeritage.org and other social media outlets.

HOW TO ENTER & SUBMIT PHOTOGRAPHS:

1. Fill out and sign ONE (1) Entry Form, and sign a Model Release if necessary (see above). The forms are printable from EssexHeritage.org/PhotoContest.
2. Submit up to FOUR (4) photograph(s) one of two ways:
 - a. Via flash drive
 - i. Mail to Essex Heritage, 10 Federal Street Suite 12 Salem, MA 01970 (Attention: Photo Contest).
 - b. Via Dropbox (preferred) or Google Drive
 - i. Email a link to your shared Dropbox or Google Drive folder to **photocontest@essexheritage.org**

IMAGE GUIDELINES: Minor adjustments, including spotting, dodging and burning, contrast and slight color adjustment or the digital equivalents, are acceptable. If judges believe that a photograph has been significantly altered, they reserve the right to disqualify it.

- Images must be submitted digitally, labeled with the title and artist.
- Photographs should be taken and shared at the highest resolution possible.
- We recommend digital image size set at a minimum of 300 ppi.
- Photographs must be in a .jpeg, .jpg, or .gif format.
- All photos must have been captured between January 1, 2021 and December 17, 2021.