



2022 Essex National Heritage Area Photo Contest RULES & REQUIREMENTS

Deadline for submission: December 16, 2022

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](https://www.essexheritage.org)

2022 CONTEST CATEGORIES: Images will be judged in three categories:

Contest Category	Criteria
Downtown	The built environment shapes the culture of a place in powerful ways, and few regions have such a rich tapestry of architectural ingenuity as the 34 cities and towns in Essex County. Show us the architectural treasures, urban centers, downtowns, streetscapes and/or public art that helps define the unique local character of the Essex National Heritage Area.
New Encounters	Essex County is home to many well-known historic sites and landmarks. For this category, we want to see what sites, historic narratives, or themes you discovered in 2022! Show us the unique places, activities, and scenes of the Heritage Area that surprised you this year. These may be photos of a new site you hadn't yet visited, images of material culture that represent a hidden history, or an action shot of a tour you embarked on.
Splash of Color	Sites around Essex County boast vibrant colors of all kinds. Murals, fields of flowers, and bountiful harvests at farmers' markets are just a few places that showcase this diverse palette. Show us your favorite colorful scene, large or small, and share the vibrancy of this special heritage area.

NEW!	
Young Photographers! (Ages 5-17)	Young photographers of all skill levels are invited to submit photographs to the Photo Contest! The theme for this year is 'New Perspectives.' Send in your favorite photos of your town, local park, beaches, streets, and farms from an angle you find interesting or creative!

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](https://www.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. Although not required, judges often find written descriptions of photos helpful, and encourage entrants to share a brief background on their image.

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 2023. There will be up to eleven (11) prizes awarded. (Upcoming prizes will be announced in Spring of 2022.)

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, 2022 and December 16, 2022.
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ESSEX NATIONAL
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For more information visit: EssexHeritage.org/PhotoContest or email photocontest@essexheritage.org