



# 2016 WILLIAMSTON IN FOCUS PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

## OFFICIAL CONTEST RULES

*No purchase or payment necessary to enter or win*

### **Purpose of Contest**

The Historic Town of Williamston and Envision Williamston, a SC Main Street Program, would like to invite all Area Amateur and Professional Photographers to participate in the inaugural *Williamston in Focus Photography Contest*. The purpose of the contest is to promote community vitality and celebrate some of the Town's local historic, cultural, artistic, recreational, and economic assets. We are delighted with the level of community involvement in prior contests and want to continue to offer opportunities for local residents and interested parties to contribute to creating a growing destination community that promotes a strong sense of place, fosters economic vitality, and offers an exceptional quality of life.

### **Contest Period**

- Spring, April 1 through June 30, 2016

### **Photo Eligibility**

All photos must have been taken in the Williamston area within the last two years.

The photo subject must be relevant to one of the following contest categories:

- Williamston Events
- Williamston Landmarks
- Williamston Businesses/Organizations
- Williamston People

### **Photographer/Copyright**

You do not need to be a professional photographer to participate. All we ask is that you follow the guidance in these instructions and fill out the attached form completely.



Entries must be submitted by the original photographer. Do not submit a photo taken by someone other than you. You must be the sole owner of the copyright of any image submitted. Your submission of the photo and entry form is your guarantee that you are the author and copyright holder of the photo.

### **Number of Entries**

An individual may submit up to 3 photos for the contest period.

### **Photo Subject Restrictions**

Photos must be appropriate for posting on a public website. Obscene, provocative or otherwise questionable content will not be considered. Envision Williamston retains sole discretion as to what constitutes inappropriate content.

### **Ownership/Use Rights**

Photographers retain the copyright to their photographs. By entering the contest, photographers agree to have their submitted photograph displayed on the Envision Williamston website, Historic Williamston website, or Town of Williamston website without any fee or other form of compensation, and agree that Envision Williamston may retain copies of the photograph for archival purposes. Photos may be credited to the photographer named in the entry form. Entries (including non-winning entries) may be selected for display or use in other Envision Williamston, Historic Williamston, or Town of Williamston web pages and promotional materials at no cost. Entries will never be used by Envision Williamston, Historic Williamston, or Town of Williamston in any manner for sale. In the event that ownership of any photograph submitted to this contest is contested in any manner, Envision Williamston retains the discretion to disqualify that photograph and discontinue use of the photograph.

### **How to Enter**

Digital photos are submitted using the online entry form at our website, [www.envisionwilliamston.com](http://www.envisionwilliamston.com). If you are submitting multiple entries, a form must be submitted for each entry. Complete the form carefully and make sure that you enter your photograph into the proper category.

### **Judging**

**Entries will be judged on the basis of creativity, photographic quality, and effectiveness in conveying the beauty and/or unique character of Williamston in one of the contest categories.** An Envision Williamston panel will judge the entries and all contest decisions are final. Entries that fail to comply with the Official Contest Rules will be disqualified. The Envision Williamston panel will include professionals in graphic design, website design, website development, retail, marketing and/or public relations.

### **Winners**

Judges will select first, second, and third place winners in each of the categories. There will also be a "People's Choice" winner for each category, which will be determined by a public online vote. If fewer than ten eligible photographs are entered in a category, Envision



Williamston may cancel that category. Winners will be notified by email using the information on the entry form. Winning photographs, along with the photographer's name and information about the photo will be displayed on the Envision Williamston website.

### **Submitting Digital Images**

Submit your digital using the online entry form at [www.envisionwilliamston.com](http://www.envisionwilliamston.com). Images must be submitted in a JPG high quality format. Images submitted that are smaller than 600 by 400 pixels may be rejected. Please contact us if you have questions about image type, size or quality.

### **Image Modifications**

Minor digital enhancement is permitted, but images that have been significantly modified or appear unnatural will be disqualified.

Not Permitted:

- No borders or frames may be added to images.
- No watermarks, signatures, or copyright notices may be added to images. All winning images will be displayed with the photographer's name.
- Adding or replacing elements in an image is not permitted.
- Artistic filters are not permitted.

Permitted Modifications:

- Images may be cropped and rotated as necessary as long as the rectangular format is maintained and the size is within the specifications above.
- Images may be resized as long as the aspect ratio is maintained
- Red-eye removal and spot editing
- One-step enhancement (such as "AutoFix", "QuickFix", "Auto Levels", etc.)
- Use of filters to sharpen, soften, blur, despeckle, or remove noise.
- Use of corrective functions to improve the natural appearance of the image, such as levels, contrast, brightness, curves, intensity, tone, hue, saturation, lightness, value, color balance, and tint.

## **Additional Terms and Conditions**

The Envision Williamston is not responsible for computer system, hardware, software, or program malfunctions or other errors, failures, or delayed computer transactions or network connections that are human or technical in nature. Furthermore, Envision Williamston is not responsible for: (i) lost, misdirected, misplaced, illegible, unintelligible, incomplete, or late entries or (ii) any act, failure to act, or delay regarding the transmitting or processing of entries. The Envision Williamston reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to cancel or suspend all or any portion of this contest without notice if factors beyond Envision Williamston control, including technical difficulties, disrupt or corrupt the fair or secure administration or operation of the contest. Void where prohibited. The Envision Williamston is entitled to interpret these rules



as needed and its decisions are final. The Envision Williamston reserves the right to disqualify any entrant that the Envision Williamston has reason to believe is not the original work of entrant, or does not otherwise meet the contest rules. If a winner is disqualified or determined to be ineligible, an alternate winner will be selected using the same judging process/criteria described above. Alternate winners are subject to all requirements set forth in these Official Rules.

By participating in the contest, you agree to release and hold harmless the Envision Williamston and its employees, officers, affiliates, agents, contest sponsors and advertising and promotional agencies from any and all damages, injuries, claims, causes of actions, or losses of any kind resulting from your participation in this contest, including infringement of intellectual property rights. The Envision Williamston and its employees, officers, affiliates, agents, contest sponsors and advertising and promotional agencies assume no responsibility or liability for any damages, injuries, claims, causes of actions, or losses of any kind arising in whole or in part from this contest.

### Summary Timeline

Step #	Description	Date
1	Post instructions at Town Hall, on website	4/01/16
2	Entry form acceptance period	4/01/16-6/10/16
3	Review and acceptance determination	1 week of receipt
4	Panel of Judges score entries	6/13/16 – 6/17/16
5	People’s choice voting	6/13/16-6/24/16
6	Awards notifications	6/30/16 (tentative)
7	Recognition ceremony at Town Council meeting	7/11/16
8	Display of photos online and in collateral materials	7/11/16 forward

