

LensCulture Portrait Awards 2026

Category: [Photography](#)

Deadline: February 18, 2026

Website: graphiccompetitions.com



The LensCulture Portrait Awards 2026 is an international photography competition dedicated to contemporary portrait photography, inviting photographers to present compelling visual stories about people, identity, and human experience. It positions itself as a leading global platform for portrait photographers, highlighting powerful imagery that captures character, culture, emotion, and narrative. Through its annual awards program, it aims to showcase diverse voices and fresh perspectives in modern portraiture, from fine art portraits to documentary and conceptual work.

The competition attracts emerging and established photographers from around the world, creating a vibrant global community centered on creative portrait photography. It emphasizes originality, strong visual storytelling, and technical excellence, encouraging artists to explore themes such as personal identity, social issues, community, and representation. By promoting innovative approaches to lighting, composition, and subject interaction, the awards help define current trends in contemporary portrait photography.

Beyond recognition, the LensCulture Portrait Awards functions as a career-building opportunity within the photography industry. Participants gain visibility among curators, photo editors, gallery owners, and publishers who follow LensCulture for new talent. With its strong online presence and reputation in the international photography scene, the awards serve as a discovery channel for photographers seeking exposure, professional growth, and a wider audience for their portrait work.

Entry is free for a single-image submission, with additional fees of approximately \$35 for up to five single images and \$45 for a series of up to 10 images.

Eligibility

Open to all photographers worldwide aged 18 years and older, including emerging, professional, student, and self-taught image makers.

Prize

Prizes include an exhibition in London, international media exposure, a total of \$10,000 in cash prizes, and a solo feature on LensCulture, offering career-boosting recognition and visibility within the global photography community.
