Head On Photo Awards 2025

Category: Photography
Deadline: July 27, 2025
Website: graphiccompetitions.com

The Head On Photo Awards is an international photography competition that attracts talented photographers from around the globe, celebrating visual storytelling through diverse photographic genres including Portrait, Landscape, and the innovative Exposure category. Organized annually by the Head On Foundation, in conjunction with the renowned Head On Photo Festival based in Sydney, Australia, the competition provides photographers with an unparalleled platform to gain recognition, showcase their creative vision, and engage with a vibrant community of photographic artists and enthusiasts.

Established with a commitment to uncovering emerging talents and highlighting exceptional photographic narratives, the Head On Photo Awards stand out due to their rigorous yet inclusive judging process, conducted anonymously to ensure fairness and transparency. Selected finalists benefit from significant exposure as their works are exhibited both physically during the festival and virtually through digital galleries, reaching a broad international audience. Moreover, the competition's open embrace of diverse photographic techniques, from traditional film and digital photography to mobile and experimental approaches, underscores its dedication to celebrating innovation in the photographic arts.

Beyond the exhibition, Head On Photo Awards finalists enjoy additional promotional and networking opportunities, including inclusion in the festival's digital catalogue and publicity materials, facilitating professional growth and career advancement. The festival further elevates the winning and shortlisted photographers by organizing touring exhibitions across Australia and internationally, offering artists extended visibility and the chance to connect with influential industry figures, curators, and collectors. Through its continued impact, the Head On Photo Awards have firmly established themselves as a highlight in the global photographic calendar, inspiring photographers worldwide to push creative boundaries and share powerful visual narratives.

Entry fee is AUD $30 per image for general entrants, with discounted rates (AUD $25 for festival friends and AUD $15 for under-25s).

Eligibility

Open to photographers worldwide aged 18 or over (with parent/guardian consent for under-18s); mobile and experimental photographic processes are accepted but AI-generated images are excluded.

Prize

Prizes are awarded across categories with a total prize pool of approximately AUD 75,000 (including at least AUD 18,000 in cash), with awards for three images per category; winners are announced at the Head On Photo Festival launch in Sydney in November 2025, and finalists receive substantial promotional support, exhibition mounting, potential touring of their work, and inclusion in digital catalogues and publicity.