

17th Annual Claude Moore Park Photography Expo

September 20, 2025

Natural Places and Old Spaces

Sponsored by the Friends of Claude Moore Park

Competition Rules:

The 17th Annual Claude Moore Park Photography Expo features seven categories of competition; in addition, entries photographed in a park located in **Loudoun County** may be designated for the \$100.00 *Paul Glascock Memorial People's Choice Award*. All accepted entries will be considered for the \$100.00 *Best in Show Award*. Entries will be accepted from adult novice and advanced levels and from young photographers in two age groups: 12 years of age and under, and ages 13 to 17. Eighteen-year-old students with a valid high school ID may be judged in the 13 to 17 age level. Any youth can enter as an adult if they pay the adult entry fee.

Categories for Adult Juried Competition:

Roots & Buds* – Native plant life in wild settings; NO cultivated plants are accepted

Wild Creatures* – Wild animals on land or in the water; NO domesticated animals or farm animals

Winged Wonders* – Creatures that fly including birds, bats, etc.

A Bug's Life* – Insects and bugs, butterflies, etc.

Natural Landscapes – Scenic views of natural spaces; NO manicured or man-made habitats (lawns or backyards)

History and Heritage – Capture worldwide history and culture, including buildings, statues, monuments, farms, homes, autos, trains, etc. May include domesticated working animals, people and farm life (animals, barns, etc.).

Categories for Young Photographers (12 years of age and under and 13-17 years of age):

There will be one broad category in each age group for young photographers. They will follow the guidelines in all of the six adult categories noted above (*Roots and Buds, Wild Creatures, Winged Wonders, A Bug's Life, Natural Landscapes, History and Heritage*) but each age bracket will be juried in one grouping encompassing all six categories. This jury process is subject to change based on number of entries.

Location of Where Photos Can Be Taken:

There are no restrictions as to where the photographs are taken with the exception of the *Paul Glascock Memorial People's Choice Award*, which must be taken in a park located in **Loudoun County**. This includes county, regional, state, city, and national parks within Loudoun County boundaries. The primary purpose of this expo is to generate interest in the natural world by photographers of all levels, to learn photographic techniques from other talented photographers, and to raise awareness regarding habitat conservation within Loudoun County. Domestic/working and farm animals are acceptable only in the "Farm Life" category. Do not include photographs of pets. Any such photographs will be disqualified. By entering this expo, participants warrant that his or her photographs constitute the entrant's original works.

People's Choice Award:

The *Paul Glascock Memorial People's Choice Award* will be selected from submissions photographed in parks within Loudoun County (please refer to location paragraph above). Entrants of any age are welcome to enter this category. The panel of judges will select three entries for display to be voted on by the public on the day of the Expo. Each visitor viewing the Expo will be given one ticket to be placed at the entry of their choice. The winning entry will be awarded a \$100.00 prize, donated by the Friends of Claude Moore Park (FCMP). The winner will be announced at 3:30PM on Saturday, September 20, 2025, at the Lanesville Ordinary. The winner does not have to be present to win.

Best in Show Award:

All first place winning photographs in their respective categories will be considered for the *Best in Show Award*, which will be awarded a \$100.00 prize, also donated by the FCMP. The winner will be announced at the Photographer's Tea on Friday, September 19, 2025, at 7:30pm.

Friends' Choice Award:

All accepted photographs in their respective categories will be considered for the *Friends' Choice Award*, which will be awarded a special ribbon, and be the featured photo (with photographer credits) on any advertising related to next year's Photography Expo. The winner will be announced at the Photographer's Tea on Friday, September 19, 2025, at 7:30pm.

Photographers' Tea:

All entrants and their guests are cordially invited to the Photographer's Tea, hosted by the FCMP in the historic Lanesville Ordinary on Friday, September 19, 2025, at 7:00pm. All awards (except the *Paul Glascock Memorial People's Choice Award*) will be announced during the Tea at 7:30pm.

Standards:

Quality: While the photography standards of this expo are high, photographers from all levels of experience are encouraged to participate. Please submit only your superior work, printed with extreme care, and matted according to the Expo rules. Custom window mats of archival or acid free material are encouraged.

* **Hand of Man:** "Hand of Man" is a photographic term used to describe human elements. This is anything man made or used to contain nature. Feeding dishes, cages, fences, wires, docks, boats, buildings, human hands themselves (when holding birds, etc.). For the five nature categories, "Hand of Man" is allowed if it is a minor and unobtrusive element. "Hand of Man" is **allowed** within the *History & Heritage* and *Farm Life* categories.

Entry: To enter into the photography expo, please complete the entry form provided at www.loudoun.gov/claudemoorespark or the Online Application is located at <https://friendsofclaudemoorespark.org/photo-expo/>

Submissions are currently open but photographs must be submitted no later than 4:00 PM on Friday, September 12, 2025. An entry fee of \$10.00 per photograph for adult entrants, and \$5.00 per photograph for youth entrants will be collected at the time of submission. All entry fees are to be paid to the **Friends of Claude Moore Park**. Proceeds will go toward the restorations and projects within the Park.

Notification of Photographs Accepted:

Winning photos will be announced and displayed at the September 19, 2025, Photographer's Tea. If display room allows, some or all photographs that were accepted to be juried, but did not win, may be included in the expo show.

First Place results may be included in the FCMP Traveling Expo. The information (where, duration of show) will be shared at the Photographer's Tea as well. All other entries will be available for pick up at the Claude Moore Park Visitor Center on or after Tuesday, September 23, 2025. The Visitor Center is open from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM daily. Please pick up your entries before November 1, 2025, or they will become property of the park and used as we see fit.

Format and Presentation Rules:

Dimensions: Photographs must be two-dimensional. Traditional "in camera" photographs, composites, montages, and multiple exposures are permitted. Three-dimensional photo collages are not permitted.

Photographs/Mat Size: Maximum display size is 16" x 20" along the outside edge (including mounting and matting). The minimum print size is 5" x 7". Panoramas are acceptable but the maximum display width should be 26". A 1.5" minimum mat border on all four sides applies to all photographs submitted.

Signatures: Signatures are NOT allowed on the visible portion of the print or cover window mat.

Titles: Titles are NOT allowed on the cover window mat or on the print. (Please refer to Labels for use of titles.)

Labels: A discreet label affixed to the back of each photograph to be juried is required. Additional information may be provided (for example, photo description, photographer biography, club affiliation [if any], etc.) but is not required. The label's text will serve to indicate the top of the photo. Arrows are NOT needed and are strongly discouraged.

Name of Photographer
Title of Photograph
Group level (novice, Advanced, <12, 13-17)
Category
Photograph Location

Matting/Mounting: Framed photographs are not permitted and will not be considered for acceptance in the expo. Please mat your image using the following guidelines (note – please make sure you have a front window and a backing).

Single Mats Only: Cover window mats are required. **Single** matting is the standard. Double and Triple matting is **NOT** permitted. Floating photographs (which is defined as a white or colored border appears between the print and the cover mat) are discouraged but will be allowed if entered.

Border: A minimum 1.5 inch border (along all sides of the photographs) is required for all entries. The border need not be the same width on all sides.

Color: All cover window mats are to be white, eggshell or ivory.

Backing and Core: The cover window mat must be securely affixed on all four sides to a firm, white backing. Only white mats are allowed.

Clear Sleeve: The matted photo may be placed in a clear sleeve for protection. Please put your name on the sleeve (a good use of address labels). If entering multiple images, you may put all in one large sleeve and label the sleeve with the # of images along with your name to help volunteers to identify the packaging.

Digital Version of Images: Submit a digital version of your entries along with your prints, either as email attachments sent to claudemoore@loudoun.gov or by downloading at <https://friendsofclaudemoorepark.org/photo-expo/>. The digital image files should be as follows: JPEG format, no greater than 1024 pixels on the longest side, and maximum file size 1MB. Filename must be as follows: EntrantNAME_Level_Category_TitleofPhoto.jpg
Example: LoriDetwiler_Novice_Landscapes_Waterfalls.jpg.

Winning photographs will be displayed on the Claude Moore Park website after the Expo. This is a mandatory part of submitting your photos. Please send these prior to the September 12, 2025, due date.

Waiver of Liability:

Entrance of an image for inclusion in the juried expo, the *Paul Glascock Memorial People's Choice Award* competition, the *Best in Show* competition, the *Friends' Choice* and/or any special display constitutes the photographer's assumption of all risk.

Your signed entry to the contest constitutes your agreement to allow your photographs:

- To be published as a selected award winner with your name, city, and state of residence.
- To be published in local newspapers, utilized to promote nature or history on the Loudoun County Parks and Recreation website, Claude Moore Park, and the Photo Expo.
- To be viewed by the public during a temporary display in the Claude Moore Park Recreation Center and/or other Loudoun County buildings.

Every precaution will be taken to safeguard your photographs. However, it is expressly stated that the Friends of Claude Moore Park, juror(s), Claude Moore Park, sponsors, and volunteers accept no liability in the event of loss or damage.

Jurisdiction:

The Friends of Claude Moore Park is primarily responsible for conducting this Expo. All rules, regulations, and exceptions stated above apply.

Please bring or mail your entry form and photographs, and cash or check made out to The Friends of Claude Moore Park to:

Claude Moore Park Visitor Center
21544 Old Vestal's Gap Road, Sterling, Virginia 20164

For entry forms and information: Visit <https://friendsofclaudemoorepark.org/photo-expo/>
Or contact the Expo Coordinator, Lori Detwiler at Lori.Detwiler@gmail.com or 727-418-6930.