

VIECC

Entry Guidelines for VIECC 2025 Photo Competition

Photo Competition

VIECC
23/10/2025

Entry Categories

1. Storytelling

Entry format: single photo

Share with us a picture that tells a story on its own, or that allows the viewer to create one from what's in the picture, that evokes emotion or hints at a larger narrative behind the picture.

Your photograph should make us feel like we've stepped into a scene where something is unfolding in front of our eyes or is going to happen!

Awards and Prizes

- 1st Place: TBC
- 2nd Place: TBC
- 3rd Place: TBC
- Public's choice (done via voting during VIECC amongst the finalists): TBC

The winners will be announced at VIECC on Sunday afternoon.

Additional Prizes might be announced in later dates

The finalists' pictures will be printed and displayed during VIECC 2025 in the cosplay village.

Public's choice process will be explained at VIECC, next to the gallery.

At the end of the convention, each entrant that had their photos printed and displayed will have the possibility to take their printed photo if attending VIECC.

Pictures will be shipped to the remaining finalists living in the participating countries if they cannot attend VIECC.

How to Enter

Enter the contest by providing the required information in the entry form on the VIECC Website. This form will become available on the first date that entries are accepted.

Entry Period: October 23rd to November 10th 22:00 UTC+1

Pictures must respect the following naming standard:

NAME-SURNAME-INSTAGRAMHANDLE-COSPLAYER(S)TAG(S)

Here is an example: VALENTIN-OFFNER-VALENTINPICTURES-AINLINAA_

Files that do not follow the naming standard will not be reviewed further. In cases where the social media handles have characters incompatible with filenames, a dash (-) can be used to replace them.

Timeline

- October 23rd, 2025: Start of the application period
- November 10th, 2025: End of the application period, start of the pre-selection process
- November 12th, 2025: End of the pre-selection process, all finalists will be contacted to send a high-resolution file of their picture for printing and showcasing at the convention.
- November 22nd, 2025: Opening of the convention and the public votes at the convention
- Afternoon, November 23rd, 2025: Closing of the public vote, announcement of the winners
- 17:30, November 23rd, 2025: finalists can pick up their showcased picture with the help of the staff

Eligibility

The contest is open to photographers, amateurs or professionals, residing in the European Union or the following countries: United Kingdom, Norway, Switzerland, Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Ukraine, Andorra, San Marino.

Every participating party (photographer and models/cosplayers) must be 18 years old or older at the time the pictures were taken.

Submission Guidelines

Entry is limited to original works for which the entrant holds all applicable rights.

Works that have been posted on personal blogs or social media can be entered.

Entries are restricted to works for which the entrant holds the copyright. As such, only photographers are allowed to enter the contest. In cases where the copyright of the picture has been transferred, it is possible to have the model enter the contest if the documents are provided. Self-taken pictures are allowed.

Before submitting a work, the entrant is responsible for taking all steps necessary to protect the right of publicity and other rights of persons depicted in the work,

including but not limited to obtaining their permission, to avoid any problems related to the infringement of these rights.

The limit for submitted works is one for each category.

Works that are identical or similar to another submitted work ("identical or similar works") as well as works including identical or similar images*2 as separate works are ineligible for submission.

Note:

*1. "Identical or similar works" refer to the following works:

- 1) a work produced from identical image data,
- 2) a work produced by cropping or retouching identical image data to alter it, or
- 3) a work produced from similar, though not identical, image data as described in (1) or (2) above (e.g. a frame from the same series of shots, photography conducted at a different date or time yet producing the same result, or a work otherwise deemed to be similar).

Entrants are responsible for the resolution of any legal issues arising from their submitted works and agree to pay any costs thereby incurred.

Entries including content from (1) to (5) below may be disqualified at the organizer's discretion:

- 1) Content that infringes on any laws, or is defamatory or libelous
- 2) Content that constitutes or encourages criminal behaviour, leads to civil liability, or that otherwise violates laws
- 3) Commercial content that promotes products or services
- 4) Content in which animals were harmed or manipulated in the making of said content
- 5) Content that infringes on the copyrights, trademarks, contract rights, or other intellectual property rights of a third person or entity (whether individuals or companies), or violates rights of privacy or publicity, including:
 - trademarks owned by third parties (examples: billboards or signs on a street)
 - materials protected by third-party copyrights
 - names, likenesses, or other characteristics identifying celebrities or other public figures

Works that have already been awarded a prize in a photo contest with a monetary value superior to 50€ cannot enter this contest.

As a reminder, VIECC is a public event accessible to all ages. As such, finalists pictures will need to be visible by all the attendants.

Photo Guidelines

Image data files created with a device capable of taking still images, including smartphones and digital still cameras (including medium and large-format digital cameras).

Images that have been retouched by using camera apps, photo editing apps, other software, etc. will be accepted, if the edits do not contain the following:

- Photo manipulations (50% of the original picture must be included in the submitted picture)
- Digital sets/3D rendered images
- Images generated through generative AI.

Both colour and monochrome images will be accepted.

File size: up to 20 MB of image data per work

Image data file format: JPEG/150 dpi or more recommended

The minimum wide side resolution must be at minimum 2000 pixels.

The standard colour space for the judging process is sRGB.

Entrants must hold all applicable rights to the final image, including any retouching or other image processing.

Entrants must upload the unedited image as well during the entry process, to allow the judges to review the editing aspect of the picture.

Finalists will be asked to provide higher resolution images for publication or display purposes related to the contest. Failure to provide the file by the 14th of November 2025, will result in a removal of the entry.

Judging Procedure

After all entries for the photography contest have been received, they will undergo the first round of judging.

That round will determine the finalists of the contests, which will then be contacted to provide High Resolution Picture for printing.

The final round of judging will proceed afterwards.

Contest results are scheduled to be announced at the convention.

Photos will be rated according to the 4 following criteria:

- Unedited picture quality (Lighting, focusing, etc).
- Editing
- Art Direction (Framing, posing, etc).
- Respect of the theme

After the contest, a feedback round will be available for one week during which contestants can contact the main judge, Valentin Pictures, for feedback of their picture. Feedback will be gathered from the 3 judges and sent back afterwards.

Considering the volume of entries expected pictures that do not make it to the finals will receive shorter feedback of a sentence or two.

The judges will not reveal the scores of a picture, nor make a ranking of the pictures in their feedback but will only share some improvements' possibilities on the entries.

Notification of Winners

After the judging concludes, the winners will be notified via email sent to their registered email addresses.

Note: Entrants should notify the organizer of any changes to their email addresses, etc. The organization will not accept any liability for any disadvantages that arise for any reason because of the inability to receive email or similar problems.

Disclaimers

Please note that the organizer will not respond to inquiries concerning their receipt. Entries are only accepted through the Internet.

Entering the contest constitutes agreement to the terms and conditions stated in these Entry Guidelines.

The organizer reserves the right of final judgment concerning items not expressly stated in these Entry Guidelines. Entrants who do not consent to the organizer's decisions may withdraw from the contest.

Please note that the organizer may elect to suspend or postpone receipt of any or all entries if in its judgment the contest cannot be run smoothly, securely, or without affecting the fairness of the judging due to circumstances beyond its control, including but not limited to network failure, computer viruses, or unauthorized access to its servers.

Please note that when a winning work is used for exhibitions and the like stated below, due to circumstances concerning printing or otherwise, the tone or expressed meaning may not be strictly reproduced according to the winner's intent, or the work may be partially cropped for publicity purposes.

Please note that no response will be given to any inquiries, complaints, or objections regarding the judges' decisions of the contest.

Prizes may be changed without notice according to our product lineup.

In the event of an international incident or conflict with the laws and regulations of a country, it might take a while to deliver the prize.

Responsibility

Entrants are required to obtain the prior permission of the persons who are portrayed in their works or who hold the copyright or other intellectual property rights to the works or the items portrayed therein. Entrants also agree to fully indemnify the organizer and bear all responsibility for any complaints or objections that arise in relation to the above.

Entrants agree to fully indemnify the organizer and bear all responsibility for any third-party complaints or objections concerning copyright or other intellectual-property-right infringement or damages arising from submitted works.

If there is a problem related to the similarity of a submitted work to an existing work, etc., the parties involved are responsible for the resolution of that problem. Entrants also agree to fully indemnify the organizer and bear all responsibility for any complaints or objections that arise in relation to the above.

The above limitations also apply to the responsibilities borne by the organizer as well as the judges and third parties participating in the contest in cooperation with the organizer.

Entrants' Rights

Entrants retain the copyright and other equivalent rights to their entries. The organizer retains the entry rights listed below under "Organizer's Rights".

Organizer's Rights

The organizer reserves the right to publish entries with the credits to its official social networking service accounts throughout the submission period to publicize the contest. Such publication does not guarantee an award of any kind.

The organizer reserves the right to publish all entries with the credits onto websites related to the contest and official social networking service accounts.

Some entries might be cropped for publication.

With the objective of publicizing the contest, creating the photo gallery and for possible future editions of the contest, the organizer reserves for 5 years the non-exclusive right to publish, reproduce, make public, publicly transmit (via social media, the Internet, email newsletters, etc.), display, print, distribute, adapt, and screen, finalists' entries with the credits on websites and official social networking service accounts.

The organizer, etc. will display the names of the winners and the titles of the winning entries on contest-related websites and official social networking service accounts, at exhibitions, and in other locations where the works are shown.

The use cases mentioned above do not guarantee a compensation of any kind.