

## **2025 Chatt Hills Photo Contest**

### **Official Rules & Terms of Participation**

**Disclaimer:** The 2025 Chatt Hills Photo Contest ("Contest") is administered by the Chattahoochee Hill Country Conservancy ("CHCC") in collaboration with the City of Chattahoochee Hills and the Chattahoochee Hills Convention and Visitors Bureau (collectively, "Sponsor"). This initiative builds upon the Chattahoochee Hills Time Capsule Essay & Photo Contest, originally coordinated by a volunteer committee for the City's 10-Year Celebration.

#### **Section 1: Purpose**

The Contest is designed to showcase original photography that captures the landscapes, people, and character of Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia. It supports the Sponsor's mission to promote the community through public exhibitions and promotional activities.

#### **Section 2: Eligibility**

The Contest is open to individuals who live or work within the municipal boundaries of the City of Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia. **Entrants aged seventeen (17) or younger must submit entries under the Youth Division and provide verifiable parental or legal guardian consent.** Employees, officers, board members, and immediate family members of the Sponsor are ineligible to receive awards.

#### **Section 3: Divisions**

Participants must enter one of the following skill-based divisions:

- **Pro/Semi-Pro:** Individuals who derive income from photography or have formal training.
- **Amateur:** Hobbyists who do not receive photography-related income.
- **Youth:** Individuals aged seventeen (17) or under.

Each entrant may submit under only one division. Submissions to multiple divisions will result in disqualification. The Sponsor reserves the right to reassign entrants to an appropriate division at its discretion.

#### **Section 4: Photo Submission Guidelines**

Each entrant may submit a maximum of five (5) digital photographs. All entries must:

- Be taken within Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia.
- Be the original work of the entrant and taken within the last twenty-four (24) months.
- Be submitted in .jpg or .png format
- Photo orientation must be landscape
- Include the title, photo location, and selected division.
- To ensure fairness and preserve the integrity of the photographic moment, images must reflect the original scene as captured in-camera.
  - Allowed:
    - Global adjustments to exposure, color, contrast, sharpness, cropping
    - Minor cleanup (e.g., dust spots)

- Not Allowed:
  - Adding or removing objects, people, or backgrounds
  - Composites, sky replacements, AI-generated elements
  - Local edits that significantly alter the scene

Entries must be submitted through the [official online form](#). Incomplete entries or entries that fail to comply with the rules will be disqualified.

### **Section 5: Content Categories**

Entries may align with one or more of the following thematic categories (for organizational purposes only):

1. Natural Landscapes (e.g., vistas, wetlands, forests, wildlife)
2. Public Spaces & Pathways (e.g., parks, trails, roads)
3. Working & Historic Lands (e.g., farmland, barns, historic structures)
4. Community & Culture (e.g., portraits, events, gatherings)

### **Section 6: Use of Recognizable Individuals**

Entrants whose photographs depict identifiable individuals must affirm that they have obtained that person's consent for use. If a minor is depicted, parental or legal guardian consent must also be obtained. Entrants must acknowledge the following in the online submission form:

"I confirm that I have obtained permission from any identifiable individuals depicted in my submitted photos. I authorize the use of their image for lawful, nonprofit purposes related to the 2025 Chatt Hills Photo Contest."

Failure to comply will result in disqualification.

### **Section 7: Judging and Awards**

Submissions will be evaluated by a panel of judges appointed by the Sponsor. Photos will be assessed based on originality, composition, technical execution, and relevance to the spirit of Chattahoochee Hills. Awards include:

- 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place for each division
- One Community Favorite, determined by public vote

Winners will be acknowledged publicly and may have their work featured in a community exhibit. No cash prizes will be awarded. All judging decisions are final.

### **Section 8: Usage Rights and Ownership**

Entrants retain ownership of their submitted photos but, by participating, grant the Sponsor a perpetual, royalty-free, non-exclusive, worldwide license to:

- Reproduce, display, distribute, and publish the photos in any media format for promotional, educational, or fundraising purposes.
- Use the photographer's name and city/state in photo credits where feasible.

- Archive submissions in the Sponsor's internal and public archives.

The Sponsor reserves the right to crop, resize, or otherwise format images to meet presentation requirements, without materially altering the image content. Photos may be included in campaigns, newsletters, reports, print materials, signage, social media, or fundraising collateral.

### **Permission to Use Entry Photography**

By entering the Contest, entrants grant the Sponsor and its designees unrestricted rights to use, publish, and create derivative works from their submitted photographs, without further compensation, for nonprofit purposes. This includes:

- Social media distribution (e.g., Facebook, Instagram)
- Digital and print communications (e.g., websites, annual reports, fundraising appeals)
- Internal use and archival storage
- Public recognition using the entrant's name, city, and state

Credit will be attributed where reasonably possible.

### **Section 9: General Conditions**

(a) The Sponsor is not responsible for technical malfunctions, unauthorized access, incomplete entries, or lost data. (b) The Sponsor reserves the right to suspend, amend, or cancel the Contest in the event of fraud, technical failures, or any other factor that impairs the integrity of the Contest. (c) Any attempt to tamper with the Contest entry process or to disrupt operation will result in disqualification and may subject the offender to legal liability. (d) Sponsor's failure to enforce any provision of these rules shall not constitute a waiver of that provision. (e) In the event of a dispute concerning authorship of an entry, the authorized email account holder shall be deemed the entrant. (f) This Contest is void where prohibited and subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws.

### **Section 10: Release and Limitation of Liability**

By entering, participants agree to release and hold harmless the Sponsor and its officers, employees, agents, affiliates, and volunteers from any claims arising out of:

- Participation in the Contest
- Use or misuse of submitted materials
- Technical, printing, or administrative errors
- Personal injury or property damage

Participants waive rights to claim punitive, incidental, or consequential damages and attorneys' fees.

### **Section 11: Privacy and Publicity**

Information collected during the Contest will be used solely for administration and promotional purposes consistent with the Sponsor's Privacy Policy. Entrants consent to the public disclosure of their name and city/state in winner announcements and promotional materials unless otherwise prohibited by law.

**Section 12: Contact**

Questions regarding rules, eligibility, model release consent, or other matters may be directed to: [info@chatthillsconservancy.org](mailto:info@chatthillsconservancy.org)