Photography Competition & Exhibition

The 2017 International Photography Exhibition on display in the Great Hall of the Ohio Union features 40 original photographs taken overseas in 26 different countries by 35 Ohio State students, staff, faculty and alumni. The exhibition features a wonderful selection of photographs taken in Austria, Cameroon, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Egypt, England, Faroe Islands, France, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Iceland, India, Israel, Italy, Japan, Mongolia, Nepal, Paraguay, South Africa, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, Ukraine and Vietnam.

Steven Hirsch, an alumnus, earned the Best in Show award for his submission “Beneath the Glacier” that he photographed in Iceland. Also captured in Iceland, communication major Max Leo won 1st Place in the Places category for his image “Crash Landing.” Geographic information sciences major Elliot Gilfix earned 1st Place in the People category with his entry “Puddle Under the Tower” captured at the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France. Shihong Fan, a graduate student in electrical and computer engineering from China, earned 1st Place in the Politics category with his photograph “Long Live The Emperor!” taken in Tokyo, Japan.

Not only are the photographs international, but many of the photographers are also students or alumni who are different countries. 10 international photographers have entries in the exhibition, including five from China, two from India, and one each from Taiwan and Egypt. 15 of the photographers are undergraduate students, eight are graduate students, seven are alumni, three are staff and two are faculty at Ohio State.

Photographs in the exhibition were first submitted in three categories to the International Photography Competition, an annual contest open to all members of the Ohio State community. More than 225 members of the campus community submitted nearly 500 photographs across three categories: People, Places and Politics. As part of the competition, Ohio State Buckeyes from 23 different countries submitted photographs
taken in more than 70 countries. The Places category had the most total submissions with more than 200 photos entered. Over 150 photographs were submitted in the People category and more than 100 images in the Politics category.

The place winners and best in show photographs were selected by a three-person judging panel of students and staff at Ohio State. The judges honored one selection with the overall Best in Show award and selected first, second, and third place winners in each category. The judges also awarded honorable mention recognition to 30 photographs.

The 40 images selected for the exhibit were entered into an online People’s Choice vote through a 2017 International Photography Exhibition Album on the Office of International Affairs Facebook page. Nearly 4,000 votes were cast and People’s Choice winners were chosen by the public in each category. Graduate student Steven Kenworthy won the People’s Choice award for each category this year: “Prayer Beast” in People, “My Peace, Your Quiet” in Places and “Barnes & Gorbachev” in Politics.

Organized by the Office of International Affairs, the international photography competition and exhibition has taken place for more than fifteen years. View the 2017 Exhibition or browse past photography exhibitions online at http://oia.osu.edu/photo-contest.