

2021 Northern Focus Rules and Information

Welcome to our second annual *Northern Focus* photography project! This spring we are asking regional, amateur photographers to send us their best work to grace our downtown Main Library location in a photo exhibit—and one lucky artist will get their photograph on the front cover of *Northern Narratives* 2021!

If you are interested in submitting your work to *Northern Focus*, thank you! Please read the rules and information thoroughly before sending us anything, as not adhering to the guidelines may disqualify you. If after reading the below information you need help with submitting your photo, or if you have questions about the *Northern Focus* photography project, please call Melisa Duncan at 701.476.4076 or email mduncan@fargolibrary.org.

RULES

- The *Northern Focus* photography project is open to any North Dakota resident or resident of the Fargo Public Library's reciprocal service area in the Lake Agassiz Regional Library System. Reciprocal Minnesota counties include Polk, Clearwater, Norman, Mahanomen, Clay, Becker, and Wilkin. Citizens of Rothsay are also eligible as part of the LARL System.
- The project is open to amateur photographers (age 13+) only. An amateur photographer is defined as an individual who earns less than 50% of their income from photographic work.
- There is no submission fee.
- Deadline for photo submissions is **May 31, 2021**.
- Each participant may submit **one** photo to the 2021 *Northern Focus* photography project.
- Photo submissions will be accepted from **April 5 – May 31, 2021** using our official online entry form: <https://fargolibrary.wufoo.com/forms/northern-focus-2021/>. You will automatically receive an email confirmation after submitting. Hard copy photos will not be accepted.
- Your entry must be a JPEG or PNG attachment that is no larger than 10 MB, with a minimum of 300dpi or 2400 x 3000 pixels. In addition, to be considered for the *Northern Narratives* cover contest your photo **MUST** have landscape orientation. Likewise we will not crop or otherwise manipulate a photograph to make it fit a book cover. If your only concern is the exhibition and not the cover contest, portrait orientation is fine.
- All submissions must be an original photograph and must be taken by the person submitting. No logos or watermarks, please. By submitting a photo, you certify that you are the author and copyright holder of the photo. The photographer is responsible for obtaining necessary permissions if the photo contains an identifiable individual.
- All photos must be taken regionally (within ND/reciprocal MN) and convey a sense of the people, places, and/or happenings that make up our great and diverse community.
- Photo entries can be of any photographic medium (black/white, color, digital, manipulated, etc.).

- Submitted photos must be suitable for public display and community viewing as determined by the library. Obscene, provocative, or otherwise questionable content will not be considered. In other words, it will neither be displayed in the project exhibit nor judged for the *Northern Narratives* cover contest. The Fargo Public Library reserves the right to decide what constitutes inappropriate content.
- Fargo Public Library reserves the non-exclusive right to use the photographs at our discretion.
- Photographers retain the copyright to their photographs. By entering the project, photographers agree to have their submitted photographs displayed at any of the library locations, on the library's website, and on the library's social media, including being used to promote and publicize future library photo projects/contests or the Fargo Public Library itself, without any fee or other form of compensation.
- While all submissions adhering to these rules will be put on display, not all will be considered for the *Northern Narratives* cover contest. Please see additional information below.

EXHIBITION

All photographs submitted to the *Northern Focus* project will be on display at the downtown Main Library (102 3rd St. N.) after the conclusion of the judging for the *Northern Narratives* cover contest. Date to be determined.

Exception: Any entries that do not meet the above rules will not be put on display. Please read all rules and information carefully and contact us with questions or concerns so you are not left out!

JUDGING for the *NORTHERN NARRATIVES* COVER CONTEST

Photographs submitted to the project will also be evaluated by judges as part of a contest to be on the cover of *Northern Narratives* 2021, as long as they meet the rules. Entries will be put through a blind judging process by a selection committee. The photography will be judged based on the purposeful, creative use of the following criteria: composition, focus, lighting, color, and overall emotional impact.

In addition, to be considered for the cover contest your photo **MUST** have landscape orientation. Likewise we will not crop or otherwise manipulate a photograph just to make it fit. Please [check out previous editions](#) of *Northern Narratives* to see how the composition of a photo has to support a book title, etc.

While all evaluated photographs will be put on display, the committee will choose only one as the cover of *Northern Narratives* 2021, to be published later this year.

Decisions by our judges are final.