

**Friends of Green Spring  
2024 Judged Photography Contest Rules**

**1. Photograph Entry Criteria**

- a. The contestant must be at least age 18 years in 2024 and a non-professional photographer.
- b. Entries are limited to two photographs per contestant.
- c. Entries must be original framed works based on regional (DC/MD/VA) horticulture or natural themes with the exception of no seascapes, people portraits or pet portraits.
- d. Entries must have been taken starting January 1, 2023.
- e. Entries may be in black & white or color, must be in focus, accurately reflect the scene as it appeared in the viewfinder, not have been digitally adjusted beyond standard optimization, although the use of a filter, removal of dust, reasonable adjustment to exposure, color, contrast, and red-eye removal are permitted.

**2. Entry Process**

- a. Entry forms and checks will be accepted from September 1 to September 25, 2024, until 40 entries are accepted.
- b. A completed entry form and check must be submitted by mail for up to two photographs entered.
- c. A donation of \$20 is required for each photograph entered. A check for the donation payable to **“Friends of Green Spring”** must accompany the entry form. A single check can cover two entries.
- d. Mail your entry form with donation check to: Green Spring Gardens, 4603 Green Spring Rd, Alexandria, VA 22312, Attn: FROGS Photo Contest.
- e. You will receive an email from the Friends of Green Spring confirming receipt of the entry form and donation. If you do not receive an email confirmation within 10 days of mailing your submission or have any questions, contact [FROGSphotocontest@friendsofgreenspring.org](mailto:FROGSphotocontest@friendsofgreenspring.org)
- f. Your confirmation will request that you email a JPG for each entry (size no more than 16 MB per entry) within 3 days. The file name for each digital photograph must be in the following format: LastnameFirstinitialentry#.jpg. For example: “SmithJ1.jpg” and “SmithJ2.jpg.”
- g. You will be notified by email within 4 days of the receipt of the digital photograph whether the entry is accepted. If the entry is not accepted, the reason(s) will be given. The contestant can resubmit a revised digital entry within 4 days. If the resubmitted entry is

also not accepted or a revised entry is not resubmitted within the 4-day period, the voided entry fee check will be returned to the contestant.

### 3. Photograph Display Criteria

- a. Entries must be printed on photographic paper. No other medium will be accepted such as canvas, metal, wood, or glass.
- b. Photograph prints must be mounted, may have a white or light cream matt, and must be framed, with glass or plexiglass covering the photograph, and **with picture hanging wire secured across the width of the back of the frame to hooks that are approximately one-third down from the top (sawtooth hanger not allowed).**

The printed photograph can be any size and the frame size cannot exceed 16" x 20".

- c. A clearly printed card must be securely attached to the back of each entry that includes the name, telephone number, and email address of the contestant; the title of the entry to be used for the exhibit; and either "Not for Sale" or "For Sale."

### 4. Delivery, Judging, and Exhibition

- a. All entries that have been accepted based on a review of the entry form and the digital photograph must be delivered printed, framed, with information card on the back, and ready to hang to the Green Spring Gardens Horticulture Center on Sunday, October 13, 2024, between 12:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Any entry that, upon review, is determined to not meet the Contest Rules' requirements for framing and hanging will not be accepted.
- b. All entries up to a maximum of 40 that meet the Contest Rules will be accepted into the contest, judged by the contest judge, and exhibited from Tuesday, October 15 to Saturday, December 7, 2024.
- c. The judge will award 1<sup>st</sup> \$200, 2<sup>nd</sup> \$100 and 3<sup>rd</sup> \$75 place prizes and up to five Honorable Mentions. The winning photographs will be selected by the contest judge based on the photographic technique, composition, lighting, subject/interest, and originality, as well as the contestant's choice of display of the photograph.
- d. The contest judge's decision will be made on the opening day of the exhibit, is final, and will be conveyed to the winning contestants. Winning contestants may be asked to provide added information for the exhibit, awards ceremony, media, and press coverage.
- e. The entry photographs will remain on exhibition from the opening day of the exhibition on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, until the last day of the exhibition on Saturday, December 7, 2024.
- f. Contestants must pick up their entries from the Green Spring Gardens Horticulture Center on Sunday, December 8, 2024 between 12:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Alternatively, the purchaser of a framed entry may pick up the entry at this time. Entries not picked up on December 8, 2024, will become the property of the Friends of Green Spring unless alternative arrangements are made in advance for holding the entry.

- g. A reception and awards ceremony will be held on Sunday, October 27, 2024 at the Green Spring Gardens Horticulture Center from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. We would appreciate it if winning contestants would attend the awards ceremony. Any winner unable to attend the awards ceremony must notify FROGS at [FROGSphotocontest@friendsofgreenspring.org](mailto:FROGSphotocontest@friendsofgreenspring.org) no later than Thursday, August 25, 2022 and should, if possible, designate a representative to attend and receive the award on their behalf.

## 5. Framed Photograph Entries for Sale

- a. Contestants planning to offer their framed entry for sale may obtain useful information on valuing a photographic work for sale at [Article](#).
- b. Entries for sale must remain on exhibition until the end of the exhibit and picked up by the contestant or the purchaser on December 8, 2024. A “sold” sticker will be placed on the exhibit label to indicate that the item is sold.
- c. The purchaser of a framed photograph entry may make payment in cash or by check to the staff of Green Spring Gardens at the Horticulture Center. Checks will be made payable to the artist for the full sales price of the entry plus 6% VA state sales tax.
- d. The contestant may call the Horticulture Center at 703-642-5143, 9 am to 4:30 pm, to inquire about sales.
- e. On Sunday, December 8, 2024, the date for pick-up of contest entries, the contestant must appear in-person at the Green Spring Gardens’ Horticulture Center and submit to the staff of Green Spring Gardens a donation of 30% of the total net sales, excluding VA sales tax, payable by credit card, cash or check to the **Fairfax County Park Authority**.
- f. Contestants are personally responsible for the payment of any sales tax.

## 6. Permissions, Copyright and Liability

- a. The contestant agrees that the his/her name and digital copies of photograph entries may be used by the Friends of Green Spring and the staff of Green Spring Gardens/FCPA in their publications and websites for any purpose, including educational, promotional or fundraising purposes; the photograph entry may be exhibited at the Green Spring Gardens Horticulture Center; and that any person in the photograph either is not recognizable or the photographer has permission from each such person to use the photograph as described in this paragraph.
- b. The contestant agrees that he/she holds and retains the copyright to all photographs he/she submits to the contest. Photographs that violate the copyright laws will be disqualified.
- c. Exhibition of the contest entries and sales of the same will be conducted at the contestant’s risk. The contestant agrees to hold the Fairfax County Park Authority, Green

Spring Gardens and the Friends of Green Spring blameless for any damage or loss of property while contest entries are present in the Horticulture Center.

IN ORDER TO ENSURE FAIR AND EQUITABLE JUDGING, NO EXCEPTIONS TO THESE CONTEST RULES WILL BE CONSIDERED.

**Eligibility Notice**

Park volunteers and employees at Green Spring Gardens and their families not involved in administering the Contest are allowed to enter the Contest.