



Age+Action

2025

PHOTOGRAPHY AWARD CONTEST

THEME: THIS IS 75

“Grow old along with me! The best is yet to be.”— ROBERT BROWNING

In celebration of its 75 years of service to older adults, the National Council on Aging (NCOA) is hosting a photography contest to redefine aging as a period of vitality, purpose, and connections. Our goal is to break down stereotypes of aging in America by showing older adults who are engaged in life—interacting with others across generations, volunteering and working in their communities, and being physically and mentally active. NCOA invites photographers to submit images, and the personal stories of the subjects depicted in the photos as they reflect on what aging well means to them.

AWARDS

NCOA will grant the following awards:

- 1 First Prize: \$1,500
- 1 Second Prize: \$800
- 1 Public Vote Award: \$600
- 7 Merit Awards: \$300 each
- 10 Honorable Mention Awards: \$150 each

REQUIREMENTS

Eligibility: This call invites professional and amateur photographers in the United States only. Photo subjects also must live in the United States. The National Council on Aging (NCOA) is eager to discover captivating stories and showcase authentic, everyday individuals.
Total Media: Minimum: 2, Maximum: 10
Entry Fee: \$0

VIEW LEGAL AGREEMENT

- NCOA will provide attribution for selected artists at the virtual ncoaGallery and onsite at its 2025 Age+Action Conference in Arlington, VA, May 26-28, 2025. By submitting images and statements, artists grant NCOA the right to use these images to promote the arts and artists and to support the mission of aging well for all. This includes sharing the selected photos on NCOA’s websites and social media platforms, in NCOA printed materials, and on the ncoaGallery site.
- Twenty award-winning photos will be printed on premium-quality canvas for exhibition and donated to the NCOA auction fundraiser at the 2025 Age+Action conference. Any funds raised from this exhibition will be used to advance NCOA’s mission of improving the lives of older adults.
- Ownership of the work remains with the artist. All credits for the artwork belong to the respective artists. Artists can sell their works on the ncoaGallery and are responsible for all online transactions during and after the exhibition. No commission is taken from any sales made through the ncoaGallery website.

HOW TO ENTER

- All entrants must use the online entry system.
- Only color photographs are accepted.
Black and white photos and AI-generated images are not allowed.
There are no restrictions on camera shoots, allowing for creative freedom. Artists can utilize any camera available, whether it is a professional DSLR, a smartphone, or a vintage film camera, to document their stories and experiences. All unique perspectives are encouraged to showcase the richness of real life.
- Entries must include a short statement or story (minimum 100 words) about each photo submitted.
- Images must be high-resolution (300 dpi), JPEG format, and no larger than 5 MB.
- Name your file using the following format:
First Name-Last Name_Image Title.jpeg (e.g., Andrea-Smith_My Grandmom.jpeg).
You must name and title each image. Submissions labeled “untitled” will be removed from the jury system.
- Ensure that your images meet the size requirements for social media platforms, including Instagram and Facebook.
- Artwork previously submitted will not be accepted.

DEADLINES & INFORMATION

- Application Deadline: **March 15, 2025 @ 11:59 p.m. Eastern**
- Winners Notified: **April 15, 2025**
- Public Voting: Opens **May 15, 2025**
- In-Person Exhibition: **May 26-May 28, 2025**, at Crystal Gateway Marriott, Arlington, VA
- Public Vote Winner Announced: **May 30, 2025**
- Awards Mailing: **June 15, 2025**
- Additional Gallery Exhibition curated by mosaicARTs in Fairfax, VA: **TBA**

JURIED EXHIBITION

Special invited Jury and NCOA—Age+Action Committee

If you have any question, please contact gALLERY@mosaicarts.site or van.nguyen.ctr@ncoa.org.