



## 2022 Albany Visitors Association Photo Contest Information

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of this contest is to find images suitable for use in the marketing program for Albany, Linn County and the Willamette Valley.

### **Photograph Subject**

We ask that your work specifically feature Albany and surrounding Linn County. The images we most commonly use in our publications, advertisements and social media feature people enjoying life in our area.

We know visitors want to see images of people relishing fantastic food and drink (micro-breweries, distilleries, winemakers), participating in events (Art & Air, shows at the Expo Center), having a great time outdoors (hiking, biking, and paddling in our parks and around town) and enjoying the beauty and majesty of our city's historic architecture! PLEASE NOTE: all photos depicting water recreation must be compliant with life jacket laws.

Since it can be hard to get just the right shot with people, consider staging something with people you know. That way it's easy to have them complete the model release form. Please be safe and abide by COVID safety guidelines.

### **Photograph image resolution, size & shape**

Photos should be large file sizes (biggest size image setting on your camera, 300 dpi and 1MB minimum in size). Photos should be standard rectangular portrait or landscape; square, panoramic or custom ratios are more difficult to place within our ads.

Images that have digitally applied effects (such as montages, double exposures or vignettes) cannot be used in AVA publications or national advertising.

**Photograph Subject Categories** - sometimes we will recommend that an image be placed in a category different than the one you submit

**Culinary:** We live in the proverbial bread-basket of culinary delights: farm-to-table special dinners; farmer's markets; renowned and award-winning chefs; cozy coffee houses and bakeries; wineries and breweries; German and Hungarian restaurants. Our city bubbles over with bounty. Visit a local restaurant or a unique foodie or drink venue and let people know what delicious rewards await them. Attend the farmer's market and capture the bounty.

**Events:** Remember you can use photos from 2020, 2021, or 2022.

**Historic Albany:** If you live in Albany, you know that we have deep historical roots. Our city has four nationally recognized historic districts. Albany's architectural styles vary from the mid- 1800s to the 1950s. Grab a copy of "Seems Like Old Times" and document your personal visual tour or join us on one of the seasonal guided tours. We need images from all seasons so consider revisiting your favorite place at different times of the year!

**Landmarks:** What is your landmark when you tell friends to meet you in Albany? Is it the Historic Carousel or maybe the clock tower at the Albany Train Station? A landmark is unique to Albany and lends itself to the quintessential identity of our city. Even an old building with a Victorian painted advertisement on a brick wall or a statue could be a landmark.

**People:** Visitors love to see people enjoying themselves, but we know it can be hard to get the shot right and get strangers to sign release forms. Consider enlisting your family and friends at a picnic in your favorite Albany park or enjoying a meal from your favorite restaurant.

**Scenic:** Visit our parks, the Willamette River, hiking trails, vineyards and surrounding rural vistas and urban hideaways. Find something you think will make someone want to come visit us and represents the unique charm of our region. Rustic barns, farm stands, bountiful gardens, wildflowers and wildlife, the Willamette Valley with distant snow capped mountains. This category includes last year's "Life in the Community" category.

**Student:** For young photographers ages 18 and under.

### **Judging:**

A committee of judges will (anonymously) assess photos for subject and composition. Judges will consider some of the following criteria: is the subject appropriate for the category, is it a really good/unusual example of that subject, is the composition in focus, does it draw you in, is it original? Judges will determine Champion and Reserve Champion winners and People's Choice will be judged on the AVA Flickr site.

**Winners** will be announced in March 2022. Winning photographs will be showcased in a professional video shown at the Pix Theatre before feature films following the contest, on the AVA website and YouTube and displayed at the Albany Amtrak Station. There will not be an in-person awards presentation this year.

**Prizes:** Champion, Reserve Champion, and People's Choice awards will be \$225, \$150 and \$75, respectively. All first -place through third-place winners will receive a certificate and a gift card to the Pix Theatre to see their photos on the big screen.

### **Who can enter?**

The contest is open to all ages, all levels: from amateur to professional or hobbyist.

### **How to Enter:**

Email [info@albanyvisitors.com](mailto:info@albanyvisitors.com) and we will send you the online entry form through Survey Monkey – you do not need a subscription to use the survey.

### **DEADLINE:**

All entries must be submitted to Albany Visitors Association online through the entry form on SurveyMonkey (or by pre-arranged appointment) by **5pm Friday, February 11, 2022.**



## 2022 Albany Visitors Association Photo Contest Rules

- All photos must be entrant's original work (with the exception of Albany Families category submissions) taken this year and in the in the past two years - 2020, 2021, 2022.
- Please only submit images NOT previously entered in the AVA Photo Contest
- Images must be of subjects in Albany and Linn County.
- Submitted images must not have been used in other media prior to submitting to this contest.
- Photos must be a minimum of 300 dpi and 1MB in size.
- Photos may be color or black & white.
- Photos may be digitally enhanced for contrast, color, hue, etc., but not digitally manipulated.
- There is a limit of 15 photos per photographer, 10 for Students.
- **AGAIN THIS YEAR:** You should complete your entry form and upload your photos remotely (WITH the following formatted labels). PLEASE use this option if possible. Email [info@albanyvisitors.com](mailto:info@albanyvisitors.com) and give us your email address. We will email you a 'survey' in which you can complete all the information needed for each photo and upload your photos there. You will then only need to mail us your check for the entry fee with any model release forms.

**PLEASE follow this format and do NOT use all caps!**

title (no duplicates please)  
specific location (if not mentioned in title eg. Talking Water Gardens)  
your (photographer's) name

For example: Solstice Sunrise Grass Fields in Linn Co Amy Felmley

- There is an entry fee of \$2.00 for each photo submitted except for students whose fees are waived. Mail your check, photographers use release, and any model release forms to the AVA (address below) after you complete the entry form/survey.
- Entrants must complete a release allowing AVA to use their photos for promotional purposes. This form may be downloaded on the main page. Photo credit will be given whenever possible when photos are used. Photographers retain all rights to their photos.
- For any photo that features a recognizable individual's face (or group of individuals) photographers **MUST** complete a signed photo release. **We will not accept such photos without a model release!**