



THE NEW Mountain Shootout 2026

Submission Deadline: May 22, 2026

Entry Instructions

We're going digital!

To raise the professional quality of the Mountain Shootout photography competition and exhibition, we are implementing a new and exciting approach this year!

What hasn't changed

The photography exhibition runs from late June to mid-September at the Creede Visitor's Center and features photographers with connections to the San Luis Valley. Over the period of the exhibition, the exhibit will be viewed by hundreds of the center's guests and those visitors will be invited to vote for their favorite photograph. All votes will be tallied at the end of the show, and the winner will be awarded the "People's Choice Award". The Creede Arts Council will purchase the winning image that will be given a permanent place of honor at the Creede Visitor's Center.

What's new

All submissions are to be sent digitally. Creede Arts Council will print all submitted images according to the photographer's preference from 8 different available aspect ratios (i.e. print size). The images will be printed with a matte finish and mounted to a foam core backing for a brilliant new exhibit strategy.

The entry fee for this new program is \$35.00, which includes the submission of one image. Up to two additional images can be entered for an additional \$25.00 each. At the end of the show the prints will be the property of the photographer and can be collected at the end of the exhibition but no later than October 30. Return insured shipping for an additional \$20 is an option.

The juror for the 2026 contest is the esteemed photographer, Brooke Ophoff.

Prizes

Ribbons will be awarded during the opening reception for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, as well as two Honorable Mentions.

The People's Choice Award will be purchased by the Creede Arts Council at the end of the show and permanently displayed at the Visitor's Center.

Sales

Should you wish to make your photograph available for sale, please complete the appropriate section of the entry form. Interested purchasers will contact the Creede Arts Council at creedearts@outlook.com and we will provide them with your contact information. Sales will be between the purchaser and photographer, and photographers will retain 100% of the sales.

Photographers

Prepare your images for submission as follows:

- Size your image to the dimensions (i.e. aspect ratio) chosen from the options listed on the application form. **(There are 8 possible choices this year!)**
- Save the copied image to 300dpi (dots per inch)
- Save the image and name the file following this format: LastName_FirstName_TitleOfPhotograph

There are two methods for submitting photographs to the Mountain Shootout:

- Option 1: (preferred method): Create your own folder/link within Dropbox or Google Drive and grant full access to creedearts@outlook.com then upload all of your image entries as well as your completed Call for Entry form.
- Option 2: Email all images and a scanned copy of your Call For Entry form to creedearts@outlook.com

Payments for Entry Fee

- Entry fee payments can be paid by check made out to Creede Arts Council or via Paypal.
- CAC Paypal link is <https://www.paypal.com/ncp/payment/VLWVWJEPTSUQ>

Calendar

May 22: Submission deadline (includes digital image(s), Call For Entry form and fees).

June 10: Announce Juror Results

June 29: Opening Reception, 6pm at the Creede Visitor's Center

Sept 14: Exhibition Closes

Sept 18: Photographs will be available for pick up by appointment at the Creede Arts Council office by contacting creedearts@outlook.com or shipped via USPS Priority Mail, insured for \$100, by providing an address and check payable to Creede Arts Council for \$20.

Oct 30: Deadline to pick up photographs. Photographs not claimed by this date become the property of the Creede Arts Council.