

2026 HIGH SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

CREATIVE HERITAGE ARTS & CULTURE IN MONMOUTH COUNTY

This year's theme celebrates the creative heritage of Monmouth County! Students are invited to capture an original color or black-and-white photograph that showcases an aspect of the performing or visual arts in Monmouth County, such as a notable artist or performer with ties to Monmouth County, a location meaningful to our local cultural community or a local performance or event!

Ten photographs will be featured in an exhibit at Archives & History Day and the top three winners will win gift card prizes!

ENTRY DEADLINE

THURSDAY,
OCTOBER 1

PRIZES

First Place	\$200 Gift Card
Second Place	\$175 Gift Card
Third Place	\$150 Gift Card

SEE DETAILS AND CRITERIA AT:

Visit tinyurl.com/2026MonmouthPhotoContest



Winners will be honored at the Monmouth County Clerk's

Archives & History Day

OCTOBER 10, 2026

AT BROOKDALE COMMUNITY COLLEGE, LINCROFT



Presented by
Monmouth County Clerk Christine Giordano
Hanlon & The Monmouth County Clerk's
Office Archives Division
MonmouthCountyArchives.com

THE MONMOUTH COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE
Market Yard — 33 Mechanic Street
Freehold, NJ 07728
732-431-7324
MonmouthCountyClerk.gov

2026 HIGH SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

CREATIVE HERITAGE: ARTS & CULTURE IN MONMOUTH COUNTY

Monmouth County Clerk Christine Giordano Hanlon and the Monmouth County Clerk's Office Archives Division are excited to host our annual photography contest for local high school students to coincide with our annual Archives & History Day event!

THEME

This year's theme celebrates the creative heritage of Monmouth County. Entries should highlight an aspect of Monmouth County's arts and culture, such as a performer or performers connected to Monmouth County, an event in the performing or visual arts that took place in Monmouth County, or a location, institution or organization that plays a meaningful role in Monmouth County's cultural community.

PRIZES

Ten winning entries will be selected to be featured in a photography exhibit at Archives & History Day on Saturday, October 10, 2026 at the Robert J. Collins Arena at Brookdale Community College in Lincroft. The top three winners will receive gift card prizes at the awards segment of the event as follows:

First Place: \$200 gift card Second Place: \$175 gift card Third Place: \$150 gift card

DEADLINE

All work must be submitted via email to ClerkContest@co.monmouth.nj.us no later than 5 p.m. on Thursday, October 1, 2026. Late entries will not be accepted.

CRITERIA

- The contest is open to high school students enrolled in grades 9 through 12 for the 2026-2027 academic school year who reside in Monmouth County and/or attend a high school located in Monmouth County.
- Photo must capture an image of a person, place or event relevant to arts and culture in Monmouth County.
- All entries must be submitted in digital format via email.
- Photo may be black-and-white or color.
- Entries must be the entrant's original work. AI is not permitted. Editing of the image is permitted only for the purposes of enhancing photo quality.
- Entries will be judged based on overall quality, artistic expression and relevance to the contest theme.



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HOW TO ENTER

Submission Information: Photos entries must be submitted via email to the address ClerkContest@co.monmouth.nj.us with "2026 High School Photography Contest" in the subject line. No entries will be accepted after October 1, 2026, at 5 PM.

Specifications and format: All entries must be in JPG format with a minimum resolution of 300 dpi. Preferred method to transmit photo is via email as a file attachment. Photos sent as an embedded image in the body of an email will not be accepted. If the file is too large to send as an attachment, entries may be transmitted via link to a photo sharing account such as Dropbox or Google Drive as long as the file is made accessible without requiring permission to be requested.

Required Information: The following must accompany the photo entry in the body of the email:

- Student's Name
- High School and Grade for the 2026-2027 school year
- Full home address and best phone number to reach you
- Name and email of a parent/guardian
- Brief description (sentence or two) about what is captured in the photo and its significance to arts and culture in Monmouth County.

RULES & ELIGIBILITY

Limit to one photograph per entry and entries must be original work. All submissions become the property of the Monmouth County Clerk's Office, and photos may be published at the Monmouth County Clerk's Office's discretion along with the winning entrant's name, grade, and high school in print, electronically, and/or digitally. Authorization is also granted to the Monmouth County Clerk's Office to distribute and publish on print, online and social media channels. Submitted photographs will be archived by the Monmouth County Archives and become the property of the Monmouth County Clerk's Office. All entered photographs will be retained by the Monmouth County Clerk's Office for future use, publication and archiving purposes.

QUESTIONS MAY BE DIRECTED TO: CLERKCONTEST@CO.MONMOUTH.NJ.US



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