



Shutterbug Showdown

Community Photography Contest Entry Information

The Zelenople Area Public Library is pleased to announce the return of the Shutterbug Showdown Photography Contest featuring photographs from members of our community. We invite all library card holders in our region to participate either through submitting a photograph **OR** by stopping by the library during the show to cast your vote. Don't have a library card...plan a visit to our library and get one (it's free)!

All submissions will be judged by the Community as well as a panel of professional judges. Submissions may be included on our website, Facebook page and/or other electronic and print communications.

Theme: This year's contest will have a theme, *Keep It Local*, offering amateur photographers of all ages an opportunity to showcase photos that capture the beauty and diversity of our local municipalities that the library serves. Participants are encouraged to submit their best shots representing the unique characteristics of any of the following municipalities; Zelenople, Harmony, Jackson Twp. and Lancaster Twp.

Guidelines: This is an **ALL-AGES** show. Please make sure that the work you submit consists of community-friendly content. Before submitting work to this show, please consider that the library is a public space and that this show will be open to audiences ranging from children to senior citizens. While submission or participation is encouraged and appreciated, pieces containing subject matter deemed inappropriate for public exhibition may be excluded from the finals. Please consider this before finalizing your submissions and thank you for your understanding and compliance.

Judges' Input: Some thoughts from the judges:

The most important quality of a photo is its impact. Does the image:

- Immediately draw you into it and make you think?
- Tell a story that keeps you looking at it for a while?
- Elicit an emotion?

Some important key elements are:

- Overall composition with a center of interest
- Dramatic lighting
- Creative interpretation
- Color harmony
- Print quality

Prizes: *Judges' Choice* first- and second-place selections in each age group will receive a cash award. The dollar amount will depend on the number of entry fees received.

Community Choice first- and second-place winners in each age group will receive a Swag Bag of goodies from local businesses.

Applications, photographs and entry fee must be received by 6 pm on **Aug.24, 2026**. A maximum of **two (2)** photos per entrant. **Each photo submitted must be 8"x 10" in size and mounted on a foam board no larger than 11"x 14" with your name, photo number, title and place on the back.** Please use double-sided tape. Submitted photos should be original and previously unpublished in a commercial endeavor.

How to Vote: Each library card holder will be given two (2) complimentary vote tickets. Additional tickets are available at the Zelenople Area Public Library at 2 tickets for each donation of \$1.00. We hope you will tell your family and friends to stop by during the voting period to enjoy the display and cast a vote or two.

Shutterbug Showdown

2026 Entry Form

Visit www.zelienoplelibrary.org for complete rules and submission information.

Feel free to email zapdirector@bcfls.org with any questions.

All entries must be received by August 24th, 2026

PHOTOGRAPHER GENERAL INFORMATION-INCLUDE FORM WITH YOUR SUBMISSION

Photographer Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Student's School Attended: _____

Library Card Number: _____

AGE CATEGORY: ☐ Youth (Age 18 & under) ☐ Adults (Age 19-59) ☐ Senior (Age 60+)

PHOTOGRAPH TITLE:

Photo #1: _____

Photo #2: _____

Describe your photo(s) and what it means to you: _____

___ \$10.00 Entry Fee for one or two photos (will be used for cash prizes for winners)

*I, _____, declare that photos submitted are my original works and agree that my photos may be included on the Zelienople Area Public Library's website, Facebook page and/or other electronic and print communications. I further agree that if my photos are not picked up by **09/24/2026**, the Zelienople Area Public Library has my permission to discard them.*

☐ Please sign me up for the library's e-newsletter to keep me up-to-date on the latest happenings!