

# Photography Guidelines

## I want to apply! Am I eligible to participate?

1. Are you enrolled in a high school, approved independent study, or home school program at the application deadline? **OR** If you attend a correspondence school, do you live in Southern California?
2. Do you live in any of the following counties: Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, Ventura, Santa Barbara, or San Diego?

## If you answered YES to both questions, you are eligible!

### Other notes of interest:

- Previous grand prize finalists are **not** eligible
- Previous participants, semifinalists, and honorable mentions **are** eligible
- If you have any relationship with a Spotlight Awards judge (family, friend, or instructor) please let us know. Not sharing this information may result in disqualification
- You can apply to more than one category; however you will only be allowed to advance to finals in one, determined by which category you advance to the finals first.
- **You can only submit one photograph for this category.** If you create multiple accounts to submit more than one photograph in this category, you may be disqualified

**For International Students:** In order to be eligible to receive scholarship and/or prize money, students must have a Social Security Number (SSN) or United States Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN). The processing time required to receive an SSN or ITIN can take several weeks. International students applying for the Spotlight Program are strongly encouraged to apply for an SSN or ITIN at the same time. Please contact the Spotlight office if you have any questions.

\*All artwork, recordings, and photographs (including student application submissions) pertaining to the Spotlight Awards program are the property of The Music Center. The Music Center will have the right to reproduce any and all such materials for any and all purposes, including, without limitation, the promotion of this and future Spotlight Awards events, without compensation to the applicant. Any reproductions shall be the sole property of the Music Center.

## What's required for my Photography Application?

- Black & White or Color.
  - Manipulation of the image either in a darkroom or by computer is permissible.
  - Photomontage is also allowed
- Size Limitations: Images can be **no larger than 16" x 20"**
- Media:
  - Traditional Film
  - Digital
- **No Theme** - Applicants should submit work that best reflects their artistic vision, technical skill, and understanding of medium chosen
- Group artwork will not be judged

## Authorship and Plagiarism

- Submissions must be your original work and may not have been previously published
- The artwork may not contain any elements that include the trademarks, logos, copyrighted works, or intellectual property of third parties. The design may not include any intellectual property of third parties; this includes imagery from the internet
- If your photograph advances to the semifinal level, the artist and parent/guardian will be required to sign an affidavit confirming the adherence of the above rules