

**Deadline: Thursday 5 August 2021, 23:59 BST**

An **international open competition** for photographers and image-makers, of all ages, focussed on **documentary and visual storytelling**. Submissions are encouraged from new, emerging and established photographers on any story or topic, from global issues to personal experiences. This is an opportunity to take part in a group exhibition in London and a later UK touring exhibition, and to present work to a worldwide audience through a complementary series of online talks and online media hosted by the RPS.

## General

The **Documentary Photographer of the Year (DPOTY)** is organised and managed by The Royal Photographic Society (RPS) Documentary Group. Entry is open to anyone, of any age or level of practice. You do not have to be a member of the RPS to enter your work.

### 1 - Competition categories

1.1 - Open – open to anyone

1.2 - Student – open to anyone enrolled on a full-time or part-time programme with a formalised photography course or credit or module or foundation which is taught at higher education level, within a diploma, Bachelor's or Master's degree (entrants will need to submit academic institution information). Students who have finished their course during the 2020-21 academic year are eligible to enter

1.3 – RPS Member – open to all RPS members (entrants will need to submit a valid RPS Membership number).

### 2 - Entry Process

2.1 - Entries are subject to a fee: Open - £10, Students - £5, and RPS Member – free.

2.2 - Concessions are available on request (see entry website).

2.3 - Entry is online via the submission portal (Kyoso) only.

2.4 - Images must be submitted through the online submission portal.

2.5 - Entrants may submit a series of images from the same project.

2.6 - Multiple paid entries are permitted.

2.7 - Additional entry information must be complete, true, and accurate.

2.8 - Entry will open at 12:00 BST on Thursday 6 May 2021

2.9 - Entry will close for shortlisting at 23:59 BST on Thursday 5 August 2021

2.10 - Current members of the RPS Documentary Group Committee are not eligible to enter

### 3 - Images

3.1 - Each entry must be between 12 and 15 images from the same project, in sequence order.

3.2 - Files must be no more than 10MB in size. All images must be submitted as JPEG files, in sRGB colour space. Any files submitted in any other format (including TIFF, PSD etc) will not be accepted by the system.

- 3.3 - Images must be the sole work of the entrant. Images must not infringe the copyright or the intellectual property right of any third party.
- 3.4 – Each project must be accompanied with a project title (up to 200 characters max, mandatory) and statement (up to 2000 characters max, mandatory)
- 3.5 - Images maybe be captioned (up to 500 characters max, optional)
- 3.6 - Submissions must be anonymous and not include the photographer's name in an image title, description, artist statement or as a watermark.
- 3.7 - Images can be shot using film or digital, and may be colour or monochrome. Manipulation of images using software or in a darkroom is permitted. But entries should not incorporate extensive post-processing. Manipulation that significantly alters the ‘truth’ of an image or subject is not permitted. To clarify, adjustments to exposure, contrast, cropping, spotting, burning and dodging or digital equivalent are acceptable.
- 3.8 - There is no time restriction set on when photographs were taken.
- 3.9 - The RPS reserves the right to reject any entry at its discretion without refund.
- 3.10 - The RPS may request original files to check authenticity.
- 3.11 - The RPS may exclude any images or entries which, in its opinion, could cause offence.
- 3.12 - Images that have previously been awarded and exhibited in RPS DPOTY exhibitions are not eligible.
- 3.13 - New images from a body of work that has previously been featured in DPOTY are eligible to be selected.
- 3.14 - The RPS will verify shortlisted entrants’ personal information.
- 3.15 - Award winners and commended photographers will need to have access to high resolution files for printing, if selected, for the purpose of the Exhibition. This should be taken into consideration when submitting images.

#### **4 - Judging**

- 4.1 - All entries are reviewed, shortlisted and selected anonymously.
- 4.2 - Images will be initially longlisted by the RPS and then shortlisted, followed by final judging to select the category winners and commended entries.
- 4.4 - If shortlisted, The RPS will endeavour to contact the entrant to notify them using the details provided by the entrant and to verify they meet the category requirements. If no communication is received from the selected photographer within 14 days of the notification, The RPS reserves the right to offer the place to another shortlisted entrant.
- 4.5 - In the unlikely event that a judge is unable to take part in the selection process, the RPS will invite another individual to stand in.
- 4.6 - No feedback will be provided on individual submissions. No individual assessments are available, and the judges’ decision is final.

#### **5 - Awards and Recognition**

- 5.1 – There will be one winner for each category and two commended entries in each category. You may enter more than one category, but can only win in one category.
- 5.2 - The three category winners will be selected for the touring exhibition, opening at Fujifilm House of Photography, London
- 5.3 - Commended entries will be digitally projected as part of the touring exhibition and receive 1-year free membership to the RPS.

## Royal Photographic Society - Documentary Photographer of the Year 2021 Terms and Conditions of Entry

5.4 - **Open Category** - £1250 bursary to create new work for the winner of the Open Category, plus feedback and development support from MPF and 1-year free membership to the RPS.

5.5 - **Student Category** – £500 bursary, development support from Simon Roberts HonFRPS and 1-year free membership to the RPS.

5.6 - **RPS Member Category** – a Fujifilm X100V camera and 1-year free membership to the RPS.

5.7 - There will be no cash alternative to the prizes offered.

5.8 - An opportunity for category winning photographers to feature in the award winning *The RPS Journal*

5.9 – An opportunity for winners and commended entries to be featured in the RPS Documentary *Decisive Moment* online magazine and to participate in *Engagement Talks* run online by the RPS Documentary Group.

5.10 - Commended photographers will be celebrated on the RPS Documentary website and digital channels

5.11 - Instagram take-overs are available for winners and commended photographers

5.12 - The RPS will arrange for the category winners prints to be printed, mounted and framed for the touring exhibition at no additional cost to the entrant.

### 6 - Personal Data

6.1 - The RPS will hold and process personal information in connection with the DPOTY competition. We will use this to keep you informed about the call-for-entries and the exhibition tour.

6.2 - Entrants agree that personal data including, but not limited to, name, mailing address, phone number, and email address may be collected, processed, stored and otherwise used for the purposes of conducting and administering the open- call and exhibition selection.

6.3 - Our privacy policy <https://rps.org/about/terms-and-conditions/privacy> explains how we store and use data.

6.4 - The RPS will pass personal data for the purpose of running the call-for-entries to third-party suppliers including, Stripe (for payment), ApplePay (for payment), Kyoso (for managing the receipt of entries), Think Publishing (RPS Journal Publisher) and, in the case of winning and commended entrants, to exhibition tour venues.

6.5 - Your personal data will not be shared with third-parties for unrelated activities.

### 7 - Copyright and Reproduction

7.1 - The intellectual property of all entries remains with the photographer

7.2 - Images entered to the DPOTY must not infringe any copyright or other intellectual property rights of any third party

7.3 - The entrant will indemnify The RPS in respect of any third-party claims

7.4 - Entrants licence the RPS to reproduce, without payment, any images for publicity and promotion purposes in connection with the DPOTY and the RPS's activities, including within *The RPS Journal*, *Decisive Moment* magazine, website, and social media, for a period up to three years after the DPOTY opening.

7.5 - The photographer will always be credited if their image is used by the RPS.

### 8 - Acceptance of Terms and Conditions of Entry

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8.1 - Submission of any entry to the DPOTY implies acceptance of these Terms and Conditions of Entry.