

Call for Entries

Heart of America

A juried fine-art photo exhibition inspired by Nebraska writer/photographer Wright Morris

1. Introduction

Wright Marion Morris (1910-1998) was an American novelist, photographer and essayist. He is known for his portrayals of the people and artifacts of the Great Plains in words and pictures, as well as for experimenting with narrative forms, such as the addition of his own photographs to novels such as *The Inhabitants* and *Home Place*.

The inspiration for this exhibition comes from a quotation in his book, *Home Place*. He writes, "Character is the word, but it doesn't cover the ground. ...Perhaps all I'm saying is that character can be a form of passion, and that some things, these things, have that kind of character. That kind of Passion has made them holy things. That kind of holiness, I'd say, is abstinence, frugality, and independence — the home-grown, made-on-the-farm trinity. Not the land of plenty, the old age pension, the full dinner pail. Independence, not abundance, is the heart of their America."

The Heart of America exhibition seeks fine-art photography that reflects Wright Morris' aesthetic about the Midwest.

2. Eligibility

The juried exhibition is open to all.

3. Entry requirements

Submissions must be made in digital format at www.holdregelibrary.org. Only original photographs by the entrant are eligible. Photos must be free of any digital manipulation except for minor adjustments to color and contrast.

In addition, each submitted file must conform to the following:

- Format: JPEG or TIF
- Image Size: 8"x10"
- DPI: 72

Each entry must be submitted separately and accompanied by a completed Heart of America Photo Exhibition entry form. A \$10 per entry fee applies to all entries, which will be payable online at the time of entry.

Although submissions are made in relatively low resolution, winning entrants will need to provide high resolution files for output and exhibition.

4. Categories

Entries will be judged in the following categories

- Amateur
 - Color
 - Black and White
 - People
 - Best modern interpretation of the Wright Morris aesthetic
- Professional
 - Color
 - Black and White
 - People
 - Best modern interpretation of the Wright Morris aesthetic

5. Exhibition

Winning entries as selected by a panel of judges will be printed, matted and displayed in a variety of venues in Phelps County, Nebraska, including:

- The Holdrege Area Public Library
- Phelps Memorial Hospital
- Nebraska Prairie Museum
- The Bank of Bertrand
- Thorell Insurance Building/Community Center, Loomis
- The YMCA of the Prairie
- Christian Homes
- Holdrege Memorial Homes
- Interiors Art Gallery

All entries will also be displayed on the Holdrege Library Heart of America page. Matted prints of the winning entries will be made available to the winners.

6. Deadlines

All entries must be received by 12:00 a.m. April 6, 2012. Winners will be announced May 7. An awards ceremony honoring the winners will be held in Holdrege on May 18, 2012.

7. Judging

Judging will be by an unbiased panel of four qualified judges and based on

- Content

- Composition
- Creativity
- Interpretation of the theme

8. To enter

Go to www.holdregelibrary.org and click on the words Photo Contest. You'll see instructions to enter your name and contact information as well as information about the photo you are entering. Step two is to submit payment via PayPal, although you may also use a valid credit card. An entry fee of \$10 per photograph is required. When you've completed the payment process, you'll be taken back to a page to upload your photo. For entry, we'd like the photos at 72 dpi, however, if you are a winner, you'll be asked to provide a high resolution file for output and display.