

STORIES OF SURVIVAL - PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. ELIGIBILITY

- 1.1. General: The competition is open to everyone, world-wide. Age-related conditions apply for the Young Warriors Competition only (see below). Organisers and employees of Wildlife Vets International (WVI) as well as the competition judges, and their immediate families, are all excluded from entry.
- 1.2. Timeframe: Entries will be accepted from 1 July 2021 until midnight (GMT) on 11 August 2021.

2. COMPETITIONS AND CATEGORIES

There are three main competitions, each with a set of categories, as set out below. **A maximum of 20 images can be submitted** by any individual across all competitions and categories.

- 2.1. Wildlife Warrior Competition: Open to individuals of all ages. (**Note: Those aged 18 or under may enter this category, but they are then excluded from also entering the Young Warrior Competition**).

Contains the following categories:

- a. Mammals
- b. Birds
- c. Herpetofauna and fish
- d. Invertebrates
- e. Conservation in action: the role of zoos and aquariums
- f. Conservation in action: stories from the field.

- 2.2. Young Warrior Competition: Open to individuals who are 18 years or under on 1 July 2021, with the following age-related categories:

- a. 8 year-olds and under
- b. 9-12 year-olds
- c. 13-15 year-olds
- d. 16-18 year-olds

- 2.3. Calendar Competition: Open to individuals of all ages. All entries must be taken **using a smartphone**. There are 12 categories, one for each month of the year.

3. SUBMISSION PROCESS

- 3.1. Before submitting images to the competition, participants should decide which competitions and categories they wish to enter. A maximum of 20 entries can be submitted by any individual across all competitions and categories. **Once an entry is submitted, it cannot be changed or modified in any way.** For this reason, it is important to have all images and captions ready to upload in their final form. For more information on photo specifications and on what to include in the captions, please see sections 4.1 and 4.2 below.

- 3.2. Entries will be accepted beginning on 1 July 2021, until midnight (GMT) on 12 August 2021. Participants will need to click on the link that says “Enter Here” and be ready to proceed, as per 3.1 above. Photos must meet the size requirements, in terms of pixels (see 4.1 below). This information can normally be found on participants’ devices under ‘file details’, ‘file info’, or ‘file properties: details’.
- 3.3. Camera-phone shots can be submitted to any of the competitions and categories. Note however that the Calendar Competition is **exclusively** for pictures taken with camera-phones.
- 3.4. When images are uploaded, entrants will be asked to provide a title and a subtitle (see 4.2 below).
- 3.5. **The entry fee for adults is £10** and includes the submission of up to five photos. These images can be submitted to categories in both the Wildlife Warrior and Calendar Competitions. Additional images may be submitted for £2 each.
The entry fee for those aged 18 and under is £5 and includes the submission of up to five photos. These images can be submitted to categories in both the Young Warrior and Calendar Competitions. Additional images may be submitted for £1 each.

Entrants aged 18 and under who wish to enter the main Wildlife Warrior competition may do so, however they will need to pay the adult fees. Having done this, they will not be eligible to enter the Young Warrior competition (*i.e., you must choose whether you want to enter the competition as an adult or a person aged 18 and under, you cannot do both*).

- 3.6. Submitted images can either be divided between several competitions and categories, or all submitted to a single one. The same photo can be submitted to multiple categories, but this will then count as multiple entries in terms of fees. Each image can only win a single award.

4. REQUIRED SPECIFICATIONS

4.1. Photo Specifications

- 4.1.1. All photos must be submitted by the original photographer who either has sole copyright or written permission from any joint copyright holders. Shortlisted entries may be asked to provide the original file to verify their ownership. Images which have previously been awarded prizes in other competitions should not be submitted.
- 4.1.2. Files should be submitted in JPEG format and RGB colour space and be a minimum of 2000 pixels on the shortest side and a maximum of 10 MB in size.
- 4.1.3. Images should not include watermarks, signatures, or borders. Post-processing is allowed, but should be limited to basic image enhancement (i.e. cropping, adjustment of contrast, exposure and tone, etc.) and the removal of imperfections such as scratches and dust. Digital enhancements which alter the composition of the picture through the removal or addition of components are not allowed. Images created using multiple exposures taken in the same location at the same time (e.g. for focus stacking

or panoramas) may be acceptable provided the final image is an accurate representation of the original scene. Entrants to the Calendar Competition should avoid widescreen or panoramic shots, as these will be harder to translate into a printed calendar. Entries submitted in this format may be excluded.

4.1.4. There are no restrictions on the device used for the Wildlife Warrior and Young Warrior competitions, but all entries to the Calendar Competition should be taken on a smartphone.

4.2. Title and Caption Specifications

4.2.1. Each image should be accompanied by a title and a caption (referred to as a subtitle on the upload form).

4.2.2. The title in the Wildlife Warrior and Young Warrior competition should be formatted as follows: **“Image title. Species featured. Location”**. If the image was taken in a zoo, nature reserve or national park, these should be named as part of the location. In other circumstances a region and a country will suffice.

For photos submitted to the Calendar Competition titles should be formatted slightly differently, starting with the month the entrants feel the image represents.

“Month. Image title. Species featured. Location”. The organisers reserve the right to reassign images to alternate months as they see fit.

4.2.3. Captions should be relatively short, around two to three sentences, and should be entered into the subtitle field on the upload form. The first part of the caption should tell something about the species – habitat, diet, range, unique characteristics, etc. This should be followed by a description of one of the threats the species is currently facing and how this is impacting the population, either locally or more widely. If the species is classed as threatened by the IUCN, its threat status should be included (see the IUCN red list). Local threat assessments, like the RSPB’s UK Conservation Status system, may also be mentioned.

If any declarations need to be made, for example if an attractant was used, these should be made (in brackets) at the end of the caption.

4.2.4. For photos entered in the **“Conservation in Action”** sub-category of the Wildlife Warrior Competition, the caption should describe the activity taking place and how this is contributing to conservation. In a zoo setting, for instance, this could include animals involved in a captive breeding programme or being used for education. In a field setting, activities could include placing a collar to facilitate monitoring and studying the impact of roads, or releasing captive-bred animals as part of a species recovery programme. Entries to this category should focus on the work being done, rather than on the individual or individuals undertaking the work. Moreover, any individuals pictured should have given their permission for the image to be submitted to the competition.

4.3. General Requirements

4.3.1. **None of the entries submitted in any of the competitions should have been taken using harmful or unethical techniques.** This includes photos where animals have been lured with live bait or recorded calls, or posed or manipulated, or stressed or harassed in any other way. If any attractant was used, this should be declared and described, as

should any other unnatural circumstances. Given the risk of disturbance, **photos of nesting birds are not allowed.**

- 4.3.2. Entries to the Wildlife Warrior Competition should feature wild animals, in natural settings, unless they are being submitted in the “Conservation in Action: the role of zoos and aquariums” sub-category.
- 4.3.3. Entries to the Young Warrior Competition and the Calendar Competition may feature both captive and wild animals. However, where captive animals are featured this should be made clear in the title and the appropriate collection should be credited (e.g., “Bengal Tiger at Whipsnade Safari Park”).
- 4.3.4. Judges have the right to disqualify, without notice, any image they feel is likely to have compromised the welfare of its subjects, or fails to meet the requirements detailed above.

5. JUDGING

- 5.1. Judging will take place from 12-28 August 2021 and winners will be announced in September.
- 5.2. The Wildlife Warrior and Young Warrior competitions will be judged by a panel of experts. The selection of winners will be based on standard criteria including overall visual impact, aesthetic qualities (including composition), originality, technical expertise, and caption content.
- 5.3. The Calendar Competition will be decided based on a public vote. To ensure fairness, voting will only begin once the entry period has closed. A shortlist of entries will then be selected for each month and public voting will be open for a period of two weeks. The winning entry from each month will be incorporated into a 2022 Stories of Survival calendar which will be available to order via the WVI website.
- 5.4. Any entrant attempting to influence the judges will be disqualified. All judging decisions will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.

6. PRIZES

- 6.1. Each category (within the Wildlife Warrior Competition) or age bracket (within the Young Warrior Competition) will have one overall winner, three runners-up and five highly commended awards.
- 6.2. Two individuals - the overall Wildlife Warrior and Young Warrior winners - will be selected from their respective category or age bracket winners.
- 6.3. In the Calendar Competition, there will be a winner for each month, who will be featured in the calendar, and an overall ‘People’s Choice’ winner. Winners who are featured in the calendar will receive a copy free of charge as part of their award.
- 6.4. In terms of the prizes themselves, Wildlife Vets International is pleased to be working with several very generous sponsors. The total prize pot is valued at over £10,000. Details of

individual prizes for each award will be announced on our website and through social media channels

- 6.5. Once awarded, all prizes must be accepted as offered and are not transferable. Prizes will be despatched from the UK. Any taxes or other costs associated with the entrant receiving a prize are the sole responsibility of the entrant.
- 6.6. Some prizes, such as software subscriptions, will be delivered digitally. To facilitate this, we may need to pass your email details to the relevant donor, however we will seek consent before doing this. Refusing to give consent for this at the time will result in the prize being forfeited and reallocated.

7. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

- 7.1. Photos submitted to “Stories of Survival” remain the intellectual property of the entrant. Wildlife Vets international will not sell the rights to these photos or reproduce them for profit, without prior consent.
- 7.2. However, images may be used to promote the competition during the entry period. Winning photographs may also be used for promotional purposes after the competition has closed.
- 7.3. By submitting photos to the Calendar Competition, entrants are giving consent for their image to appear in the calendar, which will be produced and sold, with all proceeds going to WVI.
- 7.4. Award winners may be given the option of selling prints of their images through Wildlife Vets International on a 50:50 profit sharing basis, but this will only take place following a separate agreement.

8. DATA PROTECTION

- 8.1. Submission and voting will be managed through the PollUnit platform, which is GDPR compliant.

9. LEGAL LIABILITY

- 9.1. The above information and rules constitute the complete Terms and Conditions of the Stories of Survival Competition.
- 9.2. By submitting and entry to the Competition, entrants agree:
 - 9.2.1. Not to do or say anything that damages, or may damage, the reputation of the Stories of Survival Competition, Wildlife Vets International, or the Competition Sponsors;
 - 9.2.2. That they have read and understood the Terms and Conditions, as set out above;
 - 9.2.3. That any entry submitted by them complies with the rules, and
 - 9.2.4. That they accept all liability for any loss or damage caused to, or incurred by, Stories of Survival Competition, Wildlife Vets International, and its licensees as a result of any breach of the rules on their part.