

Human impact awards.



Entries close: 31.01.27.



The competition:

The Human Impact Awards celebrate photography that helps us better understand the world we share.

For 2026, we're inviting photographers to submit a 5-10 image series exploring the theme of human impact. The brief is intentionally open. Your work might focus on community, identity, environment, culture, technology, care, resilience, activism, change or everyday connection.

Human impact does not have to mean crisis. It can be quiet, personal, joyful, uncomfortable, urgent or reflective. What matters is that your series has a clear point of view and uses photography to help us look more closely.

The brief:

Submit a coherent photo series of 5-10 images that responds to the theme of human impact.

Your project could explore:

- people and place
- identity and representation
- community and connection
- environment and climate
- change and resilience
- everyday humanity
- technology and modern life
- activism, care and social action

These are only starting points. We're looking for your interpretation of the theme.

The Phil Smith Student Category:

Named in memory of Phil Smith, a much-loved member of the Wex team and a passionate supporter of creative talent.

This category is for students currently enrolled on a recognised UK course. You do not need to be studying photography specifically; entries are welcome from students across photography, film, art, journalism, media, design, humanities and other courses where visual storytelling plays a role.

Student entrants must provide their course name, institution name, student or university email address and personal contact email.

1st prize: Sony A7 V + FE 24-70mm f2.8 GM II

2nd prize: Sony A7 IV + FE 24-70mm f2.8 GM

3rd prize: Sony A6700 + E 16-55mm f2.8 G

Professional Category:

For all non-student photographers aged 18 or over, including professionals, freelancers, emerging photographers, independent practitioners and hobbyists.

1st prize: £5,000

2nd prize: £3,000

3rd prize: £1,000

What to submit:

Your entry should include:

- 5-10 JPEG images
- a project title
- a short project description
- your chosen category
- your contact details

Your project description should briefly explain what the work is about, why it matters and how it connects to the theme of human impact.

Awards ceremony:

Winners will be invited to an awards ceremony at BFI Riverfront, London, attended by judges, industry guests, Sony representatives and the Wex Photo Video team.

Winning projects may also be featured across Wex Photo Video channels, including the Wex website, social media, email and related editorial content.

Entry requirements:

- The competition is free to enter.
- Entrants must be UK residents aged 18 or over as of 3rd August 2026.
- Images may be taken on any device, camera brand or system.
- Mobile phone images are accepted.
- AI-generated imagery, stock imagery, copied work or images created by others will not be accepted.
- You must be the copyright holder of every image submitted.
- Full terms and conditions apply.

How to enter:

Scan the qr code or follow the link to enter.



Terms and Conditions:

1. The Promoter is Wex Photo Video. Wex Photo Video is a trading name of Warehouse Express Limited (Company Registration no. 03366976). Registered office: 13 Frensham Road, Norwich. NR3 2BT.
2. The competition is open to all UK residents aged 18 years or over as of 3rd August 2026, except employees of Wex Photo Video, the companies or organisations with whom the competition is being run, their agents, or anyone directly connected with the competition.
3. No purchase is necessary to win or enter.
4. Participants must submit between 5 and 10 images to enter either category.
5. Entries must adhere to the brief provided.
6. Images must have been taken within the past five years
7. Images submitted to the competition must be in JPEG format.
8. Images can be submitted anytime during the active competition, until 11:59 pm on January 31st 2027.
9. The winners of the Wex Human Impact Awards will be awarded the following prizes: 1st prize: £5,000, 2nd prize: £3,000, 3rd prize: £1,000. The winner will be contacted via email.
10. The winners of the Wex Human Impact Awards (student category) will be awarded the following prizes: 1st prize: Sony A7 V + Sony FE 24-70mm f2.8 GM II, 2nd prize: Sony A7 IV + Sony FE 24-70mm f2.8 GM, and 3rd prize: Sony A6700 + Sony E 16-55mm f2.8 G. The winners will be contacted via email.
11. Student entries must be accompanied by a valid school or university email address, course details and personal email address.
12. Images must be captured by the individual using a camera of any kind. AI imagery will not be accepted, and the participant will be disqualified. Entries from a mobile phone will be accepted. Nudity is not allowed within this competition.
13. By submitting images to the competition, you confirm that you are the copyright holder and that it is your original work. Wex Photo Video reserves the right to ask entrants to supply a high-resolution and/or RAW version of any submission (with metadata embedded) to verify any images it suspects may not be the person's own work. Anyone found to be entering images belonging to others will be immediately disqualified.
14. Entrants retain all copyright over any images submitted, although by entering you agree for your images to be used by Wex Photo Video competition promotions, including sharing across our social platforms and displayed at a physical exhibition.
15. The judges' decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.
16. Reasonable efforts will be made to contact the winner. If the winner cannot be contacted within 28 days of the competition closing, Wex Photo Video reserves the right to offer the prize to the runner-up.
17. All entrants to the competition are deemed to have accepted these rules and agree to cooperate in any future publicity that may arise. The winner's announcement may be made across Wex Photo Video's platforms, including but not limited to X (formerly Twitter), Instagram, Facebook, YouTube and the Wex website.
18. Wex Photo Video reserves the right to disqualify entrants found to be breaking any of these conditions. Those found to be breaking these conditions will be notified of their disqualification.
19. Any personal data required for the sending of prizes or acquiring images is collected and processed under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (EU) 2016/679. We do not disclose data to any third parties unless disclosure is necessary for the fulfilment of a service or prize; you have specifically given consent for a particular service; or we have a legitimate interest in disclosing data. For more information about the kind of personal data we collect, read our full Privacy and Personal Data Policy.
20. It is the entrant's responsibility to ensure that any image/video submitted is law-abiding and does not breach the General Data Protection Regulation.
21. The competition is subject to the general terms and conditions found here.
22. Wex Photo Video reserves the right to modify these terms and conditions at any time.