

This is a global photo contest for middle grade students to share their culture, community & traditions with students from other countries.

Categories

Food Picture Gallery:

What food or beverages do you regularly eat that you think might be different from other countries?

Traditions Picture Gallery:

What Cultural/Religious/Historical traditions do you participate in that might be unique to your country?

Home Life Picture Gallery:

Do you think that your living accommodations or decor may be different from other countries?

School Picture Gallery:

What does your classroom and school day look like? Is it different from mine?

Note: photos depicting violence or other behavior inappropriate for school (ie: smoking, drug abuse, inappropriate clothing or lack of clothing, etc.) must not be submitted.

Contest Submissions

Students will log in to Stone Middle School's Studywiz server and select the gallery that they wish to submit a photo to and upload their photo during the first three weeks of April.

Any photos submitted in this contest can be republished by others, under Creative Commons Licensing: Where first name, last initial of student and name of school will be credited for any non-commercial use. For more information: <http://creativecommons.org/>

Original Photos Only

Rules and Procedures:

- Students must take their own pictures with their phone, digital camera, or digital device loaned to them by the school.
- Pictures must be taken and submitted to the appropriate gallery during the time period April 1– April 22.
- The students will choose which of the four categories (more on the categories later) to submit their pictures to.
- When a student submits a photo to this server, they are agreeing to place the photo into a shared resource that can be republished and altered with attribution, but not used commercially.
- Each student should submit at least one photo. They may submit one photo per category, but no more than one per category.
- All photos submitted should be in the JPEG (.jpg) format. Their longest dimension (width or height) should not be over 2048 pixels or 1

MB in size. Please talk to one of your teachers if you need help with this requirement.

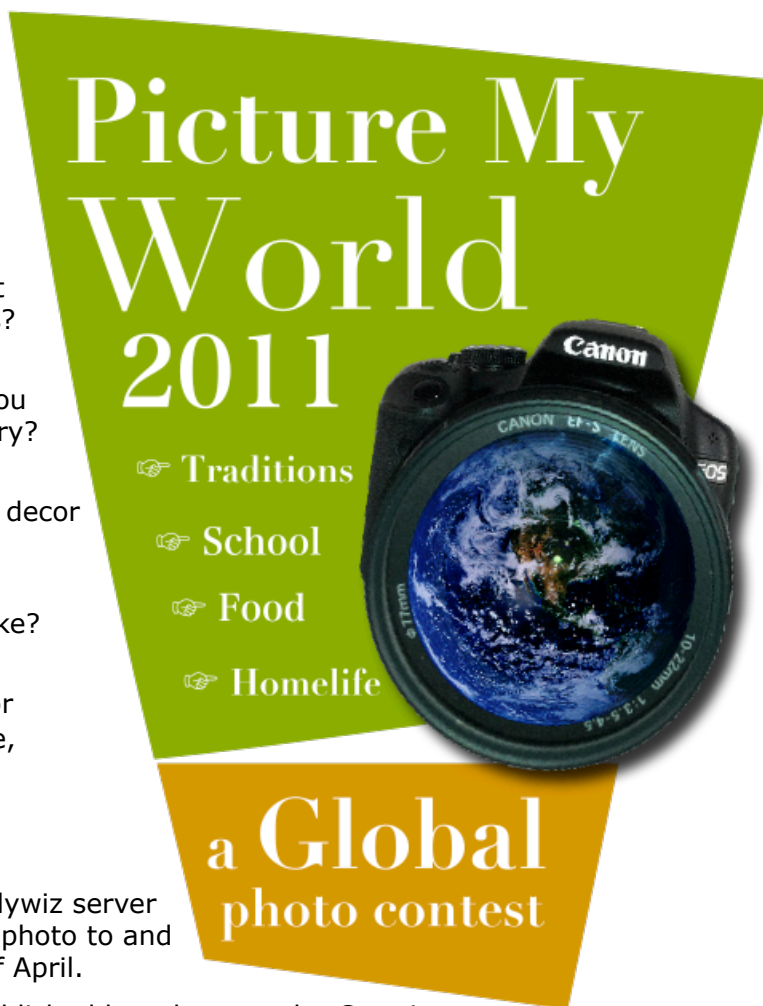
- All submissions, comments, and gallery activity is tied to a user account. Teachers and students should make every effort to maintain password security.
- Any inappropriate activity on the gallery will result in account suspension and disciplinary actions taken by that student's school administration.

Judging for Photography Skills:

Each school will have four galleries (the four categories) to submit their pictures to. On April 25th, an additional four galleries will open up:

The Photographic Best Galleries.

Teachers will select up to 5 pictures for each category from their school to be in the **Photographically Best Galleries** during the last week of April.



All pictures will be open for judging, tagging and commenting during the month of May.

The Photographic Best Galleries (PBG) judging / commenting / tagging would take place during the first week of May. Voting for these four PBG galleries will be closed on Saturday, May 7th at midnight Eastern Standard Time (-0500 UTC).

Each student and teacher will be able to rate each picture one time on a scale of 0-5 Stars.

Important: Honor System

Students should not give every picture a Five Star Rating nor should they base their vote on the country or school the picture comes from. Students should try and choose the best picture (singular) in each category according to the photographic quality posted. If they feel there is a tie between two or three pictures they can rate them with the same number of stars.

Global Contest Winners from the Photographic Best Galleries:

Best of Show and Alternate Best of Show as well as First, Second, and Third place photos in each of the categories will be determined by the total number of points that a picture receives

Star Rating	Points
5	10
4	7
3	4
2	2
1	1

Global Contest Winners will receive a recognition certificate (PDF) from the sponsoring school (Stone Middle School). Each school is encouraged to provide their own prizes for participation and recognition beyond the PDF's for the Global Contest Winners.

Content & Curriculum Value:

The original four Photo Category Galleries are where more of the social studies/cultural exchange activity will take place.

The Photographic Best Galleries will be judged and commented on for photographic skills and composition, and the general student school

galleries will be rated for social/cultural interest and comments should be more of a conversation about cultures.

Students can ask the photographer and other students questions for clarification or more information. This will be where social networking skills, and some of the Technology Literacy goals regarding communication and ethical exchanges will take place.

All photos will be available for viewing all through the month of May and may also be downloaded.

Co-Sponsoring Teacher's Responsibilities:

- Provide account enrollment file.
- Show the challenge video to your students.
- Show the Becoming a Better Photographer Video to your students.
- Discuss the rules and procedures.
- Help the students log on and change their password.
- Discuss password security and ethical behavior.
- Emphasize copyright and submission of pictures taken during the month of April.
- Explain Creative Commons to the students.
- Teach students how to resize and determine picture file size before submitting their picture. The width or height should be less than 2048 pixels & total file size less than 1 megabyte.
- Require each student to submit at least one picture (but no more than 4 – 1 per category). Homework grade?
- Help monitor pictures for inappropriate images, comments, plagiarized pictures. (more details on this later)
- Download and resubmit (promote) up to 5 pictures per category from students in your country to the Photographic Best Galleries (last week of April).
- Proctor the voting process the first week of May - provide access and reminder.
- Announce and Award your school's winners the third week of May.
- Conduct your curriculum exercises and commenting with the original galleries during the month of May.
- Download any pictures you want to use for future projects/discussion. Annotate with source for attribution when you use it.

Next Steps

March 21st- You or the teacher that will be sponsoring the photocontest for your school will need to provide me with a tab delimited or comma separated text file with the names of the students that will be participating.

March 25th- Stone Middle School will send each school a file with the login name and password as well as a URL for getting to our Studywiz server. They will log in with their username to upload the pictures in the category that their picture fits in.

April 1st- Four Galleries for each school go live for photo submissions.

April 23rd- the submission period ends, Stone Middle School will lock the galleries so that there can be no further submissions, and each school's teacher will select up to 5 photos from their school to participate in the Photographic Best Galleries (finalists).

April 30th- Stone Middle School will open up commenting, tagging and rating.

May 7th- Voting on Photographic Best Galleries ends.

May 13th- Stone Middle School will gather the data and send out announcements to you for the top rated pictures in each category. The commenting and tagging and continued ratings open, but the 'contest' it will be over.

Judging the Photos

A rubric will be developed guiding students as they look for what experts have identified as characteristics of good photography:

Focus

Lines

Rule of Thirds

Framing

Contrast

Texture