

# Reflect

## A Community Photography Competition

The Rapid City Arts Council (RCAC) is thrilled to announce *Reflect*, a new community photography competition and exhibition that invites photographers to explore the concept of reflection in creative and thought-provoking ways. Inspired by the Latin word “*Reflectere*,” meaning “to bend back,” this juried exhibition encourages submissions that capture the literal and metaphorical essence of reflection—whether through shimmering water, mirrored glass, or introspective themes of identity, growth, and community. Open to photographers of all skill levels, *Reflect* builds upon the 20-year legacy of the Dahl Mountain Photography Competition & Exhibition while expanding its creative horizons.

Photography, since its inception, has been a dance with light and shadow, a medium that reflects reality and reveals the unseen. From early daguerreotypes capturing reflections in silver-coated plates to modern digital images bending light into pixels, photography has always allowed us to frame the world in unique and often reflective ways. This exhibition honors that legacy, inviting you to explore reflections in your own work—whether literal or metaphorical.

**Who Can Submit:** Photographers of all levels—hobbyists, professionals, and everyone in between—are encouraged to bring their unique perspectives.

**What We’re Looking For:** Reflections have appeared in countless forms throughout photography’s history, and we’re looking for pieces that carry on this tradition. Your work might capture an actual reflection in water or glass, or use your lens to explore deeper reflections of personal journeys, inner worlds, or the vibrant spirit of our community. Interpret the theme creatively; let your imagination reflect in your work. We highly encourage you to think outside the box.

### SOME SUGGESTED IDEAS:

**1. Literal Reflections:**

Use mirrors, windows, or reflective surfaces to double the world around you.

**2. Abstract Reflections:**

Play with light angles, textures or distortions.

**3. Self-Reflection and Portraiture:**

Capture emotion, identity, mood. This could be portraiture or candid photographs. Reflect on who the person is.

**4. Community Reflections:**

Reflect on community life and events, iconic landmarks, everyday scenes.

**5. Metaphorical Reflections:**

Show reflections of aging or growth, objects with stories or reflections on the environment.

**We are excited to see what you capture!**

### IMPORTANT DATES FOR ENTRIES

**Submissions Due:**

Friday, January 31

**Artist Notification**

Friday, February 6

**Artwork Drop Off  
(Accepted Pieces Only)**

March 3-7

**Exhibition Dates**

March 13-May 3

**Artists’ Reception**

March 13 | 5-7pm



## RULES & PROCEDURES

- See important dates on front.
- An entry form must be completed online. One entry form per artist. You should list multiple pieces on the same form.  
[www.thedahl.org/reflect](http://www.thedahl.org/reflect)
- Entry fee per photo:  
\$10 Adult | \$5 Youth\*  
\*after first 5 entries  
*This is a juried exhibition. Entrance fee does not guarantee acceptance into exhibition.*
- Accepted framed photos not accurately depicted by online submission may be rejected.
- By entering this contest, you give the RCAC the right to use your image(s) for publicity.
- All accepted photos must remain in place for the duration of the exhibition.
- Award winners will be posted on [thedahl.org/reflect](http://thedahl.org/reflect) after the exhibition opens.
- **Artwork not collected by April 27, 2025 will be considered property of the RCAC.**

## SUBMISSIONS

- All submissions must be done online at [thedahl.org/dahlmntnphoto](http://thedahl.org/dahlmntnphoto)
- Images should be emailed to [entries@thedahl.org](mailto:entries@thedahl.org) (subject: PHOTO: Reflect). Images should be sized to 1280 pixels on the longest side. Image resolution is 72 pixels per inch. Save as .jpg using the highest quality that keeps the file under 2MB.
- Files should be saved as LastName\_FirstName\_Title.jpeg (Larson\_Jeannie\_EyeSee.jpeg)
- Do not include watermarks or any other markings on the images submitted.
- You must include your frame size on the entry form.

## PRESENTATION

- **SIZE:** Framed artwork must be no larger than 720 square inches.
- Photographs must be matted, framed and ready to hang with a wire.
- No canvases will be accepted.
- Prints must have a solid backing of mat board and foam core.
- Jurors suggest simple, neutral wood, metal or black frames.
- Jurors recommend use of plexiglass versus glass. If artwork has glass, entrant must check waiver box on the drop off form, releasing the RCAC of any responsibility in case of breakage.

## SHIPPING & DELIVERY

- Artists are responsible for transportation of artwork to/from the Dahl Arts Center
- Send or deliver accepted photos to:  
Reflect  
Dahl Arts Center  
Attn: Jeannie Larson  
713 7th Street, Rapid City, SD 57701
- Photos should be delivered to the main entrance on 7th Street. Photos will not be accepted at Kansas City Street/Education entrance.
- **Incoming:** All shipped artwork must be clearly marked with artist's name, address, phone number and email.
- Work that is inadequately packed or damaged will be refused.
- **Outgoing:** Work will be returned if the artist provides reusable shipping container and a pre-paid shipping label.
- **Hand-Delivery:** All hand delivered work must be clearly marked. If the RCAC is to return the hand delivered work - see "outgoing" above.

## INSURANCE

- The RCAC assumes insurance for objects upon receipt, inspection and throughout the exhibition. Coverage will be provided at fair market value or for the fair cost of the repair.
- Artists are responsible for providing insurance for works in transit to and from the Dahl Arts Center.
- The RCAC exercises all necessary precautions in storage, handling, and security of all borrowed items. The RCAC is not responsible for minor wear and tear resulting from normal handling.

## SALES & COMMISSION

- Artists who wish to offer their work for sale are encouraged to do so. Indicate selling price on drop-off form.
- The RCAC retains a 33% commission. Prices listed on the drop off form must reflect this commission.
- Payment to the artists for works sold will be issued by April 26, 2025.
- Work not for sale must be marked "NFS" with a value for insurance purposes clearly stated.

## CASH AWARDS

- Youth (18 and under)  
1st - \$75 | 2nd - \$50 | 3rd - \$25
- Adult Amateur/Hobbyist (over 18)  
1st - \$75 | 2nd - \$50 | 3rd - \$25
- Adult Experienced/Professional (over 18)  
1st - \$100 | 2nd - \$75 | 3rd - \$50
- Best of Show Award - \$125
- People's Choice Award - \$100

## QUESTIONS?

Email Jeannie Larson, Assistant Curator  
[jeannie.larson@thedahl.org](mailto:jeannie.larson@thedahl.org)  
or call 605.394.4101 x2