



**The City of Vestavia Hills invites you to capture the beauty of Vestavia Hills – however you may interpret it – in a photo submission to a competition celebrating the grand opening of the new Vestavia Hills City Hall and the inaugural High Notes event. In addition to cash and other prizes, winning submissions may be displayed as available for purchase within the new City Hall.**

This juried competition is open to the public and will have grand prizes of \$300 for the professional division, \$150 adult amateur division and \$50 for the student division in addition to gift certificates from local merchants for runners-up. The judges panel will include highly accomplished photographer George Ritchey, renowned photographers Bahman Farzad and his daughter “Paris” Farzad-Lykins, Mayor Butch Zaragoza, City Manager Jeff Downes, and representation from the Vestavia Hills Beautification Board. Professional photographer entrants who would like assistance from the City to facilitate access for unique vantage points may inquire of the City Manager’s office no later than fifteen days prior to the submission deadline; however, no guarantee is made that the requested access may be secured.

1. **Timeframe** All images must have been taken within Vestavia Hills between January 1, 2010 and the **NEW** submission deadline of 2pm CDT September 1, 2015. The submission description should include the location and approximate date, e.g. *Thuss Farm, Spring 2010*.
2. **Subjects** Subjects may be anything which the photographer feels may extol the beauty of Vestavia Hills, including Cahaba Heights, Liberty Park, and Patchwork Farms. Scenes and landscapes are encouraged. Compositions showing close up images of children or other vulnerable populations must include a release from the guardian (and subject, where applicable). No nudity, distasteful, or offensive images will be accepted.
3. **Alterations** Photographers are free to make any alterations to enhance or interpret their subjects so long as the final product meets technical specifications (see below).
4. **Interpretation (Optional)** Photographers have the option of providing a brief paragraph offering interpretation or significance of the image submitted.

5. Submission Requirements Each image (limit three per photographer) must be in a separate file and include the items on the entry form (the form is not required so long as all the information is included). Label the entry by its title only, e.g. *Thuss Path.jpg*, and its information as Title\_Info, e.g. *Thuss Path\_Info.doc* .
- Submissions must be electronic and may be sent by email, storage device (disc or usb drive), or Dropbox to Melissa Hipp, [administration@vhal.org](mailto:administration@vhal.org), 513 Montgomery Highway Vestavia Hills, AL 35216. Emailed submissions should have “2015 Vestavia Hills Photo Contest” in the subject line. Please allow time for submissions to be received; the City is not responsible for submissions not received by the deadline. Entrants experiencing difficulty submitting electronically should call 978-0152 prior to 2pm CDT on the deadline date. **The electronic submission should not exceed 5 megapixels, but keep in mind that the City may request a higher resolution image for selected images.**
6. Criteria The primary criterion for all divisions is how well the image(s) submitted extol the beauty of Vestavia Hills, Alabama. The professional division has additional technical criteria as follows: should the rule of thirds apply; are there distracting highlights or bright spots; is the depth of field appropriate; composition/is the image too busy or does it have distractions?
7. Eligibility This contest is open to the public and has three divisions: professional, adult, and student. Artists may submit in multiple divisions, i.e. professional and adult, but no more than three total submissions will be accepted. There is no entry fee.
8. Specifications Electronic submissions must not exceed 5 megapixels and be in jpeg format. If an image is selected, the City may request high resolution images suitable for publication.
9. Ownership, Rights, and Uses Any photographs submitted may be used by the City of Vestavia Hills for publication, promotion, any form of advertising, or in its education programs. The contestant retains full ownership for any other use. The City may print to its chosen dimensions any of the submitted images to include in its local art gallery; at the City’s option, artists featured in the gallery may place a price on the framed piece (net price will be less the City’s cost for frame and matting).
- Submissions must be original entries, i.e. no other entity has ownership or rights to the image.
10. Promotion Photographers/owners of winning images agree to participate in any promotion, news release, or advertising requested by the City of Vestavia Hills.

These rules and the following forms are available as a pdf on the City website, [www.vhal.org](http://www.vhal.org). Any questions or concerns may be communicated to City Manager Jeff Downes at [jdownes@vhal.org](mailto:jdownes@vhal.org).



[WWW.ALIFEABOVE.ORG](http://WWW.ALIFEABOVE.ORG)



[www.facebook.com/CityofVestaviaHills](https://www.facebook.com/CityofVestaviaHills)

“A Life Above” Photo Contest  
2015 ENTRY FORM

Division	_____ Professional      _____ Adult      _____ Student
Image Title	
Electronic File Name	<i>If shortened, should be as close as possible to the image title.</i>
Location and Date of Image	
Interpretation	<i>Optional: Photographers have the option of providing a brief paragraph offering interpretation or significance of the image submitted.</i>
Name of Photographer	<i>Please Print</i>
Email	
Phone	
Mailing Address	
Acknowledgement	By entering the photo submission listed above, I hereby agree to the rules and terms of the contest as set forth in this document.  _____ Date _____ <i>Signature</i>

**“A Life Above” Photo Contest  
PHOTO RELEASE**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby as legal guardian give my consent  
to \_\_\_\_\_ to photograph, film, videotape and then use,  
reproduce, and publish the following images of me and/or my child/children,

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If you are not the legal guardian, who may be contacted to grant permission to use the image?

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**Description of Image (date, location, and any other pertinent information)**

**Permission Granted**

This release is required for the image described above to be included as a submission to the 2015 “A Life Above” photography contest by the City of Vestavia Hills. As a submission to the contest, this image may be used by the City of Vestavia Hills for publication, promotion, any form of advertising, or in its education programs. The contestant retains full ownership for any other use.

Additionally, these photographs may be used in any manner the aforementioned photographer sees fit, with or without identification of the subjects.

**Signature(s)**

I have read and understood the above.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Any questions or concerns related to this form may be directed to the City of Vestavia Hills at (205) 978-0100 or [administration@vhal.org](mailto:administration@vhal.org).