

## **CALL FOR ENTRIES**

Photography Contest “*Mare Profumo di Mare*” – Avola 2026  
PHORISMA – Photographic Cultural Association

### **Art. 1 – Purpose of the Contest**

The PHORISMA Photographic Cultural Association organizes the photography contest titled “SEA – Scent of the Sea” to promote the cultural, landscape, and identity heritage linked to the sea, maritime traditions, and the relationship between people and coastal territories. The contest will take place during the nautical event scheduled at Mare Vecchio – Tonnara di Avola – AVOLA, on August 28–29–30, 2026. The initiative seeks to promote contemporary photography, the appreciation of maritime culture, and artistic expression through photographic imagery. Participation is free of charge.

### **Art. 2 – Eligibility Requirements**

The contest is open to professional photographers, amateur photographers, visual artists, students, and photography enthusiasts of all ages and nationalities. Participants under the age of 18 must submit an authorization form signed by a parent or legal guardian.

### **Art. 3 – Contest Theme**

The theme of the contest is “Mare Profumo di Mare”. The sea is not merely a physical place, a landscape, or a horizon: it is memory, identity, emotion, and belonging. Its scent evokes memories, tells stories, recalls traditions, and preserves the deep connection between humanity and the marine environment.

Participants are invited to freely interpret the concept of “Mare Profumo di Mare”, exploring its many tangible and intangible dimensions: coastal landscapes, the life of maritime communities, work, culture, traditions, journeys, waiting, nostalgia, time, memory, and the emotions inspired by the sea.

Particular attention will be given to works capable of evoking the sea beyond its direct representation, capturing traces, symbols, memories, and suggestions that reveal its invisible yet persistent presence.

Documentary, artistic, conceptual, landscape, abstract, and experimental photography are all welcome, provided they are consistent with the proposed theme and the author’s expressive vision.

### **Art. 4 – Participation Guidelines**

Each participant may submit a maximum of 2 photographs.

Accepted categories:

- Color
- Black & White

Images must be submitted no later than August 10, 2026, to the official PHORISMA email address (info@phorisma.it), specifying:

- Full name
- Title of the work
- Dimensions of the work
- Place where the photograph was taken
- Telephone number
- Brief synopsis of the work

### **Art. 5 – Technical Specifications**

Photographs must meet the following requirements:

- JPG/JPEG format
- Minimum long side: 300 px
- Resolution: 300 dpi
- RGB color mode or grayscale
- Original photographs created by the author

Each file must be named using the author's first and last name followed by a sequential number.

Example: mario\_rossi\_1.jpg, mario\_rossi\_2.jpg

Moderate post-production is permitted.

The contest welcomes photographic works that have undergone post-processing and hybrid creative workflows, including the use of Generative Artificial Intelligence tools, provided that the image is based on an original photograph created by the author and that the use of such tools is clearly declared at the time of submission. Images generated entirely by Artificial Intelligence, or works that are not based on an original photograph created by the author, are not permitted. Failure to disclose the use of Artificial Intelligence tools may result in exclusion from the competition. The organization reserves the right to request the original RAW file, or any other documentation deemed necessary to verify the authenticity and authorship of the submitted work.

### **Art. 6 – Selection and Awards**

Submitted works will be evaluated by a jury appointed by the PHORISMA Photographic Cultural Association, composed of photographers, cultural professionals, and members of the association.

The evaluation will be based on the following criteria:

- Relevance to the theme: 60%
- Technical and compositional quality of the image: 20%
- Originality, creativity, and expressive impact of the work: 20%

The decisions of the jury shall be final and not subject to appeal.

The best selected photographs will be printed and exhibited during the three-day event and published in the official contest catalogue.

The overall winner will receive a certificate of merit and a Fine Art print of the winning photograph. The prize is not redeemable for cash.

All selected artists will be included in the official contest catalogue, which will be provided in PDF format. Upon request, a printed copy may be produced for €25.00, with shipping costs borne by the applicant.

## **Art. 7 – Copyright**

Copyright of all submitted works remains exclusively with the authors.

By participating in the contest, the author grants PHORISMA a non-exclusive right to use the images free of charge solely for contest promotion, exhibitions, catalogues, social media communication, and informational material related to the event, always with proper credit to the author.

The images will not be transferred to third parties for commercial purposes.

## **Art. 8 – Responsibility**

Each participant declares that they are the sole author of the submitted work, hold all rights necessary for its use, and are fully responsible for the content of the image.

If the work depicts identifiable individuals, the participant guarantees that all required permissions and authorizations have been obtained in accordance with applicable laws regarding image rights, privacy, and personal data protection.

In such cases, the completed and signed release form must be submitted together with the contest entry.

For minors, the release form must be signed by a parent, legal guardian, or person exercising parental responsibility.

The organization reserves the right to exclude works lacking the required documentation or not complying with these regulations.

Participants release and hold harmless the organization from any liability arising from violations of copyright, image rights, privacy regulations, or any other third-party rights connected with the submitted works.

#### **Art. 9 – Privacy and Data Processing**

In accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (GDPR), personal data provided by participants will be processed exclusively for purposes related to the organization, management, promotion, and documentation of the photography contest.

The provision of the requested data is necessary for participation in the contest; failure to provide such data may result in exclusion from the initiative. The legal basis for the processing is the participant's voluntary participation in the contest and the fulfillment of organizational and administrative obligations related thereto. The data controller is PHORISMA – Photographic Cultural Association, which may be contacted at [info@phorisma.it](mailto:info@phorisma.it). Personal data will be retained only for the period necessary to manage the contest and, in any event, for no longer than 24 months following its conclusion, unless a longer retention period is required by law. Personal data will not be disclosed or transferred to third parties for commercial purposes. Data may be processed solely by individuals authorized by the organization for the purposes stated above. Participants may exercise at any time the rights provided under Articles 15–22 of Regulation (EU) 2016/679, including the right of access, rectification, erasure, restriction of processing, objection to processing, and data portability, by contacting the association at the email address indicated above.

#### **Art. 10 – Acceptance of the Regulations**

Participation in the contest implies full acceptance of these regulations.

The organization reserves the right to make any organizational changes deemed necessary.

Catania, June 4, 2026

PHORISMA

Photographic Cultural Association