



ARCHITECTURA  
**OBSCURA** • PHOTOGRAPHY  
COMPETITION



**GALLERY SUBMISSION  
REQUIREMENTS**

**We are excited to announce the 11th annual Architectura Obscura annual open photography competition! The 2021 event is sponsored by the American Institute of Architects Central Valley Chapter (AIACV), Comstock's Magazine, and Dreyfuss + Blackford Architecture.**

The purpose of the competition is to highlight the value and impact of architecture, both globally and within the Sacramento region, through the submission of high-quality printed and electronic images. Through photography, this competition raises public awareness in the built environment and celebrates design.

Experience Architecture 2021 has a theme focused on housing and we highly encourage submissions that tie into this theme. Though this is not required, we hope that you will take this moment to consider housing as a subject matter and explore creative ways of expressing how we live in California.

Images submitted to the competition must have an architectural theme, or contain an element of the human-made environment.

**There are two (2) distinct entry categories to allow for a broad range of photographic interests:**

**Gallery (Hard Print) Submissions:** In alignment with our previous competitions, this constitutes submission of physical prints along with digital copies for publication

**Digital Media (Instagram) Submissions:** We started this new category in 2016 to allow entirely digital submissions through Instagram

Images may be color or black & white. In addition to successfully expressing the theme, entries will be judged on the level of creativity, composition, use of color and/or tone and technical image quality. The jury will review each category and select winners for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places, along with a discretionary number of Notable Entry awards.

Images from the competition will be featured in the October issue of *Comstock's Magazine*, on the *Comstock's* and AIACV websites, and will be recognized at either the Architectura Obscura Exhibition + Awards Presentation event, scheduled for Friday, October 8, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

**Gallery (Hard Print) Submission Requirements:**

- Register online at [bit.ly/archobs2021](https://bit.ly/archobs2021) and e-mail to [info@aiacv.org](mailto:info@aiacv.org) to receive an entry number(s).
- Submission fee is \$20 per image, or \$50 for up to (5) images. Additional images (6 or more) may be submitted for a fee of \$10 per image.

- Submitted images may be of any orientation but may not be larger than 20 inches in the longest dimension, if a border or mat is used the longest dimension may not exceed 24 inches.
- Submitted images must be firmly mounted to a rigid substrate such as foam board, illustration board or cardboard and shall not be within a frame or having a glass or thick plastic covering (clear laminations are acceptable). Your entry number shall be clearly indicated on the back near the bottom of the mounting along with the image title. For example: 21-05-01 “Building in Blue” for year 2021, registrant number 05, first submission.
- Please do not place any information on the front of the submission and do not include your name on any part of the submission.
- Printed submissions can be dropped off at the AIACV Chapter Office on **Wednesdays, 9am – 4pm, or by appointment.**
- In addition to the printed submission you are required to submit a jpeg digital copy for use in electronic media and reproduction in publications, etc. Digital copies are limited to 4MB in size and may be uploaded to AIACV Dropbox at <https://www.hightail.com/u/AIACV-Dropbox>. The file name shall be your registration and series number as indicated above. For example: “21-05-01.jpg” for year 2021, registrant number 05, first submission.
- Mounted and digital images must be delivered and uploaded to the AIACV Chapter office no later than 4:00 pm on **Thursday, July 29, 2021** to the AIA Central Valley Office, 1400 S Street, Suite 100 in Sacramento CA.
- Submittals will be juried in August.
- Gallery Submissions are eligible for cash prizes: 1st place \$350; 2nd place \$150; 3rd place \$100

**PLEASE NOTE:**

Entries will be judged in print form only, not as a digital projection. Because of this it is important to submit high quality prints that adequately express the intended effect of the photograph.

Photographs will be accepted only from the original photographer who must be the sole author and the owner of the copyright for photos submitted. Watermarks, Signatures, or Copyright Notices must be removed prior to submission. Elements or objects not in the original scene should not be added.

Cash prizes will tentatively be bestowed during Experience Architecture, October 1-10, 2021. Acceptance of prize constitutes consent to use winner’s names and images for editorial, advertising, publicity and web site purposes without further compensation, except where prohibited.

Mounted submissions may be retrieved from the AIACV Chapter office at a later date. Note that the AIACV will take caution in handling submissions but cannot guarantee that damage will not occur.

**Digital Media (Instagram) submission requirements to be announced – follow @aiacentralvalley to keep up to date on the launch!**