

# Open Call 2025

## What do you see and what do I see?



Below you will find the conditions of participation and the entry form.

**NEXT!** is the first nationwide festival for young photography enthusiasts between the ages of 6 and 26 in NRW. It offers you a platform to present your work, network with others and gain new inspiration. By submitting to the Open Call, you will have the chance to **be part of the group exhibition at the Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum in Cologne.** All motifs, themes and realizations on the topic **“What do you see and what do I see?”** are possible: Individual **photos and series, snapshots and conceptual works up to 5 photos per person/group.**

**Closing date for entries: March 26, 2025**

### **Who can take part?**

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- Anyone residing in North Rhine-Westphalia up to and including the age of 26 (the date of submission is the deadline)

- Individuals and photo clubs (no professional photographers)

### **Topic: “What do you see and what do I see?”**

“What do you see and what do I see?” is more than just a question - it’s an invitation. Each of us has our own perspective, our own way of seeing the world. And that’s exactly



what we celebrate! This is about individuality, creativity and the courage to interpret things in your own way. We want to create a space in which you can express yourself freely - without templates, without boundaries. There is no world without a self and no self without a world. Because your point of view is unique. And that's exactly what counts. But freedom also means responsibility. No place for hate speech, violence or sexualized content - we stand for a creative, respectful space for everyone. <3

Questions that the images could provide information about are, for example

- Who are you when no one is watching?
- What does the world tell you when you look closely?
- What is there in you that others (don't) see?
- What would you like to dare to do?
- What do you wish there was more of in this world?

In this topic, we offer you a platform to visualize your thoughts, feelings and perspectives through images. We are looking forward to your view of the world - to the stories you tell and perhaps even to the answers you give with your photos.

**Up to 5 photos** can be submitted. Important: We look forward to receiving your submissions - regardless of whether they were taken with a smartphone or a camera, whether they are older photos or projects or whether you took them especially for this Open Call!

### Take part - this is how it works

**1. registration: Fill out the registration form (you will find it at the end of this document)**

**2. upload your photo(s) AND the completed registration form.**

Upload to <https://kurzlinks.de/next-upload2025> (JPG, max. 10 MB/image, min. 1024x768 pixels) or use the QR-Code



### Instructions

The photos will be judged by the jury in three age groups: 6-12, 13-18 and 19-26. This gives younger and older participants equal opportunities.

The submitted work must have been produced independently by the person submitting it and without outside help.

By submitting, you automatically agree to the conditions of participation.

**Registration via upload on <https://kurzlinks.de/next-upload2025>.**

It is mandatory to upload both photos and a completed registration form. Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

### Legal information:

The image rights remain with you and you can continue to use the images. NEXT- Festival der Jungen Photoszene will receive the rights of use to the works shown in the exhibition at the Rautenstrauch Joest Museum.



# Participation Form

## Open Call 2025

> Topic “What do you see and what do I see?”



First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last name: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (if over 18): \_\_\_\_\_

If you are under 18 years old, we also need the contact details of a parent or legal guardian (name / e-mail / signature):

\_\_\_\_\_

Name

\_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature

Please upload your photos and this participation form here:

<https://kurzlinks.de/next-upload2025>

Title of the photographs or series (maximum 5 photos) : \_\_\_\_\_

Year of production of the photos: \_\_\_\_\_

Optional: Briefly explain why your pictures fit the topic “What do you see and what do I see?”

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Optional: Have you ever exhibited photos? If so, where? (Two examples)

\_\_\_\_\_

Optional: Write 2 sentences about yourself, e.g. about your interests:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: Contributions with discriminatory content, depictions of violence, sexualized content and illegal content such as copyright and personal rights violations may not be uploaded to the NEXT! Open Call 2025 and are excluded from any participation!**





# Conditions of participation

for the Open Call of the NEXT! Festival of the Young Photography Scene

## Who can take part?

- Anyone residing in North Rhine-Westphalia up to and including the age of 26 (the date of submission is the deadline)
- individuals and photo clubs (no professional photographers)

## How many photos can I submit?

Up to 5 photos can be submitted. Only one submission per person is possible. Decide whether you want to submit a series or a single photo.

## How many photos can I submit as a (school/project) photo group?

Up to 5 photos can be submitted. This maximum number applies to both individuals and group projects.

## What can be submitted?

You can submit one to five individual photos or a series of photos. It is important that your pictures have a creative, new way of telling a story.

## What is a series?

A photo series consists of at least 3 photos on a specific theme. It can, for example, tell a story or the pictures can be designed and compiled according to a specific concept. When submitting, you must specify whether the images or some of them are to be submitted as a series.

## Can I submit edited images?

There are no limits to the technical realization of your ideas.

## Can I also submit images that I have created using artificial intelligence?

No, that is not possible. NEXT is basically about photographs, not AI-generated images. If we are unsure about a submission, we will ask for raw data.

## What do I get as an artist?

The selected works will be shown in a group exhibition at the Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum in Cologne as part of the NEXT! - Festival of the young photo scene 2025. The production of the exhibition will be taken over by the jury, both in terms of design and financially. Your work can also be integrated into the festival's public relations and press work and made accessible to a large audience.