

## **Through the Eyes of Texas**

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Don't worry that there is little money for a vacation this year or that your travel budget doesn't allow you to take that world tour you've always dreamed of... to see the world, all you need to do is drop by the Museum and view the 2011 Photography Contest Exhibit entitled [Through the Eyes of Texas](#).

The Eiffel Tower, the Brooklyn Bridge, children studying in Africa. European cathedrals, grizzly bears at Yellowstone, and a back ally street in Italy. This is just a small sampling of the dazzling photos that will be on display in the Exhibit Gallery of the Katy & E. Don Walker, Sr. Education Center from October 3 through November 24.

These photos, along with hundreds more, have been entered in this year's Amateur Photography Contest, sponsored by the Sam Houston Memorial Museum. The voluminous body of work entered for this year's contest exceeded our expectations, not just in the number of entries, but also in the quality of the images. As we organized the show, we were struck by the emotional response each photo created in us, the viewers. The public is sure to agree as their eyes travel each smile, every blooming floral, and all of the captivating images taken by Texans.

Yes, believe it or not, each entry in this year's contest comes from a Texan! Though the contest does not have any residency requirements and the Call to Artists is broadcasted through social media across the world, one hundred percent of the entries this year came from Texan photographers! Photos have been taken from around the world, but the eye behind the lens resides here in the Lone Star State.

We are always looking for new ways to bring visitors to the Museum, especially trying to appeal to people who might not otherwise visit a History Museum. In the age of digital photography, a photography contest with several different categories seemed to be a good way to appeal to the general public. We had no idea what a success our endeavor would prove to be! Not your average Contest, after the photos are judged and winners selected, every entry is installed in the Exhibit Gallery to create a photographic exhibit, hanging for almost two months. Showcasing each artist's work not only brings visitors to the Museum to view the show, but also honors each artist and their creativity.

The public is invited to the Opening Reception for [Through the Eyes of Texas](#) on Monday, October 3 from 5:30- 7:00 pm in the Exhibit Gallery of the Katy & E. Don Walker, Sr. Education Center. Artists will be honored in a short presentation at 6:00pm. The exhibit will be open daily during regular Museum hours from October 3- November 24, 2011.

