Friday, January 10, 2020

FGS/GSA Research Image Competition

Do you have an image that captures your graduate research?

Enter the 2020 Faculty of Graduate Studies/Graduate Students’ Association (FGS/GSA) Research Image Competition to win a cash award, and the opportunity and prestige of your image being displayed on and off campus. This contest is open to all UCalgary graduate students in both thesis- and course-based programs.

COMPETITION AWARD

All images will be judged with first place receiving $500, second place receiving $300 and third place receiving $100. In addition, there will be two Honourable Mentions with no cash prizes. Images will also be displayed online and will be open to a People’s Choice Contest vote. The winner of the People’s Choice Award will receive a $100 gift certificate from the UCalgary Bookstore. The winning images will be professionally framed and displayed in various location on and off campus including the FGS and GSA offices and at the Last Defence Lounge.

COMPETITION RULES AND REGULATIONS

The contest is open to all UCalgary graduate students in both thesis- and course-based programs. To be considered in the contest, all submissions must be:

- Original, unpublished image (Please note: images such as computer-generated or electron microscopy images are accepted. Images of art such as paintings may be submitted, but must be arranged with purpose and follow judging criteria.)
- Taken by the student submitting the image
- Digital, high resolution images in JPEG format (1500-2000 px and at least 300 dpi)
- Printable as 11x14” prints (entries must be cropped to final size before submitting)
- File size smaller than 12 MB

Graduate students can submit a maximum of one image per competition year. In addition to your image submission, you are required to provide the following information through the online submission form:

- your name
- degree (Masters/PhD)
- department
- program
- title (using jargon-free language)
- a brief technical abstract describing your image and how it relates to your thesis research or course of study (maximum 1,200 characters including spaces)
- a general public abstract (jargon-free and public-friendly language) which describes your image and how it relates to your thesis research or course of study (maximum 1,200 characters including spaces).
Call for Submissions:
Images submitted as part of the FGS/GSA Research Image Competition must be in a JPEG file format, and must be printable as 11x14” images. The Competition will be publicized through FGS and GSA newsletters, social media, as well as other forms of media deemed appropriate.

Feedback and resubmissions
Registrants will receive written feedback by February 5th and are invited to attend the Crafting Short Technical and General Abstracts workshop in late January to receive more tips and feedback. Based on their learnings, students will have an opportunity to improve their image and resubmit, prior to the images being sent to the judges. The resubmission period will be from February 5th -10th, 2020. Registrants who opt to not resubmit, or who submit their changes after the February 10th deadline, will have their original image and abstracts sent to the judges.

Judging Criteria:
Once sent to the judges, images will be evaluated on the following:
- Image Quality;
- Composition;
- Creativity; and
- Abstracts/Link between image and research.

The evaluation rubric is available on the website.

People’s Choice Award:
Images entered into the FGS/GSA Research Image Competition will be publicized on the FGS Facebook page along with their descriptions/captions. Graduate students will be invited via newsletters, social media, and other appropriate media to vote for their favourite image. Voting will occur via “Likes”, and the image with the most “Likes” after the duration of the Contest will be declared the winner of the People’s Choice Award. The winner will be awarded with a $100 gift card from the UCalgary Bookstore, and their image will be framed for display.

Winners:
Contestants who come in 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place will receive awards. The winner of the People’s Choice Award will receive a gift certificate to the UCalgary bookstore. There will be a total of $900 distributed across contestants placing 1st-3rd, this award will be distributed through the FGS Scholarship office. The gift certificate for the People’s Choice Contest winner will be distributed through the GSA. All images submitted by the winners will be framed for display. Two Honourable Mentions will be awarded, and those images will also be framed for display.

Awards Ceremony:
During the Awards Ceremony, competition winners will be revealed, and awards/certificates will be presented.

Award Ceremony Follow-Up:
After the FGS/GSA Research Image Competition’s submission period, around the end of February, FGS and GSA will contact all contestants via email informing them whether they won or not, and thanking them for their participation. Results will be publicized in the GSA and FGS newsletter, and the winning images will be distributed between FGS and GSA offices and the Last Defence Lounge, as well as various sites on and off campus. The winning images will also be publicized in a UToday article in March. Any remaining certificates after the Awards Ceremony will be held at the GSA office and remain available for pick up at a later date.

WAIVER
While you have copyright to use your image for your own research, the submission of an image in the contest permits FGS and GSA the right to display your images in other media (e.g. print, website, social media).

SUBMISSION PERIOD
Please submit your image here: https://gsa.ucalgary.ca/gradphotocompetition/

OTHER IMPORTANT DATES:
Initial review: February 4, 2020 – February 5, 2020
Feedback to Participant: February 5, 2020
Resubmission Deadline: February 10, 2020
Judgeship: February 12, 2020 to February 20, 2020
People’s Choice Voting Period: February 12, 2020 to 4 pm February 24, 2020
Award Reception and Ceremony: March 4, 2020 at the Multipurpose Room, Crowsnest Hall

For more information about the Competition, please email events.gsa@ucalgary.ca