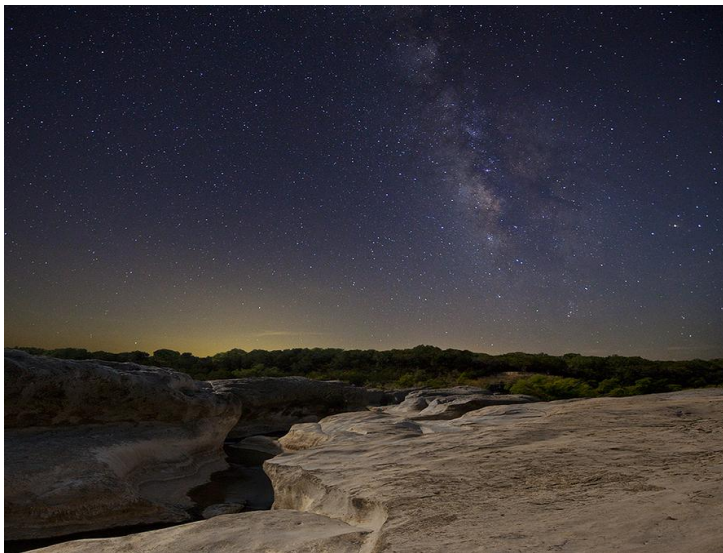


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*For Immediate Release*

## Hill Country Alliance Calls for Entries in 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Photo Contest



2012 Grand Prize winner, photographer Rob Greebon

*Bee Cave, TX (March 14, 2013)* Your favorite Texas Hill Country photograph could be a prize winner and featured in the popular Texas Hill Country calendar produced by the Hill Country Alliance. HCA is known for raising awareness and educating through spectacular, iconic photography; the annual photo-rich calendar is a wonderful way to explore, learn and teach about the special qualities of the Texas Hill Country.

For its 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Hill Country Photo Contest, HCA is looking for photography that captures the spectacular beauty of this region, images that illuminate the very things that are worth protecting, and the historical or cultural stories that need to be told.

The Photo Contest Call for Entries is open through May 31, 2013. Photographers of all ages and skill levels are invited to participate, amateurs and professionals. Winners will receive cash prizes and be featured in HCA's 2014 calendar.

The Texas Hill Country was once a land of countless artesian springs—the foundation of life for native peoples—and a land that drew early settlers, beginning with the Spanish missions of the 15th century. Thousands of Hill Country springs presented a plentiful resource that attracted the early European settlers in the mid 1800's and fostered settlements from Austin to San Antonio and points in between like Boerne, Fredericksburg and Wimberley.

Today the Hill Country remains a place of great natural scenic beauty, native wildlife, and rich in historical and cultural heritage. “The Hill Country Alliance challenges to you to capture the way you see the Hill Country through your camera for tomorrow,” said HCA President Milan Michalec. “Submit what speaks to your heart and what you want to share with others. Together we can inspire a culture of conservation and a community of informed participants.”

HCA is looking for images of unique recharge features that are so important to our water supply, habitats for endangered birds, spring fed creeks and streams, native plants, natural stream banks, and great examples of wise land stewardship practices. Consider also the unblemished scenic vistas, rare wildlife species, fields of wildflowers and sprawling old oaks, pecans and cypress.

In addition to natural features, HCA hopes you send in photographs of your favorite swimming hole, stretch of roadway, working ranch or rugged landscape, or even historic places or cultural icons that reflect of the spirit and heritage of the Hill Country.

Entering the contest is a simple process through the HCA website; go to [www.hillcountryalliance.org](http://www.hillcountryalliance.org).

*The Hill Country Alliance is a nonprofit organization whose purpose is to raise public awareness and build community support around the need to preserve the natural resources and heritage of the Central Texas Hill Country.*

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