education conservation cooperation



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Hill Country Alliance 15th annual photo contest kicks off

Theme of contest is "Solace and Strength: Portraits of Resilience in the Texas Hill Country"

The last year has been unimaginably difficult for so many of us. We have missed milestones and family members, traded neighborly potlucks for Zooms, and seen our worlds upended time and again. Through it all, the rugged beauty of the Hill Country has been restorative, offering calm and solace in a growing din of uncertainty. For the 15th annual Hill Country photo contest, HCA asks photographers to take out their cameras and share their view of *"Solace and Strength: Portraits of Resilience in the Texas Hill Country."*

This year's photo contest challenges photographers of all abilities to capture the calm tranquility, gritty resilience, and persistent beauty of the Texas Hill Country. Whether the Hill Country has been a place of solace, solitude, inspiration or comfort for you, all of us have grown in our appreciation for the natural world and its ability to persevere through adversity in the past year. We particularly encourage photographers to consider submitting shots that feature the diversity of the Hill Country, its people, and its future.

HCA's annual photo contest spotlights the Texas Hill Country's unique region of pristine springs, sprawling landscapes, diverse wildlife, star-filled skies, multi-generational land stewards, historic towns, and hidden oases. With a rapidly growing population and increasing development coming into the region, many of these special qualities are at risk of being lost forever. As always, we hope the photo contest will allow photographers to share images of the Hill Country they want to capture and protect forever.

The Photo Contest runs from **March 15 through May 31, 2021**. Photographers of all ages and skill levels, from amateurs to professionals, are invited to participate. Winners will receive cash prizes and their photos will appear in HCA's 2022 Calendar. HCA's annual <u>Texas Hill Country Calendar</u> features stunning photography from each year's photo contest. Both the photo contest and the calendar aim to highlight the beauty of the region, provide an informative resource on Hill Country conservation, and inspire folks to learn more and become involved in the issues important to keeping the natural resources of this unique region intact.

Entering the photo contest is easy. Photos can be submitted online in just a few minutes by visiting HCA's website: www.hillcountryalliance.org/PhotoContest

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. Visit us at <u>www.hillcountryalliance.org</u>.

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2020 winner "Green Heron" by Tricia Daniel



2021 contest promotional graphic