

**GETTY IMAGES GRANTS FOR EDITORIAL PHOTOGRAPHY**  
**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) for the 2017 Competition**  
**Updated March 2017**

***Purpose***

- These grants highlight Getty Images' belief in the power of photojournalism to focus attention on significant social and cultural issues, and demonstrate our commitment to promoting excellence in photojournalism through tangible, positive contributions to our industry. The grant program was created to provide both emerging and established photographers with the means to pursue projects of personal and journalistic significance.

***What's changing in 2017?***

- This year, the Getty Images Grants for Editorial Photography will award five \$10,000 grants in one-time payments, instead of two installments.
- Minor change in deadline date, which is May 15 this year.

***What's not changing?***

- Applications will be accepted starting April 1 and are due by **May 15, 2017** by 11:59 p.m. GMT (London time).
- All winners are publicly announced in September.
- Complete information about the Getty Images Grants for Editorial Photography is available [here](#).

## **The details**

### **1. Why does Getty Images offer grants to photojournalists?**

Getty Images is dedicated to excellence in photojournalism and to making tangible, positive contributions to the photography industry. To respond in an objective and fair manner to many photographers' requests for help, and to demonstrate our ongoing commitment to the industry, we launched a grants program in 2004 that we hope inspires and enables photojournalists to pursue projects about which they are passionate – and that focus attention on significant social and cultural issues.

### **2. Why are the grants important to photojournalists?**

These grants support photographers across the world in their pursuit of work that is personally important to them, and which they would otherwise not have the time or resources to address.

### **3. How is the Getty Images grants program unique?**

It is one of the largest grants programs in the industry and it is also more than a monetary grant. Getty Images Grants for Editorial Photography provide photographers with the creative freedom and collaborative editorial support necessary to produce documentary features that raise the bar for visual excellence.

### **4. What else does Getty Images do to support photojournalists?**

Getty Images supports photographers through the following programs:

- As an annual sponsor of the Eddie Adams Workshop.
- By providing funding over several years to develop curriculum and launch Africa's first documentary photography program to educate professional photojournalists. We are honored to be sustaining supporters of the Photojournalism and Documentary Photography (PDP) program at the Market Photography Workshop in South Africa.
- We are a key sponsor of the Visa Pour l'Image photojournalism festival.
- We support the Committee to Protect Journalist with annual funding and our Chairman's board service.
- We support RISC to help journalists learn emergency medical procedures that could be life-saving in conflict areas.
- We support the Chris Hondros Fund in numerous ways.

### **5. How does the grant program benefit photographers?**

The program is positive for everyone who chooses to participate. All applicants benefit by having their portfolios reviewed by a panel of high-caliber industry experts. Judges are provided with applicants' contact information, after the judging, on request.

The grant recipients benefit by:

- the ability to create independent work
- exposing their ideas and expertise to the judges and to the industry
- receiving recognition in the media
- assurance that they retain copyrights to the images they submit for judges' review and for those they produce for the project
- the option to have Getty Images provide support and editorial guidance throughout their projects.

### **6. Are there restrictions on how the grant money can be spent?**

The funds can be used to cover a wide variety of expenses that will enable photographers to carve out the time they need to produce the project. It can also cover the costs associated with the actual production of the work, such as travel, equipment and related expenses.

### **7. What if recipients do not complete the project as stated in the original application?**

We expect that the winning photographers will work in accordance with the grant requirements. Furthermore, because, where appropriate, our editors will be working with grant recipients throughout the project, they will provide the support needed to bring the projects to completion. Should geopolitical circumstances or other access issues prevent a grant recipient from completing their project, we will work with them to find alternate ways to tell their stories. If the project scope must change in a material way, Getty Images will inform the judges of these plans.

### **8. How will the grant projects' resulting images be promoted?**

Grant recipients may market their grant project imagery wherever they like. Additionally, grant winners will benefit from media exposure around the program. Grant project images will also be archived on the Getty Images site [here](#).

The Getty Images [Stories & Trends](#) platform provide opportunities for grant winners to report on the progress of their project, and to celebrate its completion through direct communications to our customers and through the 'news' section of reportage.

## ***Applying for the Grants***

### **9. How do photojournalists apply for the grants?**

Complete grant program and application details are available [here](#).

### **10. Who can apply for the grants?**

*Professional Photojournalists:* Applicants must be presently engaged as a professional photojournalist, described as a photographer who derives the majority of his or her income from documenting issues and events.

Photographer teams or groups may apply for the grant. Agreement as to how the grant funding is to be shared among multiple image makers must be clear in the grant application process.

Employees of Getty Images may not apply but contributors to Getty Images who are not employees are eligible.

*Emerging Talent:* Applicants must be under the age of 30 at the time of submission and not associated with any agency. The award will be judged based on the strength of the photographer's work. The decision as to whether the entrant qualifies as 'emerging' will be at our discretion. Photographers who have been widely published and/or earned numerous high-profile industry awards may be deemed already established and therefore ineligible.

### **11. Can photographers win more than one grant?**

It's conceivable that a photographer could win grants in different years for different projects. Judges are different each year and projects are presented to them, anonymously.

### **12. Can applicants send in more than one project submission each year?**

No. Applicants may submit only one application per round of grant selection. A photographer may re-submit a project that was not awarded a grant in one year, for consideration at a different time.

### **13. What are the application and submission requirements?**

An online entry system is available [here](#). In a nutshell, each applicant submits a 500 word description of the project they want to pursue, a selection of 20-25 images, and their biographical information to the Grants program. The images may either be related to the proposal or may be unrelated portfolio images. The proposals must be in English and be submitted electronically.

#### **14. Who are the judges and how are they chosen?**

Notable professionals in the field of photojournalism, who are not employees of Getty Images, are invited by the Getty Images grants team to serve as judges each year. A list of judges, once confirmed for that year, is available at the grants website.

#### **15. What is the judging process and how are the submissions kept anonymous?**

- Each entry is identified only by a three digit number.
- Applications that meet the entry criteria are then sent to the judges for independent review.
- Each judge selects a shortlist of their top (10-15) entries.
- These final short-listed entries are then reviewed during a collaborative judging session, where the judges meet to discuss all the short-listed proposals and portfolios and to select the grant recipients.
- Selection of grant recipients is based on the judges' determination of the applicant's ability to execute a project of compelling visual narrative in documentary feature format, taking into account the caliber of portfolio, project merit and professional ability.

#### **16. What's Getty Images' role in the judging process?**

Getty Images strongly believes that our role is that of facilitator, bringing a range of applicants to a selected group of industry experts who then choose the best entries. We intentionally do not influence the judges' decisions.

#### **17. It seems likely that judges could easily recognize certain portfolios – does this influence the judging in any way?**

It is possible that the judges may be able to recognize the portfolios of certain photographers. However, the winners are chosen after careful review of both their portfolios and the proposals they submitted. In fact, the choice of subject matter covered in each photographer's application is a key factor in the judges' decision-making process. The judges' first selection of portfolios is based on the photographer's story concept along with the caliber of material. The final decision is heavily influenced by exactly how the photographer's idea would be executed and therefore the photographer's previous work and experience are important to the final decision.

#### **18. How many applications does the competition draw and what is the geographic reach of the program?**

The grants program draws applicants from many different areas of the world. The program's historical stats are noted on the following chart:

Dates Winners were announced	Number of Applicants (qualified/total)	Number of countries
Feb.2005	75/118	25

Sept. 2005	142/164	37
Feb. 2006	107/110	29
Sept. 2006	120	29
Feb. 2007	153	26
Sept. 2007	124	37
Feb. 2008	157/139	29
Sept. 2008	153	26
Feb/March 2009	215+ professional applications, 46 student applicants	37 11
Sept. 2009	199 professional applications, 24 students applications	26 8
Sept. 2010	260 professional applications, 48 student applications	49 12
Sept. 2011	Over 400 professional applications	50
Sept. 2012	Over 400 professional applications 100 student applications	50
Sept 2013	458 professional applications 175 student applications	60
Sept 2014	343 professional applications 338 student applications	79

**19. Who are the winners from previous years and what is the status of their projects?**

All winners and the status of their projects can be seen [here](#). As projects are completed, grant recipients add commentary on their final work and their portfolio images are replaced with selected images from the grant project.

If your question is not answered here, please send it to [grants@gettyimages.com](mailto:grants@gettyimages.com)

