

Jaidah Group's 'SeeMyDoha' photography competition nets over 19,000 photos

Competition Closes on September 30th

Jaidah Group – one of the most influential and successful conglomerates operating in Qatar and organizers of the 'SeeMyDoha' photography competition – expects to receive even more astonishing pictures after a record of over 19,000 photos have been submitted so far since the contest began on the 7th of April 2013.

The 'SeeMyDoha' photography competition is an offshoot of 'SeeMyCity' and has been adopted by Jaidah Group as the way forward to what is now its annual photography contest. It is a new concept that uses camera-enabled smartphones and the social media platform Instagram, and runs up to 30th September 2013.

As of 31 July 2013, a total of 19,289 entries have been received, with nine entries – three each from every month's varying themes – having been initially chosen by the competition's expert panel of judges as 'Winners of the Month' for April, May and June. Nine more monthly winners are to be selected for the months of July, August and September before the top five entries throughout the competition are to be announced by Jaidah Group and through Instagram and social media at an Exhibition and Award Ceremony scheduled in November. Amazing prizes await the top five entries, with the top prize winner receiving a surprise trip to a mystery destination.

The monthly themes for the competition include: Black and White for April; Details for May; People for June; Architecture for July; Colors for August (#seemydoha_color); and Creative for September.

Under the competition's rules, entries are to be submitted only via Instagram using the hashtag #seemydoha, with only images that clearly reflect Qatar will be considered for the competition. Full details of the terms and conditions of the competition can be found on www.seemydoha.com.

"We are very pleased and amazed at the huge response and amazing artistic quality of images that this competition has generated so far," said Mohamad Jaidah, Group Executive Director of Jaidah Group.

"Undoubtedly, the innate artistic skills of contestants were also further enhanced by the workshop organized also by Jaidah Group which additionally taught them how to take photographs with maximum

impact using a smartphone, as well as the simple and effective procedures for uploading and showcasing them via Instagram.

“As such, this has resulted in a huge number of remarkable images which has so far portrayed and captured the beauty of Doha like it has never been seen in such a way before,” he added. “Therefore, we are as excited as the competitors to see what more is in store from the upcoming entries in the coming months.”

As choosing the winners from such a huge number of amazing photo entries is never easy, its jury comprises experts that include Mohamed Jaidah (@mojaidah) Firefly Communications Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer- Johan Madarasz, Manager and Executive Producer of Firefly Pictures; and Marianne Hope, Founder and Manager of SeeMyCity and works as a freelance family and lifestyle photographer who also teaches both photography and iPhoneography classes.

Other members of the jury are Yvonne Bouman, a Dutch national who lives in London, UK and works as an independent consultant as well as freelance photographer who also happens to be the manager of Instagramers Holland; Herbert Schröder, a mobile photographer residing in the city of Delft in The Netherlands; Dirk Bakker, an iPhoneographer and SeeMyCity member from Amsterdam with a background in graphic design; Jeroen Moor , an iPhoneographer and freelance photographer from Rotterdam, Holland who has a background in multimedia design and works for his own Music Production company as well as for SeeMyCity; and Tim Hatton, an iPhoneographer from the UK who has a background in teaching Art and Design and is currently living in Qatar.