

COMPETITION

In light of the qualitative and quantitative indicators as stated above, NUSPS has constructed a robust Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section as follows.

1. Who can take part in the NUSPS Montage 2023 Competition?

Anyone who has registered through <https://montage2023.github.io> and submitted their entries via their Instagram accounts using all the respective hashtags will be considered for NUSPS' Montage 2023 Competition.

2. What are the categories available?

Open Category (#Montage2023_Stillness_Open): Inclusive of and above 13 years old as of 1st Jan 2023.

Youth Category (#Montage2023_Action_Youth): Inclusive of and between 13 and 25 years old as of 1st Jan 2023.

3. Can I join both categories at the same time?

Yes, as long as your age qualifies, you may join both the Open and Youth categories. However, you may only win one prize.

4. Do I need to pay to join the Montage 2023 Competition?

No, participation in the Montage 2023 Competition is free of charge. Any publicity material that claims otherwise is fraudulent and should be treated as such; do also report such incidents to the Organisers if you come across them!

5. How do I register and qualify for the Montage 2023 Competition?

To qualify and have your entry considered valid for Montage 2023, participants must satisfy ALL of the below requirements:

- Register via: <https://2023.montage.sg/register>
- Add either #Montage2023_Action_Youth or #Montage2023_Stillness_Open to your Instagram post according to the category you are submitting to.
- Additionally, hashtag all of the following: #NUSPS, #Montage2023, #Sony, #SonySingapore, #CathayPhoto, #nycsg, #ycmsg, and #youngchangemakers.
- Ensure you retain the original image file (e.g. camera RAW, DNG, JPEG/JPG file with EXIF data, etc.) and/or film negatives for photos submitted. Shortlisted participants will be required to submit these items for verification purposes.
- Instagram account used to post the participating work must be public. Your account must be following @NUSPS, @Sony, @SonySingapore, @CathayPhoto on Instagram.

6. What if I submit via Instagram but I didn't register on the Montage website?

Your submission will not be valid. Please ensure that you register at <https://2023.montage.sg/register> before submitting on Instagram.

7. I can't remember if I've registered for Montage yet, how do I check?

You will receive a verification email upon registering for the Montage Competition, please check your inbox or spam folder. If you have further questions, you can email us at secretary@nusps.org.sg.

8. When is the competition period?

The Competition is open for entry from 14th May 2023 00:00 hours (Singapore Time) to 9th July 2021 23:59 hours (Singapore Time). Only submissions posted during this period will be considered.

9. Can I tag my pre-existing Instagram posts?

If you wish to reuse pre-existing Instagram posts, please reupload the post with the appropriate caption and hashtags to be considered as an entry. Posts made outside the competition period will not be entertained.

10. What can I submit?

Only still images taken on any camera are allowed. Videos, GIFs, digital artwork, illustrations, animations, composite photographs or any other formats will not be accepted.

11. How many entries can I submit?

Each Instagram post is considered one entry. Each participant can only submit a maximum of one entry per category (i.e. up to two entries in total, one under Open category, and one under Youth category). The appropriate hashtags must be used (i.e. either **#Montage2023_Stillness_Open** or **#Montage2023_Action_Youth**). All competition requirements (as stated on the registration page) must be fulfilled in order for the submission to be valid.

12. Can I submit multiple photographs per entry (post)?

Yes, in fact we recommend that participants submit multiple photos if they find it more effective in capturing the messages they want to convey. Determination of whether your entry fits the “storyline/message” criteria will be at the sole discretion of the judging panel.

13. What is the judging criteria for the Montage 2023 Competition?

Judging will be based primarily on the quality of the entries, the quality of the entry caption vis-a-vis its contribution to the understanding of the photograph, and its alignment to the theme, ‘Change’ will be taken into consideration. Judging will be conducted by a panel of professional judges who will score each photo based on a set scoring system to ensure fairness.

14. How do I hashtag?

- Hashtag **#Montage2023_Action_Youth** in your Instagram post if you are participating in the Youth Category.
- Hashtag **#Montage2023_Stillness_Open** in your Instagram post if you are participating in the Open Category.
- Please also add the following hashtags to your posts: **#NUSPS**, **#Montage2023**, **#Sony**, **#SonySingapore**, **#CathayPhoto**, **#nycsg**, **#ycmsg**, and **#youngchangemakers**
- You may only enter one category per submission. Do not tag both categories in a single post. If you hashtag both, your entry will be counted towards the Open Category by default.

15. Can I use the same entry for submission to both the Youth and Open category?

No. Entries submitted for each category must be different. Each entry can only be tagged with one category. Submissions tagging both Youth and Open categories in the same entry will be counted towards the Open Category by default.

16. What happens if I submit more than once in one category?

Please delete the incorrect submission. If you submit more than once in each category, only your first submission entry to each category will be taken into consideration.

17. Can I watermark the photos I submit?

No, all submitted entries should not be watermarked. This is to ensure that judging is unbiased and based solely on the quality of your work. If your photo is watermarked, your entry will be disqualified.

18. Can my entry photos be edited with Lightroom, Photoshop or any related photo editing software?

Yes, however, NUSPS requires participants to submit entries with minimal editing (including but not limited to exposure, color adjustments and cropping in reasonable amounts). This is a photography competition, hence, the focus is not in the editing but in the storytelling from both the photos and caption that is in line with the theme of The New Normal.

19. Can I submit photographs taken in the past?

All images submitted should be taken legally and in compliance with the health advisories issued in light of the COVID situation.

In light of this, entries submitted need not be taken during the period of competition.

However, you must ensure that the original image files (e.g. camera RAW, DNG, JPEG/JPG file with EXIF data, etc.) and/or film negatives are retained and retrievable. If you are unable to submit these items for verification purposes upon request, your entry will be disqualified. Please note that you are not allowed to submit entries that have won or been shortlisted for other photographic competitions. Such entries will be disqualified immediately upon discovery.

20. Can I submit drone photos?

All photographs submitted should be taken legally and in compliance with Singapore Law.

You will be required to submit a proof of compliance with CAAS regulations regarding drone flight in Singapore airspace to secretary@nusps.org.sg, including, but not limited to the type of drone used, area where the photo was taken, maximum altitude achieved, date and time.

21. Can I still submit my entries on Instagram after the specified deadline of submission for Montage 2023?

Late submissions will not be recognized or entertained by NUSPS and all relevant parties. Please submit before the end of the competition.

22. How will I be contacted if I win the Montage 2023 competition?

Shortlisted Montage winners will be contacted anytime on 23rd July 2023. Take note that if you do not acknowledge your status as a Montage winner within THREE days of our notification, your winning entry will be voided.

If you are overseas or at ICT for servicemen, do ensure that you are still contactable via mobile, email or Instagram. Your original file should be readily available via Google Drive, DropBox, etc. or any other means whereby you are able to send it over to NUSPS for verification.

23. What if I cannot produce the original image files (e.g. RAW/DNG/negative) for my submitted photo upon request?

If you fail to submit it within THREE days of our notification, i.e by 26th July, your entry will be disqualified.

24. How many prizes can I win?

You can only win only one prize, either in the Youth (if your age qualifies and you have registered in this category) or the Open category.

25. Is NUSPS liable for any participants' claims, loss and individual actions of any nature?

NUSPS is not liable for any loss incurred throughout the duration of the Montage 2023 event. NUSPS does kindly advise that all participants prioritize their safety, health, and the environment throughout the duration of Montage 2023. NUSPS will not be responsible for any negligence, irresponsible or illegal actions conducted by the registered participants and are reminded that they are fully responsible for their own actions. NUSPS is also not responsible for any loss of property or injuries incurred in the course of participation in Montage 2023.

During this COVID-19 period, participants are also reminded to adhere strictly to Ministry of Health guidelines regarding social distancing during this period. Please refer to <https://www.moh.gov.sg/covid-19> for more information.

26. What happens if I plagiarize?

All photographs submitted should be taken legally and in compliance with intellectual property laws in the Republic of Singapore. If you are found to have plagiarised your submission, you will be immediately disqualified from the Montage 2023 competition and blacklisted from all future NUSPS events and Montage competitions.

27. Have any further questions?

You can contact us at secretary@nusps.org.sg.