

MEDIA STATEMENT

Lions Eye Institute launches inaugural “Eye to Eye” photographic competition

The Lions Eye Institute has today launched its inaugural “Eye to Eye” Photographic Competition by inviting all photographers throughout Western Australia to participate as part of its 40th anniversary celebrations.

The competition includes four categories focused on the artistic and creative interpretation of eyes and what they see.

The competition award categories include the animal category ‘Eagle eye’, children’s and under-18s ‘Seeing through a child’s eye’, ‘Human eye window to the world’ focusing on artistic and creative interpretations of the human eye, and ‘Seeing with the mind’s eye’ where photographers are prompted to show the world through their own eyes. An additional People’s Choice Award will be voted on by the public, with cash prizes offered to winners.

Lions Eye Institute Managing Director Professor Bill Morgan is thrilled to unveil the photographic awards and looks forward to seeing the best that Western Australians can capture.

“Our inaugural Eye to Eye Photographic Competition will not only focus on eye health but also on the many similarities a camera shares with the eye, for example the aperture and the pupil both serving to regulate light.” Professor Morgan said.

“We’re excited to commemorate 40 years of saving and restoring sight to Western Australians with a competition that showcases not only the eye itself, but the passion and creativity of WA’s amateur photographers.

“In addition to celebrating 40 years of the Lions Eye Institute, this year marks a significant milestone with one million patient visits since the Institute first started treating patients in 1983.” Professor Morgan said.

The Eye to Eye Photographic Competition panel of judges includes ophthalmic photographer Chris Barry, medical photographer Steve Wise and photographer Frances Andrijich. Additionally, Dale Neill, who is both a glaucoma patient of the Lions Eye Institute and the founder of the Fremantle International Portrait Prize is the independent consultant for the competition.

“As a glaucoma patient of Professor Morgan and having previously run and been involved in photographic competitions for many years, I was excited when I heard about the idea for this competition. Photographers need to be challenged, and by creating a competition with a very specific subject matter about eyes, we are laying down a creative challenge for photographers to show us their best work,” Mr Neill said.

The competition formally opens on Wednesday, 6 December with all Western Australian residents eligible to enter via website submission at <https://eyetoeye.lei.org.au/>. Entries close on 16 January 2024. Short listed images will be exhibited in the foyer of the Harry Perkins Medical Research Institute. Judges will then finalise their choices with an awards event planned in March 2024.

The Eye to Eye Photographic Competition is generously supported by Cygnet Bay Pearl Farm and Fitzgerald Photo Imaging.

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About the Lions Eye Institute

At the [Lions Eye Institute](#), we make a difference to people's lives through excellent patient care and by pushing the frontiers of science to discover new treatments and cures for eye disease. As a not-for-profit organisation, the Lions Eye Institute spans the dual complementary pathways of research and clinical care. We bring together a globally recognised team of researchers and clinicians who continually build on each other's discoveries, knowledge and expertise to deliver sight-saving treatment and care around the world. The quest for knowledge and its life-changing applications for patients drives our work. For more Lions Eye Institute media stories, visit [our news page](#).

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Eye to Eye Photographic Competition



Entries open 6 December – 16 January
More than **\$10,000** in prizes to win