

Achill Calendar Photography Competition 2010

In aid of St. Colman's Care Centre, Achill, Co. Mayo.

The Achill Calendar:

With only one-third of daily operational costs accrued from statutory sources, St. Colman's Care Centre relies heavily on donations and fundraising. The generosity of the Achill community and the 'friends' of St. Colman's at home and abroad over the years has ensured the project's ongoing viability.

In an effort to increase funds to the Centre, the Achill Calendar was first established in 2007. 1,000 calendars were printed for the 2008 calendar year and went on sale in September 2007. By early December 2007 the calendar was sold out. These were sold in local retail outlets and were bought by locals and tourists alike and were sent as far away as Australia, New Zealand and the USA. 100% of the proceeds (exclusive of outlay) went directly to St. Colman's Care Centre.

Due to the Achill Calendar's success, in 2008 it was decided to print 2,000 calendars for the 2009 calendar year. These will be launched at St. Colman's annual fete on July 27th 2008.

The Competition:

A photography competition has been organised by St Colman's Care Centre for entries for the 2010 Achill Calendar. It will also be launched on July 27th, 2008. We hope to encourage locals and visitors alike to become involved and send us their impressions of Achill and her people.

The Theme:

The theme for the competition will be **"Achill, land of moor and mountain, Queen of Islands, bold and free - faces and places"**.

Who may participate?

This competition is open to all **amateur** photographers. Residents of Achill and regular and one-off visitors are encouraged to participate also. You do not have to be an experienced photographer to enter. All you need is a digital camera, a bit of a creative flare and the desire to win the top prize of €500!

Entrance Fee:

To subsidise prizes and administration costs necessary to run the competition efficiently, a charitable contribution in the form of an entry fee of €10 is required per image (please see rules and regulations).

The Demographics:

The Achill Parish begins approx 2.5 miles from Mulranny on the road to Achill Island and approx 3 miles from Mulranny on the Curran Peninsula road. Signs on the left hand side of each road will welcome you to Achill. Your photograph/s can be taken from anywhere between these signs and the end of Achill Island and also on the smaller Island of Achill Beg. They can be taken from onshore or offshore. We encourage you to be creative.

Judging:

The photographs will be judged in the first instance by a diverse panel of board members and the final 50 photographs will go on to be judged by an independent panel of judges with specialist knowledge and experience of photography and art.

The prints will be judged on the following criteria

1. Originality of the picture idea
2. Photo content and treatment of the subject matter
3. Composition and presentation
4. How well it reflects the Theme of the competition. The picture should aim to reflect/highlight the diversity of Achill's everyday life.

The Prizes:

There will be prizes awarded for

- * 1st - €500
- * 2nd - A voucher to the value of €250 toward a weekend photography workshop with professional photographer George Munday of Copper Coast Workshops in Waterford. www.coppercoastworkshops.com
- * 3rd - Fuji FinePix F40 fd 8.3 mega pixel digital camera.
- * small non-cash prizes for runners up.
- * An additional non-cash prize will also be awarded to the top entry received from participants under 16 years. (Turning 16 on or after Nov 01 2008).
- * One further separate prize of €100 will be awarded for the most original photograph relating to St Colman's Care Centre, a specific activity or event organised by or for St Colman's Care Centre (ie: the annual garden fete)

The top 13 photographs plus the top picture from the St Colman's Care Centre award will be printed in the 2010 edition of the Achill Calendar which will be on sale to the general public by April 2009. All competition entries will be displayed throughout 2009 at the St Colman's Care Centre in Achill.

How to enter:

To enter this competition, all you need to do is to read the rules and regulations, complete an entry form and submit it with €10.00, a hard copy original A4 print of your photograph together with a JPEG High Resolution file of the photograph on a CD or DVD addressed to

Photography Competition
St Colman's Care Centre
Keel
Achill
Co. Mayo

Closing date for entries is November 7th 2008. Entries must be postmarked before this date.

Finalists will be notified by post or email and will be formally announced at the St Colman's Care Centre Christmas Party on December 7th 2008, (venue to be announced later).

We hope to run this as an annual competition so please continue to take your pictures and keep your fingers crossed!

About St Colman's Care Centre:

St. Colman's Voluntary Committee was established in 1986 to develop and manage health care and personal social services for older and disabled people on Achill Island. The organisation has since remained responsible for the provision of a comprehensive network of care services and social programmes supporting the older population of the Achill parish.

St. Colman's Care Centre is operated in co-operation with the Health Service Executive West, FÁS, and partnership organisations and is supported by the Achill community. Over the years St. Colman's has proved a vital resource to the social development of the island. A whole generation of older people have already benefited from quality care and support in their own community.

The aims of the services are:

- * **To provide** therapeutic and social facilities for older people, in order to improve their health and well-being.
- * **To provide** care and support for those with chronic illness, so as to allow people to live as independently as possible within the community.
- * **To provide** advice and support to families and carers.
- * **To promote** active and healthy ageing by providing access to a range of opportunities, information and advocacy.