MICROGRAPH CONTEST 2023

The organizers of the congress: Microscopy at the Frontiers of Science 2023 (MFS2023), to be held in person in Braga (Portugal) from September 27 to 29, are aware of the relationship between the various microscopic analysis methodologies and art in its various expressions. The photographs and images derived from the use of our instruments combine scientific information with notable plastic values, and we want to use this double aspect to encourage vocations, bring science closer to the public, and promote the dissemination of our activities.

That is why we propose holding a photographic contest, called MICROGRAPH CONTEST 2023, which, on an itinerant basis, would present for the first time at the MFS2023 headquarters in Braga the images participating in said contest, and could later be transferred for exhibition in different institutions. Among the institutions potentially interested, the National Museum of Science and Technology (MUNCYT) of Alcobendas (Madrid, Spain) has already expressed its interest, on the occasion of the organization of a temporary exhibition about the beginnings of electron microscopy in Spain, that will take place along 2024. Through this initiative, MICROGRAPH CONTEST 2023 would join the celebration of the “Santiago Ramón y Cajal Research Year (Cajal Year), promoted at the Spanish national level as an Event of Exceptional Public Interest.

For these reasons, we are proud of launching the following selective process for the selection of the best microscopy images:

REQUIREMENTS

- At least one of the authors of the picture must be member of the SME or SPMicros society.
- Not having participated or have been selected in similar contests or selections prior to the deadline of this present call. The authors must sign a document proving this effect, as well as stating that the image is original, that they are the legitimate holders of all the rights inherent to it and that the image does not violate the rights of third parties.
- Images must be assigned to one of the following two categories:
  - Life Sciences
  - Materials Sciences
- The images must have been obtained through the use of instruments in the field of microscopy, including all its variants (optical microscopy, fluorescence, confocal, stereomicroscopy, TEM, SEM, cryo-SEM, cryo-TEM…).
- Images must have a minimum size of 1800 x 1800 pixels, with a size limit of 10 MB.
- The images must be accompanied by a title and an original text in English (maximum 750 characters including spaces) explaining the relevant technical details of their acquisition (microscopic equipment, technique used, magnifications -preferably as magnification bars on the image itself-) and its meaning or scientific contribution evolving from the picture.
- In the case of co-authorship, a maximum of 4 co-authors will be accepted.
- A maximum of three pictures per author will be accepted.
DEADLINE AND SENDING PROCEDURE

- The required images and documents will be sent by email to either the SME secretariat (sme@microscopia.org), or the SPMicros secretariat (spmicros@spmicros.com) either attached to the message or through a link to a cloud or file distribution platform.

- The deadline for submitting photographs runs from May 22, 2023 to July 31, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. (Spanish peninsular time).

SELECTION

- The committee that will advise on the selection of the images will be selected by the organization of MFS2023 meeting

- The selection committee will proceed to issue the result according to the following criteria:
  - The scientific content of the image, its capacity to transmit research, technological and social processes. Its technical difficulty, novelty, originality and artistic vision will be valued as well.
  - The informative nature of the text, its originality and its expository clarity.

- The selection committee will choose, on the one hand, the most impressive images and those that best reflect the objective indicated in this selection process, and on the other, it will pre-select another series of images and their respective texts in order to complete the catalog (edition non-venal) and the traveling exhibition of MICROGRAPH CONTEST 2023, which will feature around 50 selected photographs. The final selection of the images that will be part of said catalog and exhibition will correspond to the organization.

- Considering the above, the two best images (one from the Life Sciences and another one from the Materials Sciences modalities) will be selected. To complement this selection, another two finalist images, (one from each modality), will be selected from among the photographs presented.

- The organization, as consideration for the transfer of rights, will reward the authors of the two images selected in the Life Sciences and Materials Sciences categories, respectively with an amount of €250 for each image, and the other two finalists with an amount of €150 for each of them. In case of co-authorship, if an image is selected, and without prejudice to the rights that correspond to the co-authors, the reward will be distributed proportionally.

- The people who appear as authors of the paid images will participate in the opening of the exhibition and presentation of the catalog that will be held at the MFS2023 congress in Braga (Portugal) in September 2023, for which they must be registered in the congress. In exceptional cases they may delegate to another person, notifying the organization sufficiently in advance. The organization will not cover the costs of travel, accommodation or registration in the MFS2023.

USE OF IMAGES

- The SME and SPMicros may use, always mentioning their authorship and without any financial compensation, the photographs participating in this contest for inclusion in other activities of their own or in collaboration with third parties, carried out in compliance with their general objectives. Likewise, they may assign the images for their own activities or for any activity carried out in collaboration with a third party, always through the “Creative Commons 2.5 Spain” license.

- The public use by third parties of the images participating in this contest, except those selected, will be exercised through the “Creative Commons 2.5 Spain” license, as long as:
- It is a non-commercial use (€).
- There is an explicit recognition of the author's name and MICROGRAPH CONTEST 2023 (©).
- The works produced with the images of MICROGRAPH CONTEST 2023 can only be distributed under the terms of a license identical to this one (©).
- The photographs participating in MICROGRAPH CONTEST 2023 may be exhibited through the communication platforms of both institutions: SME (https://www.microscopia.org) and SPMicros (https://wwwspmicros.com/en/home-2/).
- The consent of the participating persons must be express and reliable, and will extend, in any case, to each and every one of the rights of use, and publication of images, as well as the processing of information and data by the SME, SPMicros or any third party.
- The authors of the selected images consent to the photographs being used from the moment the selection is made public by the committee for dissemination and will formalize a rights assignment contract in which, in accordance with the provisions of the Intellectual Property Law, without prejudice to the moral rights that correspond to the authors, they will assign to SME and SPMicros exclusively during one calendar year from the signing of said contract and worldwide, the exploitation rights of said images. Said rights include the use of the selected images for non-profit purposes, and the SME and SPMicros may freely and without any other economic consideration, proceed to their reproduction, distribution, public communication and transformation in any medium, format or support known or not at present. After this period, the economic exploitation rights may be exercised by the author, as well as by SME and SPMicros.
- On the other hand, the images selected by the organization to make up the traveling exhibition and the catalog will not receive any type of economic consideration, although their importance will be recognized as they form part of the cited materials, which will be widely disseminated, always indicating the authorship of the picture. In addition, the person(s) author(s) of these images may request that a certificate be issued stating that the work has been selected for this purpose.
- The rest of the images presented in each edition are published on the SME and SPMicros websites as a public resource and whose use is subject, with prior consent, to the recognition of authorship and mention of MICROGRAPH CONTEST 2023.

**ADVERTISING AND INFORMATION**

In accordance with the provisions of the applicable legislation on data protection, specifically, Regulation 2016/679 of the European Parliament and of the Council of April 27, 2016, regarding the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and the free circulation of these data (RGPD) and Organic Law 3/2018, of December 5, Protection of Personal Data and guarantee of digital rights (LOPDGDD), we inform you that the Microscopy Society of Spain and SPMicros are the entities responsible for the treatment of data. The processing of data collected as a result of participation is for the purpose of managing services to the scientific and technological community and to society, participant management, activity management, registration management, query management, survey management. The treatment is necessary for the execution of a contract in which the interested party is a party or for the application at the request of the latter of pre-contractual measures.
- The names of the selected people and participants will be made public in the exhibition catalogue. The use of social networks, such as Twitter, Facebook or Instagram and platforms such as YouTube, may lead to the international transfer of personal data to the United States, this transfer is carried out providing adequate guarantees in accordance with the GDPR.

- Interested persons may exercise their rights of access, rectification, deletion, opposition, limitation of treatment and portability by sending a communication to the email address sme@microscopia.org.