



9000 Machinists Place
Upper Marlboro, MD
20772-2687

(301) 967-4500
goIAM.org

March 25, 2026

Subj: 2026 IAM Photography Contest

To All District Presidents and Secretary-Treasurers, Local Presidents and Recording Secretaries, TCU Carmen Division Officers, National Representatives, Assistant National Representatives, and Local Officers

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

This is the official announcement of the 2026 IAM Photography Contest. It is open to all IAM members in good standing. Entries should catch IAM members at work in unposed photos. Winning entries will win a cash prize and will appear in the 2027 IAM Calendar. Two dollars from each calendar sale is donated to Guide Dogs of America/Tender Loving Canines (GDA|TLC).

Photos may be in film or digital format. However, digital photos taken must be high-resolution and may be taken with a smartphone or with a good quality camera. All submitted photos must be a minimum of 300 DPI.

There is no fee for participating in the contest, and the deadline for entries is **July 1, 2026**.

Enclosed you will find the complete contest entry package. Members may also download this information by going to contest.goiam.org or may request one from the IAM Communications Department by phone at 301-967-4520 or email at bshelton@iamaw.org.

Best wishes and good luck!

In solidarity,

Brian Bryant
International President

BB/bs

Enclosures

cc: Executive Council
DIR Battaglia
ASST DIR Adams

2026 IAM Photography Contest

Dear IAM Member:

Members of the IAM are a diverse lot. You come from different geographic locations, represent a rainbow of ethnicities and national origins, and speak different languages. You work in a vast array of occupations, work hard to earn your paycheck and you're good at what you do. YOU are the IAM!

To celebrate the working men and women of the IAM, we like to showcase your skills in the IAM Calendar each year. Who better to capture the essence of your job than you? Each month of the calendar is a winning entry from the IAM Photography Contest - pictures taken *by* IAM members *of* IAM members at different IAM workplaces or in the community.

Needless to say, **we can't have an IAM Calendar without you.** Enter the 2026 IAM Photography Contest today! Photos entered in this year's contest will be featured in the 2027 calendar. First, Second, Third Place, and Honorable Mention photos will also be awarded cash prizes.

We're proud that \$2 from the sale of each IAM Calendar goes directly to Guide Dogs of America/Tender Loving Canines, an IAM-supported organization that has always provided free guide dogs and training for the visually impaired and now with the new merger, also offers services for veterans, individuals with autism and those in need of animal-assisted intervention or therapy.

So get out your camera or smartphone and capture your fellow members at work or performing community service. Your entry in the IAM Photography Contest will make the 2027 IAM Calendar the most successful yet. Good luck!

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian Bryant". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Brian Bryant
International President

BB/bs
Enclosures

PHOTOGRAPHER'S NAME	
STREET ADDRESS	
CITY, STATE/PROVINCE ZIP CODE	
TELEPHONE	
EMAIL	
GVP TERRITORY	
LOCAL	
EMPLOYER ADDRESS	
TITLE OF PHOTO (FOR CALENDAR CAPTION)	
DESCRIPTION OF PHOTO (DESCRIPTION WILL BE USED FOR THE CALENDAR CAPTION)	

As part of the 2026 IAM Photography Contest, and for consideration of my satisfaction of being published in any IAM print or electronic-based medium, I (we) authorize and grant the IAM the unlimited use of photographs supplied by me (us). I (we) acknowledge that the IAM or its agents will make no further compensation of any kind for the use of the photos I (we) have supplied.

Each identifiable party in the picture(s) supplied has signed below and/or given their unconditional consent permitting the IAM unlimited use of the images contained within the photos.

I have personally witnessed the signatures below and attest to their validity.

Please type or print neatly.

Date	
Signed <i>(By the person submitting the entr ')</i>	
IAM Card Number	

Signature of identifiable persons in the photo submitted:

Name - Person #1 IAM Card Number		Name - Person #6 IAM Card Number	
Name - Person #2 IAM Card Number		Name - Person #7 IAM Card Number	
Name - Person #3 IAM Card Number		Name - Person #8 IAM Card Number	
Name - Person #4 IAM Card Number		Name - Person #9 IAM Card Number	
Name - Person #5 IAM Card Number		Name - Person #10 IAM Card Number	

The Rules

1. Photos should be un-posed and should depict IAM members doing their jobs or at IAM events, from classes, meetings, conferences, rallies, holiday events, or community services; anywhere that members join together to improve our union, our community, and our nation. **Members at work should be wearing all appropriate safety gear and following proper safety procedures.** Entries will be evaluated based on appeal, content, and photographic skill. The decision of the judges is final.
2. The Communications Department realizes that, increasingly, employers have restrictions on taking photos in the workplace, so we are opening up the contest so more Districts and Locals can participate.
3. You don't need an expensive camera to participate in the photo contest. Newer smartphone cameras can now capture high-quality photos capable of winning the contest.
4. Each photograph must be the work of the person submitting the entry, and that person **must be an IAM member in good standing.** The **subject(s)** of the photograph **must also be a member(s) in good standing.**
5. Each IAM member in good standing may submit **one** photo for entry in the contest. The photo should be accompanied by the photographer's name, address, and phone number.
6. Members must use the Entry Form to submit a brief caption and explanatory note of their submission. The Entry Form must be filled out completely. If the entry wins, the information submitted on the Entry Form will be used for the photo caption and photographer credit on the 2027 calendar.
7. An official Contest Entry Form and Model Release & Authorization to Publish form **must** accompany the entry. These are included in the packet and can also be obtained by going online to contest.goiam.org, calling the IAM Communications Department at 301-967-4520, or by emailing bshelton@iamaw.org.

8. The photographer and photo subject(s) must sign the "Model Release and Authorization to Publish" form to be eligible for the contest entry. It is the photographer's responsibility to secure the necessary releases from the identifiable persons shown in the photograph.
9. Entries must be submitted as digital photographs. Photos should be taken with the camera set on the highest resolution setting. ***Low-resolution digital photos may be disqualified.*** Entries must be recorded on a CD or flash drive or emailed to the IAM Communications Department. Please turn off your camera's date and time stamp feature. Digital photos should be in the .jpg format.
10. While utmost care in handling will be given to all entries, the IAM cannot assume responsibility for damage or loss of entries in transit and assumes no responsibility for submissions.
11. Contest entrants agree that the IAM has the right to use, without further compensation, their photographs for IAM literature to further the cause of trade unionism. Photos will not be returned and will remain the property of the IAM.
12. An agent of the IAM will choose an independent panel of judges. The independent panel will select the contest winners.
13. Judges will award prizes of \$500, \$300, and \$200 for the top three photographs and \$25 to Honorable Mentions.
14. All pictures will be judged anonymously. Images and Entry Forms will be numbered upon receipt.
15. The deadline for contest entries is Wednesday, July 1, 2026.
16. The IAM will include contest winners in the 2027 IAM Calendar.
17. The submission of any entry will be understood to imply agreement on the part of the photographer to all the above conditions.
18. Entries can be submitted **by mail:**

IAM Photography Contest
Attn: IAM Communications Department
9000 Machinists Place
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

By email: bshelton@iamaw.org

Or online:
<https://contest.goiam.org/photo-contest-submissions/>

Photography Tips

- Turn off the time/date stamp function and set the resolution to "high" or "fine."
- Posed photos won't do well in the contest; the judges don't want to see people mugging for the camera.
- Catch your subject doing something. Action photos will grab the judges' attention.
- Get close to the action. The photograph should show clearly what the subject is doing.
- Consider the background when you compose your photo. You don't want trees growing from peoples' heads.
- Scout out the location without a camera before you shoot. Compose the picture in your mind's eye.
- Plan the shots you want to take in advance so you're ready when the action begins.
- Avoid photographic cliches. Look for new angles to shoot from and different ways to show familiar concepts.
- Make sure the subject's face is in the photo; don't shoot the subject's back.
- Although photo contest rules only allow you to submit one photo, take many so you will have a large selection from which to choose your best entry.
- Since photos are for the IAM calendar, subjects wearing hats or shirts with IAM logos would be great.
- Make sure your subject(s) is wearing all appropriate safety gear and following proper safety procedures.