



## **MARILYN STAFFORD FOTOREPORTAGE AWARD** *FOR WOMXN PHOTOGRAPHERS*

### **CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS 2022**

#### **The FotoAward**

The Marilyn Stafford FotoReportage Award of £2,000, facilitated by FotoDocument and supported by Nikon, is granted annually to a professional womxn photographer towards the completion of a compelling and cohesive documentary photo essay which addresses an important social, environmental, economic or cultural issue, whether local or global. The work should, in part, showcase positive solutions to any issues it raises, in line with the wishes of Marilyn Stafford and the aims of FotoDocument. The Award is reserved solely for documentary photographers working on projects which are intended to make the world a better place and which may be unreported/under-reported.

Womxn from any stage of their careers are welcome to apply, whether emerging, mid-career or established. They must already have started the photo essay for which they are seeking funding and be able to show work in progress. In addition, they must have already completed at least one other documentary photo essay to demonstrate track record. Entrants must be over 18, they may be any nationality and based anywhere in the world. It is free to submit.

One overall winner will receive the Marilyn Stafford FotoReportage Award of £2,000 towards the completion of their project. The final work will be featured on FotoDocument's website and publicised via social media. We will endeavour to gain international media coverage, without any guarantees. Shortlisted applicants will have one image profiled on FotoDocument's website and publicised via social media.

#### **INTERNATIONAL PANEL:**

Andrea Bruce:	Photojournalist, Co-owner NOOR Photo Agency, Nikon Ambassador.
Donna De Cesare:	Photojournalist, Associate Professor at University of Texas.
Nina Emmett:	Director at FotoDocument, Curator, Documentary Photographer.
Neo Ntsoma:	Photojournalist, Founder of Neo Ntsoma Productions.

Marilyn Stafford and her daughter honorary judge, Lina Clerke, will join the panel.

#### **ELIGIBILITY FOR THE AWARD:**

- This Award is for womxn documentary photographers / including those identifying as female.
- Submissions are welcomed from emerging, mid-career and established photographers.
- Photographers must be at least 18 years old, there is no upper age limit.
- Postgraduate photography students will be considered.
- Photographers may live anywhere in the world.
- Applicants who have submitted to us before may submit again with the same project if it has significantly developed or with a new project.
- Photographers must have obtained necessary model release permissions for their photographs.
- Applicants must have a valid bank account in the country where they live.

## SUBMISSION PROCESS:

Alongside a completed application form, photographers will be required to submit the work in progress for which they are seeking funding as well as one other completed photo essay on any subject, which demonstrates they can convey a coherent and cohesive visual narrative.

### Checklist:

- Completed application form.
- A minimum of ten Jpeg photographs (approx 2mb each and 150 dpi) of the current photo essay for which they are seeking funding + project description + captions.
- A minimum of fifteen Jpeg photographs (approx 2mb each and 150 dpi) of a previous finished photo essay documenting a single theme + project description + captions.

The two photo essays must be submitted:

- Via We Transfer – please provide a link, where indicated on the application form OR
- Via a web link which leads directly to a designated slideshow - please do not provide a general website, **you need to give a URL address for a specific body of work.**

Jpeg files transferred to us must be saved with your name (firstname\_surname\_01.jpeg etc.) and with complete embedded IPTC information: copyright, caption, date and place. **In addition, captions must be clearly displayed on any slideshow if directing to a specific URL or clearly cross-referenced on an accompanying word document attached with the application form.**

Only work submitted in one of the ways described above will be considered for selection.

**All submissions should be sent to [info@fotodocument.org](mailto:info@fotodocument.org) by 5pm (GMT) on Friday 20 May 2022.** Applicants will receive confirmation that their application has been received by 5pm (GMT) on Wednesday 25 May 2022. If no confirmation has been received by this date, applicants should contact us.

## SELECTION CRITERIA:

Photographers will be judged on the following four criteria:

- their **track record** for completing at least one other documentary photo essay;
- the **quality** of the work in progress which they want the funding for;
- how the project addresses **solutions** to the issues it raises;
- their **motivation** for applying for this FotoAward.

Shortlisted applicants *may* be interviewed via zoom following the selection committee panel meeting. The decision of the judging panel is final.

## TERMS OF THE AWARD:

Copyright of the photographs will remain with the selected photographer/s. The photographs must be free from copyright and usage restrictions from third parties. The selected photographer/s will license to FotoDocument and Nikon reproduction rights for an agreed selection of images which make up the final work in any media worldwide, in perpetuity, for the purposes of providing exposure for the photographer, for the body of work created and for the Award itself only. Neither FotoDocument nor Nikon will pass on these reproduction rights to any third parties, without the prior agreement of the photographer. Any usage of the photographs by FotoDocument or Nikon or licensed third parties will be credited to the selected photographer/s with the appropriate copyright symbol.

## AWARD TIMELINE:

Tuesday 8 March:	FotoAward launches and Call for Submissions opens
Friday 20 May:	Deadline for photographer submissions
Wednesday 25 May:	Receipt of applications acknowledged by FotoDocument
Friday 17 June:	Shortlist announced
Tuesday 28 June	FotoAward Winner & Honourable Mentions announced

## PREVIOUS WINNERS OF THE FOTOAWARD

### FOTOAWARD WINNER 2021

The winner of the 2021 FotoAward is Ecuadorian photographer, Isadora Romero, for her photo essay: *Muyu Lab*, a documentary series about the conservation of agrobiodiversity in Ecuador from both a scientific and ancestral perspective and the positive impact for the environment and future generations.

*"I am very excited to receive this recognition, honouring a long history of courageous and pioneering women journalists and storytellers. It motivates me to continue to tell this story from the communities that fight against the loss of diversity, and it allows me to give visibility to an issue that has been under-reported in the visual arts but that is urgent – not only because of what it means for our local communities but also for the future of humanity and the environment."*

Isadora Romero



*Sample of seeds that are cultivated and preserved for generations in ancestral indigenous communities in the Sierra de Ecuador.*

© Isadora Romero

### FOTOAWARD WINNER 2020

The winner of the 2020 FotoAward is US photographer, Nicky Quamina-Woo, for her photo essay: *As The Water Comes*, about the displacement of hundreds of families due to rising sea levels in Northern Senegal, and the local solutions being used to tackle this issue.

*"I am so excited to be the recipient of the Marilyn Stafford FotoReportage Award 2020! Thank you for believing in the project. We can be so isolated as documentarians, endeavoring to share stories, often independently with no concrete idea if our creative and storytelling efforts will resonate. This award is especially heart-warming, as the judges chose work highlighting climate change in Africa, with its abundant natural resources, which is often overlooked when it comes to environmental issues, even though it suffers the heightened effects of desertification and erosion."*

Nicky Quamina-Woo



*A child plays on the ruins of a sea wall after the ocean surge, saint louis, Senegal.*

© Nicky Quamina-Woo

## FOTOAWARD WINNER 2019

The winner of the 2019 FotoAward is Russian photographer, Anna Filipova, for her photo essay: *Research At The End Of The World*, which focuses on international scientific research taking place in the Arctic region on climate change.

The judges agreed that Filipova's photo essay is of a very high photographic standard, that it approaches this topical and most important of issues from an under-reported perspective and that it has the potential to create impact through exhibiting at UN Climate Summits around the world, at international photography festivals and within global publications.



*Arctic Research Station, Svalbard.*

A female scientist preparing tools for data gathering for climate research. In the background is Blomstandbreen. In the 1980s, Blomstrandhalvøya (a place situated next to Ny-Ålesund on the 80th parallel North), was still believed to be a peninsula, but due to the retreating of Glacier Blomstandbreen, it became an island within less than a decade.

© Anna Filipova

## FOTOAWARD WINNER 2018

The winner of the 2018 FotoAward is Turkish photographer, Özge Sebzeci, for her photo essay: *I Am Beautiful – But My Destiny...* about the marriage (and sometimes divorce) of underage Syrian refugee children settled within an industrial area of Anatolia.

*"Winning this award is important for me in many aspects: it gives me the opportunity to dig deeper and cover different aspects of the issue of child marriages among Syrian refugees here and for this under-reported story to be heard by a broader public. Being mentored by the FotoDocument team and Marilyn Stafford has added new perspectives to the story and my development as a storyteller. I am hoping to use this crucial support in the best way I can and bring together a complete work that makes the audience challenge and reflect."*

Özge Sebzeci



*Khadija, 15, fled to Turkey when she was 12, was engaged at 13 and married at 14 because her mother had felt under pressure from suitors. Khadija believes her father, who died in Syria, would not have allowed her to marry had he still been alive. Khadija got divorced from her 20-year-old husband, Mohamed, because she says they did not get along.*

© Özge Sebzeci



The winner of the inaugural 2017 FotoAward is British photographer, Rebecca Conway, for her photo essay: *Valley of the Shadow* based on the treatment of civilian trauma (PTSD) in Indian-controlled Kashmir following three decades of separatist insurgency, conflict and violence.

*"I'm extremely honoured to be the first recipient of the Marilyn Stafford FotoReportage Award. I've been able to return to Kashmir to keep documenting the stories of those living in the Kashmir Valley, spending time with families affected by the conflict as I build a deeper picture of what living amid continued violence means for Kashmir's civilians. I've been able to afford a translator and driver, making travel in Kashmir safer. It's also encouraging this story has been recognised because the effects of Kashmir's conflict on mental health is rarely reported. It's incredible to be recognised by an award in Marilyn's name given her story."*

Rebecca Conway



A Kashmiri girl walks past graffiti reading, 'We want freedom' during a curfew and shutdown in downtown Srinagar on September 7, 2016.

© Rebecca Conway

## About Marilyn Stafford



Marilyn Stafford's photography career got off to a remarkable start taking stills of Albert Einstein. Since then, she has accumulated an eclectic body of work, spanning 1948-1980, including further historical figures such as Edith Piaf and Sir Richard Attenborough as well as lesser known Francesca Serio, an illiterate Sicilian peasant woman who brought the mafia to trial for murdering her son; international fashion (50s-70s); Parisian children living in slum housing (1950s); refugees from the Algerian War of Independence (1958); pre-civil war Lebanon (1960); and Indira Gandhi's intervention in the Bangladesh Liberation War of 1971.

She was a pioneering woman photographer at a time when

there were few; she left her native US to work abroad when it was relatively unusual for American women to do so; her work is broad ranging, representing her need to make a living balanced with her desire to cover issues of international concern. In Paris, she was mentored by Henri Cartier-Bresson who helped Stafford to secure front page of the *Observer* in 1958 with her moving image of a refugee mother, which helped bring the violence of the Algerian War of Independence to international attention. In 2020, she was awarded the 'Chairman's Lifetime Achievement Award' from the UK Picture Editor's Guild. Stafford's third book, a retrospective on her life's work *Marilyn Stafford – A Life in Photography* was published by Bluecoat Press in 2021 and an accompanying retrospective exhibition is currently at Brighton Museum, UK until 8 May 2022.

*"In a year where my own retrospective exhibition and book has come out, I look back at my life's work and what stands out for me most is the humanitarian work, whether I was covering children living in slum housing in 1950's Paris, the refugee crisis in the Algerian War of Independence in 1958, or the aftermath of the Bangladesh Liberation War in 1971, my heart lay with the victims of tragedy and neglect. Although I very much enjoyed shooting celebrity portraits and fashion, I did it largely to be able to support my family and to self-fund my reportage work. I fully understand how women need additional support to make the reportage sustain itself, which is why I founded this award with FotoDocument and we are honoured to be supported by Nikon."* Marilyn Stafford



## About FotoDocument

FotoDocument is an award-winning arts social enterprise, which brings visibility to positive social and environmental initiatives around the world through the medium of documentary photography. The work is intended to create a sense of active global citizenship by engaging participants and audiences in powerful social or environmental storylines which affect us all.



© Luca Sage/FotoDocument  
The Atlantis AR1500 tidal turbine ready for load-out onto the installation vessel.  
Nigg, Scotland, October 2017.

FotoDocument's work has been exhibited in a wide range of venues and festivals including Victoria & Albert Museum, House of Commons, Oxo Tower London, London Design Festival, Brent Civic Centre, Brighton Railway Station, Amex Community Football Stadium. Their commissioned photographers include emerging artists as well as prominent names in photography and they have worked in partnership with several national organisations and institutions including Tate Modern, Salusbury World Refugee Centre, Photoworks, London College of Communication and BioRegional.

FotoDocument creates educational resources and runs bespoke photography workshops through FotoSchool, targeted at disadvantaged communities in the UK. Founded as a Social Enterprise, it trades through FotoStory, its visual storytelling service for NGOs, corporates and public sector.

*"Now in its sixth year thanks to the generous support of Nikon, we are delighted to be able to launch this year's FotoAward at a time when the world seems to need it more than ever. I know how many talented and passionate women documentary photographers are out there working on stories which desperately need to be seen and heard, and they go to extraordinary lengths to bring them to the light of day, often at great personal cost, whether physically, emotionally or financially. We particularly favour a positive and constructive approach to visual story-telling, and we hope this Award goes some way to bringing recognition and support where it is needed most." Nina Emett, FotoDocument Director*

<https://fotodocument.org/fotoaward/>

@fotodocument

**We look forward to receiving your submission at  
[info@fotodocument.org](mailto:info@fotodocument.org)  
by 5pm (GMT) on Friday 20 May 2022.**