

ILCF 2026 PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST RULES

« LYON THROUGH YOUR EYES »

One city, many cultures, a thousand ways to see it

ABOUT THE CONTEST

Each year, the Institute of French Language and Culture (ILCF) welcomes students from many different countries to Lyon. For a few weeks, a few months or several years, Lyon becomes not only their place of study, but also their place of life.

Over the course of their stay, everyone discovers the city in their own way: its neighbourhoods, streets, landscapes, architecture and habits, as well as more personal places that gradually become new points of reference.

Through the “Lyon Through Your Eyes” photography contest, the ILCF invites current and former students to share their own vision of Lyon.

A place you love, a street that surprises you, a view you often look at, a detail you have noticed, a place associated with a memory or simply somewhere you feel at home: show us the Lyon you see and experience!

You do not need to be a photographer or own professional equipment to take part. What matters most is your perspective, your experience and the story you want to tell through your photograph. This contest is part of a broader project aimed at promoting the welcome, integration and sense of belonging of international students on UCLy's Carnot Campus.

Selected photographs will notably contribute to the decoration of La Bulle and its access areas, helping to make this space better reflect the journeys, cultures and experiences of international students.

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ARTICLE 1 – ORGANIZER, FUNDING AND CONTEST OBJECTIVES

The ILCF, an institute of UCLy / AFPICL [Association of Founders and Protectors of the Catholic Institute of Lyon], a non-profit association under the French Law of 1901 with its registered office at 10 place des Archives, 69002 Lyon, organizes the “Lyon Through Our Eyes” photography contest.

The contest is part of a project supported through the Student and Campus Life Contribution [CVEC].

The main objective of the project is to promote the welcome and integration of international students on the Carnot Campus by enabling them to take an active part in campus life and in the development of their shared spaces.

With this in mind, the contest pursues several objectives:

- promote the experience of international students in Lyon;
- enable participants to express their personal perception of the city in which they study and live;
- highlight the diversity of cultures, backgrounds and perspectives present within the ILCF and UCLy;
- encourage student participation in campus life;
- create connections between international students and the wider university community;
- help make ILCF student living spaces more welcoming and convivial;
- directly involve students in the decoration and appropriation of La Bulle and its access area.

ARTICLE 2 – LA BULLE : A WELCOMING SPACE FOR MEETING AND SHARING

Located on the 2nd floor of the Carnot Campus, within the ILCF premises, La Bulle is a meeting, sharing and exchange space intended primarily for ILCF students and, more broadly, for international students on campus.

Designed as a welcoming, friendly and safe space, La Bulle allows students to meet, exchange, build connections and take part in various activities offered throughout the academic year.

As part of the project funded through the CVEC, the ILCF wishes to improve the layout and decoration of La Bulle, its corridor and access area. The photography contest directly contributes to this initiative.

Selected photographs may be printed on suitable materials and installed in La Bulle, in its access corridor or in adjacent areas, in order to showcase student creations and make these spaces better reflect the international diversity of the campus.

Students will therefore be not only users of this space, but also active participants in its development and identity.

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ARTICLE 3 – CONTEST THEME: “LYON THROUGH YOUR EYES”

Participants are invited to photograph Lyon as they discover it, perceive it and experience it.

The contest aims to highlight the different ways of discovering and experiencing the same city.

Photographs may notably depict:

- a place the participant particularly enjoys;
- a street or neighbourhood;
- a landscape or view of Lyon;
- a building or architectural detail;
- a characteristic element of everyday life in Lyon;
- an atmosphere or moment from everyday life;
- a place associated with a memory or particular experience;
- a place that became a familiar landmark during the stay in Lyon;
- a detail that surprised, intrigued or left an impression on the participant while discovering the city.

There is no need to photograph Lyon's monuments or best-known places. A very simple place can tell a great deal if it has a particular meaning for the person photographing it.

The aim is to gradually create a collective portrait of Lyon through the perspectives of students from around the world.

Each photograph must be accompanied by:

- a title in French;
- a short text of 2 to 5 lines, written in French, explaining the choice of photograph, what the place means to the participant or what it says about their experience in Lyon;
- the author's name and the date the photograph was taken.

ARTICLE 4 – CONDITIONS OF PARTICIPATION

Participation in the contest is free of charge.

The contest is open to students currently enrolled at the ILCF as well as former ILCF students.

No particular level of photography experience is required, so that as many people as possible can take part. Photographs may be taken with a camera or a mobile phone, provided that the technical requirements set out in Article 5 are met.

Each participant may submit a maximum of two photographs.

Participation is individual and the participant must be the author of the photographs submitted.

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ARTICLE 5 – PHOTOGRAPH REQUIREMENTS

Photographs submitted must comply with the theme “Lyon Through Your Eyes” and present a personal vision of Lyon.

To allow them to be printed on panels and exhibited, submitted files must meet the following requirements:

- file format: JPEG (.jpg or .jpeg);
- orientation: portrait or landscape accepted;
- recommended minimum resolution: 3,000 pixels on the longest side;
- clear, non-pixelated image with no watermark, frame or text added to the photograph.

Photographs must be original works created by the participant. Images entirely generated by artificial intelligence are not accepted. If necessary, the ILCF may request the original photograph file in order to verify its authenticity.

Photographs containing pornographic, sexually explicit, violent, discriminatory or insulting content, or content that infringes the dignity of individuals, are not accepted.

If one or more people are clearly identifiable in a photograph, the participant must have obtained their written consent for the photograph to be taken and for the image to be used in connection with the contest, exhibition and related communications. This consent must be provided to the ILCF upon request. For any identifiable minor, written consent from their legal representative is required.

The organizers reserve the right to exclude any photograph that does not comply with the technical requirements, the theme, the provisions of these rules or the UCLy Code of Ethics.

ARTICLE 6 – HOW TO ENTER

To enter, the participant must submit:

1. his or her photograph[s], up to a maximum of two photographs per person;
2. a title in French for each photograph;
3. a short presentation text of 2 to 5 lines, written in French, for each photograph;
4. the author's name and the date the photograph was taken;
5. a duly completed entry form included as an appendix to these rules.

All materials must be sent by email to the ILCF Cultural Activities Department: animationilcf@univ-catholyon.fr

Any incomplete entry or entry received after the deadline may not be considered.

By submitting a photograph, the participant authorizes its use under the conditions set out in Article 11. However, participants may request that their photograph be withdrawn from the contest up until voting opens.

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ARTICLE 7 – CONTEST TIMELINE

- 29 September 2026: official launch of the contest and opening of entries;
- from 29 September to 13 November 2026: entry period and photograph submission;
- from 14 November to 5 December 2026: UCLy-wide voting;
- 5 December 2026 at midnight: voting closes;
- 15 December 2026: announcement of results and prize-giving during the closing ceremony for the Autumn 2026 semester.

The organizers reserve the right to adjust this schedule if circumstances require it. Any significant changes will be communicated to participants.

ARTICLE 8 – SELECTION, VOTING AND JURY

To involve the wider university community in the project, photographs admitted to the contest will be submitted to a vote open to all UCLy students and staff.

The vote will be held online. Each person may vote only once, in accordance with the arrangements communicated when voting opens.

A jury will also take part in selecting the photographs. It will include representatives of the ILCF, Student Life, Mission Culture, as well as student representatives, notably from the Student Council and the BDE.

The selection may notably take into account the following criteria:

- compliance with the theme;
- the personal perspective on Lyon;
- originality of the proposal;
- the photograph's ability to convey an experience or perception of the city;
- visual quality of the photograph;
- the diversity of perspectives represented.

The precise arrangements for combining the UCLy community vote with the jury selection will be communicated before voting opens.

The organizers reserve the right to exclude any photograph that does not comply with the technical requirements, the theme, the provisions of these rules or the UCLy Code of Ethics, available at <https://www.ucl.fr/l-ucl/linstitution/a-propos-ucl/charte-ucl/>.

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ARTICLE 9 – PRIZES

Three prizes will be awarded as part of the contest:

- 1st prize: a meal at a restaurant for two people;
- 2nd prize: a Pathé cinema pass for five tickets;
- 3rd prize: a prize offered by Mission Culture.

Prizes will be presented to the winners during the closing ceremony for the Autumn semester, scheduled for 15 December 2026.

ARTICLE 10 – EXHIBITION AND PROMOTION OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Beyond the awarding of prizes, the contest is intended to enable the creation of a collective and long-term exhibition within ILCF spaces.

Selected photographs may be printed on aluminium Dibond panels and installed notably:

- in the corridor leading to La Bulle;
- at the entrance to La Bulle;
- inside La Bulle;
- or in other ILCF spaces associated with the project.

Each exhibited work may be accompanied by the photograph title, the author's name, the date the photograph was taken and the short text presenting their perspective on Lyon.

Together, these works will create an exhibition reflecting the diversity of international students and their different ways of discovering, experiencing and making Lyon their own.

This exhibition forms part of the project to improve and redesign La Bulle, supported through the CVEC.

ARTICLE 11 – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND RIGHTS OF USE

The participant guarantees that they are the author of the photographs submitted to the contest and hold all rights necessary for their use.

The participant agrees to make the photograph(s) submitted as part of the contest royalty-free, under the conditions defined by these rules.

By entering the contest, the participant authorizes the ILCF, UCLy and AFPICL, free of charge, to reproduce, represent, distribute, publish and exhibit their photographs on any medium necessary to promote the contest, the CVEC project and the institutional activities of the ILCF and UCLy.

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This authorization notably includes:

- printing the photographs on aluminium Dibond panels or any other exhibition medium;
- long-term exhibition within ILCF and UCLy premises, notably in La Bulle and its access areas;
- reproduction on the ILCF and UCLy websites;
- distribution on institutional social media;
- use on digital or printed communication materials of the ILCF and UCLy;
- use to present and promote the contest, the project funded through the CVEC and, more broadly, the institutional actions and activities of the ILCF and UCLy.

This authorization is granted free of charge for all of the uses listed above, for the full legal term of protection of the economic rights applicable to the photographs and for use in France and abroad, particularly given their possible distribution on the Internet and social media.

It remains applicable after the end of the contest and after the participant has completed their studies at the ILCF. The photographs may therefore continue to be stored, reproduced, represented, published, distributed and exhibited under the conditions and for the purposes provided for in this article.

The author's name will be credited when the photograph is used, insofar as the nature of the medium allows.

ARTICLE 12 – COMMUNICATION AND FUNDING ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Communications relating to the contest, selected photographs, the exhibition and the redesign of La Bulle may be published on the various ILCF and UCLy communication channels, notably their websites, social media and display materials.

In accordance with the project framework, the relevant communication materials will include the wording "CVEC funding" as well as the required notices and graphic elements.

ARTICLE 13 – ACCEPTANCE OF THE RULES

Participation in the contest implies full and complete acceptance of these rules.

Any entry that does not comply with the conditions set out in these rules may be excluded.

These rules come into force on 29 September 2026.