

A brand new feature of the 2025 edition of Cortona On The Move
**BARTUR GRANT | CORTONA ON THE MOVE PARTNERSHIP FOR
 DOCUMENTARY PHOTOGRAPHY**

The new partnership will support documentary photographers in telling universal stories about the crucial challenges of our time, from social justice to the environmental crisis. Applications open until 17 April 2025

Cortona, January 22, 2025 – **Cortona On The Move**, international photography festival, and the **BarTur Photo Award**, a prestigious global competition,, announce the launch of the unprecedented Cortona On The Move | BarTur Grant. This **groundbreaking initiative**, supported by the **Visual Storytellers Fund** and newly introduced for the 2025 edition of the festival, aims to provide resources and funding to photographers worldwide for ongoing **documentary photography projects** that address today's most pressing global challenges.

The **Cortona On The Move | BarTur Grant** includes a **\$30,000 main prize** for a professional photographer and **two \$5,000 prizes** for emerging photographers under the age of 30.

The grant is dedicated to work that captures compelling stories related to **social, environmental, economic, and cultural issues** through the lens of powerful photojournalism. It seeks to support projects that highlight the critical global challenges of our time, reinforcing photography's role as a powerful tool for activism.

Veronica Nicolardi, Director of Cortona On The Move, explains:

"Photography has the unique power to capture moments that resonate universally. For Cortona On The Move, this award is a crucial opportunity to support the development of meaningful projects while providing a unique platform for their presentation on the global scene. It also strengthens Cortona's identity as a hub for cultural production, reinforcing its role as a place where creativity and storytelling thrive."

Amnon Bar-Tur, founder of the BarTur Photo Award, also emphasizes photography's transformative power: *"This partnership enables us to support photographers who challenge conventional narratives and inspire change on a global scale. The mission of the Visual Storytellers Fund, a key partner in this project, is to bring these vital stories to audiences worldwide, fostering dialogue and empathy across borders."*

Applications are open until **April 17, 2025**, through the official **Pictor** platform. Along with their project proposal, participating photographers must submit their biography, CV, and budget plan. Proposals will be evaluated based on creativity, relevance of the themes addressed, technical excellence, potential impact, and project feasibility.

The full guidelines and the direct link to the application form are available on the official website:
<https://www.cortonaonthemove.com/grant/>

The submitted works will be evaluated by a **jury** composed of **leading figures in the fields of photography and visual storytelling**. This outstanding panel embodies expertise, innovation, and excellence across the editorial, curatorial, and artistic sectors. Notable members include Amnon Bar-Tur, founder of the BarTur Award; Veronica Nicolardi and Paolo Woods, Director and Artistic Director of Cortona On The Move, respectively; Kate Bubacz, Lead Photo Editor at The Wall Street Journal; and François Hébel, Director At Large at ICP. Their significant contributions to the visual arts industry set a high standard for this prestigious initiative.

The jury also features Nathalie Herschdorfer, Director of Photo Elysée Museum; Hideko Kataoka of Newsweek Japan; Corine Perkins of Reuters Pictures; and Azu Nwagbogu, founder of the African Artists' Foundation.

Among the esteemed panel are Fiona Shields of The Guardian, Marie Monteleone of Bloomberg News, Vivek Prakash of Getty Images, and Kublaiklan, photographic curators of Cortona On The Move, alongside other distinguished professionals – each bringing unique perspectives and unparalleled expertise to the selection process.

This renowned jury ensures the highest standards in recognizing and fostering innovative talent. Together, they will **elevate the global conversation on visual storytelling** and inspire the next generation of creatives.

The **grand prize winner will be announced at Cortona On The Move 2025**, running from 17 July to 2 November in the charming Tuscan town of Cortona, and will have nine months to complete the project, which will be exhibited at the 2026 festival edition. The works of the two winning emerging photographers will also be showcased at the 2026 edition.

The **Visual Storytellers Fund**, which supports this initiative, provides financial assistance to photographers to produce impactful documentary stories that foster empathy and dialogue. Its mission is to amplify visual narratives that address the pressing issues of our time.



About Cortona On The Move

Since 2011, the international photography festival **Cortona On The Move** has been held in Cortona, Tuscany, in the province of Arezzo. A key player in global photographic production, the festival serves as a reference point for photographers, curators, authors, critics, and the public alike. Each edition of Cortona On The Move is dedicated to exploring the evolution of photographic language, increasingly prioritizing the production and presentation of original, unpublished content. The 14th edition, which concluded last November, welcomed over 26,000 visitors, showcased 50 artists, and featured 22 exhibitions. The 15th edition of the festival will take place in Cortona from 17 July to 2 November 2025. The brainchild of Associazione Culturale ONTHEMOVE, Cortona On The Move is produced and curated with the goal of disseminating and promoting contemporary photography. <https://www.cortonaonthemove.com/>

About the BarTur Photo Award

The **BarTur Photo Award** celebrates the transformative power of photography in shaping understanding and driving action. By supporting bold and innovative storytellers, the award brings pressing global issues to the forefront, thus fostering meaningful dialogue and inspiring change. www.barturphotoaward.org

About the Visual Storytellers Fund

The **Visual Storytellers Fund** is dedicated to providing grants and resources to photographers worldwide. The fund empowers documentary photographers to create impactful projects that shed light on critical social, environmental, economic, and cultural challenges. Its mission is to amplify visual narratives that transcend borders, spark meaningful conversations, and inspire empathy.

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