



Rules and Judging

The Happy Birthday, Kansas! photo contest will be held August 1 through December 16, 2016. Prizes will be awarded as part of the Kansas Day celebration, January 27, 2017, at the Kansas State Capitol in Topeka. The theme of this year's photo contest is Making a Difference in Your Kansas Community.

First place winners from each grade level will receive iPads, second place entries from each grade level will receive Kindles.

Grade levels

- First, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, 10th, 11th, 12th.

Photo criteria

- Should tell a story based on the theme; they serve to document a moment in time.
- Judged on creativity, technical achievement, depiction of theme, and composition.
- Must be photographed in Kansas during 2016.
- Must be the work of the student.
- Must not be digitally manipulated or enhanced. Cropping and color correction are acceptable.
- Students may submit up to five photos, but are only eligible for one prize.
- Maximum file size is 8 MB.

In submitting photos, the photographer is transferring ownership to the Kansas Historical Society, thereby giving the Historical Society permission to make available to the public; sell images to researchers when requested; and use in publications, social media, websites, displays, and other places without payment or other consideration. Additionally, by submitting a photo that includes human subjects, the photographer is indicating they have obtained full permission from those subjects for the photograph to be used in these manners.

Submissions:

Photo entries should be high quality JPGs and submitted using the entry form at happybirthdays.org or via email at information@kshs.org. ***Photos must be submitted by 5 p.m. CDT December 16, 2016.***

Entries must include:

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Title and brief description of each photo | • Email address |
| • Photographer's full name, age, and grade | • Mailing address |
| • County where the photo was taken | • Parent or guardian name and email address |
| • Hometown | • Statement of authorship |

The Happy Birthday, Kansas! photo contest is sponsored by the Kansas legislative spouses in conjunction with the Kansas Historical Society.



Making a Difference in Your Kansas Community

Meet L. W. Halbe, a teenager who captured the scenes from his time and place growing up in Kansas.

Leslie Winfield was born to George and Lizzie Fankhauser Halbe, in Russell, Kansas. The family moved to Dorrance by the time he was two. Working at his father's candy shop in 1908, 15-year-old L. W. Halbe discovered a small box camera among the shelves. Curious, he began to take pictures and thus embarked upon a four-year stint as a commercial photographer. In the process, Halbe produced a visual record of rural and small-town life in the pre-World War I Midwest that has few equals.

Self-taught but talented, the teenager snapped pictures all over Dorrance and surrounding Russell and Ellsworth counties with an inexpensive Sears and Roebuck camera. His studio was a tent in his parents' yard—his darkroom the family bathroom, and, then later, the basement. Despite his lack of training and modest equipment, Halbe's

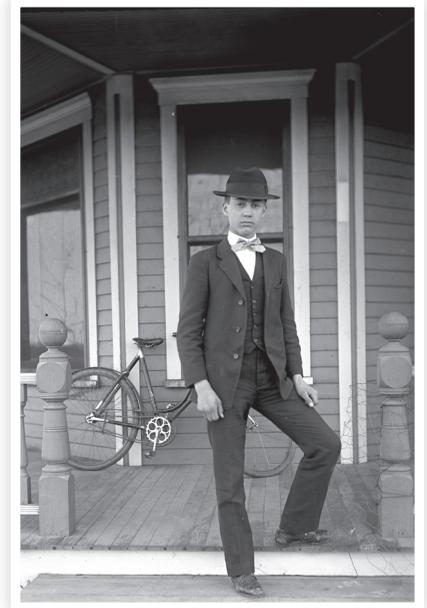
work was of exceptional technical quality and he achieved a close rapport with his subjects that yielded natural expressions and poses.

A professional from the start, Halbe charged 25 cents each or three dollars per dozen for picture postcards, and business was good. Everything was fair game for his camera—agriculture, businesses, machinery, homes, recreation, and people. Quite unintentionally this commercial activity resulted in a remarkable portrait of Kansas during the transition from the 19th to the 20th century.

In 1912 Halbe left Kansas to attain a law degree at the University of Missouri and abandoned commercial photography. Later, he settled in Florida, working as an appraiser until his death in 1981.

From 1908 to 1912 L. W. Halbe created more than 1,500 images that have since appeared in *Time-Life* publications and in exhibits by the Smithsonian Institution and the Kansas Historical Society. A brief interlude in a young man's life, L.W. Halbe's photography brilliantly captured a Kansas that is no more.

View L. W. Halbe photographs in *Kansas Memory* at kansasmemory.org/category/4652



We invite students today to leave a remarkable record of Kansas from the 21st century.

happybirthdayks.org