

ONLY IN THE NORTH

PHOTOGRAPHS BY YOU

To celebrate the exhibition Only in England (25 February-7 May), The Bowes Museum invites photographers of all ages to take inspiration from the photographers featured in the exhibition, Tony Ray-Jones and Martin Parr, and to share their own unique images of Northern England.

Both photographers captured the English traditions and eccentricities which were unique to their time. Through this project, we hope to capture images that represent the distinctive character of the North today. They can show anything from iconic scenery and landmarks, to the people and customs that give Northern England its unmistakable identity and charm.

Tony Ray Jones, a major influence on Martin Parr, had very clear ideas of what made an excellent photograph, which were recorded in his notebooks, facsimiles of which are displayed in the Museum. We encourage participants to have in mind the sense of humour and spontaneity present throughout Ray-Jones' and Parr's work.

To formally enter the competition, please complete the short application form (displayed on the Museum website) and email your image to onlyinthenorth@thebowesmuseum.org.uk Competition images will be displayed on a digital screen in the Museum at the entrance to the exhibition.

We are very pleased to have formed a media partnership with Newsquest, who will encourage participation by including entries in print and in an online gallery.

You don't have to compete to get involved, everyone can share their images on Instagram and Facebook accounts to be part of the conversation.

The project will run from 6 March until 23 April, and have three categories: 11 years and under, 12-17 years and 18 years and over.

We are very pleased to have formed a partnership with the Impossible project uk.impossible-project.com whose innovative instant cameras will be used as part of a programme of outreach work, giving local young people opportunities to develop photography skills both inside and outside the Museum.

The winner of the 18 years and over category will receive a £1000 cash prize, and the two runners up in this category will each receive an Impossible camera. The winners of the 11 years and under, and 12-17 years categories will each receive an Impossible camera.

Works will be judged by a panel. There will be a prize-giving event in late April/early May.

The competition has been organised by Katie Irwin, Creative Apprentice, and Rosie Bradford, Groups and Events Coordinator, who said: “We hope the project will encourage a diverse range of people from across the North of England to learn new skills, have fun and explore their identities by engaging with the unique photographs in this exhibition, which show great humanity as well as technical skill.”