



# City Lights Art Gallery

Promoting local art & art education

3 E Army St., Henderson, NV 89015

702.260.0300

## Photography Post-Processing Guidelines

*(Monthly Challenges & Regular Juried Shows)*

These guidelines are based on photographer survey feedback and are intended to keep judging fair while allowing creative freedom.

### What's Allowed

- Normal photo editing: exposure, color, contrast, cropping, sharpening
- Removing distractions (trash, power lines, blemishes, etc.)
- Cloning, healing, masking
- HDR, focus stacking, panoramas
- Composites **using only your own photos**
- Sky or background replacement **only if the replacement image is your own photo**

### Allowed with Limits

AI tools are allowed when they **assist editing** but **do not create new content**.

Allowed uses include:

- Noise reduction
- Object removal
- Selection and masking tools
- AI features built into Lightroom, Photoshop, or similar software that refine existing image content

Not allowed in photography categories:

- Adding people, animals, objects, skies, or environments using AI
- Prompt-generated content added to a photo
- AI-generated or stock imagery

## Authorship Matters

All parts of the image must come from **photos you captured yourself**.

Stock images, internet content, or AI-generated assets are not allowed in photography categories.

## AI & Digital Art

Images that rely heavily on AI generation or include significant AI-created content should be entered in a **separate AI / Digital Art category**, when available.

## Disclosure

Photographers may be asked to briefly describe how AI tools were used. Transparency helps ensure fair judging.

## Bottom Line

If it started as your photo and AI was used only to **refine, not invent**, it belongs in photography. If AI created or added major elements, it belongs in a separate category.

If you have questions or need clarification, please email, [clag.photoshow@gmail.com](mailto:clag.photoshow@gmail.com).

**City Lights Artists' Co-op is a non-profit 501c3. Proceeds benefit our scholarship & arts programs.**

Email – [clag.galleryevents@gmail.com](mailto:clag.galleryevents@gmail.com) • Website – [citylightsartgallery.org](http://citylightsartgallery.org)

