



## EAED photo contest



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Ansel Adams, a famous photographer of the last century, stated: “There are no rules for good photographs, there are only good photographs.” This means anyone can evaluate a photograph and express whether they like it or not. The difference between a photographer and anybody else is not his or her ability to notice beauty; it is that the photographer should also be able to explain why some elements are pleasing while others are not. The understanding of esthetics is ingrained in everybody.

The methodology of analyzing a photograph and explaining the compositional techniques required to create a beautiful photograph were not “invented” by some experts; rather, they were discovered in a variety of fields. For example, the golden ratio is not only of importance in photography or in painting; it also applies in the fields of architecture, mathematics, medicine, or even in the arrangement of flowers. This means we can apply some of these universal rules

to create photographs that are visually on a level that most people would find harmonious. These rules include leading lines, the rule of thirds, triangles, the rule of odds, or breaking symmetry.<sup>1</sup> In contrast to this, dental photography is not artistic but should follow guidelines and standards.<sup>2</sup> These guidelines and standards need to be updated.



**1st place:** Carme Riera



**2nd place:** Francesco Mintrone



**3rd place:** Luc and Patrick Rutten

This year, the European Academy of Esthetic Dentistry (EAED) for the first time organized a photo contest where all participants at the conference in May were invited to send in images related to dentistry without the need to follow any rules. After a pre-selection made by a jury, all the conference participants selected their best images. The photographs that won the first three places (printed here) can also be seen online at: <http://milan.eaed.org/photo-contest/>

Enjoy viewing, and reading!

Sincerely yours,  
*Alessandro Devigus*

## References

1. <https://streetbounty.com/2016/08/05/understanding-aesthetics/>
2. Bengel W. Standardization in dental photography Int Dent J 1985;35:210–217.