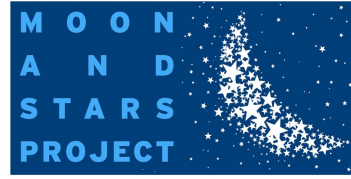


Young Photographers Award Recipient Selected



The
American
Turkish
Society



Highlighting Turkish Arts and Culture

Nevzat Yıldırım of Kocaeli University has been selected as the first winner of the Young Photographers Award, established by Elisa and Haluk Soykan to encourage and support undergraduate students of photography in Turkey. The award is jointly administered by **Moon and Stars Project** and **The American Turkish Society**.

Yıldırım was selected by Ms. Anne Havinga, Yousuf and Estrellita Karsh Senior Curator of Photographs at the Museum of Fine Arts (Boston), and Ms. Karen Haas, Lane Collection Curator of Photographs at the Museum of Fine Arts (Boston), who made the following statement about their decision:

“Jurying a prize like this is always a wonderful process and we were delighted to have been invited to select the 2010 Young Photographers Award sponsored by Elisa and Haluk Soykan and administered by the Moon and Stars Project and the American Turkish Society. In this first year of the prize, there were 15 submissions from eight different university photography programs across Turkey. Our final choice was particularly difficult because the students’ work was so technically proficient overall and conceptually wide ranging. The challenge for us as jurors was to identify those photographs that seemed to go beyond the well made and carefully composed, and to discover pictures with that difficult-to-define ‘staying power’ that draws one back to look again and again.

“In the end we were particularly impressed by the striking black-and-white photographs made by Nevzat Yıldırım from Kocaeli University and have chosen him to be this year’s Young Photographers Award winner. Yıldırım is clearly dedicated to making a career in the field of photography and his individual prints, such as the young broom-maker seated in his crowded workroom, are powerful and beautifully rendered. We will not soon forget his documentation of human labor, whether of child workers or adults, all of which suggest an understanding of and sympathy for his subjects unusual in someone still only in his 20’s. Congratulations to Nevzat Yıldırım and to all the photographers chosen to take part in this inaugural year of the Young Photographers Award.”

The Society and Moon and Stars Project congratulate Nevzat Yıldırım and all participants and wish them continued success in their endeavors. Special thanks to the teaching staff of the following departments for selecting the candidates from their institutions:

- Bahçeşehir University Department of Photography and Video
- Bilgi University Department of Photography and Video
- Dokuz Eylül University Department of Photography
- Kocaeli University Department of Photography
- Marmara University Department of Photography
- Mimar Sinan University of Fine Arts Department of Photography
- Sabancı University Department of Visual Arts and Visual Communications Design
- Yıldız Technical University Department of Photography and Video