Yesterday at eight in the evening, not only did jurors name the winners of the 14th Beni Trutmann photo contest, the Formentera Council Office of Culture pulled up the curtain on an exhibition of prints from this year's competition. The showing will remain on display from Monday through Friday, 10.00am to 2.00pm, until May 7 at the municipal gallery (Sala d'Exposicions) of the Ajuntament Vell.

Since its inception, the Trutmann competition has focused on Formentera nature in all of its forms —landscapes, flora and fauna, humans in nature— as the reflection of an unwavering environmental commitment. When he died, Trutmann bequeathed more than 30,000 photos to Formentera, all of which show the photograph's deep love for the natural beauty of the island. The idea of a photo competition came about as a way to pay tribute to Trutmann, said CiF culture councillor Susana Labrador.

New category, smart phone

To teach Formentera's youth about this important local figure, this year, organisers of the competition decided to propose a new category to participants: photos taken on smart phones. The category is open to anyone between 12 and 18 and, according to organisers, participants have already taken a shine to it. The Polaroid company signed on to participate as well, offering photo material as prizes for this year's contest.

Eighty-seven people participated in the 2016 Beni Trutmann competition. In black-and-white and colour, 48 photographers submitted a total of 131 prints. In the new smart phone category, 39 individuals sent in 109 photos. All submissions will now become part of the Council's photo archives.

The jury for the competition was formed by a representative from the Formentera branch of the Balearic birdwatching and nature group, a representative from the local arm of Obra Cultural Balear, two individuals with experience in visual arts and one staff member from the Council's Office of Youth Services.

Councillor Labrador congratulated all of this year's winners, listed as follows:

Black-and-white
First prize: €500, José Tomás Rojas
Second prize: €300, Federic Vicent Marí Held
Third prize: €200, Ricardo Lamín

Colour
First prize: €500, David Hernández Martin
Second prize: €300, Sergi Torres Costa
Third prize: €200, Aleksandra Maria Rozej

Smart phone
First prize: Polaroid SNAP instant camera, Victoria Jiménez García
Second prize: Polaroid Cube action camera, Julia Tur Mayans
Third prize: IF045 sports camera, Randa Ben Hamza Shaim Abja