Mrs. Evelin Ilves, a member of a panel of judges for the My Beautiful Virumaa photo competition, participated in the photo competition's awards ceremony, which took place today in the Chamber Hall of Jõhvi Concert Hall.

1,500 pictures from more than 300 photographers from Virumaa and Estonia in general were sent to the competition. The judges of the competition short-listed 31 authors.

According to Mrs. Evelin Ilves, Ida-Viru is one of the most diversified regions in Estonia, where formidable industries, rich historical inheritance and abundant nature exist in unison. "The pictures that were sent to the competition showed that people have captured all they have seen with love. These photos will allow everybody to discover and rediscover the diversity of Virumaa," Mrs. Evelin Ilves added.

The first price in the "My Virumaa" category was awarded to **Dmitry Kolyshkin**, and second and third place were won by

Uljam Teuli

and

Anu Ansu,

respectively. First place in the "Diversified Culture of Virumaa" category was awarded to **Vladimir Gorohhov**

, second place was taken by

Oksana Ivleva

and third, by

Helina Harvo

. In the "Virumaa, Rich in Contrasts" category, the awards went to

Karel Kravik

(1 st

place),

Pille-Riin Ruuben

(2

place) and (3

Α,

place). The first place in the "Nature of Virumaa" category went to

Silver Kämärä

, while the holders of the second and third place were

Gerit Tiirik

and

Krislin Kippar,

respectively.

Different companies operating in Virumaa also awarded the participants. Nordea Bank awarded special prizes to **Aleksandr Korb**, **Herkki Oolo**, **Elina Nikolas** and **Pavel Stoljarov**; Mäetaguse Mõisahotell (Manor Hotel) gave its awards to

Natalia Abel

and

Janek Lass

; Kukruse Polaarmõis (Polar Manor) to

Teele Englaste

: Saka Cliff Hotel to

Mari-Liis Hiisjärv

, Toila Rural Municipality to

Kalev Lait

; Toila SPA hotel to

Jana Semenova

; newspaper Põhjarannik to

Triin Õim

and Vihula Manor to

Janek Laanemäe

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Special youth and children's awards went to **Savva Sobolev** (in the "My Virumaa" category), **A nna Borissjuk**

(in the "Virumaa, Rich in Contrasts" category),

Elina Nikolas

(in the "Nature of Virumaa" category),

Viktoria Metšenina

(in the "Nature of Virumaa" category),

Tõnis Sestverk

(in the "Nature of Virumaa" category) and

Teele Engaste

(in the "Nature of Virumaa" category).

Office of the President Public Relations Department Phone +372 631 6229