



SHARING OUR COMMON VIEWS

Hello:

It has been nearly a year since the COVID-19 pandemic touched down here in the commonwealth, and life looks so different for all of us. How we work, how we play, go to school, shop, and socialize has changed dramatically. And yet, we are persevering.

That is why I am proud to introduce *One Lens: Sharing Our Common Views*, a virtual photo and storytelling exhibition to give each and every Pennsylvanian the opportunity to share their COVID-19 stories through photography. *One Lens* is our chance to show what it is like to experience this extraordinary moment in history. Because art has the power to heal us, and by telling our stories, we can honor our efforts during this time, recognize our achievements, and help sustain each other as we continue the fight.

So, show us your heroes, the helpers in this time. Show us where you see joy, compassion, kindness, and hope. Show us how you are managing your own way through this time where fear and illness overwhelm. Show us the moments you have admired the work of others, gathered your own strength, or where you've seen your community join in common cause.

All of these aspects are singular and special to each of us, but they also are part of a fuller enterprise: the portrait of Pennsylvania during the COVID-19 pandemic. So many times, the history of a people, an event, or a period, is written by observers who stand apart from what they see, research, or analyze, but *One Lens* is a document captured by us, at the very moment of impact.

We will be accepting photo submissions through March 8, 2021, and audio submissions through March 15, 2021, and the final product will be shared virtually on March 19, 2021. For more information about the exhibition, submission guidelines, and to participate please visit www.pa.gov/one-lens. We want to reach as many Pennsylvanians as possible and encourage you to share this exhibit with your friends, family, and colleagues.

This is an opportunity for us to tell our own story of this time, directly and most sincerely. This is what we celebrate. This is what we acknowledge. This is what we honor.

That is: What it is to be from Pennsylvania, and what it is to endure.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Frances Wolf'.

FRANCES WOLF
First Lady of Pennsylvania