

Paul Ryan's 1960s

A COLLECTION OF ICONIC PHOTOGRAPHS FROM ACCLAIMED PHOTOGRAPHER

From Robert Kennedy skiing with family in Sun Valley, to images of Dizzy Gillespie with Thelonious Monk at the Monterey Jazz Festival, to the beginnings of the Black Power movement, Paul Ryan has captured many pivotal moments in American history. A special collection of photographs from the 1960s has been curated by Ryan for the **John F. Kennedy Hyannis Museum** exhibit titled *Paul Ryan's 1960s*.

Born in Boston and having graduated from Newton High School, Paul Ryan studied photography with Minor White, Ansel Adams, and W. Eugene Smith. He traveled the world for *SKI* magazine and Open Societies Foundation, photographing some of the most impactful thought-makers of the 1960s and 70s, including Robert and Ethel Kennedy. His cinematography credits are equally impressive, with work on *Days of Heaven*, *A River Runs Through It*, and *The Horse Whisperer*.

It is through the Kennedy family that the museum was introduced to Paul Ryan. "We are very grateful to have this opportunity to share these special photos and stories from a tremendously dynamic era in our country's history," said Wendy Northcross, executive director of the museum. The 1960s and 70s were a time of profound change in America. Ryan chronicled this era through photographs of prominent politicians, authors, musicians, architects, and more—including the Kennedys, singer-songwriter Jim Morrison, novelist Henry Miller, and jazz musicians Dizzy Gillespie and Thelonious Monk.





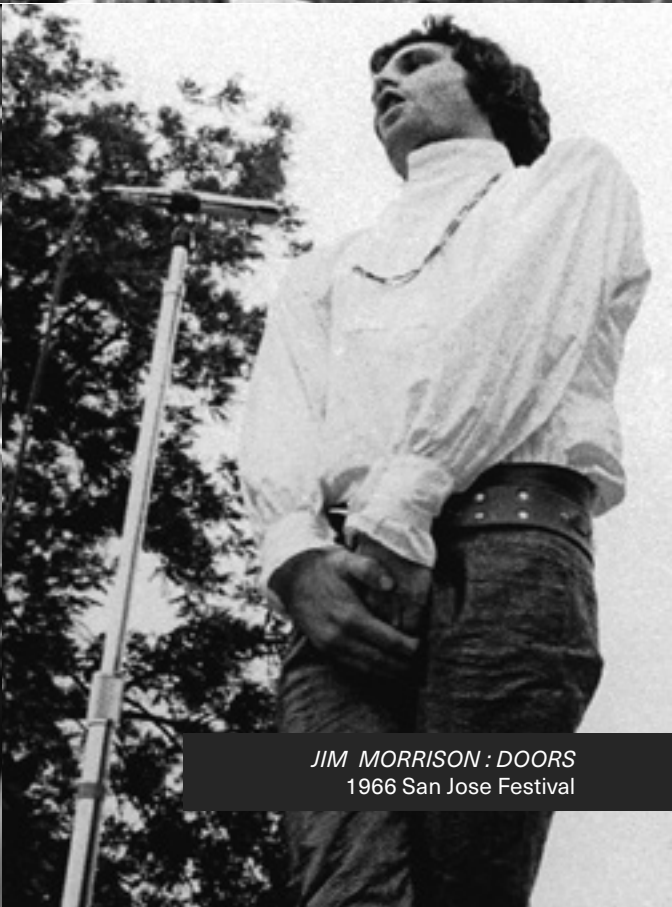
THE HALPRIN WORKSHOPS
1966, San Francisco



STOKELY CARMICHAEL-BLACK POWER SPEECH
1966 University of California, Berkeley



JOHNSONS WAR
1966



JIM MORRISON : DOORS
1966 San Jose Festival

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This exhibit will, of course, feature Kennedy family photos. Guests will also experience images and stories of those who influenced and defined American culture in the 1960s and 70. Working with Paul and seeing his work from that time has been a real walk down memory lane, during a time of profound national transformation.

— Wendy Northcross
Executive director of the
John F. Kennedy Hyannis Museum

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ETHEL KENNEDY
2013 Beverly Hills

When Ethel Kennedy passed in October 2024, Ryan reminisced about how they met. “I got to know some of Robert and Ethel’s kids at a summer ski racing camp on Mt. Hood and later sent photos to Ethel at Hickory Hill, in Virginia,” recalled Ryan.

“The following year, in 1966, *SKI* Magazine sent me on assignment to Sun Valley, where we knew the Kennedys would be on a ski vacation. With no advance preparation, we asked Bobby at breakfast if I could tag along and photograph. He declined. Then, after breakfast he came over and said that his son David had just told him that I was the person who sent the Mt. Hood photographs. Bobby eventually agreed.” Some of those photographs are part of the special exhibit in Hyannis.

Paul Ryan and Ethel Kennedy crossed paths again years later, when his son and her grandchildren were beginning preschool together in California. “Our families became friends in the way that parents of young children often do. We had similar interests in adventures,” said Ryan. They remained friends ever since, visiting at home in California and on Cape Cod.

“This exhibit will, of course, feature Kennedy family photos,” said Northcross, “but guests will also experience images and stories of those who influenced and defined American culture in the 1960s and 70s,” she added. “Working with Paul and seeing his work from that time has been a real walk down memory lane, during a time of profound national transformation.”

Paul Ryan’s 1960s will share his experiences meeting and photographing the subjects of this exhibit, which is scheduled to run from July through October 2025. The John F. Kennedy Hyannis Museum, works to preserve the legacy of President Kennedy and his family’s deep connection to Cape Cod.

John F. Kennedy Hyannis Museum, 397 Main St., Hyannis; jfkhyannismuseum.org



ETHEL KENNEDY ON GOLF CART
1999 Hyannis Port