

2025 Blacktown City Art Prize

Terms and conditions

Artwork eligibility

- Artworks must be original and completed by the entrant within the last year (between 28 October 2023 and 28 October 2024)
- All artworks must be available for sale and priced under \$15,000
- Artworks can include, but are not limited to, painting, drawing, photo media, printmaking, textiles, mixed media, sculpture and/or ceramics.

Photo media describes an artwork rather than a documentary or social documentary image.

- Artworks that incorporate the use of artificial intelligence should include 'AI' in the artwork medium
- Film, video, sound, performance and installation works are not eligible
- Artworks previously submitted to the Blacktown City Art Prize are not eligible.

Sizing requirements

- Two-dimensional artworks cannot exceed 155 cm (H) x 155 cm (W) including frame. Please note that artworks larger than this will not be accepted
- Three-dimensional artworks must be free standing and cannot exceed 200 cm (H) x 150 cm (W) x 150 cm (D). The maximum weight for three-dimensional artwork is 40 kg. Please note that artwork larger or heavier than these specifications will not be accepted
- Artists must submit a short statement (of up to 100 words) about their work.

Entrant eligibility

- The Blacktown City Art Prize is open to all applicants currently living in Australia
- Entrants must be aged 15 years and above
- A maximum of 2 artworks can be submitted by a single entrant. A separate entry form and fee applies to each artwork.

- Current employees of Blacktown City Council and Ward Councillors are not eligible for entry into the Prize.

Prize categories

Prizes will be awarded in the following 5 categories:

Main Prize

Open to all artists. The winning artwork will be acquired by Blacktown City Council and the artist will be awarded \$15,000.

Please note that \$15,000 is the total amount payable to the artist and includes the acquisition of the artwork.

First Nations Artist Prize

Open to artists who are of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander background. The winner will be awarded \$2,500.

Local Artist Prize

Open to artists who reside in the Blacktown Local Government Area. See the full list of suburbs [here](#). The winner will be awarded \$2,500.

Early-Career Artist Prize

Open to artists who are in the first 5 years of a professional art career and are not formally represented by a commercial gallery. There is no requirement to have completed formal tertiary qualifications.

The winning artwork will be acquired by Blacktown City Council and the artist will be awarded \$2,500.

Please note that \$2,500 is the total amount payable to the artist and includes the acquisition of the artwork. Please consider this when applying for this prize category.

People's Choice Prize

Open to all finalists. The winner will be awarded \$1,000.

Sale of artwork

- All finalists' artworks must be available for sale (except winners of Main Prize and Early-Career Artist Prize, which will be acquired by Blacktown City Council)
- Artists must set their sale price at no greater than \$15,000

- Blacktown Arts is required to add 10% GST to the artist's sale price, which will be the advertised price for sale to the public
- If an artwork is sold, Blacktown Arts will deduct 20% commission from the artist's sale price, which will be the amount for payment via invoice.

You will be contacted by Blacktown Arts staff in this instance, and payment will be processed after the exhibition has closed. Blacktown Arts will manage the collection of sold artworks.

Artists registered for GST should include this in their invoice and account for this in their sales price.

Please note that Council payment terms are 30 days after the receipt of a valid invoice

- The Main prize-winning work will be acquired by Blacktown City Council for inclusion in the Blacktown City Art Collection
- The Early-Career Artist prize-winning work will be acquired by Blacktown City Council for inclusion in the Blacktown City Art Collection
- Blacktown City Council will acquire a set number of artworks at the price set by the artist and the terms as above in line with Blacktown City Council's Art Collection Policy.

Artworks that will be considered for the art collection must meet at least 1 of the following criteria:

- expresses an understanding of Blacktown's First Nations' stories
- reflects upon a celebration of Blacktown City's diversity
- celebrates Blacktown's natural environment
- expresses an awareness of Blacktown's history and contribution to national life.

Judging criteria

An independent judging panel will select finalists and winners, except for the People's Choice Prize which will be selected by public vote, based on the following criteria:

- Execution: this may include the overall impression and impact of the artwork to the viewer, how resolved the artwork is, how well the artwork is presented, the quality of the craftsmanship or technical merit of the artwork, the effectiveness of composition and colour, and how well each of the elements work together

- Concept: This may include the quality, depth, and relevancy of an idea or theme and how well the visual elements of the artwork convey this idea
- Originality of artwork: This may include the uniqueness of perspective and style or how creatively the artwork responds to a theme.

Announcement of finalists and winners

- The list of selected finalists will be published on the Blacktown Arts website and social media channels in November 2025. Additionally, all entrants will be emailed directly with the outcome of their entry.
- The People's Choice Prize will be announced within 1 week of the exhibition closing.

Marketing and publicity

- Blacktown Arts, Blacktown City Council and/or the media (with Council's permission) may use images of your artwork to promote the exhibition and future exhibitions in/on signage, websites, social media, catalogues and promotional material where relevant.

Entry fee

- A non-refundable entry fee of \$35 per artwork is paid via debit/credit card when submitting your online entry form.

Force majeure

- If a presentation of the exhibition is not possible due to circumstances outside of Blacktown Arts' control, the Blacktown City Art Prize will be cancelled and a full refund (less the merchant service fee) of entry fees will be paid to all entrants
- If public health guidelines impact the Blacktown City Art Prize in any aspect, Blacktown Arts staff will advise all entrants/finalists of changes via email.

Information for finalists

- If your artwork is chosen for the exhibition, you are responsible for organising delivery and collection of your artwork, including packaging, at your own cost
- Insurance is encouraged to cover against damage, loss or theft. While we will take all possible care, Blacktown Arts is not responsible for loss or damage to artwork, and we do not insure artworks in transit, in storage or on exhibition
- Artworks chosen for the exhibition should be professionally presented and ready to hang or display. Works cannot be wet, damaged or exceed the dimensions noted

above. If your artwork does not comply to this then it may not be included in the final exhibition

- Two-dimensional artworks must be ready for hanging using D-rings or synthetic cord if appropriate
- Three-dimensional artworks must be free standing and have installation notes provided. Note that Blacktown Arts will provide exhibition furniture such as standard-sized plinths
- Finalist artworks must be delivered on Friday 13 December or Saturday 14 December 2024 between 10 am and 5 pm, to The Leo Kelly Blacktown Arts Centre, 78 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown, NSW 2148

Artworks not delivered at this time will not be included in the exhibition

- Unsold finalist artworks must be collected on Saturday 29 March or Monday 31 March 2025 between 10 am and 5 pm, from The Leo Kelly Blacktown Arts Centre, 78 Flushcombe Road, Blacktown, NSW 2148
- If an artwork has not been collected within 1 week of the exhibition closing and the artist has not contacted Blacktown Arts staff to arrange collection, Blacktown Arts has permission to dispose of the artwork accordingly.

Enquiries

For more information, or to clarify the terms and conditions of entry, please call 02 9839 6558 or email artscentre@blacktown.nsw.gov.au