



LANDMARK ARTS CENTRE

Park Art Competition - Guidelines & FAQs

Celebrate the beauty of our historic parks and become a royal park-scape artist.

Friends of Bushy and Home Parks, working with the Landmark Art Centre, are launching the **Park Art Competition**. The aim is to showcase the most “Inspiring Elements” of either Bushy or Home Park that will encourage others to explore and respect the beauty of these royal parks.

Below are the guidelines and key information for the competition that should be read before submitting any entry.

Key dates for the competitions:

- **10th June** – applications open for submissions.
- **31st July** – **applications close at 11.59pm** (entries must be submitted online by this date)
- **1st August** – Stage One of judging commences.
- **Week commencing 19th August** – selected shortlisted artists notified.
- **2nd – 5th September** – Artists chosen for the shortlist need to bring their artwork to the Landmark Arts Centre for second stage of judging, and for inclusion in our exhibition.
- **6th September** – Stage Two judging at the Landmark Arts Centre
- **9th – 11th September** – Installation of exhibition at the Landmark Arts Centre
- **12th September** – Exhibition opens, and public voting starts.
- **14th September** – Private View Reception – winners of each category announced.
- **15th September** – Exhibition closes
- **16th – 17th September** – artists must collect unsold artworks from the Landmark Arts Centre

Judging categories for submissions:

- 7–11 year-olds (no entry fee required)
- 11–18 year-olds (no entry fee required)
- 19 years plus – Studio based-study.
- 19 years plus – “en plein air” study* (photo proof required)
- Additionally, there will be a public vote during the exhibition for the “People’s Choice Award”.

* “en plein air” means “in the open air” and refers to the act of painting outdoors with the artist's subject in full view. We want to encourage people to go and experience the parks and find something that inspires them. Either take photos to use back at home or take your artist materials and paint in the open air, whichever you prefer.

The judges will be made up of selected representatives of the local arts and the park community, plus management of Landmark and Friends of Bushy and Home Parks. The Judges’ decision shall be final, and no correspondence will be entered into.

Judging criteria:

1. Adherence to Theme: How well does the artwork capture “Inspiring Elements” of one of the royal parks (Bushy or Home Parks).
2. Originality and Creativity: The uniqueness of the viewpoint and the artist's personal interpretation of the scene or an inspiring element.
3. Technical Skill: The proficiency with which the artist uses their chosen medium and techniques.
4. Emotional Impact: The ability of the artwork to evoke an emotional response or connection with the viewer.
5. Composition and Presentation: The arrangement of elements within the artwork and the overall presentation, including framing.

Please note that artwork will be judged anonymously from the shortlisted stage.

Prizes:

Adult winners in each category and the People’s Choice Award will receive a range of prizes including a cash prize (supported by Teddington Community Lottery), a guided nature/history walk with refreshments (donated by Colicci's), free 12-month membership to the Friends of Bushy and Home Parks, plus the Landmark Art Centre.

The winners of the Childrens category and highly commended in all categories will receive cash prizes.

“We look forward to seeing the unique interpretations and the stories your artwork tells about these cherished spaces.” Judges Quote

The winners will be announced the Private View reception on September 14th.

How to enter:

Under 19’s:

- All Childrens entries should be submitted digitally initially using this link: <https://www.curatorspace.com/opportunities/detail/kids-park-art/8380>
- Entries should be submitted by a parent or legal guardian. In doing so, the parent or guardian are consenting to having read these guidelines and conditions of entry.
- See key dates above; applications must be submitted online by 31st July at the latest.
- Media - 2D pieces of artwork (all media welcomed except photography)
- Size - no larger than A2.
- Timescale - artwork must have been created within the last 12 months.
- Under 19’s can submit one entry; simply choose the correct age-category
- Under 19’s entries do not incur an administration fee
- If there are multiple children applying from one household please fill in ONE form, and include each child’s details and artwork in each section.

Over 19's:

- All adult entries should be submitted digitally using this link : <https://www.curatorspace.com/opportunities/detail/park-art-competition/8365>
- See key dates above; applications must be submitted online by 31st July at the latest.
- Media - 2D pieces of artwork (all media welcomed except photography)
- Size - no larger than A2.
- Timescale - artwork must have been created within the last 12 months.
- If you are entering the "en plein air" category you must document where in the park you created your artwork using your smart phone/camera. More information below.
- We would like to know which location in the park inspired you. This can be done using words &/or by using 'what3words' app.
- Amateur artists only – professional artists may not apply (see below for more info on the definition of this)
- Over 19's entries must be accompanied with an administration fee (£10 per entry), to be paid via the donation page of the Friends of Bushy and Home Park (FBHP) website - [FBHP.org.uk / donations /](http://FBHP.org.uk/donations/). The donors name will be matched against admissions and entries without accompanying fee(s) will not be considered.
- Over 19's can submit no more than one entry in EACH category, each with a £10 administration fee for each entry. For instance, you can create an artwork for the "en plein air" study, as well as one studio-based study.

FAQs

What is this opportunity?

Park Art Competition is an annual art competition for non-professional artists working within, or inspired by, Bushy Park or Home Park

Is there a theme/objective?

The overlying theme is "Inspiring elements" of our local royal parks. This competition invites artists to explore and capture the "inspiring elements" through scenes or wildlife (animals / plants / trees) from our local royal parks. These don't have to be the iconic views, its more what inspires you as an artist. Please read the judging criteria for more information.

Why do I need to pay a fee?

100% of the fees is donated to the two charitable organisations leading the competition and help to cover the administration costs to run this competition. This needs to be paid on the FBHP website (FBHP.org.uk/donations/). Names of donor will be matched to names provided on the admission form. Any submission without a corresponding donation will not be considered.

I'm a volunteer of the Landmark Arts Centre and/or Friends of Bushy and Home Parks – can I still enter?

Yes! We welcome entries from volunteers and friends of both charities.

Why is photography not considered as a medium for this competition?

The Friends of Bushy and Home Parks run a separate annual photographic competition.

Who can enter?

The competition is open to amateur artists who do not make a living from their art. Please read through these criteria to ensure you fit the amateur artist requirement. This competition focuses on celebrating the talents of non-professional artists.

Amateur artists should meet most of these criteria:

- Do not make a living from their art.
- Might be actively taking regular art classes or workshops.
- May or may not be actively trying to sell your artwork; but may have sold the odd artwork now and then.
- Are not represented by a gallery and have not taken part in an art fair.
- May or may not participate in juried art shows and events.
- May or may not have won an award(s) at a local art show; but not at a national/international level.

Who cannot enter?

Professional artists, trustees of the charities involved, judges and their households.

Professional artists will meet most of these criteria:

- Make a living from their art.
- Are not actively taking regular art classes or workshops (with the exception of life drawing/model sessions and the occasional workshop every year or so)
- Are actively and regularly trying to sell your artwork; either online, at art fairs, in exhibitions, or other events
- Might be represented by a gallery.
- Have participated, or are currently participating in, exhibitions, art fairs, and events.
- Might be a member of one or more art groups/professional organisations.
- Might have won an award(s) at a national/international level.

How do I take a good photograph of my finished artwork?

- Photograph your work straight on in a clear, well, and naturally lit space. Wait for a nice sunny day and photograph your work in a bright room or outside. Make sure the camera is exactly parallel to your work, there is no glare or shine on the paint, and you can't see your shadow.
- Crop the image of your work down to JUST the artwork. This means crop out the mount and frame round your work (unless its intrinsic to the piece e.g., the painting flows onto the frame), the wall/surface your work is displayed on, your sofa etc. The image you submit should be the kind of image you could make a reproduction print from.
- Images of artwork must be at least 1000px wide (with a resolution of at least 72Ddpi). The maximum jpeg file size is 4MB. Files with a copyright stamp or watermark on it will not be accepted.
- If your submission does not meet the above standards (e.g., the image is dark or blurred, it is not cropped correctly or the file is too small), it will not be considered for the competition.

How/why do I take a proof photo for the 19 plus “en plein air” category?

As part of the Park Art Competition 19 plus “en plein air” category, it's crucial that all submitted artwork is genuinely created in one of our loved royal parks. To ensure this, artists are required to document the artwork while its being worked on in the park. Towards the end of your “en plein air” session/ sessions step back from your work and take a photograph of the artwork and the scene that you are drawing / painting, using your phone. We understand that some finishing off of the artwork may need to be done post this photograph being taken, but this should be minimal.

Why are you asking about the location that inspired my artwork?

We want to inspire others to see the beauty in our local royal parks for themselves and we will be creating a map of the locations of where the artworks are based. You can describe this in words using one of the park maps displayed on the notice boards. Or use 'what3words" which is OPTIONAL; Stand in the place where your artwork was created and use 'what3words" app on your smartphone. This app will give you a unique three-word address for your exact location. Include this three-word address when you submit your artwork.

Terms & Conditions:

Health and Safety Compliance:

Artists are responsible for their own health and safety while creating their artwork in our local royal parks. They must adhere to all public guidelines and park regulations during their visits. The Landmark Arts Centre, Friends of Bushy and Home Parks, Historic Royal Palaces and The Royal Parks will not be liable for any injuries or accidents that occur during the creation of artworks. Please ensure that no wildlife is disturbed and nothing other than your photographs is removed from the parks.

Reproduction Rights for Promotion:

By entering the competition, artists agree that images of their submitted artwork may be reproduced by the Landmark Arts Centre and the Friends of Bushy and Home Parks for marketing, promotion, and fundraising purposes. This includes but is not limited to, digital platforms, printed materials, and media coverage.

Use of Funds:

The entrance fee of £10 and any additional funds raised through the competition will be directly reinvested into the charities that manage the event, supporting the ongoing work of the Landmark Arts Centre and the conservation efforts supported by Friends of Bushy and Home Parks

Participant Acknowledgment:

By submitting an entry, participants acknowledge and agree to all competition rules, including the responsibility for their own safety, the authentication requirements of their artwork, and the permission granted to the organisers for reproduction of artwork images for promotional purposes.

Title Awarded to Winners: A Royal Park-scape Artist of the Year

Winners of the competition will earn the prestigious titles of "A Royal Park-scape Artist of the Year" or "A Young Royal Park-scape Artist of the Year," depending on the category.

For 11 months post-award, winners are entitled to use their respective titles as awarded. Following this period, if the winners wish to continue leveraging their accolade, they must either add the specific year of their win to the title (e.g., "Royal Park-scape Artist of the Year, 2024") or precede the title with "Past" (e.g., "Past Royal Park-scape Artist of the Year").

Restrictions:

- **Originality:** All submitted work must be original and created by the artist submitting the entry. Any forms of plagiarism will result in immediate disqualification.
- **Source:** Artwork must be created from life – inspired by a viewpoint the artist has experienced in one of the royal parks (Bushy or Home parks) within the last 12 months. Photographic or digital references may be used only if they were taken by the artist themselves during the specified period. No wildlife (plant or animal) should be harmed or disturbed!!
- **Dimensions:** The work must be two-dimensional (2D).
- **Size:** The maximum size allowed for submitted work is A2 including the frame.
- **Medium:** Any 2D medium is accepted (except photography) including oil, watercolour, acrylic, pencil, ink, pastel, mixed media, etc. provided it adheres to the size and originality criteria.
- **Submission Format:** Digital images of the artwork must be submitted online. Images should be high-resolution (at least 300 dpi) and in JPEG or formats. See FAQs for further instructions.
- **Number of Submissions:** Each artist is allowed to submit one piece of work for each category.
- **Framing:** All artwork must be ready for hanging (mounted or framed). Clip frames are not permitted. You will be given further instructions when shortlisted and be ready for dropping off between 2nd – 5th September if selected.
- **Delivery:** if your artwork is shortlisted then you will need to deliver your artwork to the Landmark Art Centre between 2nd – 5th September 2024. You will be given further instructions when shortlisted.
- **Return of works:** please note shortlisted artists will need to be able to collect unsold artwork(s) between 16th – 17th September. You will be given further instructions when shortlisted.
- **Sale of works:** please note shortlisted artists will be asked if they want to sell their artworks during the exhibition. You will be given further instructions when shortlisted.
- Any submitted works may be featured on the competition's website and in merchandise and promotional materials, with credit to the artists. 100% of income from merchandise sales going to the charities leading the competition.
- The competition reserves the right to disqualify any entry that does not comply with the above requirements.

Note: These processes ensure that all artworks submitted for the Park Art Competition are rooted in the authentic beauty of the parks. It's not just about creating beautiful art; it's about connecting with and celebrating the unique essence of our royal parks. We look forward to seeing the diverse interpretations and the unique stories your artwork tells about these cherished spaces.

For Additional Queries Please Contact:

Friends of Bushy and Home Park – www.fbhp.org.uk

White Lodge, The Stockyard, Hampton Court Road, Hampton, TW12 2EJ

Registered charity, No.1137203

Contact: Rebecca Harvey; walksandtalks@fbhp.org.uk

Landmark Arts Centre - www.landmarkartscentre.org

Ferry Road, Teddington, TW11 9NN 020 8977 7558

Registered Charity No. 1047080

Contact: Abigail Thomas; Visual Arts Curator: abigail@landmarkartscentre.org

Thanks to our supporting partners for the prizes:

