**40th Annual Open Exhibition 2025 - Terms & Conditions for Entry**

**EXHIBITION DATES:** 7th November 2025 – 7th January 2026

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Saturday 4th October, 4pm

**OPEN EVENING:** Friday 7th November 7-9pm. All are welcome

**EXHIBITION SCHEDULE:**

**1st Selection Notifications:** Friday 24th October

**Handing in Days:** Friday 31st October (10 am to 4pm) & Saturday 1st November (10 am to 1pm)

**2nd Selection & Award Notifications:** Thursday 6th November

**Collection Days:** Friday 9th January & Saturday 10th January 2026 (10 am to 3pm)

**Gallery Opening Times:** Tuesday to Saturday10 am to 4pm

**Please note these dates in your diary. All works must be handed in and collected on the dates/times as stated. For alternative arrangements please contact the gallery**

**PRIZES & AWARDS**

All award winners will receive a certificate and token award with a cash prize for Best in Show.

**CASH PRIZE £250 for** **Best in Show Award** - nominated by a panel of three Judges

**Highly Commended Awards** - nominated by each individual Judge

**Business Award** - nominated by a Business Judge

**NEW CASH AWARD – Young Artist Award (under 18’s)** - nominated by the Arts Committee

**ENTRY CONDITIONS: ACCEPTABLE WORKS**

1. Entry is open to both amateur & professional artists of all ages

2. **Maximum size** permitted for entry is up to **1m square**

3. A **maximum of 3 works** can be submitted for a **non-refundable fee of £10 per work. £5 for under 18’s.**

4. All works **must be original** and have been made by the entrant. Submitted work must not contravene any copyright laws.

5. ALL artworks **must not have been exhibited** at the Arts Centre BEFORE and **must be FOR SALE**

6. Acceptable works include original paintings, prints, textiles, jewelry, ceramics, photography, sculpture etc. No reproductions or Giclee prints (except for photography) should be submitted.

7. All works are subject to two selection phases, the first a pre-selection phase before handing in, the second after work has been handed in. Artists will be notified to collect any unselected works after handing in to arrange collection.

**PRESENTATION OF WORK**

1. **Mirror plates must be attached** halfway down **on both sides of work** before handing in work. These must be attached flush with the back of the work to ensure secure fixing to the wall.

2. Alternative hanging, or presentation of work **must be approved** with the gallery prior to submitting an entry and noted with your application

3. Frames **must be clean, sturdy, safe and secure**. No clip frames, string, wire, hooks, sharp edges, or loose parts are permitted.

4. Two labels with your **name, title and price** of the work should be attached to the work. **One label must be stuck on the back** of the work, the **2nd a luggage-type label, must be tied to a string** attached to the back **and long enough to hang over the front of the work**. The information on the labels must match the details on your entry form.

**COMMISSION ON SALES:** **30%.** Exhibitors must take this into account when pricing their work. Any sales that occur within one month of closure of the exhibition, arising by virtue of the exhibition, the gallery reserves the right to its commission. Sales will be at the gallery and from an online gallery.

**PAYMENT OF SALES:** Payment of sales is made **within 30 days** after the exhibition has finished, provided the purchaser has paid in full by this point. Any unpaid or uncollected works by a buyer will be returned to the artist after this period unless alternative arrangements have been made with the buyer. In this case, the artist will be informed by the gallery.

**INSURANCE**

**Artworks are insured up to 10th January 2026**

There is a maximum insurance value of up to £2000.00. Anyone wishing to exhibit items above this value do so at their own risk.

No responsibility will be taken by the gallery for damage to unselected or unsold works that have not been collected on the dates specified.

**All entrants are advised to have their own insurance for their artworks.**

**DELIVERY & COLLECTION OF WORK**

1. All selected works must be delivered on the specified Handing in Days. Please notify the gallery if there are any special arrangements for delivery or collection of work. Only accepted works may be delivered, no substitutes allowed

2. All work is to be unwrapped and ready to hang, complete with mirror plates. All packaging must be taken away.

3. All unselected or unsold works must be collected on the collection days or as advised by the gallery. Any uncollected work will only be stored for a **maximum of 3 months**. After this the gallery reserves the right to dispose of the artwork in whatever manner the gallery sees fit.

4. Any exceptions to these conditions **must be approved** by the Gallery **before submitting your entry**.

**HOW TO APPLY**

1. Complete the entry form answering all questions correctly and accurately. Please note **no information or prices can be changed** **after the entry has been submitted**. Also, incorrect or incomplete information could invalidate your entry.

2. Entrants must provide **high quality JPEG images** of each artwork being entered. Each image file provided **must be named with your name, the title & artwork size in cm** as stated on the entry forme.g. **<SURNAME\_FIRSTNAME>\_<Title>\_<Size>.jpg** e.g. **“SMITH\_ANN\_Artwork1\_50x50.jpg”.** Please note surname and first name must be in the order shown and in capitals. Maximum size 3MB. Applications cannot be accepted without suitable images of the entered artwork. Please ensure photos are of a decent quality so that details of the work are clear, as these are used for the first selection round.

3. Payment for each entry of £10 per artwork (£30 for 3 entries) or for under 18’s £5.00 per artwork (£15 for 3 entries) can be made either with the online application entry form, or via bank transfer or by card or a cash payment in person at the Centre Cafe if using the downloaded entry form. All **entry fees must be paid prior to the application deadline**. Bank Transfer payments must include your name as reference for the payment with the words **<OPEN <NAME>** e.g. **“OPEN Ann Smith>”**

When applying please read all information and questions carefully and ensure all information requested is completed correctly and accurately before submitting the form as changes cannot be made after the form has been submitted for entry. Please note that incorrect or incomplete information or poor-quality images of the work could invalidate your entry.

**Online Entry Form can be found here:**[**https://castleparkarts.oess1.uk/**](https://castleparkarts.oess1.uk/)

Please note that this method will require you to register with OESS to enable you to monitor the status of your entry to the OPEN. This method will also request payment online by card as part of completing the entry form.

Registering with OESS via the online entry form enables you to edit and monitor the status of your entry to the OPEN up until selection has taken place.  After selection has taken place, you will be notified to log into the system to see if your work has been accepted. Payment online by card is required as part of completing the entry form so please have card details to hand.

For those who require additional assistance with completing your online entry, we are offering the following drop in sessions:

Saturday 6th Sept 10am – 12pm

Thursday 18th Sept 10am – 12pm

Saturday 27th Sept 10am – 12pm

We will have volunteers who will assist you with registering and completing the online entry form.  You will be required to bring or have available digital photographs of your pieces being entered and also card details to complete payment for entry.

If for whatever reason you are not able to complete the registration or attend any of the drop in sessions, paper copies of the entry form will be available from the office to be returned via email or in person.  Digital copies of your photographs are still required to be emailed to arts@castleparkarts.co.uk. Please note if you do apply this way, your work will not be featured in our new online gallery.

If you still require further assistance, please contact arts@castleparkarts.co.uk.