

WAVERLEY ART PRIZE 2026 TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. ELIGIBILITY

The Waverley Art Prize is open to all Australian residents aged 18 years and over. Waverley Council Councillors, employees and their immediate families are not eligible to enter. All applicants are eligible for the Open Prize and the relevant sub-categories. Entries must be an original work by the artist and completed after 1 July 2025. The theme is open. Entries close at 5pm on 10 May 2026.

2. MEDIA

Entries in the Waverley Art Prize must be painting, drawing or mixed media. There is no category for sculpture in the Waverley Art Prize – sculptures will not be accepted for consideration. Photography can be considered under mix media.

3. ARTWORK SPECIFICATIONS

The exhibition for the Waverley Art Prize 2026 will take place in Bondi Pavilion Art Gallery. Works should be mounted, framed and ready for hanging, with a suitable cord or wire attached between two D-rings on the back of the artwork. Stretched canvas will be accepted unframed, but all other artwork must be framed. Wet paintings will not be accepted.

4. SIZE

Works (including diptychs and triptychs) must not be more than 122cm wide and 160cm high, inclusive of the frame. Works will be selected based on the quality of the image provided. Sizes of works must be outlined in the application and file extension.

5. ACQUISITIVE PRIZES

The Waverley Art Prize and the Mayor's Prize are acquisitive prizes. The winning artworks become the property of Waverley Council and will become part of the Waverley Council Art Collection. The artists retain copyright of the artwork. Artworks with a value greater than \$2,500 will not be considered for the Mayor's Prize.

6. PRIZES

- Waverley Art Prize: \$15,000 acquisitive
- The Mayor's Prize: \$2,500 acquisitive
- People's Choice Prize: \$500 non-acquisitive
- The Local Prize: \$1,500 sponsored by Waverley Woollahra Art School, non-acquisitive

7. HOW TO ENTER

Entries open on 16 February 2026 and close at midnight on 10 May 2026. To enter the Waverley Art Prize, entrants must complete the online form and upload one digital image of each artwork along with payment of entry fee per artwork. Each image must be submitted in JPEG format and be no more than 2MB in file size per image (recommended image size: 1920 pixels or greater on the longest side).

Each image entry must follow the naming convention:

Surname – First name – Title – Media - Dimensions in cm

A fee of \$45 per entry (including GST) must be paid at the time of submission of the online entry form by following the link to payment located on the digital entry form. A maximum of 5 artwork entries per artist is allowed. Artists must ensure that pricing, title and materials are entered correctly at the time of entry. If any errors are found in the listing, they must be communicated to Waverley Woollahra Art School by email at info@wwas.org.au.

8. PROCESS OF SELECTION FOR EXHIBITION

The 2026 Waverley Art Prize Judges will select the finalists. All finalists will be included in the physical and digital exhibitions and prize judging. The Judges' decision is final, and no correspondence or dispute will be entered into by WWAS, Waverley Council or the Judge/s. Works that have been selected for the Waverley Art Prize exhibition will be announced online at www.wwas.org.au and on social media channels. Finalists will be notified by email. A maximum of 40 works will be selected as finalists.

9. REQUIREMENTS OF FINALISTS' ENTRIES FOR EXHIBITION

Artists whose works have been selected for the Waverley Art Prize 2026 exhibition must provide an artist statement (150 words maximum) about their artwork by email once notified they are a finalist. Artist statements received after 5 June 2026 may not be included in the online catalogue or physical exhibition.

10. WAVERLEY ART PRIZE EXHIBITION

The Waverley Art Prize Exhibition will be held in Bondi Pavilion Art Gallery in 2026. Final confirmation of the exhibition arrangements will be emailed to finalists on notification of their selection for the 2026 Prize. Finalists will be notified by email in the week of 1 June 2026. Finalists must arrange transportation of their work at their own cost to Bondi Pavilion Art Gallery for arrival between the dates of 23-25 June 2026, between the hours of 10:30am and 4:00pm. The finalists' works will also be featured in an online catalogue where the voting for the People's Choice Prize and artworks sales will be registered. The web catalogue is managed by Waverley Woollahra Art School and any correspondence regarding the online catalogue should be directed to info@wwas.org.au. Waverley Council and Waverley Woollahra Art School do not cover costs related to the transportation of artworks to, or from, the venue, nor do they provide additional packing materials. Please note that while all care is taken neither organisation accepts responsibility for any damage caused to works in transit, or during the physical exhibition.

11. ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNERS

Winners of the Waverley Art Prize will be announced at a launch event in the Bondi Pavilion Art Gallery on 3 July 2026 from 6-8pm. All entrants will be invited to attend this event. The winner of the People's Choice Prize will be announced online in the week of 24 August 2026, after the exhibition closes.

12. REPRODUCTION OF IMAGES

Waverley Council reserves the right to use the digital images of artworks entered in the prize, and photographs of artworks in the Waverley Art Prize Exhibition, for the purposes of publicity, documentation and catalogues in paper, digital and electronic formats. Waverley Council will make appropriate acknowledgements where possible.

13. PRIVACY

Personal information collected will only be used for the purposes of the Waverley Art Prize and will be held by the administration staff of Waverley Woollahra Art School.

14. OWNERSHIP

Entries must not be the property of a third party. If an artwork is being entered by a commercial gallery or agent, the artist must give their permission.

15. SALE OF ARTWORKS AND COMMISSION

At the artist's discretion, entries selected for exhibition can be offered for sale during the exhibition. Price provided on submission of entry is final and no changes will be made. If an entry is not for sale, please state NFS in the 'sale price' section of the online entry form. No sales will be made until the awards have been announced on 3 July 2026. Artists who have sold works will be required to provide a formal invoice inc GST and banking details. Waverley Woollahra Art School will receive a 30% commission on all artworks sold.

16. EXHIBITION PERIOD

Entries selected for exhibition will be displayed online on the Waverley Council website and remain online in the archive of Waverley Art Prize Finalists for the 2026 Waverley Art Prize Exhibition. The dates for the physical exhibition at Bondi Pavilion Art Gallery are 3 July 2026 – 23 August 2026.

17. COLLECTION OF WORKS

Finalists must arrange collection of their work at their own cost from Bondi Pavilion Art Gallery on 24 August 2026, between the hours of 10:00am and 4:00pm.

18. INSURANCE

Artists are responsible for insuring their artworks against theft and damage during transit and throughout the exhibition. Waverley Council and Waverley Woollahra Art School will take all reasonable care of the artworks whilst in their possession but will not be responsible or liable for any loss or damage.

19. DISPUTE

In the event of a dispute regarding the interpretation of these conditions of entry, the decision of Waverley Council will be binding on all parties.