

Submission Guidelines 2024

Three Counties Open Art

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An open-call visual arts exhibition for artists connected to Staffordshire, Cheshire or Shropshire. Held at Burslem School of Art throughout August. Free to enter

**THREE
COUNTIES
OPEN ART**

Accessibility.

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Terms and Conditions.

Please let us know if you have any access needs in submitting your work, need an alternative process or anything else we can do to make the process easier.

These guidelines are available in PDF and Word format. Please let us know if you need an alternative format.

If you require further support with the digital submission, please email open.art@keele.ac.uk

or call +44 1782 734340
on Mondays from 13th May
between 11am-1pm and we
will be happy to support you in

alternative ways of submitting.

Please leave a message and we will respond within 5 working days.

Accessibility.



Photo: Natalie Willatt

Welcome! Thank you for taking the time to submit your work for Three Counties Open Art 2024, we look forward to seeing your entries.

We are pleased to share once again the show will be held in-person in the beautiful Burslem School of Art building in Stoke-on-Trent.

Entry to the exhibition will continue to be free. We want to remove barriers for artists, and ensure that our exhibition works towards fostering an inclusive art world of people from all backgrounds, regardless of age, disability, gender, race, religion, sexual orientation or socio-economic background.

**We have an updated email address:
open.art@keele.ac.uk**

This year, we have broadened our categories to including Contemporary Art Practice - Live Performance and Installation, alongside 2D and 3D work.

The exhibition is 'open', which means that there is no set theme; you can submit the work you hope to be seen, experienced and enjoyed by visitors to the exhibition.

We are only accepting digital submissions (photograph of the work) this time, with physical works being delivered if selected for the show. If you need an alternative submission process - in person, over the phone or another way, please just let us know and we can accommodate. This will not impact on how your work is judged.

Good luck with your submissions. Three Counties Open is proudly in partnership with ArtsKeele, Burslem School of Art Trust, Barewall Gallery, City Learning Trust Ltd, Appetite and ACAA Spode Works.

Online Submission Open_____09:00am Friday 3rd May 2024

Online Submission Close_____23:59pm Wednesday 12th June 2024

Notification of Decision_____3 - 5th July 2024

Delivery of Artwork to BSOA_____20th July 2024

Exhibition Launch Event_____27th July TBC

Workshops_____Throughout August

Exhibition Closes_____24th August

Artwork Collection_____Last week of August

Key Dates.



Photo: Natalie Willatt

You must be aged 16 and over to enter.

You must be connected to one of the 3 counties (Staffordshire, Cheshire or Shropshire). We will accept entries from people who have moved away from the area but were born and/or subsequently lived, studied, trained or have another connection to one of the three counties as detailed above.

We will accept applications from collectives, and will count this as **1** application, therefore the collective must choose one artwork that the collective most want to show.

Your work must be your own, original art work. We will accept printed editions, you must state if your work is an edition in the submission form.

Please only submit work created within the last 2 years.

Please do not submit work previously shown or submitted at the Three Counties Open Art show.

We want to celebrate art in all its forms, and at all levels. You do not need a qualification, formal training or to have graduated recently from a course. All we ask for is passion and dedication to art. From amateur artist to career artists, we want to see it all.

Submission opens at 09:00am 3rd May and closes 23:59pm on 12th June 2024.

Number of entries

We are limiting entries to 1 artwork per person or collective, a single piece of work can be made up of more than one part for example a diptych, triptych or series of multiple elements.

If you are applying as a Collective, in the submission form please write the name of the collective in the *First Name* box, and write *Collective* in the surname box.

Categories

This year we have broadened the categories to encompass a wider range of contemporary art mediums.

- 2D Work (i.e. drawing, painting, printmaking, textiles, photography etc)
- 3D work (i.e. sculpture)
- Contemporary Art Practice - Live/ Performance Art*
- Installation

* For Contemporary Art Practice Please let us know how you imagine your work to be presented during the Open Art Show, whether this be a live sharing on a given

date, and if there will be any lasting work on-site during the show (question).

Scale of work

For 3D Work Please let us know the weight (in kg - max 25kg and height-width-depth dimensions of the work below (question 10). If your work is larger than 1.5m x 1.5m it will be considered an Installation. Please note, that due to space restrictions only a small number of installations will be accepted.

2D Works should not be larger than 2 metres along the longest dimension.

Photography of work

A digital camera or smart-phone will take sufficient photos of your artwork. Please note, you will not be judged on quality of the photograph. A clear, light, uncluttered image will help us in the judging process. See our separate guide for more info. You must include the frame that your work will be displayed in, if your piece is framed.

Sending your digital submission

You will enter your artwork by completing a two-part process:

1. Completing the digital entry form <https://forms.office.com/e/2UZEB4NpL72>

Sending an image of your submission to: open.art@keele.ac.uk

Image files must be clearly labelled with the artist name and title of entry in the following format:
YourFirstname-Surname_title-of-artwork
All image files must a maximum of 5MB.

Physical Work

If your work is selected for the Three Counties Open, it must be delivered ready to be exhibited. If it is framed/ canvas work we require you to add mirror plates. If your work is unframed please let us know how it should be fixed in the space.

Judging

This year, our selection panel is made up of city-wide partners - more info to be announced soon.

Submission Guidelines.

ACAVA Studios Artist**Development Award x3**

Open Studio residencies at ACAVA Spode Works, plus a public engagement outcome for one week at the end of the residency. More details announced soon. Judged by: Dan Southward and ACAVA.

Appetite's Audience Choice Award

(£250) Judged by: Appetite's Supper Club and by public vote.

Appetite is part of the Creative People and Places programme, initiated and funded by Arts Council England.

Arthur Berry Award

(£500) Judged by: Ray Johnson MBE With thanks to the New Vic Theatre Archive Fund Committee.

The Art Studio Award

(£75 voucher) Judged by: Three Counties Open Art Judges (collectively selected).

The Art Studio is a family-run picture framers, Art Gallery and suppliers of art and craft materials.

Barewall Gallery Best**Newcomer Award**

(£100) Judged by: Barewall Gallery Barewall Gallery is an art gallery and shop based in Burslem, Stoke on Trent.

The Burslem School of Art Award

(£100) Judged by: Burslem School of Art Trust - a self-financing, not-for-profit arts and community development organization.

City Learning Trust Young**Artist's Award**

For young people ages 16-21 (£50) Judged by: Three Counties Open Art Judges (collectively selected).

The Sustainability Award

(£75) from North Staffs Friends of the Earth.

Judged by: Three Counties Open Art Judges (collectively selected).

Three Counties Open Art Award

(£400) Judged by: Three Counties Open Art Judges (collectively selected).

Urban Wilderness Documentary Photography Award & Residency

New for 2024, The Urban Wilderness Awards is specific to documentary photography, and offers: Expert training in documentary photography from Jenny Harper; Mentor support from Laurel Gallagher to develop your portfolio; Mentor support from



Photo: Natalie Willatt

Isla Telford to develop grant applications and respond to open commission; Access to photograph the Urban Wilderness program of community events and a curated exhibition of your work online and in the Moony Club.

Prize winners will be announced at a special awards evening in the middle of August, date tbc.'

How many entries can I submit?

One entry per person or per collective. A diptych/triptych/series of works counts as one work. You can only submit once. Duplicate or multiple submission will not be accepted.

Why are you not accepting physical submissions?

After successful submissions of digital entries of the past 3 years, we found this to be a more efficient way of sorting entries.

If you're unable to enter digitally or would like extra support, we'd be more than happy to help you.

Please call: **+01782 734730**

on Mondays between 1st May - 5th June, 11am-1pm only

or send us a email at:
open.art@keele.ac.uk

What if my work doesn't fit into a category?

We have broadened the categories this year so that we are able to cover a wide range of art forms, if you're unsure, select the one that most resonates with your work. We are not currently accepting

Moving Image/Film.

What if I miss the entry deadline?

No late entries will be accepted. Please prepare your work in enough time. Submissions close on midnight (23:59pm) on 12th June.

What happens if my work is selected?

We will be in contact with you to let you know the next steps and delivery/ collection dates for the exhibition.

Can I change my entry once I've submitted?

No - we will not accept changes to an entry after submission, so please think carefully about what you're submitting.

Why wasn't my work selected?

We receive a high number of entries and have a limited space to display the work, and so are not able to show the work of everyone who enters. We are not able to give individual feedback due to the number of entries we receive.



Photo: Natalie Willatt

Please read this guide carefully. If we haven't answered your question here or in the guide, please contact us at open.art@keele.ac.uk, but please note we will take 5-7 working days to respond to any queries.

By entering the Three Counties Open 2024 you are deemed to have read and accepted all aspects of the rules described on this page.

1. Artists must be aged 16+
2. The Three Counties Open is open to all artists connected to Cheshire, Shropshire and Staffordshire.
3. All work submitted must be solely produced by the artist(s) applying for the show.
4. You agree to your work being used in marketing and online digital platforms.
5. Work must have been completed in the last 2 years.
6. 2D Works should not be larger than 2 metres along the longest dimension.
7. More than two images of the artwork should be supplied where it is necessary to show 3-D work properly.
8. 3D Work weight max 25kg. If your 3D work is larger than 1.5m x 1.5m it will be considered an Installation.
9. Installations is 3D work larger than 1.5m x 1.5m, it will be considered as an installation.
10. Entrants must ensure that they have the commercial rights if they are currently represented by a publisher so that there is no conflict of interests.
11. The Three Counties Open respects your rights and does not claim copyright for works you submit to the contest. You will retain full copyright in each entry.
12. Any works sold at the exhibitions will incur a 30% commission, sold via Barewall Gallery. It is the artist's choice if they wish their work to be on sale.
13. The Three Counties Open will not be responsible for any travel or personal expenses to the Three Counties Open exhibition.
14. The winners agree to permit external communication of the artwork, not limited to, but including: publicity; press; website; social media; and any printed or digital material.
15. The judges' decision is final.
16. Artwork submitted for exhibition must be available until the end of the show.
17. Selected work must be delivered ready to exhibit and in good condition. Work may be turned away otherwise.
18. Applicants are responsible for correctly pricing/sizing/describing their artwork. Changes will not be accepted.
19. The artist will be responsible for the delivery and collection of artworks for the exhibition, and also for insurance whilst in transit and for the duration that the artwork is with the Three Counties Open for exhibitions.
20. Although strict handling measures are adhered to in receiving and handling work, for the avoidance of doubt, The Three Counties Open Art can accept no liability whatsoever for any damage or loss to the Art Work whilst in transit or during the show (whilst in the care or being stored by the organisers). Artists who wish to do so should explore insuring their work.
21. You, or a nominated person must deliver your work on the date given. You cannot deliver an alternative piece of work than the one submitted.
22. The placement of your work is decided by a team of experts - our decision placement is final.
22. You must be able to collect your work yourself or a nominated person on the collection date given. We are not able to store work.

+ THREE COUNTIES OPEN ART