

## ELIGIBILITY

1. Entry is open to artists living in Victoria, Australia.
2. Entry is open to artists of all ages and skill levels.
3. Entrants do not have to live in the City of Kingston to be eligible to enter and their entries do not need to depict Kingston.
4. Employees of the City of Kingston are eligible to enter OptiKA 2024 but are ineligible to receive a prize.
5. Artists may submit **a maximum of 2 entries per artist**. Only 1 entry per artist will be selected for exhibition.
6. Eligible mediums for entry:
  - Photography: digital or analogue
7. All works submitted for the Award must be created in 2024.
8. When completing the online entry form you must fill in all required fields and ensure you include:
  - An artist Statement (max 100 words)
  - A full image of the artwork being submitted for entry
  - A title in order of Artist Name, Title of Image, Year. For example:  
*Max Dupain, Sunbaker, 1937.*

## ENTRY GUIDELINES

### IMAGE ENTRY:

The image must be a high resolution (minimum 300 dpi) JPEG or PNG digital image. It must be between 3.5MB and 25MB file size. PowerPoint and PDF files are NOT accepted. (Please note: Kingston Arts will print the selected image entries at A3 size (297 mm x 420mm) with a 15mm bleed for the OptiKA exhibition).

1. Entries can be submitted in person or via an online entry form.
  - a. In person: Drop off location will be at the Kingston Arts Centre, 979-985 Nepean Highway, Moorabbin Victoria 3189. The drop off day will be:
    - i. Wednesday 11 September to Friday 13 September between 11AM to 4PM
    - ii. Friday 13 September from 4PM to 8PM
  - b. Online: Via the online application page at [kingstonarts.com.au/optika-2024](http://kingstonarts.com.au/optika-2024)
2. The artwork details entered on the OptiKA 2024 online Entry Form are final and no changes can be made.

If you require support during the entry process, please contact Kingston Arts via email at:

[visualarts@kingston.vic.gov.au](mailto:visualarts@kingston.vic.gov.au).

## ENTRIES

1. Must respond to the 2024 theme:

*Inspiration: What ignites your passion? Show what drives your creativity and imagination.*

2. Photographs may be produced by analogue or digital cameras.
3. All works must be the original work and concept of the artist.
4. Images containing explicit or offensive content will not be accepted.
5. All submitted entries must be attributed with full copyright to the artist and must not infringe on the rights of another person or business.
6. Must be created within the following period: 2024.
7. It is the entrant's responsibility to obtain written permission from any identifiable people depicted in submitted photographs and imagery. Kingston City Council does not take responsibility for managing 'consent to be photographed' in OptiKA. It is the entrant's responsibility to keep records of this documentation and consent.
8. Cannot contain watermarks.
9. Will not be accepted by artists not living in Victoria, Australia.
10. The use of Artificial Intelligence in any form is strictly prohibited in the creation of your piece.
11. All entry forms must be received by **11:59pm Sunday 15 September 2024**. Late entries will not be accepted. Please consider the time it will take to complete the entry form and save your entry in the required format when submitting your entry.

## ENTRANTS

1. Artists of all ages must use the online entry form. If an applicant requires assistance filling out the form, a parent or guardian can complete the form on their behalf. Please ensure this is done collaboratively so that the information entered is correct.
2. Entrants under 18 must submit a Parent Photographic Form giving parental consent to enter the competition. This form is for available for download on our website. Please submit this form when you complete your application.
3. If an entry has multiple contributing artists, a 'Lead Artist' must be identified at the time of submission.

## JUDGING & SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Your entry will be judged on the following selection criteria:
  - Response to the theme
  - Creativity
  - Originality
  - Technique
2. Entries will undergo a review process, after which the top 75 will be showcased in an online gallery curated by our staff panel. From there, the panel will select 30 entries exhibition at the Kingston Arts Centre.

3. Artworks will be assessed by a Curatorial Committee, which is made up 3 industry professionals, separate from the staff panel. This committee will determine which pieces are selected for prizes. The 2024 judges are listed on our website.
4. All entrants will be notified of the outcome of their entry via email Monday 07 October.
5. The decision of the Curatorial Committee is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.
6. The Curatorial Committee reserves the right to exercise its discretion in excluding any material deemed offensive or contrary to the nature of OptiKA, which is a family friendly event.
7. The Curatorial Committee reserves the right to exercise its discretion in excluding any entries that do not address the theme or adhere to the terms and conditions of entry.

## **PRIZES**

1. The OptiKA 2024 Award categories have been updated and are as follows:
  - Open award \$5,000.00
  - Open Youth award (U16 yrs) \$500.00
  - Local award \$2,000.00
  - Local Youth award (U16 yrs) \$500.00
  - People's choice award \$1,000.00
2. The Curatorial Committee assess entries and determines the winner of the Open Entry Award and the Local Entry Award. Winners will be notified Monday 07 October and will be awarded a certificate at the exhibition launch on Wednesday 09 October.
3. The People's Choice Award is voted for by members of the public. Votes will be collected online via QR codes. The votes will be tallied, and the winner will be notified by Saturday 09 November.
4. Entry is open to artists of all ages and skill levels living in Victoria. Entrants do not have to live in the Kingston council area to be eligible to enter and their entries do not need to depict Kingston.
5. The Local Award will be awarded only to an entrant who resides and/or works in Kingston. Proof of address/employment will be requested.
6. Residents of Kingston are eligible to win the Open Award and the Local Award
7. The 'Lead Artist' is responsible for the physical collection of any prizes awarded.
8. The 'Lead Artist' is responsible for the distribution of any prizes among the contributing artists.

## **EXHIBITION 2024**

1. Entries will be featured in an exhibition event between October and November 2024.
2. Approximately 30 pieces will be displayed at the Kingston Arts Centre, subject to the curator's discretion. Additionally, all pieces will be featured in an online digital gallery on the Kingston Arts website.
3. Kingston Arts will organise the printing of the selected image entries at A3 size.
4. Selected submissions will be displayed in *Original Oiled A3 frames* Supplied by Mulbury

5. Details of the exhibition will be communicated to finalists once they are confirmed.
6. The OptiKA 2024 Awards Ceremony has limited capacity, due to this if you are unable to attend the ceremony, please return any tickets acquired.

## **RIGHTS**

By entering OptiKA, the artist gives permission for the City of Kingston to use their entry (with full photographic credits), artist statement and artist biography for print or online publicity and record keeping without charge. The copyright of all images entered remains with the artist.

## **PRIVACY STATEMENT**

Personal information provided about yourself for the purpose of taking part in this competition or offer will be held securely and used solely by Council for this purpose and/or directly related purposes. Council may disclose this information to other organisations if required or permitted by legislation. Council may publish winners of the competition in Kingston Your City newspaper, on our website and social media accounts. A full copy of our Privacy Policy may be obtained from the Kingston website: [www.kingston.vic.gov.au](http://www.kingston.vic.gov.au) or from one of our Customer Service Centres and Libraries.