



William Littlejohn Award 2026

Guidelines for Applicants

ABOUT THE AWARD

The RSA William Littlejohn Award (£2000) for Excellence and Innovation in Water-based media. The award is funded by The William Littlejohn Bequest and administered by the Royal Scottish Academy and consists of:

- Monetary award to research, develop and produce a new body of work in a water-based medium.
- Acquisition of work into the prestigious RSA Permanent Collections.

ELIGIBILITY

- Entrants must be working in water-based media (any pigment mixed with water).
- Entrant must be born or have been resident in Scotland for at least 3 years.
- In the case of students applying, entrants must either be graduating in 2026 or currently studying at postgraduate level at one of the following art schools in Scotland (Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and UHI).

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

- Entry conditions and requirements must be strictly adhered to or applications may be rejected.
- The decision of the adjudicators is final and no correspondence can be entered into
- The award should not be used as a capital grant.
- The award winner will be announced by end of August 2026.
- The award should be completed by May 2027.
- The winner will exhibit a selection of resulting work in the Royal Scottish Academy the following year in consultation with the Academy. Further arrangements will be determined in consultation with the winner.
- The Royal Scottish Academy reserves the right to accession one representative work from the artist into the RSA Permanent Collection.
- The copyright of all works remain with the artist but it is a condition of entry that the Royal Scottish Academy reserves the right of reproduction of all submitted and resultant works for publicity/educational/reference purposes in connection with the award.
- Personal information supplied by applicants on registration/application forms will be held securely by the Royal Scottish Academy in accordance with The EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).
- Please note we do not have the expertise or specific knowledge to offer tax advice for individuals in receipt of awards and funding. We advise you visit HMRC's website for information about receiving funding, awards, bursaries and grants, or consult with a qualified expert. You may also want to look at the information provided by Art Quest on the subject [here](#).

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

This application will require the following:

- Contact information
- Artist Statement (max. 100 words, about your artistic practice)
- Up to 5 key artistic achievements (max. 150 words, noting projects/exhibitions/awards or other achievements)
- Summary of post-secondary education (date commenced, date completed, course details & qualifications; institution)
- 25 word summary of proposed project
- Desired travel destination (if applicable)
- Proposed project start and end date
- Proposal (max. 300 words, about your proposed project)
- Supporting visual material (max. 6 JPEGs)

CRITERIA

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Coherency of proposed project and the potential to further develop and enhance practice.
- Quality of visual material - please note that a crucial part of the selection process is based on the review of applicants visual material and as such we strongly encourage applicants to submit the highest quality visual material.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

The deadline for applying to this award is Sunday 21 June 2026, 5pm.

CONTACT

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