

About

The **RSA Schools Art Awards** have been running since 1986 and are considered by teachers to be one of the most prestigious art awards for secondary school age pupils in Scotland. There is no particular theme with the emphasis on skills of technique, observation and interpretation. In particular, the judges are looking for work which displays creativity and originality. The 2025 Schools Art Awards are once again generously supported by **Brodies LLP**.

- Entries are submitted digitally and application is free of charge.
- The deadline for completing applications is **Friday 27 March 2026, 5pm**.
- An Award Ceremony will be hosted in person at Brodies LLP offices in Edinburgh in June (exact date TBC).
- A virtual exhibition showcasing winning work will be hosted in an online viewing room on the RSA website from late June (exact date TBC).

Awards

A panel of judges will award first, second and third prize in each of the following categories, with prize values ranging from £50 to £150. Additionally, Highly Commended Certificates will also be awarded in each category.

Categories:

- Junior (S1 & S2)
- Intermediate (S3 & S4)
- Senior (S5 & S6)
- Chair's Challenge (S5 & S6 only): 'The Art of the Future'

As we celebrate our bicentenary and 200 years of creativity, change and progress, we invite you to imagine what the next 200 years might hold. From this prompt, you can explore how the world may look in the future, considering ideas such as technology, AI, the environment, society, or how people connect and create together. Think about what excites, challenges or inspires you about the future, whether that is something big and bold or small and personal, realistic or imagined. Use your artwork to share your vision of what lies ahead. Prizes valued between £50 and £150.

New Entrant Awards:

- An award in each above category for the best entry from a school that has not participated within the last five years. Prizes valued between £50-£150.

Brodies Special Educational Schools Award:

- An award to recognise the exceptional creativity from SEN schools. First, second, and third prize awarded in one category: S1-S6. Prizes valued between £50-£150.

Brodies Regional Awards:

- Prizes of between £50 to £150 awarded to the best entry in each category from these regions in Scotland: north, west, and south/east.

Brodies Inspirational Art & Design Department Award:

- £1,000 award to support the most deserving and inspirational project proposed by an Art & Design Department.
- Many Art & Design Departments have huge potential but limited resources. Imagine what might be possible with an additional £1,000 in the budget?

To apply for this award, schools should submit up to 500 words explaining how the £1,000 prize will be used to undertake work that might not otherwise be funded by the local authority or the school. The Judges will be looking for details of how the prize would enhance the curriculum and department; for example, will the prize be used to introduce new art disciplines such as photography or printmaking, fund trips to exhibitions or bring in a local artist to develop pupils' creativity?

Terms and Conditions

- Work submitted must have been carried out by students studying Art and Design in S1-S2, S3-S4 and S5-S6 in the previous calendar year i.e. from April 2025 – March 2026.
- Only secondary schools located in Scotland are eligible to enter.
- The submission process must be completed online by a nominated teacher or staff member on behalf of the school.
- All prizes will be awarded in the form of vouchers to purchase art supplies.
- Students from S1-S4 may only submit **one entry** into the Main Awards.
- Students in S5- S6 may submit an entry for the Senior Category Awards, and the Chair's Challenge (i.e. **two entries are possible**), however these should be separate works.
- Submitted works must have been completed by a single student. We are unable to accept collaborative work.
- Artwork is accepted in any medium.
- Schools may submit **up to 10 entries in each award category**.
- Only one image per artwork may be submitted. Photos should be at least 1MB, Jpeg/Jpg format and be taken face on.
- Each image submitted must be titled in the following format –
Category_ Student Name_School Name –
i.e. Senior_Elizabeth Blackadder_Royal Scottish Academy or
Chair's Challenge_John Houston_Royal Scottish Academy
- By completing the submission process, it is acknowledged that the school/teacher has the permission of the student to submit the artwork. It is also acknowledged that, if awarded a prize, the student consents for the Royal Scottish Academy to use the image of their artwork for the online exhibition and for any future promotional material relating to the Schools Art Award. Image use will be credited with the student's name and school.
- The full submission process must be completed by the deadline of **completed by 5pm Friday 27 March**. Late or incomplete applications cannot be accepted.

How to Apply

To submit work, teachers must complete this online application form -

<https://form.jotform.com/RoyalScottishAcademy/rsa-schools-art-awards-2026>

The online application requires the following:

- School Name and Address
- Main Contact Name and Email Address (teacher or staff member)
- Questions:
 - *For consideration for the Brodies Regional Award, please include which region your school is located within. North West, North East, South.*
 - *Has your school submitted within the past 5 years? Yes/No*
 - *Is your school solely a Special Educational Needs school? Yes/No*
- Image upload:
 - Use the four image upload boxes to upload up to 10 images in each of the following categories - **Junior (S1 & S2); Intermediate (S3 & S4); Senior (S5 & S6); Chair's Challenge (S5 & S6 only)**
 - Images must be jpg/jpeg files and must be titled in the following format – **Category_ Student Name_School Name –**

i.e. *Senior_Elizabeth Blackadder_Royal Scottish Academy*

- Please rename image files to the correct naming convention prior to uploading them.
Image files not submitted with correct titles may not be considered for the correct category.
- Brodies Inspirational Art & Design Department Award (**optional**)
 - See details in Awards section above.
 - Fill out your max. 500-word application.

Application link:

<https://form.jotform.com/RoyalScottishAcademy/rsa-schools-art-awards-2026>

Application Deadline:

Friday 27 March, 5pm. Late or incomplete applications cannot be accepted.

Contact:

opportunities@royalscottishacademy.org/

jennymason@royalscottishacademy.org

Please note that staff are part-time and work on many projects, therefore replies may not be immediate. We strongly advise enquiries are not left too close to the deadline as this gives us limited time to assist.

Supported by:



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