

The Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize 2023

RULES

INTRODUCTION

The Friends of The Ridgeway have established an annual arts competition and prize, the Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize.

AIMS

The aim of the competition is to bring The Ridgeway to life not only as a long distance trail but as an artistic inspiration, and to show The Ridgeway, its history and environs, in all their aspects throughout all seasons. In this context Ridgeway refers to the full length of the ancient tracks running along the chalk down land from Dorset to Norfolk and not just The Ridgeway National Trail.

THEME

The theme of the competition is *'the Spirit of the Ridgeway'* including the Ridgeway history, ecology, and landscape across the environs.

COMPETITION REQUIREMENTS

There will be separate classes for:

- (i) wall art (including painting, drawing, etching, textile pictures and wall hangings, and mosaics),
- (ii) sculpture (including ceramics),
- (iii) photography (including digital art), and
- (iv) writing (poetry or prose).

Entries shall comply with the following guidelines:

- wall art may be carried out in any medium (oil, watercolour, pencil, pastel, textile, mosaic etc.) and any size up to a maximum unframed size of 2.0 metres in any dimension. All wall art, including paintings and drawings, must be submitted framed and ready to hang with secure wire or cord attached at the back. Additionally entries shall be accompanied with a high resolution photograph of the work (say 5 to 10MB file size) or the work submitted for photographing;
- sculptures including ceramics shall be in any material but excluding unduly fragile materials, of any size up to a maximum of 2.0 metres in any dimensions and not more than 100kg in weight. Sculptures shall be accompanied with a high resolution (say 5 to 10MB file size) photograph of the work or the work submitted for photographing;
- photographs and digital art shall be printed to ideally A4 size but between 10"x8" (254mm x 204mm) and 20"x16" (508mm x 408mm) and mounted with a mask but not framed, with a maximum mask size being 20"x16"

(500mm x 400mm) or 50mm border around the image whichever is the largest, plus an electronic .jpg file to a maximum size of 15MB;

- pieces of written prose or poetry shall be a minimum of 200 words and maximum of 5,000 words in English. A single entry may comprise a collection of related shorter pieces which together form a coherent whole. Written prose shall be submitted as a .DOC or .PDF file.

All artworks submitted must be clearly labelled with the artist's name and contact details (telephone and email) on the back or base of the artwork or accompanying email submission.

Art work submitted must be produced in the 24 months prior to closing date.

Copyright of any art work entered into the competition will remain with the originator. By entering competitors agree that any work submitted may be used by The Friends of The Ridgeway at their discretion for marketing and promotion of The Ridgeway but for no other purpose. Whenever submitted work is published by The Friends of The Ridgeway the originator will be credited. Failure to publish a credit due to error or oversight shall not be deemed a breach of this condition.

WHO CAN TAKE PART

Competition is open to all artists, both professional and amateur, of any age.

HOW TO ENTER

To enter applicants should contact the Friends of the Ridgeway for an Entry Form by emailing swireartsprize@gmail.com

Entrants may submit more than one work and may submit works in more than one category. Each work entered must be accompanied by a separate Entry Form.

Entrants must complete the Entry Form and submit it with their artwork.

SUBMISSION AND COLLECTION

Art works are to be submitted to the location and at the time quoted on the Entry Form. The closing date for entries shall be one month prior to the Ridgeway Friends Day (i.e. closing date of **23 March 2023**). The results of the competition will be announced and prizes awarded at the Ridgeway Friends Day planned for **23 April 2023**.

There will be a physical exhibition of works submitted and an online exhibition. As far as possible, all works submitted will be exhibited subject to availability of space and to the Friends of the Ridgeway discretion. The physical exhibition will be in the Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, Uffington on Saturday and Sunday **22 - 23 April 2023**. Additionally, there will be an exhibition of works submitted on line at our web site at <https://ridgewayfriends.org.uk/swire-ridgeway-arts-prize/> from Sunday **23 April 2023**. By submitting works, artists agree to the works being exhibited at the Uffington exhibition and online.

Artists are responsible for care and transport of the artworks. The Friends of the Ridgeway will take all reasonable care of art works entered but will not accept any liability for damage. Entrants are advised that all artwork submitted be insured by the artist.

Exhibited works will be available for collection at the close of the exhibition on Sunday **23 April 2023** or from 10:00am onwards the day after up to midday. Any works not collected from the exhibition will be returned to **Nathan Boyd, 16 Anson Drive, Watchfield, SN6 8DH** where they will be kept available for collection for two weeks after the close of the exhibition.

Any works not collected may be disposed of at the Friends of the Ridgeway discretion.

No entry fee is required nor will any costs of entry be reimbursed.

JUDGING

Judging of entries will be carried out by a panel established by The Friends of The Ridgeway. Judges with appropriate skills will consider technical merit; content and composition; imagination and style. Judges will be seeking works that reflect '*the spirit of the Ridgeway*'.

Each category will be judged separately. Winners and runners up and highly commended in each category will then be judged to determine the overall winner of The Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize. Judging will be carried out in the exhibition hall once the works have been displayed; if a physical exhibition is not possible, judging will be carried out on line from photographs of the works.

The judging criteria will be:

- 1 How well does the piece respond to the '*Spirit of the Ridgeway*' including the Ridgeway history, ecology, and landscape across the environs?
- 2 The Technical Merit of the piece and associated artist technical ability.
- 3 The originality of the piece in expressing the '*Spirit of the Ridgeway*'.

The judging panel decisions shall be final and at their sole discretion, and their awards shall not be open to challenge. Only in exceptional circumstances, at the sole discretion of The Friends of The Ridgeway, will correspondence or discussions be entered into following the competition.

SELLING WORKS

Works from the exhibition will be sold on behalf of the artist, if any artists wish to sell. Any works that are not for sale will be so marked in the catalogue. The arrangements for selling works will be:

- The Friends of the Ridgeway will act as agents for the artist;
- The commission taken by the Friends of the Ridgeway will be 20% of the sale price. This amount is intended to help defray the cost of mounting the exhibition and selling the works;
- If a buyer is unable to pay the full sale price at the exhibition, a deposit (of 20% of the sale price) will be accepted to reserve the work until payment can be made and then collection arranged;
- Sold works will not be released until payment has been received;
- Artists will be paid post sale by cheque or BACS. If requested by the artist, the works will be returned to the artist for the final payment to be made directly with the purchaser.

PRIZES

The results of the competition will be announced and prizes awarded at the Ridgeway Friends Day, incorporating the AGM.

All entrants will receive one year's membership of The Friends of The Ridgeway commencing from the date of the Ridgeway Friends Day at which the results are announced.

Each category winner will receive a keeper prize plus £100. The overall winner will receive a keeper prize plus £250 and a trophy.

Further information can be obtained from:

**Jane Imbush (07739 644064) or Nathan Boyd (07568 707469), Joint Administrators on
swireartsprize@gmail.com**