Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize 2027 Competition Rules

The theme of the Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize 2027 is **'Living Working Ridgeway'**

The Ridgeway National Trail has wonderful views and historic landmarks in diverse landscapes between Ivinghoe Beacon in Buckinghamshire and Avebury in Wiltshire.

Over millennia the Ridgeway and its landscapes have seen people shaping and working the land, taking their livestock to market, planting crops and woods, fighting battles, trading and feasting at hill-forts they made. Since its inauguration 53 years ago the Ridgeway National Trail has become a popular trail for people taking part in fund-raising events and competitions.

The aim of this year's competition is to enable artists, writers and photographers to express their creative interpretations of the powerful atmosphere of The Ridgeway: the people who lived and worked here in the past, and who live and work here today. Artists can include anything that lives in the natural environment of the Ridgeway landscape.

Competition Requirements

There will be separate categories for:

- wall art, including painting, drawing, etching, textile pictures and wall hangings, and mosaics IN ANY MEDIUM. All wall art, including paintings and drawings, must be submitted framed and ready to hang with secure wire or cord attached at the back.
- sculpture, including ceramics and glass of any size up to a maximum of 2.0 metres in any dimensions and not more than 100kg in weight.
- photography 10" x 8" (254mm x 204mm) and 20" x 16" (508mm x 408mm) and mounted and can be framed
- writing: poetry or prose in English, at least 200 words up to maximum of 5,000 words.

With the exception of the written entries, all art works must be accompanied by a high-resolution digital image (e.g. 1 to 5mb) for marketing and gallery purposes.

All works 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 the Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize 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.

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

Prizes

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

Entry fee

A nominal entry fee **of £5.00 per entry/exhibit** will be payable to help cover the costs of the exhibition. Entry fees should be paid by Bank Transfer to Lloyds Bank: account name: The Friends of the Ridgeway, sort code: 30-99-50, account number: 76483660 **with SWIRE 27 and your surname as the reference**.

How to enter

Artists must use the Entry Form on the Friends of the Ridgeway website https://ridgewayfriends.org.uk/swire-ridgeway-arts-prize/swire-ridgeway-arts-prize-2027/

Entry deadline is 11.59pm on **Monday 22 March 2027**.

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

Submission, Exhibition, Judging and Collection

Art works are to be submitted to The Thomas Hughes Memorial Hall, Uffington, SN7 7RE **between 1pm and 5pm on Thursday 22 April 2027 or between 8.30am and 12 noon on Friday 23 April 2027** in order for all the exhibits to be curated.

Judging will take place on Friday 23 April 2027. Prize-giving will be at 3pm on Sunday 25 April 2027. Entrants can collect their art works after the prize-giving.

By submitting their artworks to the Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize competition, entrants agree to the works being exhibited at the Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize exhibition in Uffington and on The Friends of the Ridgeway website.

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

Judging of entries will be carried out by a panel established by The Friends of The Ridgeway. They will judge the works against the theme of **'Living Working 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.

The judging criteria will be:

- How well does the piece respond to the **'Living Working Ridgeway'** theme.
- The technical merit of the piece and associated artist's technical ability.
- The originality of the piece.

The judges' decisions shall be final and at their sole discretion, and their awards shall not be open to challenge.

Collecting artworks

Exhibited works must be collected on **Sunday 25 April at 4pm** and on **Monday 26 April 8.30am to 12 noon**. In exceptional circumstances artists must arrange with the administrator of the Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize to collect their work up to two weeks after the close of the exhibition.

Artworks for sale

Please indicate if your artwork is for sale. Artwork that is not for sale will be marked NFS in the catalogue and on the exhibition label.

The arrangements for selling works are:

- 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
- 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 cash, BACS or card payment.

Further information about The Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize 2027 from:

The Swire Ridgeway Arts Prize 2027 administrator on swireartsprize27@gmail.com