2027 Terms, Conditions and Entry Requirements

Welcome

The Australian Wearable Art Festival (AWAF) celebrates imagination, innovation and creative courage. These terms are intended to support a fair, safe and professional experience for artists, models, audience members, volunteers, partners and the AWAF team.

AWAF is committed to communicating clearly, treating artworks with care, providing a professional selection and judging process, acknowledging artists wherever practical and fostering an inclusive creative community.

1. AWAF 2027 key details

Organiser: Australian Wearable Art Festival Pty Ltd (ABN 72 662 709 775).

Festival dates: Thursday 12 August to Saturday 14 August 2027.

Venue: Sunshine Coast Convention Centre, Novotel Sunshine Coast Resort, Queensland, Australia.

Website: www.australianwearableart.com.au

Entry opening date: 1 October 2026

Entry closing date and time: 5pm 31 January 2027 AEST

2. Definitions

Artist means an individual entrant or, where the entry is submitted by a Design Team, every named member of that team.

Artwork means the wearable artwork submitted in an entry, including the completed work if selected as a finalist.

AWAF means Australian Wearable Art Festival Pty Ltd and, where relevant, its authorised directors, staff, contractors and representatives.

Design Team means a collaboration of no more than three artists in total.

Festival means official AWAF 2027 activities, including arrival, judging, rehearsals, photography, public performances, awards and collection.

Finalist means an artwork and its artist or Design Team selected to progress to the Festival.

Model means the person approved to wear and present the artwork.

3. Eligibility

a. Entrants must be 18 years or older at the time of entry.
b. Entry is open to artists in Australia and internationally.
c. An artwork may be at concept stage, work in progress, substantially completed or completed when entered.
d. Entries must be original wearable artworks created to be worn on the human body. Wearable art may draw on sculpture, textiles, technology, architecture, craft, fashion or other creative disciplines.
e. Artists may use any appropriate materials, techniques and creative approaches, subject to AWAF safety, venue and production requirements.
f. The completed artwork must not previously have been exhibited, entered in another competition or publicly shown in its entirety before its official AWAF 2027 presentation.

4. Entry application and fee

a. The entry fee is AUD $50 per artwork and is non-refundable except where required by law.
b. The application must be submitted through the official AWAF entry form by the published deadline and accompanied by successful payment.
c. AWAF is not obliged to consider an entry that is late, incomplete, unpaid, inaccessible, corrupted or submitted outside the official process.
d. The entrant is responsible for checking that all information and files are accurate, complete, viewable and correctly attributed before submission.

e. AWAF may contact the entrant to clarify information but is not required to provide an opportunity to correct or complete an entry after the deadline.
f. Any transaction, currency-conversion, bank or international payment charges are the entrant's responsibility.

5. Originality, authorship and assistance

a. The artwork must be the original creative work of the artist or Design Team and must not infringe another person's copyright, moral rights, trademark, cultural rights or other intellectual property.
b. The entrant must have permission to use any third-party material incorporated in the artwork or entry submission.
c. All Design Team members and any material creative, technical or specialist assistance must be accurately identified or disclosed where requested.
d. The use of digital tools, generative tools, fabrication services or specialist contractors must be disclosed where it materially contributes to the concept, imagery, design, construction or presentation of the artwork.
e. The artist remains responsible for the originality, accuracy, permissions and safe realisation of the submitted work.

6. Exclusivity and previous public display

a. The completed artwork must not previously have been exhibited, entered in another competition or publicly shown in its entirety before its official AWAF 2027 presentation.
b. Public display includes publication on websites, social media, exhibitions, runway performances, publications, broadcasts or other publicly accessible platforms.
c. Finalist work-in-progress photographs, detail images and partial views may be shared on an artist’s online platforms provided they do not reveal the completed artwork in its entirety.
d. AWAF may determine whether prior display or publication breaches this requirement and may request supporting information before making that decision.

7. Finalist selection and acceptance

a. A confidential industry Selection Panel reviews eligible entries and selects the finalist field.
b. This panel assesses the entry as a whole, including artistic idea, originality, wearable-art potential, relationship between concept and delivery of artwork approach, materials and techniques, and the artist's demonstrated capacity to realise the work.
c. An entry is assessed in the context of its stage of development, the artist’s previous work and demonstration of feasibility. A completed artwork is not automatically stronger than a concept or work in progress.
d. All entrants will be notified of the outcome. Selection decisions are final except where AWAF identifies an administrative error. No selection decision will be discussed with artists.
e. A selected artist must accept the finalist place by 28 February 2027. Failure to respond by the deadline may result in the place being offered elsewhere.

8. Finalist development and required milestones

Finalists must develop or complete the accepted artwork and provide information requested by AWAF by the published milestones. This may include:

a. acceptance of the finalist place and confirmation of primary contact details;
b. award-specific eligibility information, including material source, previous use, transformation and any published threshold where relevant;
c. individual Photograph & Film Consent from each named artist;
d. model-selection information, sizing, fitting, dressing and movement requirements, including completion of the AWAF model form for any artist-sourced model;
e. hair and makeup mood boards, headpiece details and practical styling information;
f. music selection and the required music file;
g. first progress-review images and information;
h. images and information requested for Festival screens;
i. second progress-review images and information;
j. final program and artist information, credits, pronunciation and requested images;
k. final or near-final artwork images, dimensions, weight, handling and technical information;
l. freight, delivery, arrival, collection, packing and insurance information where relevant; and
m. accessibility, participation, safety or production information reasonably required by AWAF.

Thoughtful creative evolution from the selected concept is permitted. However, AWAF may review a departure from the accepted proposal, an unresolved safety or production issue, or repeated failure to meet required milestones. AWAF may require changes, limit presentation elements or withdraw finalist status where reasonably necessary to protect safety, fairness or Festival delivery.

9. Artwork, safety and technical requirements

a. The completed artwork must be wearable and safe for the model, artists, crew, volunteers, judges and audience.
b. The artwork must withstand transportation, dressing, close inspection, judging, choreographic movement, rehearsal, photography, repeated runway presentation, handling and collection.
c. The weight of the artwork must not be unduly heavy, must be evenly distributed and comfortable for the model to wear and perform in.
d. The model must be able to see clearly, breathe easily and move safely while wearing the artwork.
e. Headpieces must be securely fitted and well-balanced.
f. When worn, the artwork must easily enter and exit the stage through a 1.5-metre-wide opening.
g. Sharp, unstable, excessively heavy, hazardous, flammable or otherwise unsafe elements are not permitted unless expressly reviewed and approved by AWAF.
h. Live animals are not permitted as part of an artwork or presentation.
i. Electrical, battery-powered, mechanical, illuminated or other technical elements must be disclosed, safely constructed, tested and compliant with all applicable requirements.
j. AWAF may inspect an artwork and require reasonable alterations, isolation of an element or withdrawal from presentation where the artwork presents a safety risk that cannot be resolved.

10. Festival attendance and schedule

a. Finalists, or an approved representative where AWAF agrees, must be available Friday 13 August 2027 to deliver artwork, complete judging and rehearsals, be available for hair and makeup and scheduled official photography and attend the Full Event Rehearsal in the evening.
b. The Full Event Rehearsal will be conducted as a complete performance and may include a student audience as part of AWAF's education program.
c. Saturday 14 August 2027 includes two public performances, award announcement, scheduled photography and artwork collection and bump out.
d. Arrival times, show times and collection arrangements will be issued to finalists closer to the event.
e. Late arrival or non-attendance may affect judging, rehearsal, photography or presentation and may result in withdrawal where the Festival cannot safely or fairly accommodate the delay.

11. Models, hair, makeup, music and screen content

a. All model arrangements are subject to AWAF's published process and final approval. AWAF may support model selection from its model and performer database but cannot guarantee a particular model.
b. A finalist who sources their own model must request and provide that person with the AWAF Model Form. The model must complete the form for the AWAF database and must be confirmed by AWAF at its discretion before participating.
c. Artists must provide accurate measurements, dressing instructions, movement limitations and any other information needed to fit and present the artwork safely.
d. Hair and makeup mood boards, music selections and screen images must be supplied by the relevant deadlines and be suitable for the Festival, venue and approved production requirements.
e. Music must be supplied in MP3 or MP4 format, or another file may be uploaded for AWAF to convert where the published process permits.
f. AWAF may edit, fade, shorten, convert or decline music or presentation elements for timing, technical, legal, safety or production reasons.
g. The artwork is judged separately from the model's individual performance except where a published award specifically concerns live presentation or performance.

12. Freight, delivery, collection and responsibility

a. The artist is responsible for arranging and paying for the safe delivery and collection of the artwork unless AWAF agrees otherwise in writing.
b. Most artworks are expected to arrive with the artist or an approved representative. Final delivery address, arrival window and contact details will be supplied to finalists.
c. The artist must use suitable packing, clearly identify components and provide handling, assembly, storage and repacking instructions where required.
d. The artist is responsible for arranging insurance appropriate to the artwork, including transit and event-related risks.
e. AWAF will take reasonable care while an artwork is in its custody but, to the extent permitted by law, is not responsible for ordinary wear, inherent fragility, inadequate packing or loss or damage outside its reasonable control.
f. International entrants are responsible for customs, carnet, quarantine, tax, visa and import or export requirements.

13. Judging, awards and recognition

a. Once finalists are chosen, a separate expert judging panel assesses the completed finalist works at the Festival. Judges' process and consideration may include close inspection of artwork, the work on the body, movement and official runway presentation as relevant to each award.
b. All finalist works are automatically considered across the awards for which they meet the published eligibility requirements. Artists do not submit a separate award nomination.
c. Each award is considered according to its published description.
d. Each finalist work may receive only one judged artwork award, including the Supreme Award.
e. People's Choice is selected separately by the audience and may be awarded to a work that has also received a judged artwork award.
f. The AWAF 2027 Awards information forms part of the competition framework: AWAF 2027 AWARDS.
g. Judging and audience-voting decisions are final except where AWAF identifies an administrative or calculation error.
h. Being selected as a finalist does not guarantee an award, acquisition, touring invitation or future exhibition opportunity.
i. Any acquisition, touring or future display opportunity will be optional and governed by a separate written agreement.

14. Code of Conduct

Every entrant must read and agree to the **AWAF Code of Conduct**: AWAF CODE OF CONDUCT. Finalists must behave professionally and respectfully in all Festival settings and follow reasonable directions from authorised AWAF personnel.

No artist, model, staff member, volunteer, contractor or other backstage participant may consume alcohol or use illicit or non-prescribed drugs while working, rehearsing, preparing backstage or carrying out an AWAF responsibility. No person may undertake an AWAF role while impaired by alcohol or drugs.

15. Photography, film, publicity and copyright

a. The artist retains copyright in the original artwork and artist-supplied material, subject to any third-party rights.
b. By uploading entry images or other supporting material, the entrant confirms that they have permission to provide it to AWAF for confidential selection, administration and record-keeping. AWAF will not publish entry material before finalist announcements without permission, except where required to administer the entry.
c. If selected as a finalist, each named artist must personally complete the **AWAF 2027 Finalist Photograph & Film Consent** by the published deadline. A primary artist cannot provide this consent on behalf of another Design Team artist.
d. AWAF may photograph, film, livestream, record and promote official Festival activities and may use approved artist information and imagery in accordance with the accepted consent.
e. Artists must credit photographers and AWAF where supplied images are used, in accordance with any usage instructions provided.

16. Privacy and information handling

AWAF collects the personal information and files supplied through the entry and finalist processes to assess and administer entries, process payments, contact entrants and manage participation. **The Privacy Collection Notice** displayed with the entry form explains the relevant storage, access, sharing, correction and contact arrangements.

Accessibility or support information is used to discuss or arrange practical support and must not be used to disadvantage an entrant in selection or judging.

17. Withdrawal, cancellation and changes

a. An entrant may withdraw from the Festival by notifying AWAF in writing. Entry fees are not refunded for withdrawal except where required by law.
b. A finalist who withdraws must cooperate with reasonable administrative, production, freight and publicity steps needed to remove the work from the Festival program.
c. AWAF may change dates, times, venue arrangements, judging processes, production requirements or program details where reasonably necessary for safety, operational, legal or circumstances beyond its control.
d. If AWAF cancels or materially changes the competition, AWAF will communicate the available options and any refund required by law.

18. Liability and legal rights

Entrants participate at their own reasonable risk and remain responsible for their artwork, personal property, conduct, permissions, travel, accommodation and compliance with these requirements. Nothing in these terms excludes, restricts or modifies a right or remedy that cannot lawfully be excluded, including rights under the Australian Consumer Law.

To the extent permitted by law, AWAF is not liable for indirect or consequential loss, loss arising from an entrant's breach, inherent artwork fragility, inadequate packing, unauthorised conduct or circumstances beyond AWAF's reasonable control.

19. Governing law and contact

These terms are governed by the laws of Queensland, Australia. Questions should be directed to wendy@australianwearableart.com.au

20. Entry declarations

By submitting an entry, the primary artist confirms that:

a. the information supplied is accurate and complete;
b. every artist named is 18 years or older and has agreed to be included;
c. the primary artist is authorised to submit for the Design Team, where applicable;
d. the artwork is original and all necessary permissions have been obtained;
e. the exclusivity requirements are understood and accepted;
f. all named artists will comply with these terms and the AWAF Code of Conduct; and
g. all required entry declarations and payment have been completed; and, if selected, each named artist will complete any finalist consent required by AWAF.