

Hawkesbury Art Prize 2026 Guidelines, Terms & Conditions

The Hawkesbury Art Prize aims to provide a young, aspiring artist from Greater Western Sydney with the opportunity to pursue their studies under the guidance of some of Australia's most accomplished artists.

The scholarship covers a stipend of \$5,000+ per calendar year for a student entering the Bachelor of Fine Art (BFA) program.

Key Dates

Applications Open: **Friday 5 September 2025**

Applications Close: **Wednesday 10 December 2025**

Interview Period: **Monday 15 December & Tuesday 16 December 2025**

Scholarship Announcement: **Tuesday 23 December 2025**

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must hold a current application for a place in the Bachelor of Fine Art degree program through UAC (or have already received an offer).
- Applicants must have lived in Greater Western Sydney for at least 12 months within the two years immediately prior to commencing their proposed course of study.

Supporting Documentation

To confirm residential status in Greater Western Sydney, applicants are required to submit two forms of supporting documentation. Acceptable documents may include:

- Australian driver's licence showing current residential address;
- Recent school statements or official correspondence;
- Council rates notices;
- Bank statements with residential address;
- A letter from an employer confirming residential address;
- A signed letter from a recognised professional (e.g. lawyer, doctor, bank manager, accountant) verifying the applicant's residential address for the relevant period.

Selection Criteria

The Hawkesbury Art Prize will be awarded to an applicant who would significantly benefit from financial support to commence the Bachelor of Fine Art program at the National Art School. A successful applicant will be selected based on:

- Performance in the admissions interview and portfolio assessment, demonstrating their artistic and academic potential; and

- A compelling written statement that clearly communicates:
 - A strong commitment to their artistic practice, and
 - A genuine need for financial assistance to support their studies.

Applications

Applicants must:

- Complete all aspects of the online application form;
- Submit a statement of no more than 200 words outlining their aspirations and what they hope to achieve through their studies at the National Art School. As well as a brief statement on their need for scholarship support.
- Upload a maximum of five images, with one image per slide, in PPT format. Each slide should include the name of artist, title, date, medium, and dimensions

Conditions

- Applicants must submit a completed application that fulfils all eligibility requirements.
- Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.
- Each submission will be considered by a selection panel comprising of representatives from the National Art School.
- The panel may request to meet with an applicant to discuss their application further.
- The scholarship is subject to satisfactory academic progression each year and maintenance of standard full-time enrolment in their degree.
- Other than a stipend allowance, scholarship holders are subject to all standard terms and conditions of enrolment in the BFA.
- The scholarship offer is contingent upon completion of enrolment in 2026, and commencement cannot be deferred.
- The successful candidate will need to complete regular progress reports and undergo an acquittals process.

Please email scholarships@nas.edu.au, for any inquiries regarding the application process