

20
26 biennial



NORTH QUEENSLAND

ceramic awards

TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. Competition Details

1.1 Background

The North Queensland Ceramic Awards ('the competition') is coordinated and awarded by Townsville City Council ('Council').

The competition is to be held at Perc Tucker Regional Gallery, 253 Flinders St, Townsville QLD 4810 ('exhibition location') from **19 September 2026 until 17 January 2027**.

Artists are invited to submit an entry form online using the SmartyGrants platform, prior to **5pm AEST 7 July 2026**.

Entry forms submitted in hard copy format or via email will not be accepted.

1.2 Acknowledgement

Council acknowledges the Wulgurukaba of Gurambilbarra and Yunbenun, Bindal, Gugu Badhun and Nywaigi as the Traditional Owners of this land. We pay our respects to their cultures, their ancestors and their Elders – past, present and all future generations.

1.3 Key Dates

Entry forms close:

5pm AEST 7 July 2026

Artists advised of selection:

5pm AEST 7 August 2026

Delivery of artwork:

1 to 4 September 2026

Winners notified by email:

18 September 2026

Winners publicly announced and exhibition launch:

19 September 2026

Exhibition term:

19 September to
17 January 2027

Exhibition expiry:

17 January 2027

Collection of artwork:

25 to 29 January 2027



Lea Durie, *Mingling*, [detail] 2023, wild clay, midfire terracotta clay, slips, underglaze, glazes, liquid quartz, white glaze, 26 x 36 cm. Winner of the 2024 *North Queensland Ceramic Awards* Jackson Family Award. Image courtesy the artist.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1.4 Judging and Awards Category

JUDGING

Pre-selection process:

All entries submitted will be reviewed by an external pre-selection panel consisting of three (3) arts sector professionals.

The number of artworks selected to progress to the finalists exhibition will be at the discretion of the pre-selection panel.

The pre-selection panel reserves the right to select works for the exhibition and to reject entries that do not comply with the entry and eligibility requirements outlined in clause 1.5 and 1.6.

Final:

Council will appoint one (1) external figure to judge the pre-selected artworks and to announce the prize-winning artwork.

The external judge's decision will be final.

AWARD CATEGORIES

Council will contact the winner on 18 September 2026 by the email provided by the artist in the online entry form to confirm if the artist will be attending the exhibition launch and to arrange for prize payment.

The winning artwork will also be publicly announced at the exhibition launch and via Council's platforms following the judge's decision. The main prize is the City of Townsville Art Collection Award, totalling **\$10,000**.

Additionally, the external judge will select a **highly commended artwork** and award any **sponsor prizes** at the exhibition launch.

- \$10,000 Major Acquisitive Prize
- \$2,000 EV2 Sportswear Award (acquisitive)
- \$1,000 People's Choice Award (non-acquisitive)
- \$500 Rainford Family Award (non-acquisitive)

1.5 Entry

Participation in the competition confirms acceptance of these terms and conditions by the artist.

Entry is open to all artists, including intrastate, interstate and international artists of all ages.

Council employees and immediate family members have the ability to submit an entry in this competition, however, they will **not** be eligible to win any prize associated with this competition.

Entry is limited to **three (3)** artworks per artist. Third parties are not permitted to enter works on behalf of an artist.

One (1) artwork may be comprised of multiple ceramics pieces. All pieces must be named under the one (1) artwork and cannot be sold individually.

Artists can submit **up to three (3) artworks** using a **single SmartyGrants application form**.

When completing the SmartyGrants application form, simply:

1. Select the number of artworks you wish to submit (1, 2 or 3); and
2. For **each artwork**, fill in the relevant details, including but not limited to:
 - a. Artwork title;
 - b. Year created;
 - c. Medium;
 - d. Dimensions; or overall dimensions if multiple pieces in one artwork;
 - e. A short description or statement about the artwork; and
 - f. Images of the artwork.

Each artwork will have its own dedicated section within the entry form for artists to provide complete information for each artwork individually.

All applicants must pay the administrative fee outlined in clause 1.8 to enter the competition.

All submitted artworks must have been created within the past two (2) years (2024 to 2026). This requirement will be verified during the entry process by the pre-selection panel. The purpose of this condition is to encourage the submission of new artworks for each exhibition, to prevent the repeated entry of the same pieces each year.

Entry forms are to be submitted no later than **5pm AEST 7 July 2026**.

Entries past this date, or entries that are incomplete will not be considered.

Entry in the competition is through pre-selection from photographs and digital image/s of each artwork submitted online.

With reference to clause 1.1, artists are **NOT** to submit physical works of art for the pre-selection process.

Artists will be notified by email of the outcome from pre-selection on or before **5pm AEST 7 August 2026**.

1.6 Artwork Eligibility

For artwork to be eligible for consideration in this competition, artists are required to submit the following:

For pre-selection:

- A digital image of the artwork (in .TIFF or .JPEG format only); and
- A fully completed online entry form.

If your artwork is selected for exhibition:

All artworks selected to progress to exhibition must be composed of eligible materials.

The maximum allowance for artworks accepted into this competition is 200 × 200 × 200 cm. Dimensions apply to the entire work of art (including framing). Strict compliance for dimensions must be adhered to, as any changes to artwork dimensions impact floor plans and the exhibition layout.

Artworks intended for hanging must be fitted with appropriate hanging hardware prior to arrival at the gallery. Flat D-rings, hooks or wires are required to be installed on the back of the artwork for hanging purposes.

Artworks may consist of multiple components as long as the overall dimensions do not exceed the size limit above.

All artwork submitted must comply with the below eligibility requirements:

All artwork must be appropriate for public viewing. Artwork must not contain any of the following:

- Deceased persons;
- Graphic or violent content;

- Explicit content;
- Illegal activity;
- Adult and child nudity;
- Discriminatory imagery;
- Offensive symbolism; or
- Content that could be considered bullying and/or harassment.

All artworks must be composed of a minimum of eighty-five percent (85%) traditional ceramic media.

The artist warrants that the materials utilised to create the artwork comply with Council's above requirements and are considered eligible materials. Should Council discover that alternative materials have been utilised, Council may determine the artwork as ineligible to receive prizes from this competition.

All artworks entered by the artist must be the original work and concept of the artist.

Any molds used must be the original unaided work of the artist. Commercial molds are not permitted and will not be judged.

Council reserves the right to reject entries that do not comply.

1.7 Exhibition

Selected artworks will be put on display for the duration of the exhibition, **19 September until 17 January 2027** and must not be removed before **25 January 2027**.

1.8 Administration Fee

All applicants must pay the non-refundable administration fee of **\$25.00 AUD per artwork**.

Should an artist submit more than one (1) artwork, they will be required to pay the administrative fee for each artwork.

Payment must be made by 5pm AEST 7 July 2026, by the following means:

- Over the counter at Townsville Civic Theatre, located at 41 Boundary Street, South Townsville Queensland 4810 (open **9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday** (closed on public holidays);
- TicketShop by telephone on (07) 4727 9797; or
- TicketShop by online payment at ticketshop.townsville.qld.gov.au

Payment must be made prior to submitting the SmartyGrants entry form.

When opening the SmartyGrants entry form, an application number will automatically generate. Artists will be required to reference their SmartyGrants application number when paying at TicketShop.

Additionally, prior to submitting the SmartyGrants entry form, the artist will be required to reference their receipt number from TicketShop as proof of payment. The SmartyGrants entry form will not be processed without this information.

Failure to make payment by entry form close date above, will result in the application being rejected from entry.

2. Artwork in Exhibition

2.1 Delivery of Artwork

Artists who have progressed to the exhibition stage must deliver their artworks to the exhibition location, on **1 to 4 September 2026**.

For artworks being hand-delivered, delivery must be made between **9am to 5pm on 1 to 4 September 2026**.

All deliveries must be labelled as follows:

RE: NORTH QUEENSLAND CERAMIC AWARDS

Your full name:

Artwork title/s:

Delivery address:

*Perc Tucker Regional Gallery
253 Flinders St, Townsville QLD 4810*

Photo of artwork:

Artworks delivered to the exhibition location prior to or after the date above will not be accepted.

2.2 Packaging and Freight

All artwork must be securely packed, and suitable for return.

For artists delivering their artworks in person, if they are not suitably wrapped with protective packaging (suitable for travel), they will not be accepted.

Artworks that arrive damaged will not be accepted or displayed in the exhibition.

The artist is responsible for all costs associated with freight (including but not limited to, delivery, return, damage obtained during freight, and any other charges associated with freight) and any and all insurances during transit for artworks selected for the exhibition.

After the exhibition expiry, artworks being returned to the artist must be collected from the exhibition location during business hours on **25 to 29 January 2027**.

Upon collection of the artwork, the artist must sign a collection receipt. If another person or carrier is collecting on behalf of the artist, the artist must provide written authorisation for that person to collect the artwork, in writing to Council five (5) working days prior to collection.

Where arrangements have not been made for collection or return freight by **5pm on 29 January 2027**, Council reserves the right to sell or otherwise dispose of the artwork on the expiration of thirty (30) calendar days from exhibition expiry.

2.3 Pricing and Sale of Artwork

The sale price indicated in the entry form will apply and will remain fixed for the duration of the exhibition. If the artist does not want their artwork to be for sale to the public, the artist must state this on the entry form.

Council will charge a 30% commission on each artwork sold at exhibition. The artist must take the commission into account when setting their sale price as the sale price will include the commission to be charged by Council.

Should artwork submitted in the competition be sold, the net sale proceeds will be paid to the artist within thirty (30) calendar days of exhibition expiry. Payment will be made in Australian dollars.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

3. Insurance

Each artist is responsible for maintaining their own insurance cover during transit.

Council will upon receipt of the artwork:

- a. maintain agreed insurance cover against loss, damage, theft and destruction of the artwork for the period of the exhibition; and
- b. ensure that such insurance is for a sum not less than the agreed value of the artwork; and

The artist acknowledges that, if the artwork is subject to loss, damage, theft and or destruction, Council may be required to lodge a claim with our insurer and settlement for the loss, damage, theft and or destruction will be facilitated by the insurer.

The artist agrees that the agreed value is the artist's sole remedy in respect of any loss or damage to the artwork or in the event the artwork is stolen.

4. Intellectual Property

4.1 Artist's Grant of Licence

The intellectual property (IP) shall remain the property of the relevant party.

If an artist's artwork is selected for the exhibition, the artist agrees to grant Council an irrevocable, royalty free, non-exclusive, non-transferable licence to utilise their IP to digitise, publish, adapt, manipulate and communicate the artwork for the sole purpose of complying with Council's obligations and responsibilities under these terms and conditions for the exhibition term.

If an artist's artwork is selected for the exhibition, the artist grants Council an irrevocable, royalty free, non-exclusive, non-transferable licence to utilise the artist's IP on the **Council's platform** for promotional purposes of Council (including but not limited to, advertising the exhibition such as on social media platforms, television, print, press, email and Council's website and educational purposes) and/or the artist, at the discretion of Council. This clause survives exhibition expiry.

4.2 Artist's Agreement

In entering the Competition, the artist:

- a. confirms they are the sole owner of the IP in connection with the artwork;
- b. consents to Council photographing/videoing/ digitising images of the recreated artwork on Council's platforms;
- c. consents to Council displaying their artist name, artwork details, artwork statement and artist biography on Council's platforms for promotional purposes, both physical and online;
- d. agrees Council will not be liable for any breach of IP including copyright by third parties (this clause survives expiry of the exhibition); and
- e. agrees that despite an event of death and/ or sorry business, their artwork will remain on display (if selected) for the exhibition term.

4.3 Moral Rights

Council acknowledges that the artist has moral rights in their artwork.

Council will respect those rights, will not subject the artwork to any derogatory treatment and will credit the artist whenever their artwork is used.

Council will not make any major changes to the artwork without the artist's consent.

Council may make minor changes such as cropping the artwork to fit on documents.

4.4 Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property

The artist must inform Council if the artwork contains indigenous cultural and intellectual property (ICIP).

Additionally, the artist must instruct Council if the display or image of their artwork is required to be accompanied by an ICIP notice which must:

- a. acknowledge the inclusion of traditional ritual knowledge of a community; and
- b. include consent from the custodians of that community.

5. Privacy Collection Notice

Council collects and manages personal information in the course of performing its activities, functions and duties. We respect the privacy of the personal information held by us. The way in which Council manages personal information is governed by the *Information Privacy Act 2009* (QLD).

We are collecting your personal information in accordance with *Local Government Act 2009* for the purpose of selecting, exhibiting and promoting submitted artworks in the competition events, displays and public programming. Details will only be retained for the purpose of the exhibition.

By participating in this competition, you are consenting to Council disclosing your personal information to the pre-selection panel and, if you have elected to make your artwork available for sale to the public, disclosing your personal information to the buyer. Council will not otherwise disclose your personal information outside of Council unless we are required to do so by law, or unless you have given us your consent to such disclosure. Your personal information will not be disclosed to overseas recipients.

For further information about how we manage your personal information, or to access or amend your personal information, please see our Information Privacy Policy available on Council's website [here](#).

6. Definitions

Under these terms and conditions, unless inconsistent with the context or subject matter, the following definitions apply:

Agreed value means the amount that the artwork will be insured in the event of the artwork being lost, stolen or irreparably damaged during the exhibition period.

Artist means the person who submits an entry form to enter this competition and who created the artwork submitted.

Artwork means the piece of art submitted as an entry in this competition.

Ceramic media means clay-based materials such as earthenware, stoneware, or porcelain.

Council's platform means webpages, digital advertising, social media etc.

Close of business (COB) means 5.00pm.

Eligible material means clay, porcelain, earthenware, raku, stoneware, and casting slip, as well as glazes, decals, fired materials, metal, timber, wire, and fabric.

Entry form means the form submitted online through SmartyGrants to be considered in the competition.

Exhibition means the North Queensland Ceramic Awards 2026.

Exhibition expiry means the date specified at clause 1.3, 17 January 2027.

Exhibition launch means the event where the winner of this competition is publicly announced.

Exhibition term means the date range set out in the 1.3 key dates table.

Indigenous cultural and intellectual property means all aspects of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's traditional knowledge and cultural expressions.

Intellectual property means copyright, patents and all rights in relation to inventions, registered and unregistered trademarks (including service marks), registered designs, drawings, circuit layouts and all other rights resulting from intellectual activity in the construction, project management, industrial, scientific, literary or artistic fields.

Molds means a shaped cavity used to make a copy of an object. It can consist of one or many sections and is used to reproduce work in clay or clay slip.

Party means the artist and Council.

Responsibilities and obligations means any obligations, warranties, deliverables and responsibilities of each party under this agreement.

Sorry business means the bereavement and funerals for a deceased First Nations person.

Third parties means any individual/s or companies that are not a part of these terms and conditions.

Two-dimensional ceramic art means flat ceramic works focused on surface design rather than sculptural form. Examples include tiles, plaques, or panels decorated with glazing, painting, or slip work.

Three-dimensional ceramic art means sculptural ceramic pieces with height, width, and depth. Examples include vessels, figurative or abstract sculptures, and installations made primarily from ceramic materials.



Liz Ranger-Craven, *Turning a Blind Eye*, [detail] 2024, hand-built stoneware, 53 x 90 x 63 cm. Winner of the 2024 *North Queensland Ceramic Awards* Pack & Send Townsville People's Choice Award. Image courtesy the artist.



20
26 biennial

**NORTH
QUEENSLAND**

ceramic awards