

ABC Arts Trail 2026 selection criteria and terms and conditions

Overview

This is the 11th Year of the ABC Arts Trail. The Trail welcomes diverse, original and creative quality work that is hand made in Attenborough, Beeston, Chilwell and neighbouring areas. Consideration is given to the handmade nature of items as well as the professional presentation of work. Mass produced goods of any type are not acceptable for this event.

Selection process

Please complete the application form and follow all instructions, especially those regarding photographs. Please ensure all mandatory fields are filled in accurately; your address and telephone number are for use by the selection committee only.

All fully completed applications are sent to the selection committee for consideration.

Venues

Not all artists/designer makers need to provide their own venue, but are encouraged to find a venue within the Arts Trail area. We may be able to accommodate some artists at other venues. If you are offering a new venue, please expect to be visited as part of the selection process.

Selection criteria

We need to see a high level of competence in the chosen medium. We are getting a reputation for high quality work and need to maintain this.

The collection of work must be coherent and there should be a strong identity of the artist apparent in the submitted work, not bits and pieces in different styles and mediums.

We need to see a well put together display so we can judge the body of work as a whole and see how it fits with our ethos. This might be your stand or how you display 3D work.

Photos must comply with requirements so we can make an informed judgement. We have had to reject applicants in the past who have not sent enough visual information.

Terms & Conditions

The artist must be over the age of 18 years old when applying.

All work must be made by the artist/designer makers who signed up for the Trail, no other artists or friends can join you unless they have been accepted by the ABCAT selection committee.

You can only sell work on the Trail that has been agreed on in your application.

2D artwork should be either framed, mounted or stylishly displayed and presented.

Prices of all work on the Trail must be clearly displayed.

You are required to actively contribute to the organisation of the Trail and help distribute the publicity material as well as sharing the event on your social media and mailing list.

Artists must be prepared to open for the whole time of the event and be present in person during the opening hours.

How much does it cost

On acceptance you will be required to pay a membership fee of £45. This money goes towards the cost of printing the publicity materials. Some venues may incur additional costs for the hire of the venue; these costs will be shared out among the artists at that venue. The costs are amazing value and kept low, as you are also required to actively contribute to the organisation of the Trail, help distribute the publicity material and use social media for publicity. Please do not apply/accept if you feel you cannot contribute.

Insurance

All artists must provide proof of up-to-date Public Liability Insurance. This can be obtained by joining a-n, the artists network and costs about £38 pa. (<https://www.a-n.co.uk/about/insurance>). Proof of valid insurance should ideally be provided along with your application form but if not, you will be required to provide your insurance document at least a month prior to the date of the Trail. If you do not have insurance, you will not be allowed to participate in the Trail.

Social media

Successful candidates will be sent an invitation to join the “ABCAT Artists Group” Instagram & a broadcast only WhatsApp group. It is essential that all participating artists/ designer makers join the group by accepting the invitation and check it regularly as this helps to streamline communication. Mentors are available to help you with this.

Health and safety

If accepted you will receive further details about health and safety requirements for the event.

Copyright

Artists/makers exhibiting works for sale under the auspices of ABCAT shall not show anything that will infringe the copyright or licensed image of any published or unpublished source without the appropriate permission to do so. You will be asked to sign a declaration to this effect on the application form.

We look forward to receiving your application.