

THE 2026
SOVEREIGN
AFRICAN ART
PRIZE

The Sovereign African Art Prize TERMS AND CONDITIONS

All Entrants to The Sovereign African Art Prize 2026 (the “Competition”) run by The Sovereign Art Foundation Limited (“SAF”) agree to be bound by the terms and conditions in this document.

By submitting an Artwork, the Entrant confirms that they accept the Competition Terms and Conditions as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS

- 1.1 “Artwork” means a piece of art created by an artist, submitted to the Competition through the online entry portal as instructed by SAF.
- 1.2 “Entrant” means an artist who submits an Entry to the Competition.
- 1.3 “Entry” means a fully completed entry form and images of the Artwork, submitted through the online entry portal as instructed by SAF
- 1.4 “Finalist” means an Entrant whose Artwork has been shortlisted by the Judging Panel to progress to the second round of judging for the Competition and for display in the Finalists Exhibition.
- 1.5 “Finalists Exhibition” means the public art exhibition(s) to be held at the Ateljee Gallery at La Motte Wine Farm in Franschoeck, South Africa and comprising the 30 Finalist’s Artworks as shortlisted by the Judging Panel

2. PRIZES

- 2.1 The **Grand Prize Winner** is the winning Entrant as selected by the Judging Panel and will be awarded a cash prize of US\$25,000.
- 2.2 The **Public Vote Prize Winner** is the Entrant (other than the winning Entrant) determined as having received the most votes from the public for their Artwork and will be awarded a cash prize of US\$2,000.

3. ENTRY SPECIFICATIONS

- 3.1 The Judging Panel will select 30 Entrants as Finalists for this Competition, their Artworks will be exhibited at the Finalists Exhibition at The Ateljee Gallery, South Africa.
- 3.2 SAF are free to conduct a review of all entries prior to forwarding them onto the Judging Panel for their assessment.
- 3.3 SAF and the Judging Panel reserves the right to make a final decision to accept any Entry for this Competition.



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- 3.4 The decision of SAF and the Judging Panel on any and all matters relating to the Competition will be final and binding. Neither SAF nor members of the Judging Panel shall be obliged or bound to enter into any communications whatsoever regarding such decisions.
- 3.5 All Entrants must be nominated by one of the appointed nominators as listed on the SAF website.
- 3.6 All Entrants must be living on the African continent or identify as a member of the African diaspora. For these purposes, a member of the diaspora is defined as the individual and/or their parents holding a passport from an African country
- 3.7 Entrants must be practicing artists who have gallery representation, and a track record of at least one solo show, with a recognized gallery, in the last 3 years, or have one planned for the next calendar year.
- 3.8 The submitted artwork should command an open market price of a minimum of US\$7,000 or more.
- 3.9 There are no limits to age of Entrants.

Please keep checking for updates to the list of nominators!

4. ARTWORK SPECIFICATIONS

- 4.1 All Artwork(s) must be the original work of the Entrant and must have been produced within or after 2025.
- 4.2 For the avoidance of doubt, the Entrants hereby warrant that they own the copyright to their Artwork(s) and further warrant that their Artwork contains no feature or aspect or material that constitutes a breach (or potential/anticipatory breach) of a third party's intellectual property.
- 4.3 Limited edition Artwork (e.g. photographs, digital works, prints or sculptures) must not have been produced in more than five numbered copies with an additional three artist's proofs. In such cases, each Artwork must be signed and numbered, and the Entry must include a declaration stating the edition number of the Artwork and total editions made.
- 4.4 **Medium** Performance art and art consisting solely of audio, video or time-based media will not be accepted. Artworks that contain an audio or video component will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- 4.5 **Dimensions** All two-dimensional Artworks (including frame or mounting) should not exceed 120(w) x 180(l)cm and should not be more than 7cm in depth. Composite Artworks must fit within these dimensions when placed together. Maximum weight 15kg.
- 4.6 **Dimensions** All three-dimensional Artworks should not exceed 150 x 50 x 50cm (height x width x depth). Installation works will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Maximum weight: 50kg for a floor piece, 20kg for a plinth or hanging installation.
- 4.7 All Artworks must be available for sale in accordance with Condition 8 below and must remain so until the Entrant is informed that the Competition is at an end.

Don't exceed edition size!

Please note largest size!

Please note!



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- 4.8 Entrants should only submit finished, complete Artworks into the Competition. Unfinished Artworks or Artworks which are partially complete will not be accepted.

5. SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES

- 5.1 Each Entrant may submit up to three Artworks but only one of these Artworks will be eligible for display in the Finalists Exhibition.
- 5.2 Entrants are required to enter the Competition through the submission platform link as will be sent by SAF. Entrants must complete all fields of the online entry form and upload digital image(s) of their Artwork.
- 5.3 Artwork images must be high-resolution (min. 300Dpi) maximum 4MB in size and in one of the following formats: JPG, PNG or GIF. For two-dimensional Artworks, 1 or 2 images should be included, with at least one image showing a clear view of the whole Artwork. It is recommended to include a second image showing a detail of the work. For three-dimensional Artworks, 3 to 5 images should be included, showing different views of the work.
- 5.4 All images should be a true representation of the final and complete Artwork(s) detailed in the Entry. Images may not be manipulated or otherwise artificially or digitally enhanced by the Entrant.
- 5.5 All Entries must be received by SAF by 12 midnight GMT on **2 March 2026**.
- 5.6 By completing the entry form, the Entrant agrees to SAF collecting, retaining, processing, or otherwise utilising the Entrant's personal information for the purposes of processing the Entry to the Competition, the promotion and administration of the Competition including distribution of the details for any and all promotional or marketing purposes and the creation of the Finalist's Exhibition. The personal information of Entrants will not be shared with third parties or otherwise processed for alternative purposes without the Entrant's consent.

6. GENERAL CONDITIONS

- 6.1 Finalists will be officially notified by email and conditional upon the acceptance and signature of the Finalist's Agreement (sent at the time), will be invited to participate in the Finalists Exhibition.
- 6.2 In line with condition 8.1 all efforts will be undertaken to sell the artwork. Should the work remain unsold after the Competition is at an end, the Finalist will cover all transportation and insurance costs arising from transit of the artwork back to themselves or to another destination as the Finalist may direct.
- 6.3 It is intended that each Finalist's Artwork will, at the discretion of SAF, be exhibited and publicised in the Finalists Exhibition, associated printed materials and digital channels. SAF will arrange media coverage and publicity for the Finalists Exhibition(s).
- 6.4 To ensure geographical diversity a maximum of 8 artists from any one country can be included in the Finalists Exhibition.



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- 6.5 Unless otherwise agreed with SAF in writing, each Finalist consents to the following points:
- a) SAF have the right to reproduce images of the Finalist's Artwork for publicity, marketing and educational purposes for SAF and the Competition.
 - b) The Sovereign Group of companies has the right to reproduce images of the Finalist's Artwork (with full credit to the Finalist) for Sovereign marketing materials.
 - c) In consideration of the prize money of US\$ 25,000 being paid by SAF to the artist, the Grand Prize Winner agrees that SAF, in cooperation with the artist, may produce limited editions of the winning Artworks to further its charitable aims. The winning artist agrees that they will not charge for this service but SAF will pay all costs associated with the production of the print. The print can then be sold by SAF with all proceeds going to SAF to further its charitable aims.
- 6.6 The Finalist selected as The Grand Prize Winner (under Condition 2.1) and Public Vote Prize Winner (under Condition 2.2) will be publicly announced.
- 6.7 Finalists shall not make or permit any person to make any public announcement, communication or circular concerning the results of the Competition or any other matter described by any of SAF' representatives on email or otherwise save where such information is already in the public domain or with the express written consent of SAF. Breach of this section shall be treated as a breach of confidentiality and shall be considered a material breach of these terms and conditions.
- 6.8 SAF reserve the right to disqualify an Entrant, where in the view of SAF: the Artwork does not meet the requirements as stated herein, the Entrant cannot be contacted or the Entrant does not respond within seven days of being contacted by SAF.
- 6.9 SAF and the Judging Panel reserve the right to offer the place of a disqualified Entrant to another Entrant but are not obliged to do so.

7. PROVISION OF ARTWORK FOR EXHIBITION

- 7.1 Selected Artworks must be delivered to a location advised by SAF. Each Artwork must be marked clearly on the reverse with the title of the piece, the relevant Finalist's name and their contact details.
- 7.2 It is the Finalist's responsibility to cover all costs of transportation of their artwork to the location advised by SAF, including but not limited to: **packing, crating and custom charges**, as well as insurance to cover any damage that might be occasioned to the artwork during transit.
- 7.3 In order for SAF to take receipt of the artwork at the venue, artwork must have the correct paperwork, including (but not limited to) import VAT certificate and SAD500 form.
- 7.4 Artist's must arrange for their work to be adequately framed in order to protect and present the work. If the Entrant does not intend to exhibit the Artwork framed, then adequate protection must be provided for its storage and transportation.



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- 7.5 Artworks should be delivered to SAF with appropriate fittings already in place and Entrants must provide clear installation instructions in accordance with the Installation Instructions form that will be provided to them by SAF.

8. SALE OF ARTWORK

- 8.1 It is intended that SAF will make best efforts to sell the work of the finalists either by auction, fixed sale or such other methods as SAF in their sole discretion may decide upon. BUT SAF offer no guarantees about such sale.
- 8.2 If a Finalist's Artwork is sold, the price achieved for that particular work shall be split equally (50:50, after deduction of any agreed costs) between the Finalist and SAF. SAF will apply their share to their charitable causes helping disadvantaged children in Africa.
- 8.3 The price for each artwork will be agreed between SAF and the artist but such price must accurately reflect the current normal selling price for a similar piece of artwork by that artist of that size and quality – no more and no less.
- 8.3 If SAF decide to auction any particular artwork, a reserve can be requested however, the artist agrees that the reserve price for that particular artwork will be set at no more than 80% of the price referred to in paragraph 8.4 above unless SAF and the artist mutually agree otherwise.
- 8.4 SAF will use their best efforts to achieve the highest possible price for the Artwork but cannot and do not guarantee that any sale or price can be or will be achieved.

For a
charitable
cause!

9. JUDGING PANEL

- 9.1 SAF shall appoint the members of its Judging Panel without reference to any third party and publish the appointments on the SAF website.

