2027 YUKON PRIZE GUIDELINES

INTRODUCTION

Yukon visual artists are invited to apply for the Yukon Prize for Visual Arts. This prestigious prize has been established to recognize excellence by Yukon visual artists and be a catalyst for the promotion of Yukon visual art across Canada.

The prize has three goals:

- To provide a significant financial prize ($20,000) to one Yukon artist or collective every two years, to help with focused time on creating art or advancing artistic development
- To promote Yukon art and Yukon artists outside the Yukon
- To foster a culture of curatorial critique and discourse in the Yukon and encourage artists to be the best that they can possibly be.

PROCESS

A jury of distinguished visual arts professionals from across Canada will review all submissions and select a long-list of 12 artists whose work will be displayed on the Yukon Prize website, to be announced in February 2027.

From this group, the jury will select six finalists based on the criteria of artistic excellence. Artworks from these six finalists will be included in a curated group exhibition in Whitehorse at the Yukon Arts Centre Gallery from September – November 2027.

The jurors will view the artworks in person in Whitehorse and select the overall Yukon Prize Recipient, to be announced at the Yukon Prize Celebration Evening on Saturday, October 2, 2027.

The recipient of the award will receive $20,000, and the other five finalists will each receive $3,000.

CRITERIA FOR AWARDING THE PRIZE

The prize recognizes excellence by Yukon visual artists. It recognizes artists whose work demonstrates:

- technical proficiency and
- reflects a unique artistic "voice" in theme, method or practice.

Artwork can reference traditions and/or the contemporary realm.

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, August 17, 2026	Applications open
Monday, November 16, 2026 at 5:00 PM	Deadline to apply for the Prize
December 2026 – January 2027	Jurying
February 2027	Longlist announced
March 2027	Six finalists announced
August 16, 2027	Finalists deliver their work to the Yukon Arts Centre Gallery
September 9, 2027	Finalists' exhibition opens at the Yukon Arts Centre Gallery
Friday, October 1 to Sunday Oct 3, 2027	Jurors travel to Whitehorse to select winner, Yukon Prize Recipient announced on Saturday October 2, 2027. Artist talks, tours and events all weekend.
September 9 – November 19, 2027	Finalists' exhibition at the Yukon Arts Centre Gallery continues
November 2027	Announcement of Viewers' Choice Award winner & Yukon Prize Catalogue release

ELIGIBILITY

ELIGIBILITY OF THE ARTIST

Artists must be:

- Residents of the Yukon for at least two years immediately prior to the application deadline (November 16, 2026) and
- Be engaged in creating and producing original works of art on a part-time or full-time basis.

In recognition of the unique relationship which Yukon First Nations people have had with the land since time immemorial, Yukon First Nations artists who are not Yukon residents but who have maintained a significant connection to the Yukon are also eligible.

ELIGIBILITY OF THE ART

- Artwork must have been produced in the last 10 years immediately prior to the application date (November 16, 2026, i.e. works produced since November 16, 2016).
- A series can be considered one artwork if the pieces would normally be exhibited together.
- They must be original works of art such as (but not limited to): painting, carving, sculpture, ceramics, printmaking, electronic media, photography, textiles, glass, regalia, jewelry and drawing, and should reflect the artist's best work.
- Ideally the work, or similar pieces, will be available for an exhibit at the Yukon Arts Centre Gallery from September – November 2027, and potentially for other shows outside the Yukon.

ELIGIBILITY OF COLLECTIVES

Artist collectives are eligible to apply with the following criteria:

- All members and artwork of the collective must meet the artist and artwork eligibility requirements.
- All submitted artworks are created collaboratively by the members of the collective and are attributed to the collective as a whole. Work created independently by a member of the collective does not qualify as a collective submission.

- An artist who applies as part of a collective may not also submit a separate application as an individual artist in the same application cycle.
- If a collective is selected as a Finalist or receives any prize, the prize money must be divided equally among all members of the collective.

ELIGIBILITY OF PAST YUKON PRIZE FINALISTS

- Past finalists and longlisted artists are eligible to apply.
- However, past recipients of the Yukon Prize ($20,000) can only apply after ten years have passed.

HOW TO APPLY

ONLINE

Artists are strongly encouraged to apply online at www.yukonprize.ca

PAPER

Alternatively, artists may submit paper applications (available on the website or from the Yukon Arts Centre) and send them to:

Mary Bradshaw
Yukon Arts Centre
Box 16
Whitehorse, YT
Y1A 5X9

Mailed applications must be postmarked by November 8, 2026.

Completed applications and photos may also be emailed to paper-submissions@yukonprize.ca.

Any non-digital submissions will be scanned for the jury.

APPLICATION FORM REQUIREMENTS

You will be required to provide the following information on your application form:

1. **Contact info:** Including websites or social media accounts (if any).
2. **Residency info:** Confirmation that you have resided in the Yukon for the two years immediately prior to November 16, 2026.
3. **Artwork dates:** Confirmation that the artworks you are entering were produced during the 10 years immediately prior to November 16, 2026.

4. **Your biography:** This is your opportunity to tell us about yourself, including your artistic training, inspiration, media choice, or anything that you might like people to know about you and your art. Maximum 150 words.
5. **An artist's statement:** This should describe your artistic development, the works submitted and how your work reflects your artistic voice and engages with larger themes. Maximum 500 words..
6. **Your resumé/curriculum vitae:** This should include a history of any shows in which your work has been shown.

IMAGES OF WORK

Please provide the **Title, Date, Medium,** and **Dimensions** for each artwork in the space provided on the form. In addition, you are encouraged (but not required) to share the story behind each work of art.

- Submit digital images of 4–8 works created within the last 10 years.
- Provide 1–3 images for each work you submit.
- Upload files labelled as: **Artist's last name, first name, title, the number** (if more than one photo of the same work is submitted), and the **year completed**.

  Example: Doe_Jane_Sunrise_on_Lake_1_2019

- Do not include special characters such as #,!, * or stray spaces in the file name. Doing so may prevent the file from uploading.
- Images should not exceed 3MB in jpg, tiff or png formats.
- If someone other than yourself took the images, please provide photo credits.
- Images should be clear and in focus. Please remember that this image represents your work.

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE YOUR ART FOR SPECIFIED PURPOSES

By submitting an application, and *in the event you are selected to the longlist, artists give the organizers of the Prize a non-exclusive license to reproduce their work* for the purposes of Yukon Prize publicity.

More specifically, by submitting work to be considered for the exhibition:

- The artist grants the organizers of the Yukon Prize a non-exclusive license to reproduce the images of your artwork on our website and on

the Prize's social media network outlets. Usage of the image(s) is limited to any Yukon Prize publicity including, but not limited to, press releases, event presentations, articles, slide shows, videos, brochures, posters, show catalogues and for use on the Yukon Prize website and on the Yukon Arts Centre website.

- The artist agrees that the Yukon Prize organizers can maintain an archive of the chosen artwork as part of a historical site record of past exhibitions. This archive will be available only on the Yukon Prize or Yukon Arts Centre websites. The website(s) will provide credit for each image with their Artist Name, Title and the Artist Email/Website, if applicable. The artist shall retain all copyrights of any images that are submitted to the Yukon Prize organizers.
- The artist authorizes the organizers to crop or colour-correct the images in order to enhance the overall presentation and/or for formatting purposes for use in the slide show, website image gallery, and marketing materials, and for other areas of the website where your images may appear.
- The Yukon Prize organizers and the Yukon Arts Centre do not claim ownership of the artwork you submit for consideration. All images attached to a website are the property of the respective artist and the artist retains the sole copyright and all other applicable rights to said images. The artist will be given credit whenever images of their art are used or shared.

EXHIBITING YOUR ART

If you are selected as one of the finalists, you will be asked to work with us to ensure that the artworks you submit, or equivalent pieces, are available for exhibition at the Yukon Arts Centre.

More specifically:

- The artist will be responsible for delivering the art to the Yukon Arts Centre by August 16, 2027, at the artist's expense.
- The artist will also be responsible for retrieving the art from the Yukon Arts Centre at the end of the show, in November 2027, at the artist's expense.
- Art that is suitable for hanging must be equipped with D-rings for hanging and, when necessary, other appropriate hanging hardware.
- Art must be clearly identified with the name of the artist on the back.

The Yukon Arts Centre will be responsible for insurance coverage of the artwork for the duration of the exhibition.

RIGHT TO REVISE THESE GUIDELINES

The organizers retain the right to revise or add to these guidelines if circumstances require. Any future revisions to these guidelines will be posted on the website www.yukonprize.ca

NEED HELP?

For additional guidance, visit our Resources for Artists and Frequently Asked Questions webpages.

You may also contact any of the following people who have been involved in the Yukon Prize:

Mary Bradshaw	mary.bradshaw@yac.ca
Heather Callaghan	silverwavedesign@gmail.com
Xina Cowan	xina@entreprenorth.ca
Al Cushing	aallisoncushing@gmail.com
Julie Jai	julie.jai@gmail.com
Wynne Krangle	wkrangle@gmail.com
Rhoda Merkel	rlmerkel@yahoo.ca
Victoria Parker	Victoria.a.parker@gmail.com
Duncan Sinclair	duncan.sinclair7@gmail.com
David Trick	david.trick@gmail.com
Mary Jane Warshawski	mj@hougens.com

QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact info@yukonprize.ca.