

AOP Open Award - Terms & Conditions of Entry

Title: AOP Open Award 2024

1. Eligibility

1.1 Anyone is able to enter the **Open Awards**.

1.2 The majority of all elements of the work submitted must have been originated by the Entrant. Any other elements incorporated must have been created under the express direction of the Entrant and all elements created on or after 1 January 2022.

1.3 Any work submitted must **not** have been selected for exhibition in, or as a runner-up, finalist, or winner in, the AOP Open Award, or any other AOP Open Award, such as Emerging Talent.

1.4 No work or element which has been generated through a text-to-image generator (an AI-generative platform) is allowed.

1.5 A significant majority of the work must have been photographically created by a person.

1.6 No Entrant will be allowed to be part of either the decision-making process or the judging process.

2. Copyright

2.1 No copyright is transferred to the AOP or its partners in respect of any works entered or accepted.

2.2 Entrants shall be deemed to warrant that they own copyright in the entire work and/or, if necessary, and in the event of a collaborative entry that they have permission from any other represented rights-holder/s to enter and be credited for the work, and that all necessary model and/or property releases have been obtained. The Entrant undertakes to indemnify the AOP and the partners of the AOP Open Award in respect of any breach of the same.

2.3 Entrants grant to the AOP and its partners a non-exclusive licence to use the work submitted, for the purposes outlined below:

The AOP and the partners of the AOP Open Award reserve the right to display, reproduce and publish in any media, any successful entry, without payment, for a period of up to 15 months from the announcement of the winners, for the sole purpose of promoting and publicising the AOP and the AOP Awards programme which includes the AOP Open Award. The AOP also reserves the right to display all the successful images on the AOP Awards website and archive the work for an indefinite period unless the Entrant requests otherwise in writing to the AOP office. The Entrant will be credited whenever the work is published or displayed.

3. Entries

3.1 Entries may only be submitted online.

3.2 Entries may only be entered **once**.

3.3 Any and/or all AOP Open Award selected entries may be reproduced in various publications and outlets to promote the AOP Awards programme as a whole.

3.4 The AOP may use any and/or all submitted images in digital displays presented at a single 39th AOP Awards ceremony and presentation.

3.5 Winning entries from the AOP Open Award may be published in the 39th AOP Awards Book. Original prints may be displayed in relation to the 39th AOP Awards showcase or exhibition and any AOP Awards on Tour exhibitions.

4. Exhibition prints

4.1 If exhibition prints are to be produced, they will be produced by the AOP at its own cost using its preferred supplier(s) for the purposes of the exhibition only, both at the exhibition's original location and any touring locations that may be secured over the subsequent 12 months. These prints are the property of the AOP and will be destroyed at the end of any exhibition period and any case at the end of a 12-month period following the launch of the exhibition.

5. Risk and Insurance

5.1 While the AOP makes every effort to ensure that the AOP Awards Book is of the highest standard, we are unable to guarantee the quality of the reproduction.

6. General

6.1 All entries must meet the conditions required under Entry Procedure, Technical Specifications and Format.

6.2 Entries must be submitted online by following the instructions. A current valid email address must be included – _please note that all communications from the AOP will be made via email.

6.3 All judging will be of digital files only.

6.4 There are no restrictions on the number of entries made per person. Entries can consist of either individual images, a series of images or a short moving-image piece, with no restrictions on subject matter.

6.5 Depending on the nature of the AOP Open Award concerned, entries may consist of individual images, a series of images or a short moving-image piece, or a piece of work that uses technological innovation in some way (such as virtual reality, augmented reality, CGI-rendered imagery – note, this is not AI-generated imagery), with no restrictions on subject matter, subject to the work fulfilling the criteria of the brief which has been set. Please refer

to the specific terms of each AOP Open Award for further information.

6.6 The AOP reserves the right to use its own discretion throughout, which may include, but is not limited to: Disqualifying any entrant not complying with the rules; Amalgamating categories if they are under-subscribed; Changing or removing category headings when selected images are published in the 39th AOP Awards Book.

6.7 If it is believed that a contravention of the rules has taken place, the AOP reserves the right to examine original material in the form of RAW or processed files, film negatives/positives or any other media. Any entrant unable or unwilling to supply the necessary material on request will be disqualified.

6.8 Entry fees will *not* be refunded if entries/entrants are disqualified or entries withdrawn.

6.8 There will be no appeals against the decision of the curators and no correspondence will be entered into regarding the decision-making process.

6.9 Any successful Entrant to the AOP Open Award may be called upon during the ensuing 12-month period to participate in any appropriate marketing and PR activities for and on behalf of the AOP and its partners in the AOP Awards programme. By entering the AOP Open Award, Entrants agree to take part in this activity.

6.10 Any work selected and sold from the exhibition, including online from the Awards site, will attract the usual AOP Gallery Sales Commission Fee (currently 30% of the sale price).

6.11 By entering the AOP Open Award all Entrants are deemed to have accepted without reservation all the terms and conditions of entry.

7. Entry procedure, technical specification and format - Stills

7.1 When entering series of images, each group of images must be treated as a separate entry.

7.2 Where a number of images have been entered for an AOP Open Award brief, and the Entrant has been successful, the AOP will only commit to exhibiting up to 8 of the total number of images. The Entrant will be able to decide on the images to be selected for exhibition.

7.3 Neither the Entrant's name(s), nor any copy, must appear anywhere on the image.

7.4 Entrants may name images, however, please note that they will be re-named within the AOP entry-system, for unique and anonymous identification purposes.

7.5 File names must only contain letters (upper or lower case, and/or numbers (0-9), and/or underscore character plus the suffix .jpg. Any other characters including further dots, hyphens or spaces could result in your file being rejected during the upload process.

7.6 Images submitted online should be hi-res RGB and in JPEG format, at a resolution of 300ppi

- They should be no larger than 3500 pixels on the longest edge.
- Your final file size must not exceed 10 megabytes.

7.7 You are responsible for preparing your images for viewing on a monitor, so we suggest that images are targeted/optimized for, and tagged with, the sRGB or sRGB IEC61966-2.1 colour profile and not Adobe RGB or any other working- or output-space profile.

7.8 All images must contain metadata embedded in the image, and include your name, caption and description of the image. Any image without metadata will be returned to you to complete in a timely manner. An image may be disqualified if metadata is not completed.

8. Entry procedure, technical specification and format - Moving image

8.1 A thumbnail image of your moving image entry must be uploaded, as stated above for stills. Your moving image file can be uploaded directly via the link included in the submission confirmation email.

8.2 Only the following format will be accepted for judging:

- H.264 or H.265 encoded MP4 (.mp4) files
- Resolution: 1920 (width) x 1080 (height) HD
- Maximum File size: 10GB
- Maximum length: 15 minutes. If your submission is successful, you may be required to submit an additional shorter edit of the winning entry, for screening during the presentation.
- **Please note** - Quicktime (.mov), Flash (.swf) and Windows (.wmv) files will not be accepted, nor will .ogg or WebM encoding.

9. Collaboration - in addition to the rules laid out in sections 7 and 8

9.1 Where more than one person has contributed to the entry, the roles and responsibilities of each should be made clear in the event that credits and copy are required.

9.2 In the event of the above (9.1), only one person is to act as the Entrant.

9.3 It is the responsibility of the Entrant to ensure that permission has been granted by all collaborators in the event of a multi-authored entry.

10. Dates & deadlines

10.1 All successful entrants must supply high-resolution digital files by the date stated in the AOP Open Award brief. All image credits will need to be uploaded at this point too.

10.2 Copy will **NOT** be checked, so it is your responsibility to ensure all image credits are correct. Details of the procedure will be given when informed of the results.

10.3

Entries Open: Tuesday 7 May 2024

Entries Close: 12 July 2024

Judging of entries: from 13 July 2024

Finalists announced: early August 2024

Gold and Silver Winners announced: Live at AOP Awards Showcase, Thursday 26 September 2024

Contact details:

Any questions or notifications should be directed to the AOP here: info@the-aop.org.