
Arts & Business NI Awards 2022, in partnership with Forestsides

Award Pieces Artist Commission

Background

The Arts & Business NI Awards in partnership with Forestside celebrate the best in creative partnerships between the business and arts sectors in Northern Ireland.

This glittering annual ceremony is the Arts & Business NI flagship event of the year and always attracts an impressive cross-section of approximately 250 high profile people from the worlds of business, arts, media and government across Northern Ireland.

The Event

The Arts & Business NI Awards in partnership with Forestside Awards:

- Is Northern Ireland's premier ceremony for promoting the best partnerships across all art forms and all business sectors
- Is the only celebration of arts and business partnerships in Northern Ireland
- Aims to educate and inspire the business community of further opportunities available through partnerships with the arts, thereby promoting deeper, broader, long-term relationships
- Brings the business community together and provides an opportunity for networking with both current and prospective Arts & Business NI members, media and Government representatives
- Provides an opportunity for the business community to meet Arts & Business NI staff and find out more about our range of programmes and services

Event Theme - Reconnection

Our theme this year is Reconnection. Following the last two difficult years of pandemic, lockdowns and associated isolation, we want to celebrate society reopening and the vital opportunity for Reconnection in all its guises. The opportunity for people to see each other in person again, to visit arts venues, to enjoy live performances, to socialise, to network, to fundamentally reconnect.

We connect our business and arts member network in original and unexpected ways with amazing results. We find new ways for businesses to grow and arts organisations to flourish.

The Reconnection theme invites us to explore the core function of Arts & Business NI which is to help develop the capacity and confidence of the cultural sector in Northern Ireland.

We help our members to discover an entrepreneurial edge; enhance strategic leadership skills, guide them towards better governance and reveal new and unexpected streams of income and funding. By connecting with our business members, as part of our extensive network, each arts member is given the assistance, confidence and opportunity to thrive.

We are keen to explore the breadth and diversity of the Arts in Northern Ireland.

We are looking for artworks that reflect this theme; however, the brief leaves it open for the artist to interpret the Reconnection theme in their own way, and in any medium, based on the brief outlined below

Briefing Notes

- The award should be a high-quality art piece interpreting the theme
- The award pieces should reflect the 3-way relationship between Arts & Business NI, Business and the Arts
- It should reflect the quality, creativity and style of the Arts & Business NI Awards, in partnership with Forestside event
- The piece must be suitable for display in a business office or boardroom
- The piece can be free standing or wall mounted
- The award should be sufficiently light-weight and compact, yet also robust, for the purpose of being handed from one person to another during the awards presentation
- The design should include a surface for engraving purposes; the artist will be responsible for organising the engraving of 15 pieces. Arts & Business NI will provide a detailed list of captions to be engraved on each award piece.
- It is essential that in addition to being functional, the pieces stand out as being unusual and imaginative pieces of original art
- The design must be capable of being replicated 15 times (15 pieces are required in total).

Awards Categories:

- 1. Creative Community Engagement Award**
Awarded to a partnership where the business used the power of the arts to forge dynamic new connections with their community. (2 pieces)
- 2. Staff Engagement Award**
Awarded to an organisation that prioritised connecting and uplifting its staff by harnessing the power of the arts. (2 pieces)
- 3. Brand Storytelling Award**
Awarded to a partnership that engaged the arts to strategically and creatively communicate the organisations' brand and story, enabling them to creatively connect with their target markets. (2 pieces)
- 4. New Sponsor Award**
Awarded to a business that has developed a new partnership with the arts to creatively meet its business objectives. (2 pieces)
- 5. Commitment to Diversity Award**
Awarded to an organisation that demonstrated their commitment to diversity across a range of business functions, by harnessing the power of the arts. (2 pieces)
- 6. Inspirational Trustee Award**
Inspirational Trustee is awarded to an individual who, in a voluntary capacity, has added outstanding benefit to an arts organisation in a governance role, perhaps through a formal professional development placement such as Board Bank or Young Professionals on Arts Boards programme. (1 piece)
- 7. Arts Innovator Award**
This award showcases a pioneering arts practitioner, who brought a particularly unique and inventive approach to their work. (1 piece)
- 8. Above & Beyond Award**
Awarded to an individual in the business sector who has not only actively engaged with the arts sector but has gone above and beyond to assist arts organisations/practitioners. (1 piece)
- 9. Arts Organisation of the Year**
This award is presented to a local arts organisation which has consistently sought to develop and pioneer new ideas, whilst demonstrating a progressive and creative approach to income generation from private investment sources. £3K prize. (1 piece)
- 10. Business of the Year Award**
This award is presented to a local business which has consistently sought to develop and pioneer new ideas, whilst demonstrating a progressive and creative approach to partnership with arts organisations. (1 piece)

Criteria for Selection of Artist

- Artistic excellence and level of professionalism
- Innovation and uniqueness
- Appropriateness of design and interpretation of the brief
- Ability to work to a budget and timescale
- Value for money
- As our core business is supporting and developing the Arts sector in Northern Ireland, we will only accept proposals from NI based creative professionals.

Selection Procedure

All proposals will be assessed by a selection panel which will include representatives from Arts & Business NI, and external representatives.

Time-scale

Submission of CV and initial design concepts	by noon on 23 June 2022
Interview of shortlisted artists	30 June 2022
Announcement of successful artist	w/c 4 July 2022
Submission of one mock up for approval	w/c 1 August 2022
Production of the pieces	mid July to mid Sept
Final 15 pieces to be delivered to Arts & Business NI	by 16 th September 2022
Video diary of awards pieces production	by 16th September 2022

Budget

Budget for 15 pieces is £4,000
This is inclusive of engraving and a presentation box.



The winning artist will be required to enter into a contractual agreement with Arts and Business NI with regard to scheduling of the work, production, copyright, etc. There would also be a requirement to work with A&B NI and its commission supporter on some PR around the commission.

The winning artist will be required to create a short video/digital capture of the creation process of the Award pieces. This will be shown during the Awards ceremony to help profile the appointed artist. The Awards ceremony will be attended by 250 guests, including senior representatives of the NI private sector, cultural sector and government.

Contact

For more information on the Awards please go to www.artsandbusinessni.org.uk or contact Maeve McKervey m.mckerverey@artsandbusinessni.org.uk or 028 90 735150

Agreement

Commission accepted as outlined in this document.

Signed on behalf of _____

Signature Date

Name