

## BLOOMSBURY FESTIVAL 2023

### Art Competition – Themes of ‘Grow’ and ‘New Bloomsbury Set’

#### THE 2023 COMPETITION ENTRY DETAILS

**DEADLINE – Midnight Sunday 30 April 2023**

**PRIZE – EXHIBITION OF YOUR WORK AT THE FESTIVAL PLUS £300 CASH PRIZE**

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A competition for art students to submit a new artwork which should respond to one of the following two themes:

- 1) The 2023 Bloomsbury Festival theme, **GROW**. The theme can be interpreted as you wish but may be a response to personal growth, botany, world population, growth of ideas and so on.

**Or**

- 2) A special project the festival has in progress in 2023 called **THE NEW BLOOMSBURY SET** which will ‘review and reshape the cultural, literary, architectural and heritage landscape of Bloomsbury through the viewpoint of artists of global origin in the 21st century’ with reference in particular to the Bloomsbury Group of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century (Virginia Woolf and friends)

The submission may be a completely new work, a recently completed work, or an artwork you are currently creating as part of your art studies. We welcome submissions of more than one artwork if relevant. We invite artworks on paper, canvas or other 2D media including painting and photography.

The competition is open to current undergraduate or postgraduate students of Fine Art and related courses at London universities, colleges or professional training schemes for artists. The winner will be offered a unique opportunity to hold their own exhibition as part of the Bloomsbury Festival 2023 (exhibition dates 14-22 October) and a cash prize. The gallery exhibition can be a display of additional works that respond to the theme or are other examples of your work.

The winning artist will be selected by a panel of experts, professional artists, and influential festival partners, including the Duchess of Bedford and the Director of Bloomsbury Festival.

To enter please submit at least one artwork based on the festival theme *Grow* to [director@bloomsburyfestival.org.uk](mailto:director@bloomsburyfestival.org.uk) by Midnight on Sunday 30 April 2023.

#### **ABOUT BLOOMSBURY FESTIVAL - A WORLD-CLASS FESTIVAL FROM A LOCAL COMMUNITY**

[www.bloomsburyfestival.org.uk](http://www.bloomsburyfestival.org.uk)

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For hundreds of years Bloomsbury has been a catalyst for ideas that have impacted across the world. The Festival celebrates contemporary Bloomsbury; a hotbed of creativity and pioneering development with one of the youngest and most diverse populations in the country. Bloomsbury’s strength lies in its vibrant diversity. Famous for its globally renowned academic and cultural institutions, it also includes areas of multiple deprivation, and it is home to 11,000 residents. The Festival is uniquely placed in relationship to residential communities, local institutions and businesses, and the UK arts infrastructure, and works across all three, uniting specialists with residents from all backgrounds and of all ages in an equal exchange of skills and experience

Bloomsbury Festival is aimed at a mixed-age audience from across London. A large proportion of the programme is aimed at adults, but there is also an important strand of family focused events and activities. Artworks submitted should be suitable for viewing by a general festival/gallery audience.

## THE WINNING ARTWORK AND PRIZE

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- The winning artwork will be displayed as part of a solo exhibition throughout the Festival at a venue to be decided in consultation with the artist.
- There is a cash prize of £300 for the winning artist.
- Bloomsbury Festival will contribute up to £100 towards the cost of the exhibition installation (including framing, printing). The exhibition will be listed in the Bloomsbury Festival brochure and online.
- The winning artwork will be themed 'Grow' and the additional exhibited artworks may be on that theme or other artworks you have completed.
- The winner will receive an invitation to an exclusive Festival opening reception.
- A press release citing the winner of the competition will be sent to local and arts & design press, alongside a news feature on the Bloomsbury Festival website.
- The winner may organise their own private view with the support of the festival team.
- The winner will receive an invitation to festival events.

### Runners up

- Runners up will receive an invitation to the festival launch and events.

## REQUIREMENTS

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### Applicants should be

- 18 years old or over.
- Continuing degree level or higher students of London Fine Art or related art courses – including professional development courses for adult artists of any age, based in London.

## SUBMITTING YOUR ENTRY

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- Artworks on paper, canvas or other 2D exhibition materials are eligible including painting and photography.
- Please submit an electronic version of your artwork such as a scan or photo of either the completed artwork, or a detailed proposal for an artwork and at least one other example of your work.
- Please include a written or video/audio description of how your submitted work responds to one of the two themes.
- If submitting a proposal rather than a completed work you should also include a selection of previously completed artwork images.
- If submitting a completed artwork, it is also helpful to send other related completed artwork you might like to exhibit.
- Please include images of your entry, and any associated artwork or mock-ups. It is also helpful to include some brief explanatory text about your artistic work generally and technical details– materials, sizes, display options, short written description.
- The winning proposal will require the final artworks to be completed by the end of September 2022 and installed in the gallery space by the artist by Thursday 12 October. The festival may use images in all publicity materials.
- When sending entries, please include your name, phone number, institution, course and year of study in your email.
- The winner will be contacted by email in the first instance by in mid-May 2022, to be followed by an online announcement.
- By entering this competition, you are agreeing to have your name and details used in a press release and online.
- **Artwork proposals should be submitted electronically as a hi-res PDF to: [director@bloomsburyfestival.org.uk](mailto:director@bloomsburyfestival.org.uk) by Midnight on Sunday 30 April 2023**