

The Northern Festival Of Illustration Prize 2025

Category: [Illustration](#)

Deadline: June 12, 2025

Website: graphiccompetitions.com



The Northern Festival of Illustration Prize 2025 is an esteemed international competition designed to celebrate and elevate the diverse talents of illustrators and animators from around the globe. Centered on the evocative theme "Stories of Home," the competition encourages artists to explore personal narratives, cultural heritage, and the universal experiences that connect people across borders. By welcoming submissions in all mediums, formats, and contexts, the festival aims to foster innovation and showcase the expansive possibilities within contemporary illustration and animation.

Participants in the Northern Festival of Illustration Prize will have the unique opportunity to gain international visibility while contributing to an event that is recognized for its commitment to artistic excellence. The festival highlights both emerging talents and seasoned professionals, offering distinct categories to ensure fairness and meaningful recognition for all skill levels. Artists are invited to submit works that not only illustrate their technical skills but also vividly convey emotional depth, storytelling proficiency, and creative originality, positioning their art prominently within the global creative community.

Beyond the competitive aspect, the Northern Festival of Illustration provides significant professional development opportunities, including mentorship, workshops, and public exhibitions. The shortlisted and winning artworks will be prominently displayed across key cultural venues in Hartlepool, creating an immersive celebration of visual storytelling accessible to a broad audience. By participating, artists not only compete for prestigious awards but also become part of a vibrant artistic dialogue, enhancing their professional portfolios and establishing valuable networks within the illustration and animation industry.

There is no entry fee.

Eligibility

Open to all emerging and professional illustrators and emerging animators globally, working in any format, medium, or context.

Prize

The competition features three categories: Emerging Illustrator, Established Illustrator, and Emerging Animator. The Established Illustrator winner will receive a £1,000 cash prize, while the Emerging Illustrator and Emerging Animator winners will each receive £500. Additionally, the Emerging Animator winner will be invited to a 6-week Aardman Academy Masterclass Short Course and have their work showcased at the Festival's animation screening event at Vue cinema in Hartlepool. Winners in the illustration categories will also receive progression support, such as a free digital platform sponsored by Readymag or mentorship through The Northern School of Art's illustrative team. Moreover, the top 10 shortlisted entries in each category will be exhibited at the Northern Festival of Illustration, taking place from 13 September to 1 November 2025 across various venues in Hartlepool, including Hartlepool Art Gallery and The Northern School of Art.
