

World Illustration Awards 2026

Category: [Illustration](#)

Deadline: February 17, 2026

Website: graphiccompetitions.com



The World Illustration Awards is an international competition designed to spotlight outstanding work across the global illustration industry. Organised by the Association of Illustrators, it serves as a major platform where illustrators, commissioners, and creative professionals converge to celebrate innovation, craft, and visual storytelling. Each year, thousands of submissions are reviewed by industry experts, making the awards a respected benchmark for artistic excellence.

The competition showcases a wide range of illustration disciplines, including publishing, advertising, animation, editorial, children's books, design, and experimental image-making. By presenting such diverse categories, the awards highlight the evolving landscape of contemporary illustration and acknowledge both traditional and emerging techniques. This breadth helps illustrators demonstrate their versatility and gain visibility among influential art directors, agencies, publishers, and brands.

Beyond recognition, the World Illustration Awards functions as a powerful promotional platform. Shortlisted and winning artists benefit from global exposure through curated exhibitions, digital showcases, industry press, and inclusion in professional directories. The awards elevate an illustrator's professional profile, strengthen their creative portfolio, and open doors to new commissions and long-term career opportunities, reinforcing the event's status as a key milestone within the illustration community.

Entry fee: £34 per single entry / £53 for multiple entry (also payable as €41 / €64 or \$43 / \$67).

Eligibility

Open to illustrators worldwide (professionals and emerging talent).

Prize

Winners receive a single-page marketing package in the Directory of Illustration 2026, valued at US \$2,700, offering significant exposure to industry clients and art buyers worldwide.
