2026
Guidelines

The Evelyn Chapman Art Award 2026 - $60,000

Presented to a young Australian painter, this scholarship aims to engender the encouragement, development and rewarding of artistic skill, through furthering the training and knowledge and skills of Australian painters.

About the award

The Evelyn Chapman Trust was established by Evelyn Chapman's daughter Pamela Thalben-Ball, and will award a scholarship of every second year, to support a young Australian painter by furthering their art education both in knowledge and artistic practice. The artist receiving the award will use the scholarship overseas or in Australia, at a recognised and well-established art school or work at an organisation on a program or project that enhances the artist's artistic skills.

The Award will be presented to a young artist, male or female, under the age of 45. Applicants will submit one or more landscape, portrait or still life painting in oils or tempera (up to a maximum of three works). A selection committee of three judges will then come to a consensus on the applicant who displays the highest artistic merit.

Born in 1888 in Sydney, Evelyn Chapman was a painter who spent her working career in Australia and Europe. She exhibited in the Salon in France, before travelling to battlefronts of France following the First World War. She became the first female artist to depict the devastated fields, churches and towns of the Western Front. Chapman retired as painter following her marriage; however she espoused art education and practice, particularly in her daughter

Form and Amount of Scholarship

The Evelyn Chapman Art Award will take the form of a scholarship, intended to cover the reasonable costs of the award winner for a period of two years, while studying at a recognised and well-established art school or organisation approved by the Trustee, overseas or within Australia.

Refer 'Eligibility' section for full entry conditions and requirements.

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Key information

Applications open
April 2026
Entry Fee: $30

Applications close

25 September 2026 midnight EST
Digital images of artworks, completed application forms and all relevant attachments must be received by or on this date

Pre-selection of works by judges via submitted materials
Short-listed applicants will be advised via email if works are selected as finalists.

Delivery of finalist work
October 2026

Finalist works must be delivered to nominated Sydney location for final judging (details will be forwarded to the relevant applicants). Please note there is no exhibition of finalist's work accompanying this competition.

Shortlisted finalists must submit a proposal outlining the residency / project to be undertaken. Proposals should be no more than 300 words and must demonstrate how the project will further their art education.

Official announcement of winner
26 October 2026

Trustee:
Perpetual Trustee Company Ltd

Award Administrator:
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To apply visit

www.shervingallery.com.au

Terms and conditions

Eligibility

1. Each applicant must fulfil the following conditions and requirements:
   - be over the age of 18 at the date applications close, and under the age of 45 on the date applications close;
   - be an artist born in Australia and/ or resident in Australia for at least three years immediately preceding the date applications close;
   - not have won the Award more than twice previously.
2. The winner will take up their scholarship within two years from the date of award.
3. Any artist in receipt of the Award will provide a quarterly report from the art school or organisation that the artist is attending.
4. There is a limit of three works each artist may submit;
5. An applicant's painting, or paintings must:
   - Be an original work and must not infringe copyright;
   - Be executed entirely within the two years immediately preceding the date applications close;
   - Be completed by the date of submission;
   - Be a portrait, landscape or still life painted in oil or tempera. Please note that self-portraits are accepted for this award;
   - Be two-dimensional and must use the medium of paint. Sculpture, photographic and video works are not eligible.

Application requirements

Each applicant must complete the following requirements to be eligible for this award. Physical paintings are not required for the initial judging. The selection will be determined from completed applications submitted via the online form.

1. The applicant must complete the application form online.
2. The applicant must submit a current CV outlining qualifications, relevant training, exhibition history, prizes and scholarships.
3. The applicant may submit up to three JPEG image files of their artwork for consideration by the judges.
4. The applicant must submit an online application form and confirm their acceptance of the Terms and Conditions via the online system.
5. The applicant must be able prove they are an Australian citizen or have been a resident in Australia for over three years preceding the date applications close. The winning applicant must submit either a passport or birth certificate to show citizenship or evidence of residency as support material.
6. No correspondence will be entered into with applicants after applications have closed.
7. Dates listed under 'Key Dates' must be strictly adhered to by the applicant. There are no exceptions to this rule.
8. Late applications will not be accepted.
9. All applicants will be advised of the outcome of their application by email.
10. Short-listed artists will be required to submit their works for final determination of the winning work. The winning artist may be required to attend the Award announcement of the Award on Monday 26 October.

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