



# CLUNES CERAMIC AWARD 2026

## 4 OCT - 1 NOV 2026

### THE AWARD

The Clunes Ceramic Award Committee and Creative Clunes Inc will hereinafter be known as “the Organisers”.

- The Clunes Ceramic Award is a national biennial award and exhibition, open to all artists who are residents of Australia.
- The Award is presented at Esmond Gallery, The Warehouse, Clunes, Victoria.
- In 2026, the Clunes Ceramic Award will be presented from Sunday 4 October to Sunday 1 November 2026.
- The Award prize monies, in excess of \$17,000, include First Prize of \$10,000, as well as Commendation Awards and a People's Choice Award.
- The First Prize and all Commendation awards, including a Regional Commendation Award, will be announced at the exhibition opening on Saturday 3 October 2026.
- The winning artist will receive \$10,000, and their work acquired, in alternate years, for the Permanent Collection of the Art Gallery of Ballarat and the Castlemaine Art Museum. In 2026, the winning artist's work will be acquired by the Art Gallery of Ballarat.
- A People's Choice Award will be announced at the conclusion of the exhibition.
- The Awards are selected at the discretion of the judging panel with no communication entered into. Any attempt to communicate with the judging panel will result in immediate disqualification and removal of work from the exhibition.
- Artists working across Australia and within the Central Goldfields, Pyrenees, City of Greater Bendigo, Mt Alexander, City of Ballarat and Hepburn Shire Councils are encouraged to enter.
- Relatives of/committee members of Creative Clunes Inc; Social @ the Station, Clunes; Hepburn Shire Council, and Mt Alexander Shire Council are excluded from entry.
- The winning artists, where possible, will make themselves available for publicity, following the Award announcements.

### TERMS & CONDITIONS

- All entries must be lodged electronically.
- The Entry Fee of \$50 (including GST) is non-refundable, whether the work is selected or not.
- All works accepted for the Clunes Ceramic Award exhibition must be offered for sale.
- Work must be made by the artist or artists (in the case of collaborative work), executed within two years prior to the final submission date, Sunday 9 August 2026.
- If the work is collaborative, all artists must be acknowledged on the entry form and submitted with each contributing artist's CV, Bio and Artist Statement, as well as a description of the part of the work made by each artist.
- Ceramic mixed-media work is acceptable, but the dominant medium must be clay.
- Ceramic work can consist of single or multiple parts. If the work has multiple parts, single parts cannot be sold individually.
- The artist, and any collaborators, must submit a current CV (2 x A4 pages max), and an Artist's Statement of 350 words max. The Artist Statement should make direct reference to the work and include a conceptual rationale.
- Your entry can include up to five still images and a short, (up to 30 sec.) video, to illustrate your work. Each image must be less than 2MB in size. **Note:** The quality of your images will assist the judges' selection.
- The work in your entry must be the same as the work submitted for judging in the exhibition.
- **Note:** After receiving positive notification of being a successful applicant and finalist, the information must remain confidential until publicly released by the Clunes Ceramic Award Committee. If the work is published by you in any form, verbally, in print or online, pre the formal date of disclosure, your entry will be disqualified.

### CONDITIONS OF SALE

- A commission of 50% of the sale price is payable to Creative Clunes Inc. including 10% GST.

### **INSTALLATION DETAILS**

- Works exhibited on a plinth should not exceed a footprint of 60 cm x 60 cm or exceed one (1) cubic metre in volume, with a maximum height or length of one (1) metre.
- For works exhibited on the floor or the wall, the maximum size is 60 cm x 60 cm x 60 cm. Directions for display and hanging, together with all specifications and fittings and fixtures, must be provided so that suitable provision can be arranged.
- Artists must provide photographic reference (plan and elevation view) of the actual work, or a suite of drawings providing clear directions for assembly, particularly if the work has multiple parts.

### **JUDGING**

- Entrants will receive notification of selection by Friday 21 August 2026.
- All finalists will be selected on the basis of the images, the artist's statement and the artist's CV.
- The Organisers as administrators of the Award reserve the right to reject or to refuse to display any entry due to not meeting the stated criteria of entry.
- The decision of the Judging Panel will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- The Judging Panel reserves the right not to select a winner for acquisition or allocate the full prize monies if the work is not, in the Judges' opinion, of sufficient merit.
- While the \$10,000 Acquisitive Award winner will be notified in advance, via phone or email, prior to the exhibition opening on Saturday 3 October, this result must be kept confidential.
- Voting for the People's Choice Award will begin on Friday 3 October and close on Saturday 31 October and announced at the conclusion of the exhibition on Sunday 1 November.

### **DELIVERY/COLLECTION OF WORK**

- Selected finalists' works must be received in Clunes between Tue 15 and Friday 18 September and on Monday 21 & Tuesday 22 September by freight, post or in person, from 9am to 5pm, at the following address:

Clunes Ceramic Award  
Creative Clunes Inc.  
Clunes Railway Station  
70 Service Street  
CLUNES VIC 3370

PO BOX 287  
CLUNES VIC 3370

- Please advise of courier and freight deliveries via email [info@clunesceramicaward.org.au](mailto:info@clunesceramicaward.org.au) at least 24 hours prior to delivery or collection.
- All costs associated with the insurance, transport, delivery and collection of works of art remain the sole responsibility of the artist.
- Works must be carefully packaged and labelled with the artist's name, address, title of the work, and, if relevant, PO BOX number, and contain a preprepared return address label.
- If a work has multiple parts, eg. box 1 of 5, each box must state or illustrate the required part/s and include a separate preprepared return address label.
- Packaging and protective wrap should be labelled so that the work can be easily stored and repackaged. Environmentally friendly packaging is preferred.
- Unsold works may be collected from the exhibition venue from Wednesday 4 November to Sunday 8 November 2026 or by prior arrangement with Creative Clunes Inc on (03) 5345 3947 or email [info@clunesceramicaward.org.au](mailto:info@clunesceramicaward.org.au).

### **DISCLAIMER, CARE AND RESPONSIBILITY**

- The Organisers and their agents will exercise all reasonable care with all works submitted and will not be responsible for the loss or damage to any work while in its custody or in transit to or from the venue for storage or exhibition.
- Each artist shall indemnify the Organisers, Creative Clunes Inc. and the Clunes Ceramic Award and its agents against loss or damage suffered to their work.

- Each artist is responsible for their own insurance cover.
- Works of art will not be accepted unless the artist provides the work for exhibition free of all freight and other charges.
- Any works requiring return freight will not be returned unless freight has been paid in full in advance, or by prior arrangement with your preferred carrier.
- Finalists will be notified of the sale of their work by phone and email.
- Exhibited works, sold or unsold, cannot be removed prior to the conclusion of the exhibition on Sunday 1 November 2026.
- Any unsold work that has not been collected outside of 14 days of the closing date of the exhibition, unless otherwise instructed, will become the property of Creative Clunes Inc.

#### **PRIVACY**

- Access to the artist's personal details will be limited to the Organisers.
- Personal information recorded on the Creative Clunes Inc. database cannot be accessed by any unauthorised person.

#### **COPYRIGHT**

- The Organisers reserve the right to photograph works exhibited in the Clunes Ceramic Award for the purpose of documentation and promotion.
- All images become the property of Creative Clunes Inc. but will only be used with appropriate acknowledgement of authorship.
- The Organisers reserve the right to reproduce winning entries in subsequent online and print publications and Social Media platforms in relation to the Award and the Art Gallery of Ballarat and Castlemaine Art Museum Permanent Collections.

#### **KEY DATES**

- **Entries Open:** Thursday 2 April 2026
- **Entries closed:** Sunday 9 August 2026
- **Finalists announced by:** Friday 21 August 2026
- **Artworks received:** Monday 14 to Friday 18 September 2026
- **Installation:** Wednesday 23 September to Thursday 1 October 2026
- **Exhibition Opening and Award Announcements:** Saturday 3 October 2026
- **Exhibition Dates:** Sunday 4 October - Sunday 1 November 2026
- **People's Choice Award announcement:** Sunday 1 November 2026
- **Work collection/delivery:** Wednesday 4 to Sunday 8 November 2026