

ARCTIC ART FESTIVAL 2025

Rovaniemi, Finland



RULES AND CONDITIONS

ARCTIC ART FESTIVAL 2025

International Snow-Ice Sculpture Competition

Rovaniemi, Finland

The Competition aims to bring together professional sculptors and artists from all over the world and give them the chance to show their creations in the heart of the Lapland region.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. This regulation determines the procedure based on which the applications for the Snow-Ice Sculpture Competition will be submitted and evaluated.
2. The competition is announced and organised with the cooperation of the Art Team Grani (ArtMind Oy) and the SnowHotel Family (Snowflake Oy)
3. The Professional Competition Commission shall evaluate ideas submitted for the competition.
4. Participation in the competition is open to any person who has reached the age of 18.
5. The team should consist of 2 artists. Only 8 teams will be invited to the Sculpture Contest in 2025.
6. The announcement of the Competition and Regulation is published on the website www.arcticartfestival.com.

FESTIVAL AIM AND THEME

1. We aim to continue the snow and ice art traditions that originated in Lapland in the early 80s by creating a magnificent winter cultural and artistic event in Rovaniemi, Finland. This event is intended to create a platform in Rovaniemi for the creation and development of modern trends in Arctic Art, as well as to strengthen the image of Finland as a world leader in the field of environmental art.

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To present Ice and Snow Art in Finland made by the best world artists

- every year in Rovaniemi, Finland
- by making it possible for locals to see the process of the creation of the snow sculptures

To create a cultural event with a focus on Environmental Arts

- by raising awareness of arctic arts for children and young people at a local level
- by enhancing the national focus on Arctic Arts

To raise awareness - and create spaces for networking and competence development

- by providing an opportunity to artists work with the best quality snow and natural ice
- by arranging meetings, seminars, and conferences about Arctic Arts in Finland and Worldwide

2. Theme: "Outside the Canvas"

Theme Description:

We aim to give artists a unique opportunity to use their creativity to re-imagine and convert into sculpture any of their favourite renowned masterpieces made on a canvas. "Outside the Canvas" is a call to independent thinking, a challenge to look at the world through the eyes of the masters and use their expressive techniques or style without fear of being judged.

We would like to invite you to think about the painting process and look beyond the one moment captured on the canvas. Look deeper into the objects, people, or circumstances surrounding the painting to create your own idea. Make changes or additions to bring new meaning to the original artwork, or even create your masterpiece by using a recognisable painter's style.

While we're interested in seeing how a flat image (painting) changes its appearance and content when converted into a three-dimensional form (sculpture) made of snow and ice, we're not looking for a mere copy of the painting. Please describe your masterpiece/painter choice and the thinking behind your creative idea in a short story.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS 2025

Content of Competition Application

The Snow Sculpture Competition is organised in two stages:

Snow sculpture sketch competition. The sculpting team shall submit the visual of the snow-ice sculpture sketches. Note that according to the competition rules, snow sculptures need to be combined with ice; check the materials described below. All sculpture designs must be original and may not have been sculpted at another competition. After the selection process, the jury will announce the authors of the best sketches, who acquire the right to participate in the snow sculpture contest.

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The sketch selection takes place in two stages:

1. The first stage is the selection of sketches that meet the conditions and rules of the festival by an organizing team. The sketch can be made in any technique such as hand drawn, digital sketch, 3d model, clay model, AI generated sketch etc, as long as it is realistic in its realisation.

Sketches won't pass to the second stage if:

- The sketch does not have any relation to the theme of the festival
- The sketch was already realized at another festival
- The sketch is a copy of any other artwork made in other material
- The sketch is presented with poor quality and is insufficiently informative
- The sketch shows content that is inappropriate, indecent, obscene, or hateful.
- The sketch does not indicate the use of both materials (snow and ice).

2. The second stage of the sketch selection process is released by a professional Artistic Jury, in which more than half are professional ice and snow sculptors. All sketches that have passed the first stage of selection are submitted for review to the professional artistic jury of the evaluation of following criteria:

- Uniqueness of idea
- Composition
- Use of materials (ice/snow)
- Concept (story behind the sculpture)

Snow sculpture-making competition

1. Materials and Technical Support:

The organizers shall provide each participating team with:

- 1 Snow block.
3.0 m. high x 3 m. wide x 3 m. deep (10' high x 10' wide x 10' deep).
- 2 Ice blocks
1.0 m high x 1.0 m wide x 0.3 m deep.
* The organizers reserve the right to provide some extra ice in force major cases.
- One shovel
- One ladder
- One electric saw

2. Sculptors need to bring other hand tools and electric tools (except those mentioned above).

3. Sculpting occurs during designated sculpting hours and must appear at the event site. The use of electric saws and other electric or battery tools is allowed by the following work schedule: Working time: from 9.00 till 19.00. Sculptors can continue work after 19.00 until 22.00 with hand tools only.

The use of motor chainsaws is strictly prohibited.

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3. The only materials allowed are snow, water, and ice. Ice must be used as an embellishment, not as a dominant part of the piece or as the armature. Any other material is forbidden; freezing, mechanised cooling or colourants are not allowed. The final sculpture can't have any external supports or armature.
4. The sculpture should be three-dimensional. The block of snow shall be used entirely and should be satisfactorily sculpted on all four sides without height limits. In the interests of artist excellence, teams will be allowed to use additional snow from around the event site.
5. Each team will be entitled to plan the lightening of their sculpture. Any special requests regarding the lightening must be communicated with the organisation. Keep in mind that the lightening is a significant part of snow and ice sculpting, which affects the result of the piece and the viewer's experience during night time.
6. Artists will need to foresee some time for the installation of the lights. Each team will be provided with:
 - 2 spotlights 50W*
 - Color filters

* 1 spotlight 50W can be replaced by 2 spotlights 20W. Or by 1 spotlight 20W + 2 spotlights 10W. In cases where the light needs to be placed inside the sculpture, the festival can provide LED module lights, but it needs to be discussed beforehand with the organisation.
7. The competition will occur in any weather conditions, but sculptors can schedule their work individually within the allowed working hours.
8. Be sure to bring cold-weather clothing (jackets, gloves, hats, socks, boots, or other).

The Application Procedure

2. The application form for the participants must be filled out on the official website of the Festival: www.arcticartfestival.com by the 15th of October 2024. Or a pdf version of the application form (found in the website) and sketches must be sent to the email info@arcticartfestival.com.
3. Each team must submit at least 1 sketch to enter the competition. Artists are allowed to provide a second sketch/idea if they find it relevant.
4. Applications that arrive after the deadline will not be considered.
5. No entry fee is required.
6. Each team should consist of two (2) artists.
7. The team has to submit the following information:
8. Fill in the application form.
9. A sculpture sketch has to be submitted with the specification of its height and width. The drawing has to present at least back and front views in high resolution, providing the parameters of the sculpture. Other information such as a CV, photos of previous works, link to an

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online portfolio or Instagram account is not obligatory but very appreciated. The results of the Snow sculpture sketch competition will be announced after November the 1st 2024, on the webpage www.arcticartfestival.com

Transportation Fares

1. Organisers shall cover the actual travelling expenses up to the amounts provided below. The amount shall include the charges for forming visas if necessary.
2. Travel expenses will be divided as follows: Every team receives compensation up to 600e/team which covers travel expenses from your occupation country to Helsinki, Finland, and back.
3. All sculptors will travel from Helsinki to Rovaniemi and back by night train. Train tickets from Helsinki to Rovaniemi and back will be covered by the organisation.
4. In exception, if flying to Helsinki is not possible and the artists have to fly directly to Rovaniemi, they will need to arrive in Rovaniemi the same day as the other participants. In this case, travel expenses can't exceed the mentioned limits, and it must be communicated with the organisation beforehand.
5. In case you wish to travel another way to Rovaniemi the travel expenses can't exceed the mentioned limits.
6. Plane tickets, should send it by e-mail to the organisers in advance.
7. Travel expenses will be refunded to the bank account of participants accordingly.
8. The organisers shall bear the transfer costs for the participants coming and going away from Rovaniemi.

Prizes

1. Each selected team of the Snow Sculpture Competition will be granted EUR 500/team after making the sculpture, as a scholarship fee.
2. The cash prizes of the snow sculpture competition will be divided as follows:
 - 1st place - EUR 1500
 - 2nd place - EUR 1000
 - 3rd place - EUR 500
 - Audience Award - EUR 300
 - Appreciation by the Masters (sculptor's vote) - EUR 300
3. The organisers bear the expenses related to the taxes chargeable to the money prizes.
4. Organisers will pay taxes and sums payable in money prizes per the order provided by the Finnish Law.

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Assessment of the Festival Works

The winners of the Snow Sculpting Competition shall be determined according to the jury's evaluation. The works will be assessed according to the following five criteria:

- The reflection of the theme provided by the festival.
- Technical skill – use of materials, excellence in execution and presentation.
- Artistic expression and creativity – originality of design, spirit or message of the piece, form, rhythm, and balance.
- Expressive Impact – visual and aesthetic impact on the viewer.
- Adherence to the original sketch - faithfulness to the original design submission.

Sculptures will be judged on January 25th 2025, both in daylight and during night time.

Work Conditions, Accommodation, & Safety

From 20th to 26th of January 2025, participants will be accommodated in a guest house nearby Arctic Snow Hotel. Each team also get a possibility stay 1 night at Glass igloos (for two persons) and 1 night at Snow Hotel (optional for artists who wish to get this experience). Meals will be served three times a day from January the 20th till the morning of January 26th.

The sculpting will occur outdoors in Sinettä on the territory of Arctic Snow Hotel Resort.

The festival participants working hours:

January 21th– 25th from 9 am to 10 pm*

*from 7pm till 10pm with hand tools only

All works must be finished by 10:00 am on January 25th. Technical personnel and equipment will be available to participants during working hours. The organisers reserve the right to change the schedule depending on the weather conditions after consulting with the festival participants.

Participants have to bring their tools.

Participants will be instructed about the work safety rules, and signatures for work safety will have to be provided. Participants must provide their health insurance policy. Each participant is responsible for their safety, health and life.

Due to inappropriate weather conditions, the artist is entitled to alter the previously submitted sketch or change the sculpture's visual appearance. In that case, changes must be coordinated with the organisers. The organisation reserve the right to deny the travel expenses and the scholarship fee if changes are made without the communication and coordination with the organisation.

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"Crazy Saw" Ice Speed Carving Competition

At the end of the Arctic Art festival the Ice Speed Carving Competition will hold an for those (8) artists who wish to participate. The organisation will provide 8 ice blocks (dimensions approximately 1,20m x 1 m x 25cm) 1 ice block per artist to be carved in 60 minutes. Artists are free to choose the theme for this sculpture. The prizes for this competition will be divided as follows:

Audience Award - 200 euros

Sculptor's Vote - 200 euros

Copyright

All sculptures created within the Festival shall remain the property of the organisers. Organisers reserve unlimited rights for the exhibition of sculptures.

Both the authors of the sculptures and the organisers reserve the right to freely use photos and video materials without mutual liabilities and for no additional remuneration. Organisers reserve the right to document the works for the needs of mass media in unlimited amounts.

Festival Schedule

19.01.2025 Arrival in Helsinki* before 21.00

19.01.2025 at 23.13 Night Train to Rovaniemi

20.01.2025 at 11.03 Arrival to Rovaniemi / check-in to accommodation/ lunch at Arctic Snow Hotel

20.01.2025 Evening Opening Ceremony & Welcoming Dinner at Santamuus

21.01.2025 - 24.01.2024 Snow-ice sculpture realisation

25.01.2025 Speed Carving Competition (1 ice block approx. 1x1x0,25m)

26.01.2025 Free Day in Rovaniemi

26.01.2025 Night Train to Helsinki

27.01.2025 Arrival in Helsinki

The detailed festival Schedule will be delivered to the teams that are accepted to the competition.

*The Organizer reserves the right to change the Festival's program due to weather conditions or other reasons.

