

ARTIST BRIEF

Climate Canvas - Art for Action | Art Competition

1. Context & Purpose

This is a new visual arts competition which asks artists and creatives to imagine a future where people and planet thrive. **Climate Canvas: Art for Action** is a competition that calls on artists across the Bay of Plenty to use their creative talents to give voice to the climate and to the innovations, relationships and ideas that may shape a thriving whenua.

The competition is designed to awaken hope, amplify activism, and spark creative conversations around climate change and community resilience. Artists and creatives are encouraged to submit visual artworks that explore ecological systems, social equity, intergenerational thinking, or draw inspiration from positive developments in climate science, technology, or sustainable design.

2. Who Can Apply

- Eligibility criteria: All ages are welcome to enter, but you must live in the Tauranga, Western Bay district or Rotorua regions.
- Accepted media formats: visual art, mounted on canvas or board, size constraints 22" x 28" maximum, 2D or 3D as long as it can hang well on the canvas / board.

3. Competition Themes & Inspirations

Climate Canvas - Art for Action is a visual art competition designed to spotlight the climate crisis not with despair, but with defiant beauty, bold solutions and hopeful resistance. Whether drawing on mātauranga Māori, regenerative design, or innovations in climate science and sustainability, this is your chance to turn concern into vision.

We ask that you respond to themes of:

- Community resilience and emotional connection to place and planet
- Biodiversity, ecological systems, and rewilded futures
- Kaitiakitanga (guardianship), whakapapa and intergenerational connection
- Ecological wisdom, systems thinking, and materials with low impact

- Scientific innovations sparking new hope (eg bio-based materials, renewable energy, seaweed farming, clean tech)

This is a space for imagination to lead. Whether speculative, symbolic or literal, we welcome works that challenge, inspire and uplift.

4. Submission Requirements

- What to include:
 - o Artwork title
 - o Artist statement: 100 words maximum explaining the concept, motivation, material choices, and its connection to climate action and the guiding themes.
 - o Technical details: Materials, dimensions, installation instructions.
 - o Asking price if you wish to sell your artwork; or your permission if you wish to donate your artwork to Envirohub.
- Apart from visual appreciation, there will be no other type of interaction of the audience with the artwork.

6. Evaluation Criteria

- Relevance to climate themes.
- Conceptual clarity & originality.
- Material / environmental sustainability (eg low-impact or recycled materials).
- Artistic quality & creativity.
- Community engagement or activist potential.

7. Timeline & Logistics

- 17 September - Submissions open
- 31 October - Submissions close
- 3 November - Finalists announced
- 3-10 November - Finalists drop off art to Envirohub

- 13-16 November - Exhibition of Finalists at Cargo Shed
- 16 November - People's Choice award voted on and all other winners announced
- 24-30 November - Finalists Exhibited at Matter Gallery in Mount Maunganui.

8. Prizes & Recognition

Prizes include:

- 1st Place - \$800
- 2nd Place - \$400
- 3rd Place - \$200
- People's Choice Award - \$300. People can vote for their favourite piece from the finalists, in person, during the event awards on Sunday 16 November.
- Chance to exhibit or sell work.

9. Rights & Use

- By entering this competition, you are giving Envirohub the right to use your submission in online promotion, publications, and exhibitions, acknowledging you as the artist.
- Copyright remains with the artist.

10. Submission Process & Contact Info

- Submission for judging closes at 2pm on the 31 October. You will receive an email after registration with a link to the submission form.
- Required artist information: photos of the art, contact details, residency, name, price if applicable. For more info, see submission form.
- All finalists need to bring their physical art to Envirohub (31b Glasgow Street, Tauranga) by 10 November to be judged and exhibited at the Cargo Shed.

Key info

Submissions open - 17 September

Submissions close - 31 October