



The World Illustration Awards 2019 are open for entries!

The Association of Illustrators (AOI) in partnership with USA-based Directory of Illustration, announces that the World Illustration Awards 2019 are now open for entries. Following WIA's most successful year ever in 2018, we are delighted to announce an array of brand-new prizes for 2019, giving more chance than ever for winning illustrators to gain recognition and opportunities for career growth.

“Winning these awards means a great deal... it's a real honour to have been chosen. Experiences like winning at the World Illustration Awards reassures me that I did the right thing quitting my day job and going full time when I did!”

Stevie Gee, Overall Professional Winner 2018

Illustrators, commissioners, agents and tutors are invited to submit work made in the 2018 calendar year to the eight categories of the Awards: Advertising, Books sponsored by NoBrow, Children's Books sponsored by Walker Books, Design, Editorial, Experimental, Research and Site Specific, representing the major areas in which illustration is made for today.

“WIA is a highly respected and hugely visible platform, important to the world of professional illustrators, art directors and students, but also with cross-over appeal to a growing audience worldwide.”

Sam Arthur, Managing Director of NoBrow, WIA Books Category Sponsor

Each category will be judged by a panel of international experts, including Kirstie Johnstone, Creative Production Partner and Board Director at AMV BBDO, Stefan Bergmeier, Designer and CEO of Neue Formation GMBH and Leyla Reynolds, Editor at gal-dem, representing some of the industry's most respected names. The jury will select a shortlist of 200 of the very best projects submitted to the competition, and choose Professional and New Talent Winners in each category. A catalogue featuring the Category Winners, jury profiles and complete shortlist will be published alongside the exhibition and distributed to commissioners all around the world.

“The WIA are a hugely important platform for the illustration industry. We're encouraging agents and commissioners as well as individual illustrators to consider entering this year. We want to use the WIA to raise the profile of illustration and highlight the importance of the creative industries world-wide”

Ren Renwick, AOI CEO.

The Category and Overall Winners will be announced at a high-profile awards ceremony in central London at an exhibition featuring all shortlisted entries, alongside in-depth displays of winning entries. The two Overall Winners will be awarded generous cash prizes of £2,000 (Professional) and £1,000 (New Talent) at the ceremony.

New for 2019

This year, the AOI is proud to announce the introduction of three new prizes: an AOI Member's Prize, a Directory of Illustration Award, and SAA Agents Award for New Talent. Prizes include agent representation, portfolio promotion and business support.

All Category Winners and Highly Commended projects will be included in a UK-wide touring exhibition.

More information and the submission form can be found on the AOI website: theaoi.com/world-illustration-awards/



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Notes to the editor:

The AOI Facebook: www.facebook.com/theaoi

The AOI Twitter: @theaoi

The AOI Instagram: @theaoi

The Directory of Illustration Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DirIllustration>

The Directory of Illustration Twitter: @DirIllustration

Competition Hashtag: #WIA2019

Download the press kit here: <https://theaoi.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/WIA2019-Press-kit-C4E.zip>

The World Illustration Awards

The World Illustration Awards are delivered by the AOI in partnership with USA-based Directory of Illustration, building on a 40-year tradition of the AOI organising juried survey competitions.

The AOI first ran an annual competition, called Images, in 1975 that was open to any British Illustrator. It was unique then, as the selection for the publication was made by a jury, selecting the best contemporary submissions each year to be published in the annual. In 2012, Images was replaced by the AOI Illustration Awards. These ran for two years, before The AOI formed a partnership with the Directory of Illustration in the USA and created the World Illustration Awards in 2015.

The World Illustration Awards 2019 are [sponsored](#) by:

Children's Book Category sponsor: Walker Books
Books Category sponsor: NoBrow Press

WIA Supporters:

London Book Fair
Workbook
The Bookseller
SAA (Society of Artist Agents)
Creative Hub

WIA Media Partners:

Computer Arts
The Dots
Varoom

The Association of Illustrators (AOI) is the UK's leading illustration body supporting and sustaining illustrators and the illustration industry. Established in 1973 the AOI offers members professional support, online resources and a growing programme of events. The AOI has successfully to increase the standing of illustration as a profession and improve commercial and ethical conditions. With a membership that includes freelance illustrators, agents, students and colleges the AOI continues to support and educate future generations at every stage of their career.

www.theaoi.com

The Directory of Illustration is widely regarded as the world's leading marketing program for illustrators. Their website and print resources are relied on by thousands of qualified art buyers when they need to commission illustration.

www.directoryofillustration.com