



EMERGING ARTISTS IN STUDY

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Who can enter the A-level Summer Exhibition Online?

All students at schools and colleges in the UK who are currently studying A-levels (A/S and A2), IB and Higher/Advanced Higher.

2. When can I submit my work?

Student registration begins on 15 January 2010. After registering, students receive their personal submission link via email and can submit their work until 9 April.

3. The registration form won't let me register.

It is possible that your teacher has not registered your school. Your school must be registered before you can register and submit artwork. Teachers can register their schools until 15 March.

4. Can my teacher submit my work?

This exhibition is for you, the student. The submission process only allows one person to submit three images so we advise submitting your artwork yourself using your personal email address.

5. What happens if my images are more than 1mb?

You may not be able to upload your images. To make your images more web-friendly, make the width 1000 pixels and click on Save for Web on Photoshop.

6. How do I photograph my work?

Ask your teacher for help and consider the following:

- What is in the background of my photograph?
- Do I need to place my work on the floor, a table or an easel?
- Is there a glare from the flash reflected on my work?
- Is my photograph clear and in focus?
- Read the photography guidelines below.

7. How do I crop my work?

It is very important to crop your work exactly, as images with messy backgrounds will be automatically rejected. Use the cropping tool on software such as Photoshop to do this.

8. Can I submit video?

Video work can be submitted in 2010 through YouTube. Videos can be a maximum of 3 minutes in length. Please note that this is a Fine Art exhibition and genres such as documentaries and advertisements will not be judged.

9. Do I have to include the text (Inspiration and Artwork Inspiration)?

It is important for the curators to read about you and your influences. This is required of all artists submitting to exhibitions.

10. What happens after I submit my images?

All the submitted images are selected from a shortlist by a Royal Academician artist, Director of RA Exhibitions and a RA Schools student. The exhibition goes online on 14 June.

11. What if I am still having problems?

Please email alevelonline@royalacademy.org.uk and we will help you.

Some Guidelines on Photographing Works of Art, by the Royal Academy's Curator of Photographs, Pat Eaton

1. **Avoid photographing your work in a mount or frame or under glass.**
2. If possible **photograph the work out of doors**. This avoids inaccurate colours through different forms of indoor lighting.
3. To photograph your work well, **you need good even daylight**. Very sunny days are to be avoided when you will have problems with changing light levels as the sun goes in and out of clouds. An overcast day is probably best.
4. If the work is a drawing or print and not too big place it on a large piece of matt-grey or matt-black card **flat on the ground**. Make sure both are flat. A good alternative is a piece of matt-black velvet.
5. Try and use a tripod to avoid moving the camera even slightly while you are taking the photograph. If you do not have a tripod, stand over the work and try to steady yourself as much as possible (legs apart helps) but make sure that you, your tripod or anything else **do not cast a shadow on the work**.
6. Make sure the lens of your camera is held over the middle of the work and you are parallel to the surface of work, that is, **try not to tip the camera**.
7. If you cannot photograph the work flat on the ground, prop it up against a black or grey board. **Make sure that there is nothing brightly coloured close by** as you may get this colour reflected on your work.
8. **For 3d objects, place the work on a stable box or low table**, having first made sure that the background is very plain. If possible use a sheet of black or grey paper as a background, but a brick wall or fence would be okay. Make sure there is nothing brightly coloured on or near the table that will reflect colour on your work. Draping the table first with matt-black cloth is a good idea.
9. **Take several photographs over a period of time** and select the image that most accurately shows the colours of your work.
10. If you have to photograph your work indoors, try and work near a window and avoid having anything brightly coloured close by. Check that there are no shadows on your work. **Try and use daylight, not electric lights**. If you do have to use electric light, **try and place the lights on either side of your work at the same distance away** so that they shine a uniform light on it. Do not place them too close to the work.