



# Guidelines

## The A.M.E. Bale Travelling Scholarship and Art Prize

The A.M.E. Bale Travelling Scholarship and Art Prize is awarded to Australian artists who have demonstrated talent and achievement in traditional styles. This includes realist, figurative and representational styles. The Art Prize is intended to encourage, support and advance classical training of emerging artists (in their early to mid-career) at any stage of life, who are pursuing the study and practice of traditional art and who desire to study the works of old masters.

There are three categories for the Art Prize, each of which has its own guidelines outlined on the following pages:

1. Major Award for a travelling scholarship \$50,000
2. A.M.E. Bale Art Prize in the medium of oils and/or acrylics \$5,000
3. A.M.E. Bale Art Prize for works on paper \$5,000

As trustee of the A.M.E. Bale Art Foundation Trust and manager of the Travelling Scholarship and Art Prizes, Perpetual Trustee Company Ltd (referred to as 'we', 'our', 'us' below) is pleased to carry out the vision of A.M.E. Bale.

The A.M.E. Bale Art Foundation Trust provides the scholarship and prizes, presented at an exhibition and event held at Glen Eira City Council Gallery.

### About A.M.E. Bale

A.M.E. Bale was born in Melbourne in 1875 and studied art under Frederick McCubbin and L Bernard Hall at the National Gallery Art School in Melbourne. She developed a reputation as a fine artist who distinguished herself particularly as one of Australia's pre-eminent flower and still life painters of the early 20th Century. Today she is represented in many major state and regional art galleries.

Miss Bale was the founding secretary of the Twenty Melbourne Painters Society, a position that she held until her death in 1955. She established the A.M.E. Bale Travelling Scholarship and Art Prize through her will to support Australian artists in perpetuity.

Today, the tradition of A.M.E. Bale's relationship with Twenty Melbourne Painters Society (TMPS) is continued through the judging panel for the Art Prize. The judging panel is comprised through the Society and provides expert assistance to the trustee in judging the award, taking into consideration the implementation of both the spirit and letter of Miss Bale's will.

## Timeline

See the conditions of entry on page 3 for specific information about submissions, delivery of artworks and exhibiting.

<b>23 September 2025</b>	Online applications close
<b>17 October 2025</b>	Successful shortlisted applicants notified and invited to exhibit in the Art Prize exhibition.
<b>5 - 9 November 2025</b>	Exhibition artworks to be delivered to Glen Eira City Council Gallery
<b>14 November 2025</b>	Exhibition open to the public – 10am
<b>18 November 2025</b>	Awards announcement and event – 6pm
<b>7 December 2025</b>	Exhibition closes
<b>9 &amp; 10 December 2025</b>	Exhibition artworks to be collected from Glen Eira City Council Gallery

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## 1. Major Award for a Travelling Scholarship

**\$50,000 prize**

This is awarded to an artist who has demonstrated talent and achievement in traditional styles, to travel overseas to study the works of old masters, or where applicable, study within Australia.

### Submissions

Applicants for the Major Award should submit a completed on-line application form and upload the following word documents and jpeg images:

- A proposal of no more than 1000 words for a one-year program that includes:
  - Details of a proposed overseas tour of art galleries that contain works of old masters. This should include an itinerary of galleries, the purpose and intended benefits of the tour and proposed expenditure (high level summary only). Photos, drawings or images should not be included in the proposal.
  - In lieu of an overseas tour and based on the needs or advantages of a particular artist, we may instead subsidise a period of time to pursue study of works of old masters and the practical aspects of painting in traditional styles in Australia. These applicants should provide details of the structure of their proposed study program

and include details of proposed expenditure for appropriate courses, training, education, artists' materials, travel, accommodation or mounting an exhibition of work.

- A 100-word summary of the above proposal must be included.
- A brief one-page current resume illustrating talent and achievement in traditional styles and evidence of current study and practice of traditional art.
- One of each of the following original works (4 works in total) for judging by the selection committee:
  - a painting of a still life
  - a painting of the human figure or a portrait, both to include hands
  - a painting of a landscape
  - a drawing from life of the nude human figure (charcoal, conte, pencil).

Works submitted should display good draughtsmanship, an ability to handle paint, and show potential to expand the range and skill of the artist's work to further pursue a career in painting.

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## 2. A.M.E. Bale Art Prize in the medium of oils and/or acrylics

**\$5,000 prize**

## 3. A.M.E. Bale Art Prize for works on paper

**\$5,000 prize**

An individual award of \$5,000 will be granted to the work considered to be the most outstanding example of traditional painting entered in each of the categories.

### Submissions

Applicants are required to submit a completed on-line application form and upload a high-res jpeg image of one original work for each category for judging by the selection committee.

## Conditions of entry

1. Entries must be received on-line no later than:  
**5PM, AEST, TUESDAY 23 SEPTEMBER 2025**
2. Applicants may submit entries for both the Major and A.M.E. Bale Art Prize categories, however separate entries and application forms must be submitted for each category.
3. Applicants for the A.M.E. Bale Art Prizes may submit only one entry for each of the oil/acrylic and works on paper categories.
4. All entries must be the original work(s) of the artist and the image must be a maximum of 1.5m x 1.5m (before framing).
5. Applicants must be Australian citizens aged 18 years and over.
6. Only artworks created after the closing date of the previous Prizes (4 October 2022) will be accepted.
7. Previous recipients of the A.M.E. Travelling Scholarship are ineligible to re-enter for the Major Award.
8. All entrants should submit their applications using the online entry form on the Glen Eira City Council Gallery website ([www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/bale](http://www.gleneira.vic.gov.au/bale)). Entrants must submit a completed application form, upload their written submissions for the Major Award and upload digital image/s of their entry along with any additional requirements as stipulated under Submissions on page 2.
9. Applicants must submit and upload images of their artworks. Digital images should be supplied as single, high resolution JPEG files, (300 dpi) of each work entered and less than 2MB where possible. Please save the image with the following details as the file name: Artist's surname\_artist's firstname\_title.jpeg (example smith\_john\_still\_life.jpeg)
10. Selection of shortlisted applications will be based on the digital images submitted.
11. There are no other methods of entry. Entries not received via the above on-line application procedure will not be accepted. Emailed images, discs, photographs or any alternative methods of entry will not be accepted.
12. Applicants agree that their submissions and details will be shared with parties associated with the Awards including TMPS, Perpetual and Glen Eira City Council. They also agree to the reproduction of their works on either web or social platforms for the purposes of promotion by any of these parties.
13. All shortlisted entrants will be notified of the results by 17 October 2025.
14. Once an artwork is entered it cannot be replaced. If an artwork is entered and is then no longer available, the applicant must withdraw the application entirely by contacting the Glen Eira City Council Gallery.
15. All shortlisted entrants selected by the judges must organise the delivery of their artworks to the Glen Eira City Council Gallery, Corner Glen Eira and Hawthorn Roads, Caulfield VIC 3162, at these specific times: **Wed 5th, Thurs 6th and Fri 7th November (10am – 5pm), Sat 8th & Sun 9th November (1-5pm).**
16. Late entries will not be accepted.
17. All entries must be suitably prepared with D-rings and wire attached for hanging. Works on paper must be framed.
18. Entries will not be accepted by the Glen Eira City Council Gallery unless free of all freight or other charges incurred in delivery.
19. The Glen Eira City Council Gallery will exercise reasonable care for any entries in its custody. Perpetual Trustee Company Ltd and The Glen Eira City Council Gallery will not be responsible for any loss or damage whatsoever to any entries during transit or whilst in The Glen Eira City Council Gallery's custody. Applicants are responsible for maintaining their own comprehensive insurance coverage in transit and in situ. Perpetual requires any artists invited to exhibit to provide either a copy of the certificate of comprehensive insurance obtained or a signed release and waiver which Perpetual will provide to the artist. Documentation will need to be provided prior to artworks being delivered to the Gallery for exhibition. Failure to do so may result in the inability to proceed to exhibition.
20. We reserve the right to exhibit such entries, as selected by the Twenty Melbourne Painters Society Inc selection committee for a period of up to one month for the purpose of exhibition.
21. Applicants must agree to allow their entries to be reproduced in newspapers or television and to be photographed for research while the exhibition is on view to the public.
22. We reserve the right to reproduce the winning entries in the following year's catalogue.
23. If, in the opinion of the TMPS selection committee, no submitted work is worthy of being recommended for the Major or A.M.E. Bale Art Prizes, we will not make an award.
24. Our decision is final, and no correspondence will be entered into.
25. All entries selected for exhibition must be collected between 10am – 5pm Tuesday 9 and Wednesday 10 December 2025 from the Glen Eira City Council Gallery.
26. No freight or other charges incurred in the return of works will be met by the Glen Eira City Council Gallery.
27. If any applicant fails to collect entries from the Glen Eira City Council Gallery as provided in Condition 25 above, the Glen Eira City Council Gallery will notify the applicant via email. The Council will not be able to store any artworks beyond this date.
28. The recipient of the Major Award will be required to report to TMPS on the use of scholarship funds, details of the reporting requirements will be provided to the successful recipient on confirmation of the scholarship.
29. We may withdraw part or all of the scholarship funding if the applicant does not use the funds for the purposes outlined in their original submitted proposal, however the proposal may be varied with our consent.

### More information

Glen Eira City Council Gallery:

Email: [alicebaleartaward@gleneira.vic.gov.au](mailto:alicebaleartaward@gleneira.vic.gov.au)

Phone: 03 9524 3214



## What is 'traditional art'?

A.M.E. Bale's intention was that her scholarship would encourage, support and advance artists pursuing 'traditional' art – but what did she consider 'traditional' art?

### The style and training of traditional art

One of A.M.E. Bale's colleagues, Sir William Dargie CBE, believed that this was easily defined by the traditional art training Miss Bale received at the National Gallery of Victoria Art Schools. This type of training had a long history and originated in Italy in the early 15th Century when artists, rather than working alone, worked in groups. During this time of High Renaissance, a successful painter might have set up a workshop staffed by a number of assistants to enable them to carry out and complete sometimes grandiose commissions. Artists of the time included Masaccio, Donatello, Piero della Francesca, Raphael and Michelangelo.

Sir William explains the origins, 'When a junior apprentice first entered the studio at the age of twelve or so, the first part of their training was to work on drawing antique models which had formed the master's own style. Having become proficient in drawing, the youth would be put to the task of scaling up the master's designs and sketches.'

The next step would be to train in painting still-life followed by heads, hands, and even whole figures, as a prelude to becoming a fully trained craftsman and assistant to the master.'

By that time the artist would have reached adulthood and acquired a sound knowledge of human and animal anatomy, perspective and geometry. The fully trained artist would now have a choice between remaining as a senior employee or partner in the workshop where he began as an apprentice or moving on to later set up their own studio.

It was this course of study, moving from basic drawing which progressed to full figures, that was taught in every European art school for five centuries. It was also the style taught at the National Gallery of Victoria Art Schools where Miss Bale attended and formed the vision for her Art Prize.

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