

ORIGINAL art PROJECT

WISE Employment Art Competition Open Call

WISE Employment is seeking proposals for artwork for a unique tribute.

WISE Employment is looking to showcase the inherent talent and creative pursuits of its customers, staff and job seekers, past and present, and their loved ones. This is an opportunity for WISE Employment's community to express themselves and their stories, their passions and aspirations through art. Art in all its forms has an uncanny ability to connect people across cultures and experiences. For those creating it, it can be a way to confront trauma or explore one's deepest imagination. For those encountering it, it can generate moments of inspiration and understanding.



Lead the way as we start our collection

WISE Employment is looking to engage people with artistic ability to share their work publicly by establishing a curated art collection for the organisation's central office at 552 Victoria Street, North Melbourne. WISE Employment is looking to create this collection to engage with its community, build confidence and feelings of empowerment. WISE Employment is seeking to both commission new, original work and acquire original existing works for a permanent art display. Artists of all experience levels are encouraged to apply, from all disciplines. This is an open competition, Australia wide.

Considerations

- Both WISE Employment job seekers and staff, past and present, and their loved ones, are encouraged to respond to this Open Call
- Concepts and artworks submitted for acquisition must be original, uncopied work, not entered into a previous competition
- Artworks need not be newly created works. Artists may propose relevant existing works for acquisition
- Submissions are to be in line with the values of WISE Employment as well as appeal to the common interests of the WISE Employment community
- Key words to prompt your creative responses include – confidence, belonging, community, potential, empowerment, ability, diversity, success and respect
- Key questions to prompt your creative responses include – What does 'working' mean to you in Australia? What does employment provide you in your life?
- Media we are looking for includes, but is not limited to - painting, murals, photography, printmaking, drawing, sculpture, ceramics, bronze, glass, woodwork, metalwork, textiles
- We are looking for fine art, design and craft-based works, not performative, digital or audible artworks
- Please be mindful that your artwork will need to be suitable for permanent display in an office setting. Artwork will need to be able to be hung from or mounted to a wall, suspended from the ceiling or sit on the floor, a plinth or shelving if a sculptural piece
- Artists need to be Australian residents/citizens



Process

We'd love to hear from you. Send us your proposals to be part of this collection.

Up to 25 artists will be commissioned and paid by WISE Employment from those that respond to this Open Call. These artists will be assigned a more specific location for their work within WISE Employment's head office, feedback on their proposal and curatorial support in order to realise their proposed concept.

Commissioned artists will be working with Julia Mihai, Project Manager and Curator, Wonderment Walk Victoria to develop their concept and prepare their artwork for installation. Wonderment Walk Victoria is a not for profit organisation, promoting science through public art.

The collection will be celebrated with an exhibition of the commissioned artworks, launch and awards ceremony. Prior to the event, the commissioned artworks will be reviewed by a selection committee of both stakeholders and external industry specialists. At the event, three artists selected by this group will receive awards to the value of \$2,000.

2020 Timeline

Date	Action
Midnight Friday 17 April	Deadline for proposals (extended from 3 April)
Friday 15 May	All artists notified of outcome Up to 25 artists selected
May	Preliminary commissioning conversations Supply selected artists with feedback on proposal Supply selected artists with more information about artwork location, direction Confirm size, materials, budget Artist supplied with agreement
June	Artists paid 25 per cent deposit on signing agreement

July	Concept development
August	Curatorial support Final drawings Production Artwork title, Artist statement, Artist bio required
Friday 28 Aug	Artwork deadline, latest date for delivery to WISE Employment Head Office, North Melbourne Artists are not required for installation Artists paid in full once final artwork has been received
October	Exhibition, Launch, Awards event at WISE Employment's North Melbourne Head Office, exact date TBC Attendance at the Launch & Awards event is optional There may be some bursaries available to support artists travelling to the Launch & Awards event from outside of Melbourne

Please be advised that this timeline may change.

Selected artists will be required to be available and agreeable to all marketing and publicity opportunities.

Budget

Your proposal must include a rough budget. This should either provide the price to acquire an existing artwork or outline the cost of developing a new work for acquisition including artist fees, materials and production costs.

We are looking for smaller works up to \$2,000, medium works up to \$4,000 and larger or more complex works up to \$8,000.

If the full budget is not available for the artwork, we will discuss artist-driven alternative options of how the artwork might still be realised.

WISE Employment will be responsible for artwork insurance and freight

WISE Employment will frame paintings, photography and works on paper that require it, for continuity.

Please refer to the [National Association for the Visual Arts](#) for more information on Artist Fees to assist as you draft your budget.

Actions

If this interests you, email your proposal as a single PDF to Julia Mihai, Project Manager, Wonderment Walk Victoria at juliam@wondermentwalk.org.au. Please include

- Contact details including Name, Email, Phone number, Address
- Your personal biography or artist CV including a short (no more than 200 words) description of your art practice and areas of interest
- Information on your connection to WISE Employment
- Three examples of your work that best represents your artistic style
- A short (no more than 200 words) description of your artwork idea or a sketch/visual representative of your idea
- Indicative budget

Please contact Julia if you have any questions about your suitability to participate or your proposal.

Next steps

You will receive a submission confirmation email when your proposal has been received.

All proposals will be assessed by the project curator with stakeholder feedback following the deadline for proposals.

All applicants will be notified early May if successful or otherwise.