

AIATSIS 20 SUMMIT 26

1 – 5 JUNE GOLD COAST

Merchandise Artwork Competition Terms and Conditions

To commemorate the 2026 AIATSIS Summit and its co-host Danggan Balun Aboriginal Corporation, AIATSIS is seeking submissions of digital artworks from artists of the Five Rivers People. The selected artwork will be showcased on a range of Summit outputs including merchandise (delegate t-shirts) and printed programs.

Theme Brief

This year's theme *Our Truth. Our Power. Our Future* pays tribute to, and acknowledges, the lived experience, strength, solidarity, and resilience of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. By owning our truths and stepping into our power, we actively build a more just, inclusive and hopeful future.

AIATSIS Summit website: [AIATSIS Summit 2026 | AIATSIS corporate website](https://www.aiatsis.gov.au/summit/2026)

Submission Process

Step 1 –

Create your digital artwork design using the theme “*Our Truth, Our Power. Our Future*”.

- Note:
 - Artwork cannot depict a real person (living) without signed consent
 - Artwork cannot depict a deceased person.
 - Artwork needs to be a digital in format design and 2mb or greater in file size (Vector file format preferred) or a physical painting which can be reproduced as a digital file.

Step 2 –

Prepare a title and description including descriptions of elements in utilized in the artwork.

Step 3 –

Email your entry form and a copy of the artwork to Summit@aiatsis.gov.au by 4.00pm, **Friday 6 February 2026**.

Note: All non-winning artwork will be returned to the artists after judging.

Please note that if an artwork contains the Aboriginal flag it must also contain the Torres Strait Islander flag and vice versa.

Judging Criteria for Artwork

1. Local content (20%)
How the artwork relates to Five Rivers People culture, knowledge and heritage.
2. Concept Design (50%) The extent to which the proposal satisfies the design concept
How well the artwork reflects the 2026 AIATSIS Summit Theme “*Our Truth. Our Power. Our Future*”.
3. Innovation and creative design (30%)
The artwork's appeal to the Summit audience.

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Terms and conditions

1. The artwork must reflect the 2026 AIATSIS Summit theme
2. Participating artists must be an individual who is aged 16 years or older at the time the Entry Form is submitted.
3. Group entries will not be considered.
4. The artist may submit only one artwork (entry).
5. All participating artists must also:
 - a. be of Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander descent;
 - b. identify as an Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander, and
 - c. be accepted as an Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander by an Aboriginal and / or Torres Strait Islander community.
6. All entries will be viewed and judged by the AIATSIS Senior Executive Board
7. The artist acknowledges and agrees that their artwork may be copied or reproduced for the purposes of judging the Competition.
8. The artist must accept these terms and conditions in order to enter the Competition.
9. All participating artists acknowledge that:
 - a. they are aged 16 years or older at the time the Entry Form is submitted;
 - b. the artwork submitted is an original work; and
 - c. the artwork is not licensed or otherwise encumbered in any way that may be inconsistent with these terms and conditions.
10. If a participating artist incorporates or substantially reproduces any material in their entry that is subject to third party rights, they must provide evidence that they have obtained consent to use the third party/-ies intellectual property.
11. Where a participating artist is under the age of 18, the artist's adult parent / guardian must complete the Entry Form by stating their own name on behalf of the name of the artist to indicate their agreement with these terms and conditions on behalf of the artist.
12. Artwork must be digital in design.
13. Artwork cannot consist solely of a photograph and will not eligible for entry.
14. A prize of \$2000.00 (excluding GST) will be payable to the winning artist. The decision of the Competition judges will be final and absolute.
15. A subsequent payment will be made to the winning artist for each Summit Delegate t-shirt printed to be sold. This includes t-shirts given to delegates as part of their registrations.
16. No correspondence about the judges' decision will be entered into.
17. Property rights in all submissions, including the winning artwork, will remain with the artist or entrant except as provided by these conditions.
18. By signing a completed Entry Form, submitting an artwork and accepting the award offer, the winning artist of the Competition:
 - a. grants the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS) a permanent, royalty-free, worldwide, irrevocable, ongoing, exclusive licence (including a right of sub-licence) to use, reproduce, communicate, broadcast, publish, distribute, adapt, and modify the winning artwork in all media of expression now known or later developed and in all languages, for any purpose specified in these terms and conditions. This licence only extends to non-commercial use of the winning artwork;
 - b. consents to any of the following types of acts or omissions by the AIATSIS:
 - i. use of all or part of the artwork in accordance with the licence granted in

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paragraph 19(a), with or without attribution of authorship to the artist (but the AIATSIS will not falsely attribute authorship of the entry);

- ii. supplementing the artwork with any other material; and
- iii. use of the artwork in a different context to that originally envisaged;

- c. may be requested to physically sign a licence and consent form relating to the artwork, prior to the competition being finalised. Failure to sign the licence will entitle the AIATSIS to remove the artist's artwork from the Competition;
- d. agrees that the AIATSIS, may publish in any other material in which the artwork is used or reproduced, any personal information provided by the winning artist in connection with their entry including, but not limited to, the winning artist's name, age, community of residence; and
- e. warrants that at the time of accepting the award offer there is no cultural or religious reason, or any other impediment that prevents the winning artwork from being exhibited, published or reproduced.

19. The AIATSIS' purpose in using, or sublicensing the use of, the winning artwork is limited to the following purposes, and anything incidental to such purposes:

- a. being used as part of images the 2026 AIATSIS Summit social media (e.g. Facebook);
- b. being used in the 2026 AIATSIS Summit Gala Dinner Program;
- c. being used in the 2026 AIATSIS Summit Gala Dinner room theming (e.g. projection, screens, staging etc.);
- d. being displayed in a public place to promote the 2026 AIATSIS Summit..

20. The 2026 AIATSIS Summit Delegate t-shirt may be used by AIATSIS in the following manner (including but not limited to):

- a. displayed on social media pages and websites;
- b. for any other purpose the AIATSIS deems necessary in promoting the 2026 AIATSIS Summit.

21. The AIATSIS will reasonably endeavour to notify the winning artist before altering the winning artwork for any purpose listed in these terms and conditions.

22. The AIATSIS will identify the winning artist on the 2026 AIATSIS Summit delegate t shirt.

23. The AIATSIS will reasonably endeavour to acknowledge the winning artist as the author of the winning artwork where the artwork is used for purposes other than the 2026 AIATSIS Summit delegate t shirt.

24. The artist must obtain permissions and approvals to reproduce graphics, or images of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

25. All entries must be received by **Friday 6 February 2026 at 4.00pm** Australian Eastern Daylight time.

26. The AIATSIS may amend these terms and conditions from time to time, and any amendments will be binding on all entrants. If, for any reason, the Competition is not able to be run as planned, the AIATSIS may cancel the Competition without liability to the AIATSIS, any entrant, or any other person.

27. The AIATSIS and 2026 Summit Co-Hosts, the Danggan Balun Aboriginal Corporation are the Promoter of this Competition.

28. Final selection may be subject to the provision of additional information.

29. The AIATSIS reserves the right, at any time, to verify the validity of participating artist, artwork and Entry Form (including participating artist's identity, age and place of residence) and to disqualify any participating artist who submits an Entry Form that is not in accordance with these Competition terms and conditions.

If you have any questions, please contact: summit@aiatsis.gov.au