

Utazu Art Award Biennale 2025

Painting Category and Print & Drawing Category

General Information

- ◆ **Organiser:** Utazu Town
Organizational Committee of UAAB 2025
Utazu Town Policy Co-ordination Office
1881 Utazu-cho, Ayauta-gun, Kagawa, 769-0292 JAPAN
tel.: +81 877 49 8009, fax: +81 877 49 0515
URL: <https://www.town.utazu.lg.jp/>
- ◆ **Co-organiser:** Utazu Promotion Foundation
- ◆ **Exhibition Venue:** U-Plaza Utazu Arts Centre
6-88 Utazu-cho, Ayauta-gun, Kagawa, 769-0206 JAPAN
tel.: +81 877 49 8020, fax: +81 877 56 7282

Preamble

The town of Utazu in Kagawa Prefecture, Japan, acting jointly with Professor Toshihiro Hamano, the internationally renowned artist, announces the 7th edition of the new annual art competition Utazu Art Award Biennale (UAAB). Utazu is a historic seaside town, yet it has been developing into one of the most exciting new towns in Kagawa. The UAAB exhibition takes place in a special venue within U-Plaza Utazu in the centre of the town. This biennial art competition contributes to discovering and nurturing of young talents and promoting international artists, as well as the development of the town as a centre of art and culture.

The Utazu Art Award is an open competition, accessible to artists across the world, regardless of their age and techniques. The jury, Prof. Akira Tatehata, an art critic and the Director of the Museum of Modern Art in Saitama, and Prof. Toshihiro Hamano, make a selection of works that will be exhibited.

Competition Guidelines

1. The UAAB is of an open character. Artist can submit their artworks either to the Painting Category or Print & Drawing Category.
2. Artists from Japan and from across the world, at any age, may take part in the competition.
3. Each artist may submit a maximum of 2 works to each category of the competition.
4. Maximum size of the work submitted to the Painting Category cannot exceed **162 x 162 cm**, and 5cm in depth (for relieves and collages).
5. Maximum size of the paper-based work submitted to the Print & Drawing Category cannot exceed **72.8 x 103 cm**.
6. Maximum weight of the artwork including the frame cannot exceed 20kg.
7. The top and bottom of each work must be clearly indicated on the back of the work, as well as artist's name and the title of the work.
8. Only works not submitted to any other competitions and not presented in exhibitions shall be accepted to the competition.

Entry fees

1. Payment for an entry to the UAAB 2025 is **20 EUR par work** for artists submitting from abroad.
2. The fee shall be paid prior to the submission of works and **no later than 1 March 2025**.

The payment should be made to the following bank account:

Account name: Ryu Art Group
Name of the bank: THE HYAKUJUSHI BANK LTD.
Branch name: Sakaide Branch
Address of the branch: 3-5-28 Motomachi, Sakaide, Kagawa 762-0045, JAPAN
SWIFT code: HYAKJPJT
Account number: 0313923

3. Money should not be sent in letters or parcels. We do not accept cheques.

4. If payment for the participation in the competition that should be received before **1 March 2025** is missing, works will not be considered for the competition.

5. The above amount due constitutes the payment for the participation in the UAAB 2025 and is not refunded when the works are not accepted for the exhibition of the UAAB 2025.

Original work submission

1. The artworks must be delivered to the following address:

Ryu Art Group
2F Jinko-tochi, 2-1-8 Kyomachi, Sakaide,
Kagawa, 762-0001, JAPAN

by mail no later than **10 March 2025**. The deadline is the date of the delivery of the works to the Ryu Art Group's office.

2. The works shall be sent within the set time together with a legibly filled-in application form.
3. The works in heavy packaging, works in frames, glass, passe-partout should not be sent.
4. The organisers or the Group do not take responsibility for damages occurring during transportation of the works or due to their defective packing by the sender.
5. Works which do not comply with the regulations of the competition shall not be accepted in the competition. Artists who send works to the competition of the UAAB 2025 which do not comply with the regulations, are not entitled to the refund of fees.
6. The organisers do not insure works for the time of transportation, exposition and storing.
7. The works are sent at the expense of the participants of the competition.
8. Please send the works in good time, as it is taking longer than ever to transport it.
9. The works should be sent with no commercial value or printed matter.

Jury and awards

The Jury shall choose the prizewinners of the competition from among works of artists qualified for the exhibition.

The prizewinners of the competition shall be notified in writing about the decision of the Jury.

The prizewinners of the competition shall be invited to the opening of the exhibition and the presentation of the awards. The organisers cover the cost of the accommodation (2 nights, the day before and the day of the opening, at a hotel in Utazu). The organisers do not cover the travel expenses.

Awards:

Grand Prix - ¥300,000 (€1,800)

Toshihiro Hamano Award - ¥100,000 (€600)

3rd Prize (2 from each category) - ¥50,000 (€300) each

4th Prize (3 from the Painting, 2 from Print & Drawing)

Special Prizes: Mayor's Award - ¥50,000 (€300)

Town Assembly Chairman's Award - ¥20,000 (€120)

* The amount of the prize money may change subject to the currency exchange rate. Also, the bank transfer fee is included in the above amounts.

The decisions of the Jury are final and are not subject to be appealed against.

All participants of the exhibition receive a personal invitation for to the opening of the exhibition and a free exhibition catalogue.

The organisers of the exhibition may present the awards at the exhibitions.

Return of the works

1. Works complying with the regulations, but not qualified for the competition shall be returned at the cost of the organisers by 31 July 2025.

2. Works complying with the regulations, and taking part in the competition of the UAAB 2025 shall be returned at the expense of the organisers after the end of the exhibition in July 2025.

3. The works shall be returned to the sender's address provided in the application form.

4. If the artist does not inform the organisers in writing, by mail or e-mail, about any change of address and the package with the works returns to the organisers, then the new delivery shall be possible only at the expense of the artist after previous covering of the shipping expenses.

5. The works which due to their size or weight cannot be resent by Japan Post must be collected personally by the artist or we can send it by courier, prior to covering the shipment cost by the artist.

Calendar of the UAAB 2025

Sending in electronic entry form by **1 March 2025**

Entry fee due by **1 March 2025**

Sending in original works by **10 March 2025**

Announcement of the results by **1 May 2025**

Opening of the exhibition of the UAAB 2025 on **24 May 2025**

Award ceremony at the exhibition venue on **24 May 2025**

Date of the UAAB 2025 exhibition **from 24 May to 1 June 2025**

Return of the exhibited/unaccepted works by **31 July 2025**