

The University of New England School Acquisitive Art Prize (UNESAP) is held annually with the purpose of encouraging talented young artists in regional New South Wales.

neram.com.au/unesap-2026

Divisions/ Age categories

Infants Division	Kinder, 1 & 2
Primary Division	Years 3,4,5 & 6
Junior Secondary	Years 7,8 & 9
Senior Secondary	Years 10,11 & 12

Ten students will be awarded prizes, and four (first place) artworks will remain permanently in the University of New England art collection. All other finalists' artworks will be exhibited at the New England Regional Art Museum, and returned within three weeks of the close of the exhibition.

Divisions	1st Prize	2nd Prize
Infants	\$75	\$50
Primary	\$100	\$75
Junior Secondary	\$200	\$150
Senior Secondary	\$300	\$200
People's Choice	\$100	
Director's Choice	\$100	

Please note that a completed one-page entry form must accompany each submission. Works will not be considered unless this form is submitted with the artwork. If you require further copies of these forms, you may photocopy the original posted, or download them from the NERAM website:

neram.com.au/unesap-online-submissions-2026

SUBMISSIONS

27 April - 15 May 2026

KEY DATES

27 April 2026	Online Submissions open
15 May 2026	Online submissions close
28 May 2026	Notification of finalists
12 June 2026	Delivery of finalists' artworks to NERAM
24 July 2026	Exhibition opening & prize-giving ceremony
9 August 2026	Exhibition closes

We look forward to seeing all the fantastic entries.

University of New England
School Acquisitive Art Prize

LET'S HANG IT! 2026



Tracey Hargis, Still Life, 2025, Yr 12, Macksville High School

Exhibition Dates

**FRIDAY 24 JULY -
SUNDAY 9 AUGUST 2026**

Divisions	1st Prize	2nd Prize
Infants	\$75	\$50
Primary	\$100	\$75
Junior Secondary	\$200	\$150
Senior Secondary	\$300	\$200
People's Choice	\$100	
Director's Choice	\$100	

NERAM



Theresa Dunn, The Flower, 2025, Yr 12, Walcha Central

All artworks for consideration are to be submitted digitally and online through NERAM's website.

Submission guidelines:

1. Artwork to be photographed by student/family member/teacher - Landscape or portrait orientation to match work (JPEG).
2. Jpeg files to be named using the following protocol:
Year of School_Surname_First Initial_School Name
3. Teacher/School to scan completed entry forms as pdf files - Entry forms to be titled the same as the jpegs (PDF).
4. Teacher/School to submit entries (image files and forms) online - multiple entries can be submitted at the same time: www.neram.com.au/unesap-online-submissions-2026
5. Schools will be notified of selected finalists via email by Thursday 28 May 2026.

Selected finalists' work should be delivered to NERAM by Friday 12 June 2026:

UNESAP Entry
NERAM
PO Box 508
ARMIDALE, NSW
2350

Let's Hang It! Exhibition Dates

24 July – 9 August 2026

New England Regional Art Museum,
Kentucky Street, Armidale

All finalists, their families and friends, teachers and other school representatives are invited to attend the announcement of prizes and the exhibition opening night at the New England Regional Art Museum (NERAM) in Kentucky Street, ARMIDALE from 5pm Friday 24 July 2026.

All Enquiries to:

NERAM Phone: (02) 6772 5255

Email: gallery@neram.com.au

(Address all emails with subject line "UNESAP 2026")

1. The UNESAP awards are open to all students attending school in the following regional catchment areas of NSW:

- New England,
- Hunter/Central Coast, and
- North Coast.

2. Please consult the map provided on the NERAM website to ensure you are within the eligible areas for entries, as stated above.

3. Students from government and non-government schools as well as home school groups are eligible to enter.

4. Students can only enter one artwork into the appropriate division/age category. The teacher/art teacher should be involved with the final selection of student work.

5. A school staff member will need to countersign the entry form to certify it is entered into the correct age group.

6. The number of entries from each school will not be limited; however, teachers should not send multiples (more than 2) of the same class art task if they look very similar.

7. Each artwork must be a recent, unaided, original work created by the student artist.

8. The artwork should be two dimensional and could be in the form of: digital art, photography, mixed media, assemblage or collage, painting (acrylic, oils, or watercolour), graphic work, 2D relief sculpture, jewellery, printing, or textile work.

9. The UNESAP committee has decided not to limit the subject matter or theme of the artworks.

10. The maximum size of artwork should be 60 x 80 cm.

11. Artworks will NOT be accepted if they are mounted or framed. Canvases are the exception to this rule as they are mounted on a wooden frame.

12. Artworks must be sent flat and work must NOT BE FOLDED OR ROLLED.

13. After the exhibition closes, all finalists' work will be posted back to participating schools. Local school representatives may arrange to collect works from NERAM. The four winning works will remain at the University of New England as part of the UNE Art Collection.

