

The UKCPS World of Colour Pencil Exhibition 2026

To be held at The Derwent Pencil Museum, Keswick, Cumbria CA12 5NG
31st August to 30th October 2026 – closing date for entries 27th July 2026

This is a UKCPS Members Only exhibition and is limited to one free entry per member.

Terms and Conditions of Entry

Eligible

- Each work submitted **MUST** comprise at least 50% dry colour pencil (i.e. wood-cased, and wax- or oil-based colour pencil, including watercolour pencil if used dry). This definition excludes pastel pencils.
- The remaining percentage of the work may be in any other medium, including any water or solvent used.
- Any photographic reference used as the entire or majority source must be taken by the artist or used with the express permission of the copyright owner.

Ineligible

- Use of an individual's image without that individual's permission, in accordance with UK privacy laws.
- Any work shown in any previous UKCPS exhibition.

The Society has the right to refuse to accept works not meeting all the conditions set out above. In the event of a challenge, the artist must provide evidence that their work is in full compliance. The Society may refuse to exhibit work that is considered not to meet the above entry criteria.

Awards

Derwent Award for 'Best in Show'

UKCPS Award for 'Reserve Best in Show'

Highly Commended (max. 3 pictures)

People's Prize based on votes by those visiting the exhibition.

Timetable

Closing date for entries: 27th July 2026

Notification of selection: up to 31st July 2026

Setting Up: Sunday 30th August 2026

Exhibition open to the Public: 31st August to 30th October 2026

Taking Down: Saturday 31st October 2026

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ARTISTS

Submissions

Artists must complete an online entry form.

Artists must include title of picture, size of work unframed in centimetres and sale price, including 35% commission, on the entry form. This information will be used on the gallery labels so must be correct as changes cannot be made subsequently.

No submissions will be accepted after 23.59 BST 27th July 2026.

With submission, the artist grants permission for

- a) the UKCPS's use of the accepted images for publicity and promotion for purposes wholly related to UKCPS.
- b) the Pencil Museum's use of accepted images for publicity of the exhibition.

Images of Your Work

Have the image file of your artwork ready to be uploaded to the entry form.

JPG or PNG files only; min. size 1MB, max size 5MB.

The filename for each image **must** include your name and title of the work in the following format - eg John_Smith-View_of_Venice.

If you have used a reference photo not taken by yourself, the name of the photographer/copyright holder must be given on the form, and this confirms you have permission to use the image.

Use of Reference Materials

All work should be your original composition and execution. All the following are NOT acceptable.

- Work copied from any copyrighted or published materials.
- Work created using AI-generated images for reference.
- Reproductions such as prints or giclees of artwork.
- Any printed or digitally produced image as part of the artwork
- Alteration of artwork after submission of entry.
- Collaborative works executed by more than one artist, including classroom projects and exercises. You may, however, submit artwork of your own design which was worked on in a class or critiqued by others, as long as you are the primary creative force.

Acceptance

This is NOT a juried exhibition; pictures will be selected by ballot if the number of entries exceeds the number of exhibition spaces. **The closing date for entries is 23.59 BST 27th July 2026.** Entries may be submitted at any time before this date.

All entrants will be contacted and advised by email, whether or not they have been successful, by 31st July 2026.

Framing

Due to restricted hanging space, pictures submitted for this exhibition should not exceed 80cm, measured to the outside of the frame either horizontally or vertically.

Pictures must be securely framed.

There are two hanging methods at the Pencil Museum in order to utilise all the available space. Therefore, it would be appreciated if both mirror plates and D rings be fixed to your frames.

The following are inadmissible: metal frames, unprotected glass edges, non-reflective glass, clip frames.

The Society and the Gallery reserve the right to refuse to exhibit any pictures which are not suitably framed for exhibition. Pictures **MUST** be clearly labelled with the artist's name, address, title of the picture and price on the reverse.

Delivery and Collection

The UKCPS, its representatives, agents and the Gallery are not liable for any damage to works or any loss of works.

You are strongly advised to insure your own works. Any and all insurance cover is at the discretion of the artist.

Shipping: Artists will be required to present their framed picture to The Derwent Pencil Museum in Keswick ready for hanging. Pictures may be posted or delivered to the museum in the week before the exhibition (if delivering by hand or courier, please check in advance when the museum staff will be available). The pictures will be hung Sunday 30th August 2026.

Collection: The exhibition ends on Friday 30th October 2026 and the pictures will be taken down Saturday 31st October 2026 and be available for collection. Unsold pictures must be collected at the end of the exhibition within one week after the end of the exhibition. NOTE – While there will be no facilities for posting back pictures, Royal Mail now offer a collection/delivery service which artists could use.

Full information regarding delivery and collection of pictures will be supplied with your acceptance email.

Sales and Commission

Pictures may be for sale or NFS at the artist's discretion. Derwent charge a commission of 35%. All prices quoted should be the price paid by the buyer i.e. they should include commission at 35% charged on any pictures that are sold plus any VAT if applicable. Payment for sold work will be paid directly to the artist by the UK Colour Pencil Society.

All queries to keswick@ukcps.org.uk or use the contact form at our website.