

**ARTIST'S BRIEF**  
**ForM Sculpture Exhibition**  
Bangor Castle Walled Garden  
**1 – 30 June 2024**



**Submission Deadline: Monday 19 February 2024, 11:59pm (sharp)**

Artists are invited to propose works for ForM Sculpture Exhibition; an annual outdoor sculpture exhibition.

### **1. Submission Criteria**

Participation in the exhibition is through a selection process, or invitation. A selection panel will include the arts officer and independent curators who will meet to review all submissions.

The selection panel will select work based on the following criteria:

- The quality of the proposal
- How appropriate the proposed work is within the garden environment, e.g. content, material, display.
- Ability to deliver the proposed work based on previous experience and images of previous work.

### **2. Awards**

This year we are pleased to offer three awards to selected artists. Votes will be made by a Panel which will consist of invited professionals from the Visual Arts/Crafts sectors and stakeholders

- **1<sup>st</sup> Place** - £200 artists materials of your choice
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Place** - £150 artists materials of your choice
- **3<sup>rd</sup> Place** - £100 artists materials of your choice

### **Award Scoring**

The awards from the Panel Votes will be scored on the following criteria:

- Concept/theme of work in response to the environment of the Walled Garden
- Quality of work
- Originality of work

### **3. Artist's Brief**

*Artists are invited to make submissions for an open air exhibition in Bangor Castle Walled Garden, Valentine Road, Castle Park, Bangor, Co Down.*

Designed by the Ward family in the 1840s the Walled Garden covers 1.5 acres. It had never been open to the public and was once rumoured to be a secret garden. North Down Borough Council restored the Garden to its original Victorian design and it was opened to the public in April 2009. The southern section of the Garden remains true to its Victorian roots. It is divided into four quadrants - the kitchen garden, the herb and topiary garden, the damp garden and the flower garden. These four areas are separated by avenues of spectacular pleached lime trees and rose covered arches. The northern section of the Garden offers visitor facilities including a small cafe, toilets and grassed area for picnics.

### **Opening Hours**

Artists are encouraged to visit the garden prior to proposing artworks (especially if you have not exhibited in ForM in the past) The Garden is now open to the public off-season Mon-Sun 10am-3pm, however please check opening hours online first before your visit:

<https://bit.ly/3WqD8ue>

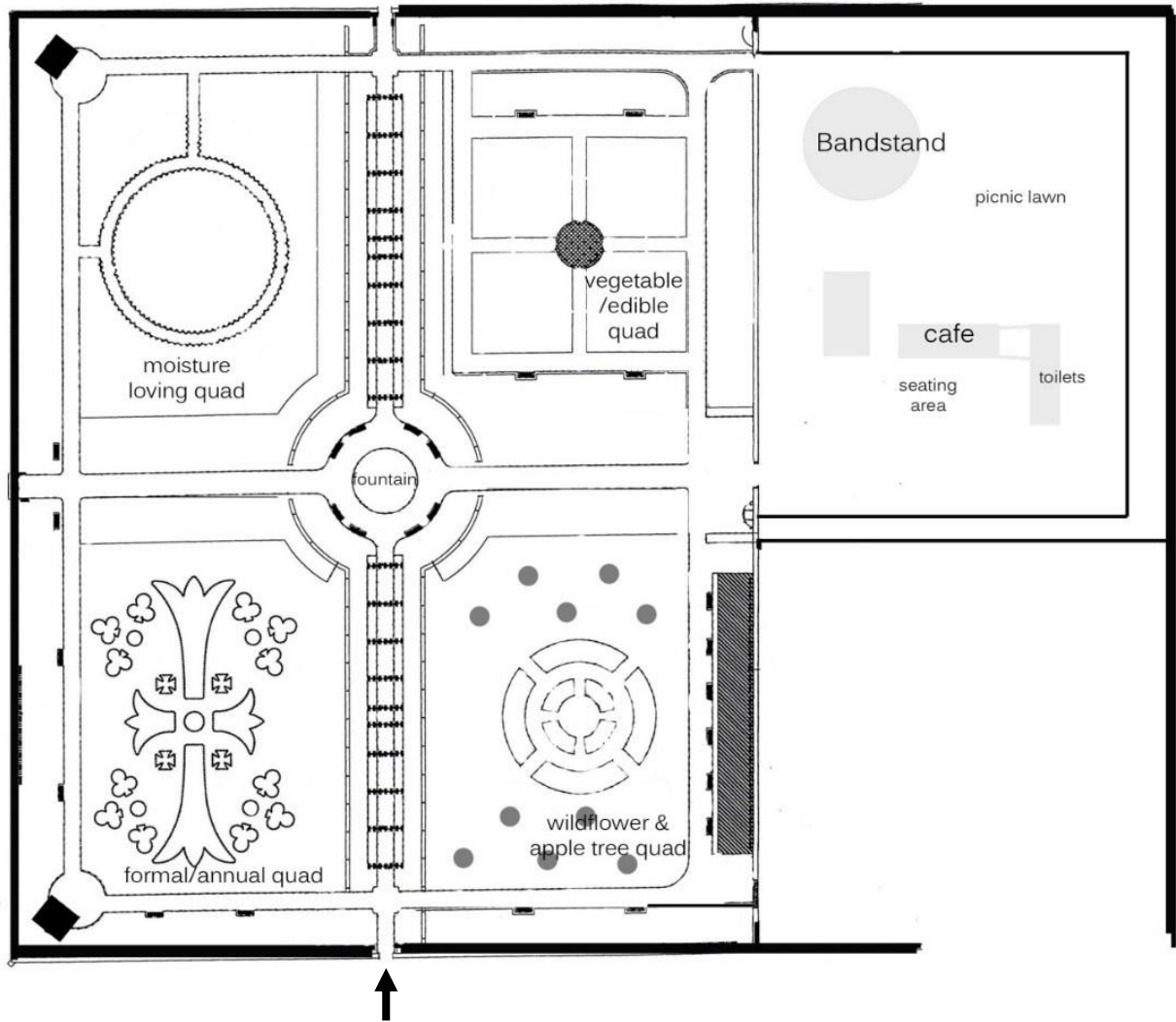
### **Examples of past work:**



### **3. Artist's Brief (continued)...**

- Artists are encouraged to make site-specific work/s or propose work that responds to the environment of Bangor Castle Walled Garden.
- Artwork should not alter or damage the garden in any way. It is sometimes possible (but not encouraged) to site work on grass areas but artists must be aware that artworks would be moved once a week to allow the grass to be cut. Gardeners will not take responsibility of moving the artwork, this will fall to the artist. The majority of works are to be sited within the broad borders and amongst the planting.
- Artists may consider hanging works from the red brick walls of the garden, the walls are already strung with high tension wires. If you are planning to create wall hung work, you are strongly encouraged to visit the garden **before** completing an application form. As the garden matures and trees and plants grow over the walls, wall space is becoming less available. So please visit the garden first to assess the wall space and ensure that work is scaled appropriately to the high tension wires, and has appropriate, secure hanging attachments – outlined in your proposal.
- The exhibition benefits from a variety of scale and therefore larger scale works are encouraged.
- The only areas that are out of bounds for artworks are the greenhouses and the bandstand.
- Artists should consider that the garden is open to the public and work should be durable, safe, weather-proof and be able to last the duration of the exhibition.
- If your work requires a plinth, please consider appropriate materials in keeping with the organic nature of the garden. Artists must supply their own plinths, so please consider this at time of application. White plinths are discouraged unless part of the overall design of the artwork / sculpture. Please outline your plinth design in your proposal.
- The panel will consider locations to ensure adequate viewing space around artworks to ensure that there is a flow for visitors and to avoid congestion / bottlenecks at certain parts of the garden (at narrow paths, entryways, etc). Wall space may also be limited as plants mature over the summer months. Every effort will be made to locate artworks as close as possible to a proposed location, but ultimately the location is at the discretion of the curatorial panel and the garden staff, and are subject to change.

# Map of Garden



**Aurora Car Park Entrance**

#### 4. Dates

Artists proposing work should take note of all the important dates below.

*Please be advised that these dates are TBC and are an approximate guideline, however successful artists will be notified of all dates as soon as we can confirm more information.*

**Submission deadline:** Monday 19 February 2024, 11:59pm (sharp)

**Notification to artists:** Early – mid March

**Installation of artworks:** Thursday 23 and Friday 24 May

*Please note that you will be allocated a date and time slot to deliver and install your work. Work not delivered on your allocated date/time may not be included in the exhibition.*

**Exhibition Dates:** Saturday 1 – Sunday 30 June\*

*\*Please note artworks will be on display to the public from the date of installation, but exhibition information will not be available until the dates of the exhibition.*

**De-Installation & Collection:** Monday 1 and Tuesday 2 July

*Artists must arrange removal of artworks from Walled Garden (after these dates the artworks will remain at the artist's own risk)*

**Please be advised that all dates are subject to change and artists will be advised if this is the case.**

#### 5. Submission Process and Requirements

Please note Submission to the exhibition is via an online application form.

It is recommended that artists save each page of the online form before submitting their response so ensure they do not lose their work.

*All online submissions will receive an automated response with a unique reference code. Applicants should save this email for their records. If the applicant does not receive this response it may mean that the submission has not been received. It is the applicant's responsibility to contact us **before** the deadline during admin office hours at: [arts@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk](mailto:arts@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk) if they have any issues with the form or to check their submission has been received.*

Admin office hours: Mon – Thurs: 9am – 5pm Fri: 9am – 4.30pm Sat & Sun: CLOSED

## **Submission requirements**

*Please have the required support materials prepared and ready **BEFORE** you complete the application form:*

1. Proposal of work
2. An Artist Statement
3. An Artists CV
4. 1-3 images\* max (or sketches) of each of the proposed sculptures/artworks
5. 3-6 images\* max of previous work (include information such as titles)

\*Images should be of good quality, good resolution (no less than 1MB each), and clearly convey the proposed artworks. Images can convey different angles of an artwork if necessary. Video footage may also be uploaded to show a 360 of the sculpture.

Information should be included to explain the images/sketches of proposed works (EG: Titles, dimensions, materials, etc).

Please ensure to outline how your work will be displayed (free standing, wall mounted, on plinth) and include details of any hanging attachments, design of plinth, etc in your proposal.

If you have any queries please send them via email to: [arts@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk](mailto:arts@ardsandnorthdown.gov.uk)

**Submission Deadline: Monday 19 February 2024, 11:59pm (sharp)**

*Incomplete submissions, or submissions received after the deadline will not be accepted.*

~ Guidance notes continued below ~

## 6. Guidance Notes - Conditions of Application/Exhibition

1. There is no submission fee and no commission fee will be applied to any work sold during the exhibition.
2. Submissions must be of a high standard, both in presentation and in content.
3. The submissions must convey the appearance of the proposed works.
4. Artists are responsible for delivery of artworks to the Walled Garden and for installation of artwork on the dates/times agreed with the panel.
5. Artists are responsible for supplying all display requirements such as plinths, hanging fixtures for wall mounted works (to be attached to high tension wires **only** – not drilled into wall), etc.
6. Artworks must be stable and secure and present no danger to the public, if artwork is deemed unstable or dangerous after installation it will be removed.
7. All work is to be installed under the supervision of the curatorial panel. Positioning of the artwork will be at the full discretion of the curatorial panel.
8. All sculptures must be removed after the exhibition without causing any damage to the garden. Artworks must not be removed by the artist before the end of the exhibition.
9. Installation and removal of work will take place only on the allocated dates.
10. Artists are responsible for the maintenance of their artwork throughout the exhibition and will undertake any repair/replacement necessary to ensure quality remains for the duration of the exhibition.
11. The artist permits organisers to photograph the works for any publicity purposes in relation to the exhibition.
12. **Prior to delivery of artworks**, artists will be required to sign an online entry form (by email) which will authorise the organisers to move their sculpture if necessary (for example to cut the grass, or for social distancing requirements) or remove it from site for reasons such as public safety or irreparable damage.
13. The utmost care will be taken of all artworks exhibited. The organisers will not be responsible for any damage, loss of or destruction to any works for any reason whatsoever. Artists are responsible for insuring their work against all risks.
14. Insurance – Successful artists will be required to provide proof of suitable Public and Products Liability Insurance to a minimum of £5million prior to installing their work. **This is a condition of exhibition, and work will not be included in the exhibition without PPL Insurance.** In addition, artists should be aware that Council will not indemnify them for any loss or damage to the artworks exhibited.