

# PORTAL 2026

Deadline for entries: 10am, 17 July 2026

Llantarnam Grange is looking for new voices in contemporary art and craft to exhibit in our annual graduate showcase Portal.

If you have graduated from any BA or MA (Hons), visual or applied arts course from a UK university in 2026, then you are eligible to apply.

## What is Portal?

Portal is an opportunity for fifteen graduating craftspeople, artists, designers, photographers and makers to take part in the annual exhibition of graduate artists in Llantarnam Grange, Cwmbran, south Wales.

Portal is also a wider conversation about your practice and ambitions, where staff and supporting freelancers act as a sounding board and network. Assisting you in developing a healthy career in the sector.

## What is on offer?

Portal is a group exhibition opportunity at Llantarnam Grange that will take place in Gallery 1. Selected artists will gain experience in showing their work to the public, being part of a publication, and building new artistic communities.

Through working closely with our team, this will act as a learning opportunity to help develop practical skills and demystify working in the arts.

Llantarnam Grange  
Heol Dewi Sant  
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Cwmbrân  
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NP44 1PD

 @llantarnam.grange  @llantarnam\_grange  @LlantarnamGrnge

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There will be some mentoring opportunities in-house with our Director, Exhibitions Officer, Senior Engagement Officer or Marketing and Development Officer.

**Each exhibiting artist will receive a fee of £100** for their involvement, you will need to arrange transportation for delivery of the work to the gallery yourself or by courier.

We will cover the costs of return, if you are able to collect your work in person, we can offer a fee of £50.

## Our Gallery

Portal takes place in Gallery 1. This is our largest exhibition space however, it is relatively small. See images from past Portal exhibitions and our Gallery Plan below.

If you would like to apply with larger work, please consider how much space this would leave for the remaining 14 artists. With large work we recommend that you demonstrate alternative ways of display, so the panel can get a better sense of how it could work in the gallery.

If you have any questions please get in touch with our Exhibitions Officer, Savanna Dumelow at:

[hello@llantarnamgrange.com](mailto:hello@llantarnamgrange.com)

## Eligibility

- You must have graduated from a UK university in visual or applied arts (MA or BA (Hons) in 2026.

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- At least five places will be offered to global majority artists, disabled artists and/or Welsh speaking artists.

## How much does it cost?

Portal is completely free to enter and free to take part in. We will pay artists a minimum of £100 for taking part.

## Key Dates

- Deadline: 10am Friday 17 July 2026
- All artist statements and artist images to be sent to the Exhibition Officer by 7 August latest.
- Delivery of work by 2 September 2026 at the latest.
- Exhibition Dates: 12 September – 21 November 2026
- Opening Event: 12-2pm, Saturday 12 September 2026. We will be running an Artist Statement Writing session before the opening, and may have other events as part of our Gallery 2 exhibition 'Bananas' by Ed Lewis.
- Past Portal Talks: 2pm, Saturday 21 November. Two artists from previous Portal exhibitions will share their practice and experience since graduating. This will also be an opportunity to collect your work.
- Arrange return of work by 4 December 2026 at the latest.

*If these dates have to change, we will inform all artists at the earliest opportunity.*

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## How do I apply?

Fill in our online application [here](#)  
<https://form.jotform.com/261673370807360>

This includes:

- 100 words explaining why you're interested in Portal 2026
- 150 word artist statement
- Up to three images, labelled with your name and artwork title, and/or a document including links to up to three video files (publicly hosted and visible on vimeo/youtube etc)

If you would like any tips on what we are looking for in an artist statement, see our Artist Statement Tip Sheet [here](#).  
<https://llantarnamgrange.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/Artist-Statement-Tip-Sheet.pdf>

The maximum file size for upload is 10MB.

Please complete your application before **10am, Friday 17 July 2026**

If you have any questions about Portal 2026, the process, or just simply want to talk about your application or ideas, then please get in touch with Savanna Dumelow at:  
[hello@llantarnamgrange.com](mailto:hello@llantarnamgrange.com)

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We are aware that deadlines can be daunting and difficult to reach for reasons beyond our control. If you feel that you would like to apply, but for whatever reason you will not make the deadline, please get in touch and we will be happy to informally and confidentially discuss a plan.

## AI statement

Portal is an opportunity that seeks to celebrate creative skills through emerging art and craft. All applications will be personally assessed by Llantarnam Grange staff and invited individuals on our selection panel.

We understand that AI can be useful as a tool, however we are interested in your work, perspective, and the ideas that have informed it. When it comes to writing we are committed to making information clear and accessible to our visitors and audiences.

Please see our [Artist Statement Tip Sheet](#) to gain a better idea of what we are looking for.

## What's the process?

After the deadline on **Friday 17 July 2026**, entries will be collected and reviewed by staff at Llantarnam Grange, plus 1-2 independent, external selectors, tbc.

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Artists will be notified of a decision by **Friday 7 August**, at the latest and we will endeavour to offer feedback from the selection panel if requested.

Selected artists will be expected to provide information and images about their work in a timely fashion so that we can produce a catalogue and curate the exhibition in time for the opening event on **Saturday 12 September 2026**.

After the exhibition ends on **Saturday 21 November 2025**, we ask that all selected artists collect or arrange return delivery for their work with our Exhibitions Officer no later than **Friday 4 December 2026**.

Good luck!

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## Past Portal Exhibitions:



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Cwmni Cyfyngedig trwy Warant rhif Company Limited by guarantee No: 2616241

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## Gallery Plan:

