VI INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION OF VISUAL ARTS

SOLVING THE MYSTERY OF PAINTER ĢEDERTS ELIASS

THE THEME "RURAL LANDSCAPE"

Every generation has its own tasks. In the field of culture – to identify, explore and preserve the intellectual pearls of our ancestors. Without history there is no future, so it is important to know and honour the personalities of your nation.

One of those in the Latvian culture of 20th century was Ģederts Eliass – a bright painter, a researcher of art history, a strong personality whose artistic heritage proves belongingness to the highest European cultural qualities. We are proud that this outstanding personality was born and grown up in Zīlēni, estate situated in Platone parish, Jelgava Local Municipality.

In 2027, the Music and Art school of Jelgava Local Municipality is organizing the sixth international competition of visual arts devoted to the diverse art styles and genres of Ģederts Eliass - the Latvian artist and native of the region.

COMPETITION RULES

ORGANISER

Music and Art school of Jelgava Local Municipality

LOCATION

Jelgava Local Municipality, Latvia

SUBMISSION DEADLINE

12th March 2027 (Friday, postmark date), the last day of the school spring break.

POSTAL ADDRESS

Skolas iela 2, Nākotne, Glūdas pagasts, Jelgavas novada pašvaldība, Latvia, LV-3040

THE AIM Of THE COMPETITION

To foster children's and young people's understanding of the rural landscape in art and to encourage an interest in the rural environment, lives of its inhabitants, and cultural heritage. Participants are invited to create an original artwork depicting a rural scene based on one of the five subthemes of the competition.

TASKS OF THE COMPETITION

1. To encourage students' creative thinking and to develop practical skills in painting, graphics, digital graphics and photography. To develop their ability to observe rural environments and use composition, colour, line, light and texture in their artwork.
2. To promote cooperation with the cooperation partners of Jelgava Local Municipality, get acquainted with new partners, and learn about their culture, traditions and people.
3. To provide opportunities for children, young people, teachers and artists to exchange experiences, make new friends, find partners and discover new ideas.

THEME OF THE COMPETITION

Rural Landscape. In art, a rural landscape depicts the countryside and may feature natural scenery, farmsteads, people, their daily tasks, animals and traditions. It may be a landscape with fields, meadows, forests and buildings, or a scene of everyday life centred on human activity within a rural environment. The character of a rural scene is shaped by its location, the season, the light, the mood, and the relationship between people and nature.

RATIONALE FOR THE THEME

The rural landscape reveals the diversity of rural life and its cultural values. Exploring the artistic heritage of Ģederts Eliass encourages participants to observe people in rural settings and to seek their own artistic expression. The competition theme invites participants to explore both traditional and contemporary rural life, its tasks, rhythm and atmosphere. In an international competition, participants can present the characteristic features of their own country's rural environment and discover similarities and differences between rural environments in other countries.

COMPETITION SUBTHEMES

Participant chooses one main subtheme for each artwork and states it in the entry form and both labels. The subthemes provide creative directions; they are not separate award categories.

1. **Rural Work and Daily Life** – sowing, planting, harvesting, caring for animals, crafts and contemporary rural occupations. This subtheme explores human activity and the rhythms of rural life.

2. **The Farmstead and Its Inhabitants** – homes, courtyards, gardens, farm buildings, families and domestic animals. This subtheme invites participants to convey a sense of home and the character of a farmstead.

3. **Seasons in the Countryside** – the awakening of spring, the abundance of summer, the autumn harvest or the tranquillity of winter. This subtheme offers opportunities to explore changes in nature, light, colours and atmosphere.

4. **Rural Traditions and Celebrations** – seasonal festivals, market days, joint activities, local customs and traditional craft skills. This subtheme helps participants explore and creatively portray the intangible cultural heritage of their own country.

5. **People and Nature in the Countryside** – leisure and walks, caring for the environment, observing nature, and coexisting with the living world. This subtheme encourages reflection on people's connection with the rural environment and their responsibility towards it.

CONTEST PARTICIPANTS

Students of art education institutions and interest-based education programmes.

AUTHORSHIP

Each artwork must be created by an individual participant.

ARTWORK FORMAT

- Only original artworks created individually will be accepted. Two-dimensional works must be submitted in A3 (29.7 × 42 cm) or A2 (42 × 59.4 cm) format. Digital graphics must be submitted as prints in A4 (21 × 29.7 cm) or A3 format. Textile artworks must measure 40 × 40 cm and have hanging attachments along the top edge. See Appendix 2 for presentation requirements. Artworks framed behind glass will not be exhibited or judged.

EVALUATION CRITERIA FOR COMPETITION ENTRIES*
*Only individually created artworks will be evaluated.

1. Relevance to the theme "Rural Landscape" and the selected subtheme.
2. Originality of the idea and an independent creative approach; harmony of composition, colours and visual elements.
3. Artistic and technical execution appropriate to the participant's age and chosen medium (technique), and presentation of the artwork.

PARTICIPANT AGE GROUPS

Children and young people aged 7 to 18 are invited to participate in the competition. Age is determined as of the day the entry is submitted.

Age groups:

- 7–9 years
- 10–12 years
- 13–15 years
- 16–18 years

ARTISTIC MEDIUM

- Painting
- Graphic art
- Digital graphics

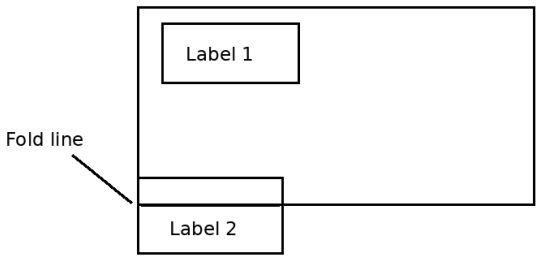
- Textile art

COMPETITION JURY

The artworks will be evaluated by an international jury approved by the competition organisers. First, second and third places, as well as honourable mentions, will be awarded in each category and age group. The jury has the authority to grant incentive awards and to determine the competition's Grand Prix. An audience award and other prizes may also be presented. The jury reserves the right to adjust the distribution of awards across categories.

SUBMISSION OF ENTRIES FOR THE COMPETITION

1. Deadline: Friday, 12TH March 2027 (postmark date), the last day of the school spring break.
2. Each artwork must be accompanied by Label No. 1 and Label No. 2 (see Appendix 2). The selected subtheme must be stated on both labels.

LABEL NO. 1 **(attach to the BACK of the artwork)**	**LABEL NO. 2** **fold behind the artwork and secure it so the entry remains anonymous during judging. It will be unfolded for the exhibition.**
BACK OF ARTWORK  	BACK OF ARTWORK 

3. When sending artworks, include the institution's collective entry form in the package (see Appendix 1). Pack the artworks securely to prevent damage in transit.
4. Each artwork must also be registered individually online: https://forms.gle/PHLAz3E8XNtCQnQg8.

COMPETITION RESULTS

Results will be published on 7th April 2027 on the website of the Music and Art school of Jelgava Local Municipality, www.jnmms.lv, and Facebook page, https://www.facebook.com/JNMMS/.

AWARDING OF CONTEST WINNERS

The award ceremony will take place on Thursday, 22nd April 2027 at 14:00 (Latvian local time). Venue: Jelgava History and Art Museum of Ģederts Eliass, Akadēmijas iela 10, Jelgava, Latvia.

OTHER TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. The organisers may use submitted artworks for a travelling exhibition and various presentation purposes, and may publish them in newspapers and magazines, crediting the artist in accordance with the applicable legislation of the Republic of Latvia.
2. Participants may be photographed or filmed during events. Photographs and audiovisual recordings may be published for non-commercial purposes.
3. Please contact the organisers to arrange delivery or collection of prizes, certificates of appreciation and commendation certificates that have been awarded but not collected in person. Prizes will be retained for three months after the award ceremony.
4. Submission of an entry confirms that the participant's representative accepts these terms and conditions.

ORGANISERS' CONTACT DETAILS

- **Dace Laure, Director of the Music and Art school of Jelgava Local Municipality**
  Address: Skolas iela 2, Nākotne, Glūdas pagasts, Jelgavas novads, LV-3040, Latvia
  Telephone: +371 63077160; mobile: +371 28318526
  Email: jnmms@jelgavasnovads.lv
- **Liene Āboma, Deputy Director of the Music and Art school of Jelgava Local Municipality**
  Address: Skolas iela 2, Nākotne, Glūdas pagasts, Jelgavas novads, LV-3040, Latvia
  Telephone: +371 63077160; mobile: +371 26418317
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APPENDIX 1

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Theme for 2027 "Rural Landscape"

ENTRY FORM

Educational institution _____

No.	Artist's first name and surname	Age	Artwork title and subtheme	Teacher's first name and surname	Contact telephone and email

APPENDIX 2

PLEASE COMPLETE LEGIBLY IN BLOCK CAPITALS

LABEL NO. 1 (attach to the BACK of the artwork)

ARTIST'S FIRST NAME AND SURNAME _____

AGE _____ YEARS
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION _____
ADDRESS _____
_____
TEACHER _____
CONTACT TELEPHONE _____
E-MAIL _____

ARTWORK DETAILS

TITLE _____
MEDIUM: Painting □ Graphic art □ Digital graphics □ Textile art □
SUBTHEME _____

ARTWORK PRESENTATION

Label No. 2 (fold-over label)

Apply glue here

ARTIST'S FIRST NAME AND SURNAME _____
AGE _____ YEARS
ARTWORK TITLE _____
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION _____
TEACHER _____
SUBTHEME _____