

THE 14TH SHIWAN CUP INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CERAMIC SCULPTURE AND ARCHITECTURAL CERAMIC ART COMPETITION 2026 OPEN CALL

Shiwan, renowned both in China and internationally as the ‘Ceramic Capital of Southern China,’ boasts a ceramic tradition spanning over 5,000 years, with the kiln fires of the Nanfeng Ancient Kiln burning continuously for more than 500 years. This culturally rich land has nurtured generations of master artisans, giving rise to the distinguished tradition of Shiwan ceramic sculpture and earning the enduring reputation that ‘Shiwan tiles are the finest under heaven.’ Over the years, the ‘Shiwan Cup’ has evolved into a vital platform for cultural continuity, resource integration, and the discovery of emerging talents.

The theme of this edition, Field and Boundary, functions both as a spatial designation and as a metaphor for relationships, limits, and transformation. ‘Field’ refers to the material foundation, cultural traditions, and local experience upon which ceramic art is rooted. Water, fire, and earth form the irreplaceable physical basis of ceramics, shaping its unique temporality and vitality. ‘Boundary’ signifies openness, permeability, and transcendence. In contemporary contexts, ceramics increasingly intersect with sculpture, architecture, spatial practice, technology, conceptual frameworks, and social discourse, generating diverse expressive pathways and methodologies.

Through this theme, the competition encourages young artists to respect the intrinsic qualities of ceramic media while actively exploring its boundaries and generative potential across disciplines and contexts.

As one of the most important ceramic production regions in southern China, Shiwan’s enduring folk kiln system, vibrant firing traditions, and deeply rooted sculptural culture constitute a dynamic ‘field’ of ceramic practice. Shiwan ceramics have long engaged with everyday life and social realities, forming a distinctive and open aesthetic system across functional ware, architecture, sculpture, and decoration.

Grounded in this culturally and historically rich environment, the 14th ‘Shiwan Cup’ invites young artists to reconsider the boundaries of ceramic art: how ceramics may deepen within its own domain while maintaining critical awareness and tension in interdisciplinary experimentation, and how meaningful connections may be

established between local traditions and global perspectives.

Through the theme 'Field • Boundary', the competition seeks to present the pluralistic and generative state of contemporary youth ceramic practice, and to further promote the re-contextualization and development of ceramic art in the contemporary cultural landscape.

01 Organizing Structure

Organizers:

Guangdong Shiwan Ceramics Museum
International Academy of Ceramics (IAC)

Undertaker:

Foshan Meitaowan Cultural Industry Investment Co., Ltd.

Academic Director: Jin Wenwei

Curator: Chen Jun

Overseas Assistant Curator: Wanliya

Exhibition Coordinator: Ruan Xiaojia

Assistant Curators: Rong Yao, Huang Ting

Academic Supporting Institutions *(Listed in Alphabetical Order)*

Aichi University of the Arts (Japan)

Art Ichol (India)

Central Academy of Fine Arts, School of Urban Design (China)

Changsha Normal University, School of Fine Arts and Design (China)

China Academy of Art, School of Crafts (China)

Chinese National Academy of Arts, School of Literature and Arts (China)

City University of New York, Queens College (USA)

Guangxi Arts University, School of Plastic Arts (China)

Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts, School of Arts and Crafts (China)

Hanshan Normal University, School of Fine Arts (China)

Hebei Academy of Fine Arts, School of Design (China)

Henan University, School of Fine Arts (China)

Hong Kong Art School (China)

Hongik University, College of Fine Arts, Department of Ceramics and Glass (Korea)

Hubei Institute of Fine Arts, School of Handicraft Art (China)

Hubei Institute of Fine Arts, Jingdezhen Creation Center (China)

Hubei Institute of Fine Arts, Tanhualin International Ceramic Art Research Center
(China)

Hubei University of Technology, School of Art and Design (China)

Hunan Artists Association, Ceramic Art Committee (China)

Jiangnan University, School of Fine Arts (China)

Jiangxi University of Water Resources and Electric Power, School of Humanities and
Arts (China)

Jilin University of the Arts (China)

Jingdezhen Ceramic University, School of Fine Arts and School of Design Art (China)

Jingdezhen Changnan Education & Cultural Development Co., Ltd. (China)

Jingdezhen Future Ceramic Research Institute (China)

Jingdezhen Taoxichuan Art Center (China)

Kashgar University, School of Fine Arts (China)

Korea Ceramic Foundation (Korea)

Korea Ceramic Sculpture Association (Korea)

Korea Ceramic Society (Korea)

Kookmin University, College of Arts, Department of Ceramics (Korea)

Korea National University of Cultural Heritage (Korea)

Lishui University, China Celadon Institute (China)

Longquan Wang'ou • Taoxichuan Art Center (China)

Luxun Academy of Fine Arts, School of Arts and Crafts Design (China)

Macau University of Science and Technology, Faculty of Humanities and Arts (China)

Nanjing University of the Arts, School of Design (China)

New York Museum of Ceramic Art (USA)

Peters Valley School of Craft (USA)

Pingdingshan University, School of Ceramics (China)

Philadelphia Clay Studio (USA)

Rhode Island School of Design (USA)

Shandong University of Arts, School of Design (China)

Shanghai University, Shanghai Academy of Fine Arts (China)

Sichuan Fine Arts Institute, School of Design (China)

Sunderland University, Faculty of Art and Design (UK)

Tainan National University of the Arts (China)

Taipei National University of the Arts (China)

Tianjin Academy of Fine Arts, School of Plastic Arts (China)

Tsinghua University, Academy of Arts & Design, Department of Ceramic Art and Design (China)

UNESCO International Academy of Ceramics (IAC)

Xi' an Academy of Fine Arts, Department of Arts and Crafts (China)
Xingtai University, School of Fine Arts (China)

American Museum of Ceramic Art (USA)
Gimhae Clayarch Museum (Korea)
Sugar Maple Creative Arts Center (USA)

02 Theme

WHERE ENDS BEGIN

03 Eligibility

1. Open to young ceramic artists, designers, students, and interdisciplinary creators worldwide
2. Aged between **18 and 45 (inclusive)**
3. Each participant may submit **1-2 works (or sets)**

04 Artwork Requirements

1. Works must primarily use ceramic materials (kiln-fired), emphasizing spatial expression. Mixed media, new materials, new technologies, and interdisciplinary approaches are encouraged.
2. Works must be original and completed within the past three years. They must not have participated in major provincial-level or above competitions, nor be published or mass-produced. Any violation will result in disqualification.
3. Floor or wall-based works should not exceed **4 square meters**. (For questions regarding the size of the works and other inquiries, please consult the organizing committee.)

05 Awards (Pre-tax, in RMB)

For this competition, a total of 100 works (or sets) will be selected as shortlist.

The prizes will be chosen from these selected shortlists.

Grand Prize, one winner, RMB 180,000 + award certificate

First Prize, one winner, RMB 80,000 + award certificate

Second Prize, three winners, RMB 50,000 per person + award certificate

Third Prize, five winners, RMB 30,000 per person + award certificate

New Talent Prize, ten winners, RMB 3,000 per person +award certificate

Excellence Award, twenty winners, award Certificate

The rest of **Shortlisted Award**, Shortlist certificate

06 Benefits for Award Winners

1. The Guangdong Shiwan Ceramics Museum will provide both individual and collective promotional support for award-winning artists and their works, and will organize an exhibition of shortlisted entries to enhance the visibility and recognition of the artists and their works.
2. All award-winning works in this competition will receive official award certificates and prize money issued by the organizers. For works awarded the Grand Prize, First Prize, Second Prize, and Third Prize, the ownership of the original artworks will belong to the organizers. Authors of shortlisted works may voluntarily entrust and authorize the organizers to carry out subsequent market sales and related commercial development of their works. (The specific scope of authorization, rights, benefit distribution, and obligations of both parties shall be subject to a separately signed written authorization agreement.)
3. Award-winning artists may enjoy relevant cultural industry support policies in accordance with local regulations of Shiwan Subdistrict. The organizers will actively connect outstanding artists with enterprise resources, leveraging the strong supply chain of the Foshan ceramic industry to support the market transformation and development of their works.

07 Application Method

1. Please carefully read this Call for Entries. Application forms can be obtained through the following methods:
 - (1) Scan the QR code in this document to access the Chinese or English application form.
 - (2) Visit the official website of the Guangdong Shiwan Ceramics Museum:

<http://www.swcm.org.cn/Home/Index>

and download the application form (Chinese or English) from the attachments section.

2. From the date of announcement until August 31, 2026, applicants must submit the completed application form and all required materials in a single package to the official competition email address.

File naming format: “Artist Name + Region + Country”

Submission email: shiwanbei@126.com

3. For further information, please contact the staff of the Guangdong Shiwan Ceramics Museum:

Tel: +86-757-82701218 (Office)

Ms. Zhang: +86-13336474288

08 Application Fee

No application fee is required.

09 Submission Requirements

1. Artwork Description

Including title, conceptual description, artistic statement, year of creation, dimensions (L x W x H; generally not exceeding 2 meters), weight, materials, etc.

2. Artwork Images

Digital images from multiple angles (front, side, detail views).

Installation and new media works must include overall renderings, display requirements, and installation instructions.

In addition, applicants must provide 1-3 contextual images showing the work in applicable environments (e.g., home settings, public spaces, hotels, commercial venues, etc.).

3.Submission Format

Submit the application form and materials for preliminary review as a folder named: “Artist Name + Region + Country.”

Images must be in JPG format, with file size between 1MB and 5MB, at 300 dpi resolution.

4.Artist CV

Including personal background, current professional position, education, major works, exhibitions, and awards.

10 Timeline (No fees will be charged during the competition period)

1. Application Period

From April 23, 2026 to August 31, 2026, 11:59 PM (Beijing Time)

2. Preliminary Review (September 11-18, 2026)

The organizers will invite an expert panel to review all submitted materials and select 100 shortlisted works (online review).

3. Announcement of Preliminary Results (September 19-21, 2026)

Public announcement period: 3 days. Any copyright disputes during this period may result in disqualification.

The shortlist will be published on the official WeChat account of the Guangdong Shiwan Ceramics Museum.

Shortlisted artists will be notified by phone or email.

Applicants not selected will not be individually notified.

4. Artwork Delivery Period (September 22 -November 15, 2026)

Domestic and international works will be delivered in phases:

- Domestic: September 22-October 18
- International: September 22-November 15

Shortlisted artists must send or deliver their works to the final review and exhibition venue within the specified period:

Meitao Bay • Xingguanghui Art Museum, Chancheng District, Foshan, Guangdong, China

(Intersection of Lvjing West Road and Xingguang Road)

All shipping costs (including transportation, insurance, customs duties, and handling fees) shall be borne by the participants.

Failure to deliver works on time will be considered automatic withdrawal.

(International participants are advised to use sea freight and comply with export regulations of their country.)

Note on Packaging Requirements:

- (1) The physical work must match the submitted images.
- (2) Works must be securely packaged using waterproof, moisture-proof, shock-resistant wooden crates suitable for long-distance sea and air transport.
- (3) Packaging must be strong and easy to handle.
- (4) The outer packaging must clearly indicate the artist's name, artwork title, and an image of the work.

Important:

All submission materials (images, presentations, videos, etc.) must include the title “Shiwan Cup,” but must not include the artist’s name, affiliated institution, company name, or any identifying marks. Otherwise, the submission will be deemed invalid.

5. Final Review (December 3, 2026)

- (1) On-site evaluation by an expert jury panel
- (2) Selection of all award winners
- (3) Public announcement period: 3 days

6. Return of Works

Works awarded New Talent Awards, Excellence Awards, and shortlisted works will be returned to the artists after the exhibition. Return shipping and related costs will be covered by the museum. Artists may also choose to collect works in person or donate them to the museum, in which case a donation certificate will be issued.

11 Rights and Responsibilities

1. All submitted works must be original and not plagiarized. Shortlisted and awarded works will be publicly displayed online for 3 days. Any copyright disputes will result in disqualification.
2. Applicants must provide truthful information. The organizers do not conduct substantive verification but false information will affect eligibility and awards.
3. Participants must hold full and undisputed copyright of their works and ensure compliance with applicable laws. By submitting, participants grant the organizers the right to use images and intellectual property of the works for research, photography, exhibition, publication, promotion, and other purposes without additional compensation.
4. Failure to deliver shortlisted works on time will be considered withdrawal, and no certificate will be issued.
5. Ownership of awarded works (First, Second, Third Prize) belongs to the organizers. Shortlisted artists may authorize the organizers for commercial development under separate agreements.
6. Before arrival and inspection, any damage or loss during transportation is the responsibility of the participant. If packaging is severely damaged upon arrival, the organizers reserve the right to refuse acceptance. The organizers are not responsible for damage discovered upon unpacking.
7. Minor damage may be repaired by the artist at their own expense. If assistance is requested, the artist must provide instructions. The organizers are not liable for repair outcomes.
8. Installation works may be installed by the artist at their own expense. If assistance is required, installation instructions must be provided. The organizers are not responsible for damage during installation or dismantling.

9. After the exhibition, works will be returned, with packaging, shipping, and insurance costs covered by the organizers.
10. Submission to the competition implies acceptance of all rules above.

Final Note

All matters not covered herein will be subject to further clarification by the organizers. The organizers reserve the right of final interpretation.

**Guangdong Shiwan Ceramics Museum
International Academy of Ceramics (IAC)**

April 13, 2026

Appendix

Art Committee List

The 14th Shiwan Cup International Youth Ceramic Sculpture and Architectural Ceramics Art Competition

Directors:

Lv, Pinchang

Director of the Public Art Committee, China Artists Association;
Former Vice President and Professor, Jingdezhen Ceramic University

Deputy Directors:

Gerstein, Beth Ann

Executive Director, American Museum of Ceramic Art (USA)

Jin, Hyeog-soo

Professor, Department of Ceramics, Dankook University (Korea)

Jin, Wenwei

Professor, Jingdezhen Ceramic University (China)

Oriol Calvo Vergés

President, International Academy of Ceramics (IAC)

Wan, Liya

Board Member of the International Academy of Ceramics (IAC);
Representative for China

Wei, Hua

Professor, Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts (China)

Zhang, Qingyuan

Professor, Tainan National University of the Arts (China)

Zwirn, Jennifer

Executive Director, The Clay Studio, Philadelphia (USA)

Committee Members:

Chen, Guanghui

Professor, Shanghai Academy of Fine Arts, Shanghai University (China)

Choi, Jaehoon

Professor, Faculty of Art (Ceramics), Aichi University of the Arts (Japan)

Huang, Chunmao

Professor, Central Academy of Fine Arts (China)

Huang, Sheng

Dean and Professor, School of Fine Arts, Jingdezhen Ceramic University (China)

Li, Cheng

Dean and Professor, School of Arts and Crafts Design, Luxun Academy of Fine Arts (China)

Liang, Jiahao

Professor, National Taiwan University of Arts (China)

Liu, Jianhua

Professor, Shanghai Academy of Fine Arts (China)

Liu, Qian

Associate Director and Professor, Department of Public Art, Xi'an Academy of Fine Arts (China)

Lu, Bin

Professor, Nanjing University of the Arts (China)

Luo, Xiaoping

Professor, Shanghai Academy of Fine Arts, Shanghai University (China)

Meng, Fuwei

Professor, School of Design, Sichuan Fine Arts Institute (China)

Schimert, Katy

Professor, Ceramics Department, Rhode Island School of Design (USA)

Tan, Hongyu

Professor, Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts (China)

Wang, Qi

Associate professor; Director, Ceramic Art and Design Teaching & Research Section, School of Arts and Crafts, Guangzhou Academy of Fine Arts (China)

Xiong, Kaibo

Associate Dean and Professor, School of Crafts, China Academy of Art (China)

Zeng, Peng

Renowned Ceramic Artist

Zhu, Legeng

Director and Professor, School of Literature and Arts, Chinese National Academy of Arts (China)

