

## REGULATION

### 27<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL ICE SCULPTURE FESTIVAL JELGAVA, LATVIA

The International Ice Sculpture Festival in Jelgava, Latvia, takes place already for the 27<sup>th</sup> time. Every year it gathers in Jelgava more than thirty world-renowned professional sculptors and artists from different countries.

**In 2026 the festival will take place from February 1<sup>st</sup> to February 8<sup>th</sup>.**

**According to European Union rules, artists from Russia and Belarus, as well as Russian or Belarusian nationals representing another country, are not allowed to participate in the ice sculpture competition and festival.**

#### I

##### General matters

1. This regulation determines the procedure for submitting and evaluating idea applications for the ice sculpture festival. The ice sculpture competition takes place in two stages:
  - a. **ice sculpture sketch competition;**
  - b. **ice sculpture competition in two rounds.**
2. The competition is announced and organized by Jelgava City Municipal Institution Kultura (hereinafter referred to as Kultura).
3. The idea applications submitted to the competition are evaluated by the competition commission approved by the Head of Kultura.
4. Any natural person who has reached the age of 18 can participate in the competition.
5. Notice of competition and the Regulation are published on the website **kultura.jelgava.lv**.

#### II

##### Objective and theme of the festival

6. The objective of the festival is to develop the city of Jelgava as a creatively active cultural space, which annually introduces the world's latest environmental art trends, current events and projects, attracting sculptors and artists, creating a platform for exchanging experiences and new discoveries in ice sculpture.
7. **Festival theme:** "The Power of Illusion"  
A place where reality meets the unknown, where mind games transform into visible forms and a moment becomes eternity. This year's ice sculpture competition invites artists to explore the theme "The Power of Illusion" - to embody the magic of illusion, reveal its secrets and turn the invisible into the visible. Participants - let yourself be captivated by the senses and the mind! Create works in which truth and delusion merge, where sculptures become a bridge between the visible and the imagined. What is the boundary between truth and illusion? Can art deceive

the eyes and at the same time reveal the depths of the soul? When the ice shines in the lights, each sculpture will be like a mysterious answer that invites viewers to question what they see and surrender to their feelings. Join this journey, where art creates the desire to ask "Is what I see real?".

### III

#### Course of the competition

8. **Ice sculpture competition** takes place in two stages:

8.1. **Ice sculpture sketch competition.**

Artists submit a sketch project for individual and team sculptures. At the end of the sketch competition, the jury commission selects the authors of the best works, who further receive the right to participate in the ice sculpture competition.

8.2. **Ice sculpture competition.**

a) **Team sculpture** (team composed of two artists) – sculpture from two industrial ice blocks.

b) **Individual sculpture** (independently) sculpture from one industrial ice block.

**Each sculptor must participate in both team and individual competition.**

9. Industrial ice will be provided for creating the sculptures in the following quantities and sizes:

a. For the individual sculpture – **one** industrial ice block (**dimensions – 180cm x 105cm x 50cm**). **The sculpture must be placed vertically on a pedestal.**

b. For the team sculpture – **two** industrial ice blocks (**dimensions – 210cm x 110cm x 50cm**).

10. **Both individual and team sculptures will be located under the sheds, therefore it is important not to exceed the specified sculpture parameter limits (see the annex).**

### IV

#### Application procedure for participants

11. The participants application form on the official website of the festival **festivali.jelgava.lv** must be completed **until November 20<sup>th</sup> 2025**. Applications sent after the deadline will not be considered!

12. Participants must send the following information:

**completed application form;**

**CV** (short creative biography);

**a photograph of each artist** (colour, JPG format – it will be used for publicity materials and ID cards);

**sketch project** (sketches of individual and team sculptures must be submitted in JPG format with both side views, **indicating the height and width of the sculpture** and emphasizing the top view, the title of the sculpture and a reference to the author must be added);

**technical block plan;**

**photo of the last three ice sculptures.**

## V

### Transport expenses

13. The organizers cover the actual travel expenses. The amount includes visa processing costs, if required.
14. Participants arriving by plane must e-mail the air ticket to the organizers.
15. Participants arriving by car or train must submit a document confirming the relevant expenses – the original fuel receipt, indicating the participant's name, surname and address, or the original transport ticket prepared in accordance with the regulatory enactments regarding the passenger transport. **If the document confirming the expenses has been issued abroad, it must contain the submitter's name and surname.**
16. The originals tickets, fuel receipts, etc., must be presented or submitted in the following order:
  - Latvia – up to EUR 150 per team** (from place of residence).
  - Latvia, Estonia or Lithuania up to EUR 175 per team** (from place of residence).
  - Lithuania, Estonia – up to EUR 200 per team** (from place of residence).
  - European countries, Ukraine – up to EUR 800 per team:**
    - a. Up to EUR 475 per team, if one of the team members is from Latvia.
    - b. Up to EUR 500 per team, if one of the team members is from Lithuania or Estonia.
    - c. If travel expenses of both participants exceed EUR 400, only EUR 400 are reimbursed to each participant.
    - d. If travel expenses of one team member are less than EUR 400, and travel expenses of the other team member exceed EUR 400, the difference is paid up to a total of EUR 800.
  - Other countries – up to EUR 1000 per team:**
    - e. Up to EUR 575 per team, if one of the team members is from Latvia.
    - f. Up to EUR 600 per team, if one of the team members is from Lithuania or Estonia.
    - g. Up to EUR 900 per team, if one of the team members is from Europe.
17. **Travel expenses are reimbursed taking into account the nationality of the country represented by the participant (must be indicated in the application form)!**
18. The organizers provide transfers for participants arriving in and departing from Riga at their own expense.

## VI

### Prizes

19. **Each winner of the ice sculpture sketch competition wins** the right to participate in ice sculpture competition and a **cash prize of EUR 600** after completion of sculptures.
20. Ice sculpture competition cash prizes will be divided into the following categories:

**Team sculpture category PRIZES:**  
**1<sup>st</sup> place – EUR 2500;**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> place – EUR 1500;**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> place – EUR 1000;**  
**Audience award – EUR 1000.**

**Individual sculpture category PRIZES:**

**1<sup>st</sup> place – EUR 1000;**

**2<sup>nd</sup> place – EUR 700;**

**3<sup>rd</sup> place – EUR 500.**

21. The jury may, at its discretion, award one or more additional prizes, up to the total amount of the prize or prizes of **EUR 1000.**
22. The organizers cover additional expenses related to taxes on payment of prizes in accordance with the procedure provided for by laws of the Republic of Latvia.

**VII**

**Evaluation of festival works**

23. The winners of the ice sculpture competition are determined by the jury commission's evaluation.
24. Six criteria will be taken into account when evaluating works:
  - a. **first impression (1-10p);**
  - b. **technical performance (1-10p);**
  - c. **proportion and symmetry (1-10p);**
  - d. **creativity (1-10p);**
  - e. **artistic value(1-10p);**
  - f. **compliance with the sketch(1-5p).**

**VIII**

**Working conditions, accommodation, security**

25. Participants will be accommodated in a 4\* hotel from February 1<sup>th</sup> to February 8<sup>th</sup>. **Two artists reside in each hotel room – members of one team.** Meals will be provided three times a day.
26. During the festival, evening events will be organized for participants, which will depend on the choice of artists and weather conditions.
27. Creation of ice sculptures will take place in tents during working hours from 9 am to 7 pm. Technical staff and equipment will only be available daily from 9 am to 6 pm. Due to climatic conditions, the organizers, in consultation with the festival participants, reserve the right to change the agenda.
28. Sculptors can continue their work after 6 pm to 10 pm with hand tools only, if the decision has been agreed with the organizers by majority vote of the sculptors.
29. Participants must bring their own tools.
30. The organizers provide the following equipment and aids: electric saws, power connection (220 kW), water and wooden pallets. If additional pallets, podiums, etc., including technical aids, are required for creation of team sculptures, please indicate this in detail in the application form.
31. Participants will be briefed on occupational safety and will sign for it. Participants must provide their own health insurance policy. Each participant is responsible for their own safety and safety of their sculpture.
32. If, for any reason, such as unsuitable weather conditions, **the artist wants to**

**deviate from the submitted sketch or change the visual appearance of the sculpture, it has to be coordinated with the organizers, and acceptance of the change has to be obtained. If changes are made without coordination, the organizers reserve the right to not pay travel expenses and sketch prizes.**

- 33. Following the development of the Covid-19 and referring to national and global precautions to limit the spread of the infection, the festival organizers have the right to cancel the festival or change its form according to the current situation.**

## **IX Copyright**

34. The ice sculptures created during the festival are the property of the organizers. The organizers reserve unlimited right to exhibit the works.
35. Both the authors of the sculptures and the organizers reserve the right to freely use the photos and videos of the works, etc., without mutual obligations and additional remuneration. The organizers reserve the right to document the works for media purposes in unlimited quantities.
36. Taking into account possible weather conditions, festival participants undertake to create works so that they can be viewed for several days.

## **X The course of the festival**

37. Sculptors are invited to arrive at the festival venue in Jelgava on Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, when the opening evening and mutual introductions are planned.
38. The sculptors will start work on the team sculptures on Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>.
39. Individual sculptures are created from 14.00 on February 5<sup>th</sup> and finished by 19.00 noon on February 6<sup>th</sup>.

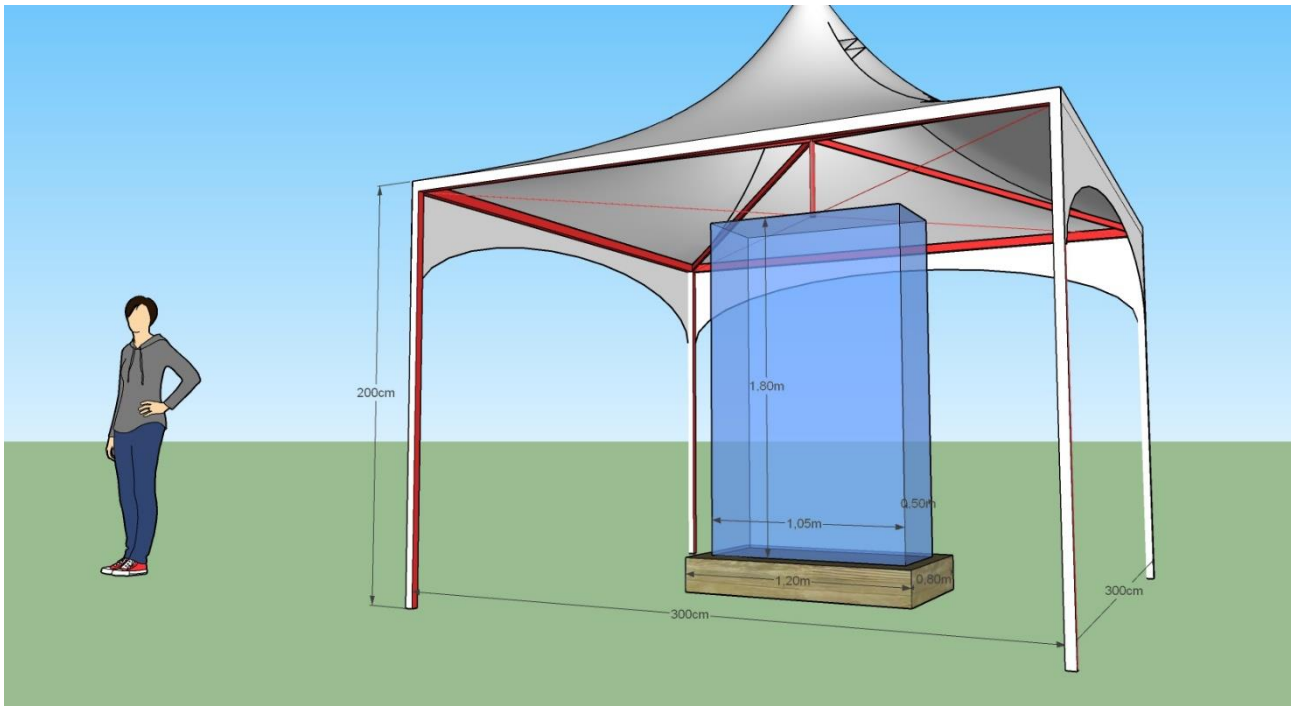
## **27<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL ICE SCULPTURE FESTIVAL PROGRAMME**

**The festival organisers have the possibility to change the schedule of the works in agreement with the sculptors, in order to monitor weather conditions and other factors influencing the execution of the works.**

### **PLACEMENT OF INDIVIDUAL SCULPTURE**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 1</b>	Arrival of festival participants, opening dinner
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 2</b>	Working on team sculptures (from 14.00)
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 3</b>	Working on team sculptures
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 4</b>	Working on team sculptures
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 5</b>	Working on individual sculptures
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 6</b>	Work on individual sculptures (until 19.00 noon); opening of the festival and closing evening for participants
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 7</b>	A day of cultural activities
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY 8</b>	Departure of participants

1. annex.





**PLACEMENT OF TEAM SCULPTURE**

