

REGULATION

28TH INTERNATIONAL ICE SCULPTURE FESTIVAL JELGAVA, LATVIA

The International Ice Sculpture Festival in Jelgava, Latvia, takes place already for the 28th time. Every year it gathers in Jelgava more than thirty world-renowned professional sculptors and artists from different countries.

In 2027 the festival will take place from January 30th to February 6th.

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 Kultūra (hereinafter referred to as Kultūra).
3. The idea applications submitted to the competition are evaluated by the competition commission approved by the Head of Kultūra.
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: World Carnival**

A place where borders disappear, cultures meet, and for a moment the world becomes

one grand stage of celebration. This year's ice sculpture competition invites artists to explore the theme **"World Carnival"** - to capture the splendor of carnival, reveal the richness of traditions from different cultures, and transform ice into a vibrant story of celebration.

Participants - embrace the rhythms of the world and freedom of imagination! Create works where masks, dance, music, legends, and symbols of different cultures come together. From the magnificent feathers of Rio de Janeiro to the mysterious masks of Venice, from African tribal rituals to the colorful festivals of Asia - every tradition can become a source of inspiration in ice.

Join us on this journey around the world, where every ice sculpture becomes a celebration and a reminder that diversity is our greatest treasure. The carnival begins where art allows everyone to experience the unity of the world.

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.

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

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 20th, 2026**. Applications sent after the deadline will not be considered!

12. Participants must send the following information:

- a.) completed application form;
- b.) CV (short creative biography);
- c.) a photograph of each artist (colour, JPG format – it will be used for publicity materials and ID cards);
- d.) 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);
- e.) technical block plan;
- f.) 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.
 - h. If travel expenses of one team member are less than EUR 500, and travel expenses of the other team member exceed EUR 500, the difference is paid up to a total of EUR 1000.
17. **Travel expenses are reimbursed considering 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:

- 1st place – EUR 2500;**
- 2nd place – EUR 1500;**
- 3rd place – EUR 1000;**

Individual sculpture category PRIZES:

- 1st place – EUR 1000;**
- 2nd place – EUR 700;**
- 3rd 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 considered 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 January 30th to February 6th. 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. Participants must bring their own tools.
- 29. 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.
- 30. 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.
- 31. 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 must be coordinated with the organizers,** and acceptance of the change must be obtained. If changes are made without coordination, the organizers reserve the right to not pay travel expenses and sketch prizes.

IX Copyright

32. The ice sculptures created during the festival are the property of the organizers. The organizers reserve unlimited right to exhibit the works.
33. 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.
34. Considering possible weather conditions, festival participants undertake to create works so that they can be viewed for several days.

X The course of the festival

35. Sculptors are invited to arrive at the festival venue in Jelgava on Saturday, **January 30th**, when the opening evening and mutual introductions are planned.
36. The sculptors will start work on the team sculptures on Monday, February 1st.
37. Individual sculptures are created from 14.00 on February 4th and finished by 17.00 noon on February 5th.

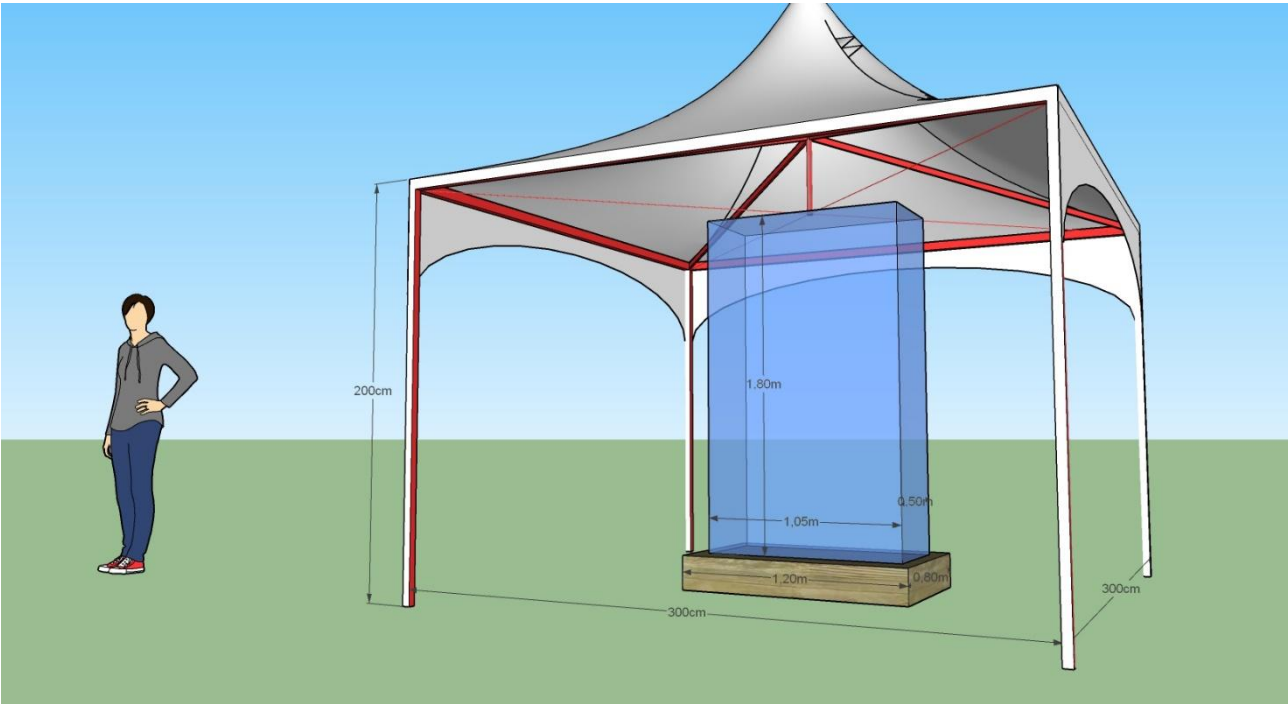
28TH INTERNATIONAL ICE SCULPTURE FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

SATURDAY	JANUARY 30	Arrival of festival participants, opening dinner
SUNDAY	JANUARY 31	A day of cultural activities
MONDAY	FEBRUARY 1	Working on team sculptures (from 11.00)
TUESDAY	FEBRUARY 2	Working on team sculptures
WEDNESDAY	FEBRUARY 3	Working on team sculptures
THURSDAY	FEBRUARY 4	Working on team sculptures (until 13.00); Work on individual sculptures (from 14.00)
FRIDAY	FEBRUARY 5	Work on individual sculptures (until 17.00 noon); awarding of festival participants (21.00); closing evening for participants
SATURDAY	FEBRUARY 6	Departure of participants

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

PLACEMENT OF INDIVIDUAL SCULPTURE

1. annex.





PLACEMENT OF TEAM SCULPTURE

