

Dublin Art Book Fair 2026

Open Call for Artist Book Submissions

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Document

Top tips for applicants

This document is intended to provide useful guidelines and accompany the Application Overview and the Application Form for The Open Call for Artist Book Submissions. Read the Application Overview carefully before applying and take time to complete each section. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

We have recently launched an online Application Form. The form is designed to make the application process easier and according to the guidelines, therefore minimising the chances that applications are rejected due to incompleteness.

You will not be able to submit a form which is missing required information. Each section which must be completed is marked with an Asterix*.

The form will expand depending on how many titles you wish to submit, so if you enter two titles (out of a maximum of three), you will only be able to fill out two sections for title details. If something is missing, check back to make sure you put in all your data correctly.

Similarly, you will not be able to input data beyond the limits outlined in the Application Overview document (such as number of Artist Book titles, copies of books or prices). If you are having difficulty inputting data into the form please ensure you have carefully read and understood the Application Requirements outlined in the Application Overview to ensure you are meeting the requirements.

This accompanying FAQ document is designed to further assist with any additional queries. As there are a large number of applications and we are small team, please only contact hello@dublinartbookfair.com about troubleshooting after reading the Application Overview and FAQ documents.

Q. How many books can be submitted?

A. You may submit up to three different titles of Artist Books you have made, with a maximum of six copies of each book title. The application form is built in such a way that you will not be able to submit any more than the limit.

Q. If I am selected, how do I prepare my books for drop off? Do I need to include my name and title on the outside cover of the publication?

A. Yes, all books must have these details clearly on the cover. Your name and the title **must** be included on the outside or inside cover of the publication. Many books will include these details printed on the cover anyway but for books where this is not the case, we ask that the book comes with a clear label which is securely attached to the book, so we can identify it. Books with loose labels will not be accepted. Unfortunately, we cannot advise individuals on how best to label their books in these cases. It could be a sticker on the back cover, or a string around the spine with a paper label. As long as it is securely attached, it's up to you how is best to attach a label based on the format of your book.

Q. Do I need to label the book with a price sticker? Or how will it be attached?

No. We attach a peel and stick barcoded label with the price. It is a small sticker (5 x 2.5 cm) usually discretely placed at the back of the book. Please note, the label may damage some surfaces when removed. If you do not wish a price sticker to be placed directly on your book, we require you to securely attach a label, including: book title, artist name, and a blank space for the DABF price sticker (5 x 2.5 cm).

Q. Do publications submitted need to relate to the chosen theme of DABF26?

A. No. The Artist Book Section is independent to the theme, and any artist book on any topic may be submitted. In cases where someone wishes to respond to the theme, they will still be eligible, however it is not a requirement. The theme will be announced alongside the Guest Curator's event programme in September 2026.

Q. Why does the form ask for first names, surnames and names as printed on the book?

A. The name provided in sections marked 'First Name' and 'Second Name' is used for all future communications regarding DABF and used for bank transfer in the case of Artist Book sales.

The 'Name as printed on book' can sometimes differ from this name for a few different reasons. For example, some artists use an artist name or pseudonym that is different to their given name, or two artists may have collaborated on a book, but only one can be the point of contact. It's important to remember that as part of DABF's promotion of its artists, we publish a full list of names of successful applicants. If the section titled **Name as printed on book** is filled out, this is the name we will use in our promotion. It also helps us clearly identify the book when processing the submissions.

Q. How important are the images of my book in regards to the application?

A. The images are important as they provide context to the books listed in your application. They must be JPEGs and no more than 3MB per an image.

Q. How do I best represent my book in the images?

A. The images are important as they provide context to the books listed in your application. First and foremost they should capture the overall physicality of the book. If you have a standard format, this may be an image for the front cover, the back cover and an inside spread. If it's an unconventionally structured book, such as an accordion book, you might include an image of the book open, to capture its inner binding. It is up to you how to best to represent the book in the three images, depending on how your book is designed.

Q. My book has not yet been made or printed yet, how do I submit images?

A. We advise you time your application so you have as much visual representation possible. If you are getting your book printed/made, but it's not yet been fabricated, then you may include images of the book at the design phase. However, photos of the physical book are preferable.

Q. What is meant by a display copy? Do I need to submit one?

A. A display copy is something you **may** submit if you wish to do so, but you don't have to! In fact lots of people don't or don't need to. We introduced display copies

for individuals who had made books that were sealed or wrapped, but also wanted to present a copy that can be looked through on the table at the Fair. If you wish to submit a display copy, it will be the copy which members of the public will look through.

Q. If I want to include a display copy, how do I do so?

A. We ask that display copies are **included** in the six copies for each title. It must be clearly marked and presented in such a way that it is easy to look through. This might mean removing the wrapping if its shrink wrapped and attaching a label. This could be a sticker on the front or back cover, or a string tied around the spine with a paper label, but it's up to you how is best to attach a label based on the format and durability of your book. If there are separated parts of the book, they should not be loose, and must be held/contained together. Unfortunately, DABF cannot advise individuals on how best to present their display copies.

Q. Is the display copy for sale?

A. Yes! All books at the Fair are for sale. We recommend that when you label the display copy you do so in such a way that someone may still want to purchase it. Display copies should be clearly labelled the same as any other book. DABF is a retail environment, so please don't submit any book that you would like returned after the Fair.

Q. Do I submit my publication as an artist book or an independent publisher if I worked with a group of people collaboratively in its production?

A. If you are submitting one Artist Book title, and worked with a collective to produce the publication, please apply through the Open Call for Artist Book Submissions Application Form through our website. If you are applying with a collaborator(s) with multiple publications, or an organisation whose practice operates more as a publisher, please contact.ola@templebargallery.com.

Q. How do I price my book?

A. It is up to you how to price your books however, the maximum sale price of each publication should be no more than €40. When pricing your book please round it up to the nearest fifty cent or euro. DABF charge a 10% commission which will be deducted from the price you enter on the Application Form. The commission is a

nominal handling fee and goes towards some of the basics, such as card transactions and the operation system from which we sell the books.

Example: If you wanted to price your book at €34.85, please round up the price to €35. Then consider that DABF charges a 10% commission based on your sale price. If you sell your book at €35, you will receive the €31.50 from the sale (€35.00 sale price minus the 10% commission of €3.50).

Tip: Its always difficult to price your own work. Keep in mind that there are hundreds of books on sale, and sometimes a lower price point can be attractive if you wish to sell the books. So if sales are important to you, that can be good to keep in mind. However, sometimes things should be priced higher based on production costs, material, limited edition, or artistic value. It's also important not to undervalue your work. Another useful way to figure a sale price, is to get feedback from someone whose opinion you trust. Do also keep in mind, DABF is a exciting opportunity to showcase your work to a large audience alongside other talented artists, so sales are only one part of the experience of participating. The bookfair is about how an audience experiences your work, be that through browsing, buying or general dissemination.

Q. I want my post my books, how do I do this.

A. We recommend in-person delivery where possible. However if you have to post your book, please note that if you choose to track your delivery, you are responsible for communicating with the courier or postal service to ensure delivery. Please if possible do not use UPS. DABF is not responsible for lost or damaged books.

Ensure that if possible you include the note: Please deliver to the side door on Fownes Street lower; Mon–Fri: 11–6pm. Ring bell for office or call 01-671-0075.

Q. I'm packing my delivery, is there anything I need to include.

A. Yes, you need to include the form, which will be emailed to you on the success of your application. Cross reference everything and make sure everything matched what you submitted in your form. Deliveries with discrepancies between the form and the books (including price, title, quantity) will not be included in the Fair.

Q. Can publications of a delicate nature be submitted ?

A. Publications of a delicate nature should not be submitted. All publications submitted must be able to withstand unsupervised public display and handling. DABF is a retail environment and not an exhibition, therefore books that require special handling, or specific display cannot be accepted. We make this a rule as DABF cannot accept responsibility for any damage or incurred to or loss of publications at Dublin Art Book Fair.

Q. When will I be informed if my application was successful or not ?

A. Applicants will be notified if their application was successful on or before 23 October 2026. We're a small team and the book fair is a very popular event so please do not email before this date to enquire. If you do not hear anything after 23 October, please do feel free to get in touch at hello@dublinartbookfair.com

Dublin Art Book Fair is annually hosted and produced by Temple Bar Gallery + Studios. It is proudly sponsored by Henry J Lyons, with support from Dublin UNESCO City of Literature. Temple Bar Gallery + Studios is supported by the Arts Council and Dublin City Council.

Henry J Lyons

