



Artist Information ONLINE AWARDS

20th-22th November 2026

sponsored by



bodypainting-festival.com

Welcome to the WBF Online Awards 2026

What began as a necessary online alternative during the COVID pandemic soon turned into an annual event, thanks to the overwhelmingly positive feedback from artists. The online format made it possible for artists from all over the world to participate without travel barriers, continuing to connect and inspire the global bodypainting and facepainting community.

Based on the valuable feedback from many artists in the previous year, we have made several adjustments to the competition.

- The jury will evaluate all artworks anonymously, which has led to changes in the image upload process.
- The judging criteria have been adapted and slightly expanded.
- This year we have the Bodypainting Category "Open Techniques"

We are excited to have you with us and can't wait to see your creativity come to life.

Connecting Beyond the Screen – WBF Creative Hotspots

While the WBF Online Awards make participation easier than ever, you may still enjoy connecting with artists from your own region.

These meeting places are called "**WBF Creative Hotspots**" and are featured during our live broadcast.



Join a WBF Creative Hotspot

Join a WBF Creative Hotspot and connect with artists in your region. We help you connect to your Creative Hotspot.

More Infos on our official website: bodypainting-festival.com

Host a WBF Creative Hotspot

Host a WBF Creative Hotspot and bring Artists together in your town.. We are happy to support you.

REGISTRATION



Photo: Irene Sanchez Galdon

Registrations

should be done via the **online form only!**

bodypainting-festival.com

It is possible to participate in more than one category.

Registration fee is € 35 per category

To ensure your spot, payment should be made **within 7 days** after the confirmation letter was sent.

Complete your registration

AFTER you got your ID via the **ONLINE SHOP**

<https://shop.wb-production.com>

If you decide to cancel your registration, please write us a short notice.

Deadline for registrations: 7th November 2026

PRIZES



Online Award

Facepainting

FACEPAINTING - 20th November

- 1 Place: Trophy + €700 money prize + €1,000 KRYOLAN product voucher**
- 2 Place: Trophy + €400 money prize + €700 KRYOLAN product voucher**
- 3 Place: Trophy + €300 money prize + €300 KRYOLAN product voucher**

Online Award

Brush/Sponge
Bodypainting

BODYPAINTING CLASSIC - 21st November

- 1 Place: Trophy + €700 money prize + €1,000 KRYOLAN product voucher**
- 2 Place: Trophy + €400 money prize + €700 KRYOLAN product voucher**
- 3 Place: Trophy + €300 money prize + €300 KRYOLAN product voucher**

Online Award

Open Category
Bodypainting

BODYPAINTING OPEN TECHNIQUES - 22nd November

- 1 Place: Trophy + €700 money prize + €1,000 KRYOLAN product voucher**
- 2 Place: Trophy + €400 money prize + €700 KRYOLAN product voucher**
- 3 Place: Trophy + €300 money prize + €300 KRYOLAN product voucher**

THEMES

BODYPAINTING CLASSIC- Illusion of My Life

Illusion of My Life – the body transforms into a living illusion that **reflects personal experiences, dreams, and inner worlds**. The painted body becomes a canvas where **reality and imagination blur**, revealing how **perception, emotions, and memories shape one's life story**. What appears real at first glance may **dissolve into symbols, layers, and hidden meanings**. This theme encourages deep storytelling, visual deception, and powerful emotional expression through the human form.

BODYPAINTING OPEN- Insect World

Insect World invites artists to dive deep into the **complex and fascinating realm of insects**. **Patterns, structures, colors, and movements** of these often-overlooked creatures become the foundation for powerful and highly detailed body art. The human body transforms into a canvas for **metamorphosis, adaptation, and diversity** — ranging from delicate elegance to primal strength. This theme challenges artists to reinterpret the beauty, strangeness, and significance of the insect world through their own artistic vision.

FACEPAINTING- Games People Play

Games People Play invites artists to make the **many games of life visible**. Whether inspired by **board games, video games, or social and psychological role-playing**, the face becomes a stage for strategy, emotion, masks, and identities. Between fun and seriousness, winning and losing, the face reveals the **roles we play and the reasons behind them**. Creativity, symbolism, and expressive storytelling are at the heart of this theme.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

GUIDELINES FOR ALL CATEGORIES

- **Assistants** are **NOT allowed** in any category.
- The participant must work alone, you have therefore more **time than in live competitions**.
- There is **no fixed starting time!** You start working in YOUR TIME ZONE on a specific day of your category.
- The time you start is up to you, but you must complete the artwork within the given time. You can also finish your work earlier and upload the footage.
- Upload your photos by the end of the day (before midnight)
- Prepare a short explanation of your work - max. 170 words / 1000 characters, in **English ONLY!**
- The jury will evaluate all artworks anonymously, which has led to changes in the image upload process
- The work **must be original and not previously published**.
- The winners will be announced at the online streaming one week after the event. Time will be communicated later.

WIP Files - 155 - Nathalie van Os (Netherlands)				
Caption	Capture date: Date/time the photo was taken (from EXIF if available, otherwise file date). Modified date: Last modification on the photo server.			
	Capture date	Modified date	File	Thumbnail
Os	2025-11-15 10:08:05	2025-11-15 11:40	155-Nathalie_van Os_2.jpg	
sk	2025-11-15 11:39:33	2025-11-15 11:40	155-Nathalie_van Os_1.jpg	
ad	2025-11-15 13:11:32	2025-11-15 13:12	155-Nathalie_van Os_3.jpg	
	2025-11-15 14:41:23	2025-11-15 14:42	155-Nathalie_van Os_4.jpg	
	2025-11-15 16:16:42	2025-11-15 16:17	155-Nathalie_van Os_5.jpg	
	2025-11-15 18:01:50	2025-11-15 18:02	155-Nathalie_van Os_6.jpg	

WBF upload tool

- **The submission of all relevant documents** (artist and model agreements, a short description of your work and all photos - see below) **is only possible via the WBF upload tool**.
- A corresponding **personalized access code (PIN)** and a **detailed description** of the tool will be sent out after the registration deadline.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

GUIDELINES FOR PHOTOGRAPHY ALL CATEGORIES

Format for the PHOTOS:

- **JPG ONLY** (NO Camera RAW, NO TIFF, NO PNG, NO GIF, etc.)
- Please note, the photos might **NOT upload**, if each file is **bigger than 10 MB**.
- Only photos **without retouching** will be judged!
- **Retouched photos will not be judged, but we are happy to receive them and share them on our channels later.**

You are of course welcome to share your work process on social media. Please tag the World Bodypainting Festival page on Facebook and Instagram or use the official hashtag **#wbfestival2026** on other social media channels.

Tips for taking the photos:

- Please make sure to set up your photo studio or the place you are going to take your photos **on time!**
- Make sure to have **good light conditions**, ideally no mixed light.
- **Don't** take pictures **against the light/sun or windows**.
- **Take enough photos** and select them after reviewing them on your computer to make sure you got a sharp and not blurry image.



Julio Cesar Gochez Gordillo: Example from the WBF Online Awards 2025, Artist with Model

GUIDELINES JURYPHOTOS

FOR ALL BODYPAINTING CATEGORIES

- **6 pictures of the process must be taken** regularly during the competition time. (8 hours). The first picture at the beginning of the competition and the last picture right at the end of the competition.
- New this year: Upload your photo with the model as the **last (6th) picture. These pictures are not visible for the judges.** (For anonymous judging)
- These photos are used for the time tracking only.



- Photos for the judging process should be taken after workingtime
- Take the jury photos only in front of a **mono colored background** (any color)



Photo **(1) from the front, (2) from behind, (3) from the left, and (4) from the right** (always with the entire body in the picture), **close-ups of the upper body (5) from the front and (6) from behind.**

GUIDELINES JURYPHOTOS FOR FACEPAINTING CATEGORIE

- **6 pictures of the process must be taken** regularly during the competition time. (3 hours).
The first picture at the beginning of the competition and the last picture right at the end of the competition.
- **New this year:** Upload your photo with the model as the last (6th) picture. These pictures are not visible for the judges. (For anonymous judging)
- These photos are used for the time tracking only.



- Portrait photos **(1) from the front, (2) 45 degrees from the left side, (3) 45 degrees from the right side, Close-up photos: (4) and (5) photos of the eyes, (6) photo of the lips.**

SPECIFIC RULES FOR EACH CATEGORY

ONLINE AWARD: FACEPAINTING



This category represents skills of the artist in fitting a painting of story on a model's face. The competition lasts up to (max.) 3 hours.

- Only **one model** may be painted.
- The **face, neck and décolletage may be painted** and will be judged only.
- All work outside these areas are not going to be judged.
- It is allowed to work on hair, do an imitation of bald head, nails, painted hands before the competition.

The jury judges:

Painting: technique, quality and ability	1–10 points
Color desicion: palette, contrast, use of light and shadow	1–10 points
Composition: proportions, complexity, placing of elements	1–10 points
Theme: interpretation idea and originality	1–10 points

THINGS ALLOWED in this category:

- Fake eyelashes, nails, eye lenses
- Wigs, imitations of bald heads
- Glitter in loose form or spray on form
- Decoration accessories on the head and shoulders

NOT ALLOWED in this category:

- Masks, mask pieces or other SFX.
- Pieces that are glued to the face.
- Airbrush technique

SPECIFIC RULES FOR EACH CATEGORY

ONLINE AWARD: BODYPAINTING CLASSIC



This category is judged purely on classical painting technique. The competition lasts up to max. 8 hours.

The jury judges:

Painting: technique, quality and ability	1–10 points
Color desicion: palette, contrast, use of light and shadow	1–10 points
Composition: proportions, complexity, placing of elements	1–10 points
Theme: interpretation idea and originality	1–10 points

ALLOWED in this category:

- Sketch, stencils, and transparent paper
- False fingernails, false eyelashes
- Eye lenses
- Headpieces, wigs or hair attachmens
- Imitation of the bold head is allowed to glue before the competition time
- Shoes coming up not higher than the knee
- Glitter in a loose form or spray form
- Nipple covers
- Stencils
- blue print or transfer paper

Anything not included in this list is not to be used and is against the rules.

NOT ALLOWED in this category:

- Crystal diamonds
- Glitter in a glue form or attached with glue
- Anything attached to the skin with any type of glue
- Anything attached to the body with string, elastic, or tape - other than decorative headwear as specified above.
- **Airbrushing is not allowed in this category.**
- The use of attachments is not allowed in this category.

SPECIFIC RULES FOR EACH CATEGORY

ONLINE AWARD: BODYPAINTING OPEN



This category is an open category, where a mix of techniques is allowed (airbrush and brush/sponge).

- The head piece can be chosen (wigs, bald caps, decoration)
- The use of attachments, props, parts of costumes or SFX is a must in this category.
- Stencils and blue print or transfer paper are allowed

The jury judges:

Painting & SFX: technique, quality and ability	1 – 10 points
Color desicion: palette, contrast, use of light and shadow	1 – 10 points
Composition: proportions, complexity, placing of elements	1 – 10 points
Theme: interpretation idea and originality	1 – 10 points

Please note, the usage of only brush/airbrush without decorations will lead to subtraction of 30 points from the total score.

For the classical technique, there is the category "Online Award: Brush/Sponge"

FAQ

Dear participants of the WBF Online Awards,

With this Q&A section we would like to clarify some of the frequently asked questions. Please read it carefully, there might be your question already answered.

Q

I don't understand where to upload the photos, I can't access my account, the password and email are just giving me an error.

A

Access to the Upload Tool will be opened on the day of the competition. To access the Upload Tool you need your ID number and PIN, no email is needed.

The link and PIN will be sent to you just a week before the competition. Please check your emails frequently, also don't forget to check spam folder, in case you did not get one, please contact anna@bodypainting-festival.com as soon as possible

Q

Will I have 8 hours to start and finish all the painting?

A

Yes! This is your competition time that we extended extra for the Online Awards – so you don't have any stress for taking the photos of your process. You can finish earlier or use the time in between for short breaks for you and your model.

Q

I heard from some artist friends that there is no specific start time as long as I complete the 8 hours of painting on the day of the competition and finish within the time frame.

A

Absolutely correct! You start your competition in YOUR TIME ZONE. For instance: On the 20th of November in South Korea at 9 o'clock in the morning you start painting your model, while in Europe is still the 19th Nov. midnight. We are going to wait until all participants from every time zone upload their files.

Q

When do we get the results?

A

All the results, PDF lists and photos will be presented during and after the livestreaming show.

FAQ

Q

Do I need to start the competition with the model without any makeup and finish it in 8 hours or is it allowed to start the competition with the face makeup and background (in the case of the body) previously ready?

A

The competition starts for you at the time you take the 1st photo of your model!

Before the start of the competition – the model should NOT have ANY makeup on the face and WITHOUT the background painting on the body. Model can wear a bikini for the first photo.

In the artist/model agreement, we state that - these photos are used ONLY for the start of work designation.

Q

The photos should be horizontal or vertical?

A

It is up to you how you want to photograph - the model should fit the frame and the photos must be sharp.

Q

Should I stream live or just the 6 photos during the process?

A

You don't have to stream the process of your work. Only photos of your process should be provided. How do we check if you fit in 8 hours' time: your files have metadata that shows the date and time. Our system calculates when first and last photo was taken. We are aware that there could be cheating, but it is your responsibility in front of your own conscience.

Q

I have a question about the Online categories: is the headpiece allowed?

A

Yes, the headpieces are allowed in all categories.

FAQ

Q

After the competition is over, how much time do I have to send the pictures?

A

After 8 hours of painting and taking photos of the process, you have 2 hours time (latest midnight) to take the photos of your FINAL work to breathe out and to upload ALL the files into the WBF Upload Tool.

In order to be faster: *prepare the signed agreements (you can fill them out and sign electronically via the computer), *prepare the description of your work to copy and paste in the upload tool.

Q

If I have retouched photos for later usage, where do I send them?

A

Retouched photos can be send within 3 days after the competition via swisstransfer.com (Free, secure, gdpr compliant data transfer) or to office@wb-production.com

Q

Is it allowed to post the art and all the content on my networks, tagging and mentioning you?

A

You are of course most welcome to share your work and process on social media. Please tag the World Bodypainting Festival page on Facebook and Instagram, please also use the official hashtag #wbfestival2026 #worldbodypainting on other social media channels.



If you need any assistance in the uploading time, please be aware of our working hours on the competition day until 8pm (CET). When sending a request please mention your full name and ID-number and describe your issue clearly in English.

We are going to try to be always in touch with you in case of any questions. However, please, take into account the time difference. We are happy to serve you between 8 am to 8 pm (CET).

In order for us not to lose your message, please contact us via email at
anna@bodypainting-festival.com

Good luck, don't stress, have fun and enjoy this competition!

Follow our channels for further information and live stream:
[Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Telegram](#)

GOOD LUCK & WE SEE YOU
ONLINE!

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