



Call for Artists

**THE CASTLES
IN THE SKY**
SWANSEA 2023

Created by:



Elusen | **WALES**
Ambiwlans | Air
Awyr | Ambulance
CYMRU | Charity

Principal Partner:



Printing Partner:



A MOAT-ALLY UNIQUE EXPERIENCE!

In the summer of 2023, a moat-ally unique, free public art trail and tourist attraction is heading to Swansea – and you're invited to join the fun!

For 10 weeks, between July and September 2023, the streets and parks of Swansea will be home to a series of castle sculptures, each one individually designed by a Welsh artist and sponsored by businesses, providing a fun, family-friendly trail of discovery for local people or visitors to explore and enjoy.

This feel-good campaign is the first of its kind for Swansea, intertwining Welsh culture, art and history - something as a nation we are extremely proud of.

Castles in the Sky is open to residents and visitors, of all ages, who will have the opportunity to explore and navigate their way across the city.

After engaging with the community and bringing people together, the collection of sculptures will be auctioned to raise vital funds for Wales' only air ambulance charity, Wales Air Ambulance.

But we need you to make it happen...

Transform a three-dimensional blank canvas – the Castle sculpture – with your artwork. Join the art trail and showcase your work to hundreds of thousands of people.

We invite applications from across the UK, but we are particularly interested in seeing designs submitted by those living in, and from, Wales.

We are looking for artists, illustrators, and designers to transform our castle sculptures from a blank canvas to a creative masterpiece. Whatever your style or approach, we welcome your ideas to bring the castles to life and make the trail fun, exciting and innovative.

You don't need to be a professional artist to apply, but you must be able to complete your sculpture to a high enough standard to dazzle visitors of the trail and to sell at an auction once the trail ends.



JOIN US

“What characterises this new public art is engagement and participation. The walls between the elite who produce art and those who observe it are disappearing, and art has broken out. This kind of art is not something you choose to go and visit, it goes to make itself an audience.”

Demos Institute

Castles in the Sky is brought to you by Wales Air Ambulance together with Wild in Art, and Principal Partner, Swansea Business Improvement District (BID).

Wales Air Ambulance delivers lifesaving, advanced medical care to people across Wales, whenever and wherever they need it.

The Wales Air Ambulance is your charity – it is funded by the people of Wales!

We are the only air ambulance charity based in and dedicated to the people of Wales and rely entirely on your charitable donations to keep the helicopters in the air and rapid response vehicles on the ground.

Wild in Art is the leading producer of spectacular public art events that entertain, enrich, inform and leave a lasting legacy. It brings together businesses and creative sectors with schools and local communities through the creation of uniquely painted sculptures.

Since 2008, Wild in Art has animated cities across the world including Manchester, Sydney, Auckland, Cape Town and São Paulo, and created trails for the London 2012 Olympics, the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, Historic Royal Palaces and Penguin Random House.

This spectacular art trail will deliver significant economic, social and cultural impacts. Wild in Art events have:

Enabled over £19.5m to be raised for charitable causes

Injected £3.5m into local creative communities

Engaged over 950,000 young people in learning programmes

Helped millions of people of all ages to experience art in non-traditional settings

“I just love Wild in Art events because I think there’s no other platform where I can get my work seen by so many people. And for me, my work is definitely about taking artwork out of the gallery, it being accessible to everyone and people noticing artwork on the street.”

Jenny Leonard, artist

How it works...

A MASS-APPEAL PUBLIC ART EVENT!

Castles in the Sky will connect businesses, artists, the public and community partners across the city, providing a new, innovative and uniquely creative avenue for collaboration. All whilst supporting Wales Air Ambulance – Wales's only dedicated air ambulance Charity.

Businesses, community groups and education establishments are invited to sponsor a blank castle sculpture – the 3d canvas.

New and established Welsh artists are invited to get their creative juices flowing and submit designs that will transform the blank castle sculpture to their individual masterpiece. Design ideas are presented to sponsors who each select their favourite. Successful artists are commissioned to apply their designs – ranging from traditional

to new media, fine art to illustration, graffiti and mosaic – to the sculptures.

Schools and colleges can also join in the fun, adopting and designing their own smaller castle sculptures – a little keep-sake – while taking part in a county-wide Learning Programme. This sculpture gives an exceptional, creative opportunity to engage pupils in important topics – based around the new curriculum.

Community groups have the opportunity to work with a regional artist to decorate a castle with artwork that reflects their organisation. It will be displayed as part of the trail, before being returned to its forever pasture in the local community.

Once all the castles are decorated, they will appear across the Swansea area in summer next year to form a free 10-week art trail. **Residents and visitors**, of all ages, will explore the trail using a bespoke Castle in the Sky map and mobile app. These tools will help them explore and navigate through the city, whilst discovering new places and unlocking exciting rewards and discounts provided by sponsors.

After engaging with the community and getting people outdoors, walking more and sharing their stories, the collection of sculptures will come together for a special **farewell event**. It gives everyone a last chance to see the castles, meet some of the artists involved, and maybe choose one to bid for at the charity auction!

The legacy of Castles in the Sky continues as many of the sculptures will take centre stage at a glittering **auction** to raise vital funds for **Wales Air Ambulance**.

ARTIST TIMELINE



WHY A CASTLE?

Wales is a proud Celtic nation with buckets of history. Even though the modern world has evolved, Welsh castles provide a lasting reminder of our heritage and strength.



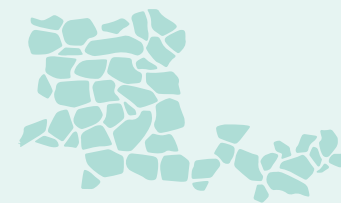
Castle facts

Wales is often called 'the land of castles', and rightly so. With over 600 castles, Wales has more per square metre than any other country in Europe.



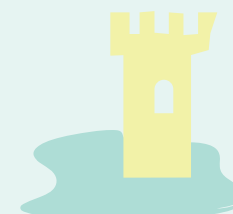
During the pandemic, Gwrych Castle opened its doors to ITV. For two consecutive years the 19th century castle has been the host to I'm a Celebrity...Get Me Out of Here.

Local Swansea poet Dylan Thomas worked as a young reporter at Swansea Castle in the newspaper offices (now demolished).



Welsh castles were mainly of stone construction and often had a protective moat.

Tourists from all over the world visit Wales to take a trip back in time at Welsh castles. The busiest being Caernarfon Castle in North Wales.



Caerphilly Castle is the largest castle in Wales, and the second largest in Britain - Windsor being the largest. Massive walls, towers and gatehouses were combined with water defences to cover a total of 30 acres.

SUBMIT A DESIGN OR GET COMMISSIONED

There are two ways in which you can see your artwork come to life.

Submit a design

Subject to being shortlisted by our art curators, your design will be included in the Design Portfolio which is presented to sponsors at our Art Selection Event. Each sponsor selects their favourite design and if yours is picked, you then apply the design to a sculpture.

Get commissioned

Be appointed by a business to create a bespoke design or work with a community group to realise their vision for a sculpture.

If you're selected, you will receive an honorarium of £1,000 upon completion of your artwork.

Your work will be recognised across all printed material and other related event collateral, including the sculpture's plaque, official trail map, website and mobile app.

Give it some fort



Design and Materials

When planning your design, there are a few things to keep in mind:

You can submit up to two designs.

You must sign our standard copyright agreement for each design submitted.

We cannot accept designs that infringe on third-party Intellectual Property such as Disney etc.

Corporate logos and advertising are not allowed.

When planning your design, please ensure they are appropriate for public display, bearing in mind the audience will be broad-based and of all ages. Designs that are overtly religious, political or sexual in nature will not be accepted.

Artists may alter the basic sculpture shape but, if doing so, must ensure the finished work remains structurally intact. It's recommended that only artists experienced in working with fibreglass submit designs that use this process.

A painting space will be provided for you to create your castle. Should you wish to paint it in your own studio, you will be responsible for collection and delivery.

While we welcome all art forms, collage and/or sticking paper or paper-based products onto the sculpture has not proven as effective as painting or mosaics. Please consider this before submitting your design and be aware most sculptures will be positioned outside.

When placed on the streets, each sculpture is bolted to a concrete base using fixings. Artists are requested to keep the base area clear of any attachments.

Artist materials are not provided. We recommend using water-based acrylic paints, artificial resin paint or two-component paint can also be used to paint or spray a design. To complete your sculpture, it must be finished with a waterproof, non-yellowing varnish which will be provided.

Artists will not be responsible for placing their sculptures on the streets or collecting them once the trail has closed. We do, however, ask artists to be available during and after the event for any touch-up work that may be required. If an artist is unavailable, another artist will carry out this work.

Remember that the public will touch and interact with your sculpture! Therefore, any attachments must be robust and able to withstand this handling (including, potentially, the weight of an adult), not be likely to cause any injury, and must be durable in an outdoor environment.



How to submit your design

Please use the castle templates provided to create your design. Please visit swanseacastles.co.uk to complete the Artists Submission Form and upload your designs.

Your submissions must be completed online by midnight on **Friday 16 December 2022**.

Designs must be uploaded in a PDF or JPG format and be high resolution.

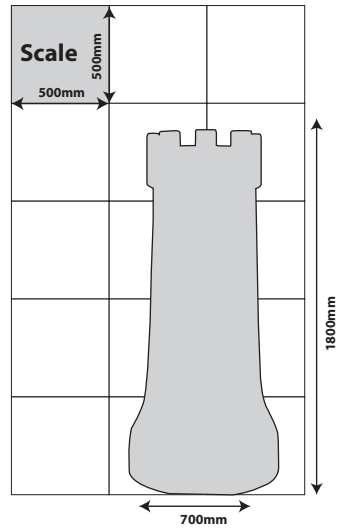
Attachments must not exceed a file size of 2MB.

Wild in Art is unable to return any designs submitted.

Any questions?

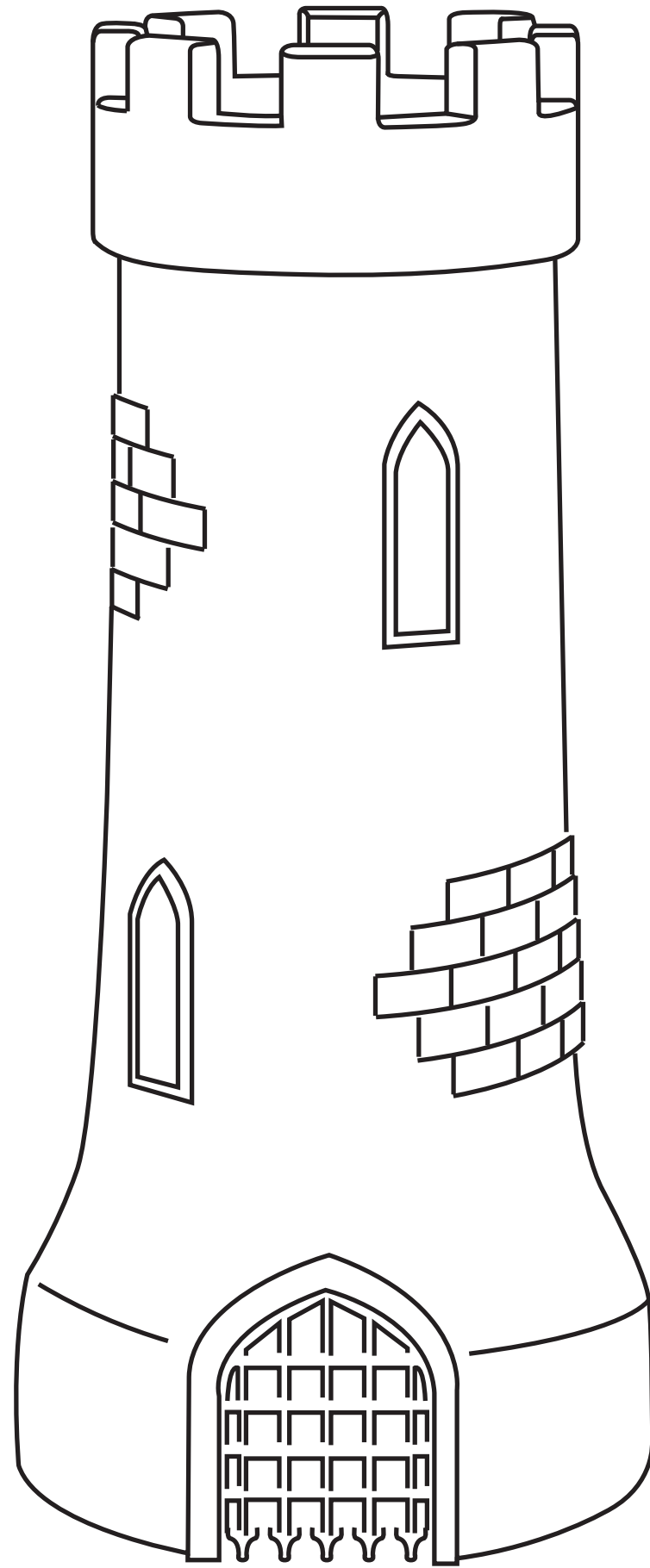
Please email hello@swanseacastles.co.uk



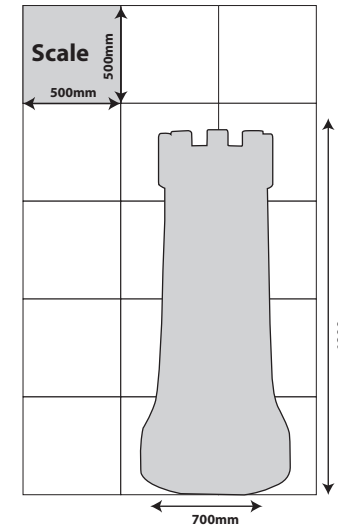


Name: _____

Design name: _____

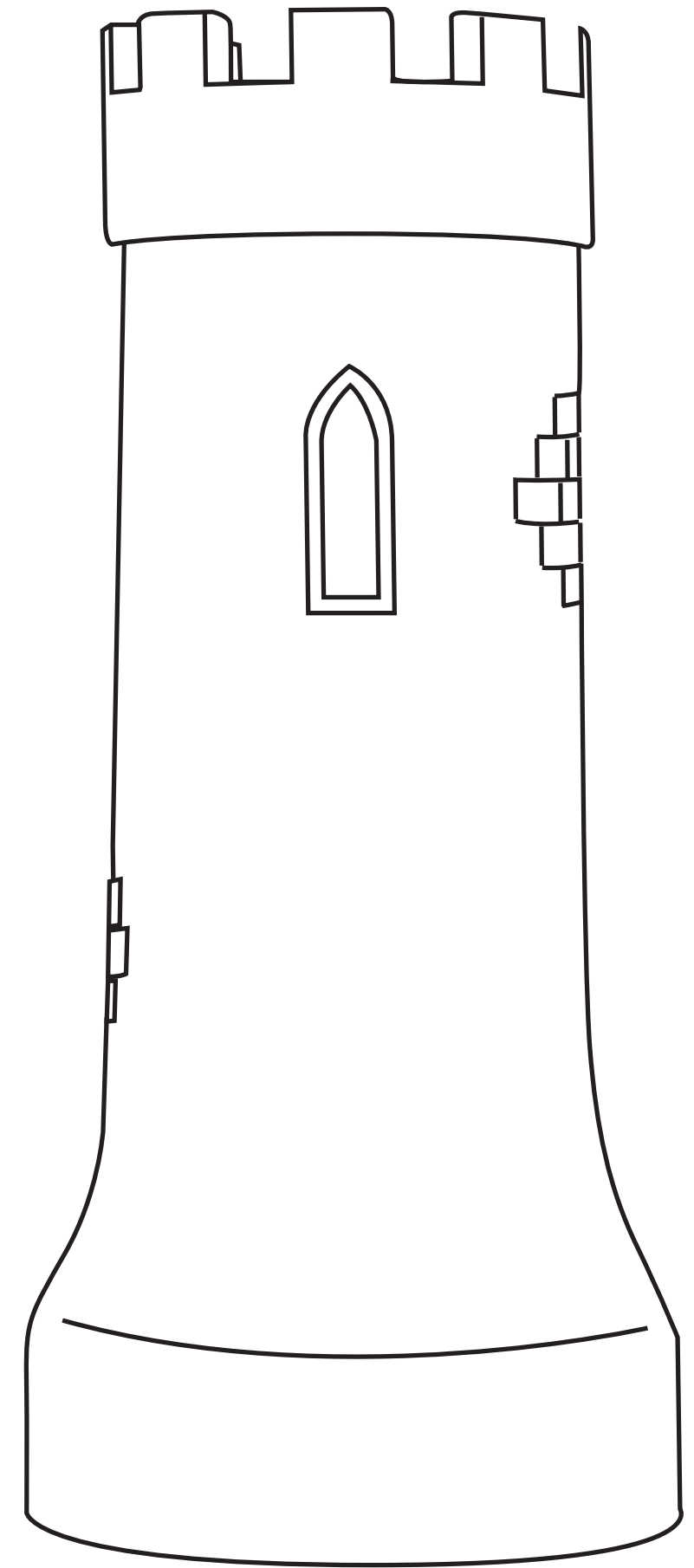


Front



Name: _____

Design name: _____



Back

Terms and Conditions

1. This project is open to all artists, amateur and professional, aged 18 and over, living in the UK.

2. You may submit up to two applications.

3. All terms and conditions in this application form a part of the agreement between you and Wild in Art in connection with Castles in the Sky and by submitting your work you are agreeing to be bound by all terms and conditions in this application form.

4. You must be the sole author and owner of all intellectual property rights of the work entered, or if the work is/are not your own in full, you must have sole permission in writing from the copyright owner/s to use their work. Source material or proof of permission in use of another person's work must be made available on request by the selection panel. Wild in Art does not accept liability in the publication of any reproduced art.

5. The design must represent a piece of work you are able to reproduce on a three-dimensional sculpture.

6. Any additions to the castle sculpture must be sufficiently strong and appropriate to maintain the structural integrity of the sculpture and must not cause risk of injury.

7. To enter, the design must be received by Wild in Art by the closing date of midnight on Friday 16 December 2022. All entries must be accompanied by a completed artist submission form.

8. No allowances will be made for work that arrives later than the deadline.

9. By completing the Artist Submission Form and submitting your castle designs you consent that all data provided by you may be used by Castles in the Sky and Wild in Art for marketing, communications and evaluation purposes unless you opt-out in writing. We don't and never will sell or pass on any of your details to another organisation for them to use for their own purposes. We may, however, use third-party organisations to help deliver services on our behalf, for example, distributing our email newsletters or feedback questionnaires, or managing participant lists for our events. At all times we will ensure that we look after your details responsibly – and that any organisations using your information on our behalf do the same. For more information, please see Wild in Art's Privacy Policy at wildinart.co.uk/privacy-policy

10. Copyright and all other IP Rights in the design belong to and remain with the Artist. However, subject to Wild in Art paying all amounts due to the Artist under any final commissioning contract, the Artist grants to Wild in Art an irrevocable royalty-free licence to use the completed artwork for Wild in Art's purposes in connection with the event, Castles in the Sky.

11. You consent to the use of your work, name and photograph in any promotional material carried out by Wild in Art, without any further compensation.

12. Your work will be reviewed by Wild in Art prior to being shown to the Event Sponsors.

13. Work will be commissioned following confirmation by the Event Sponsors. This decision on all matters relating to the work selected to be used is final. No further correspondence will be entered into.

14. Upon commissioning, Wild in Art will enter into a separate contract with you to include an agreed schedule and the terms and conditions of engagement.

15. Wild in Art will provide the castle at no charge to you. Cost of materials is your responsibility with the exception of varnish, which will be provided. If you are not able to paint the castle in the painting space, you will be responsible for the cost of transporting the castle to your studio. In the unlikely event that we cannot provide a painting space, the costs of transportation of the sculpture will be discussed on a case-by-case basis.

16. You will provide a list of artist materials – specifically paint, brand and colours used in the application on the castle.

17. Wild in Art reserves the right to withhold any fee payable to you in connection with the event if in its sole opinion the quality of the finished work provided falls below that which can be reasonably expected for public display and/or is substantially different from the design you submitted.

18. The castle remains at all times the property of Wild in Art and must be returned in good order.

19. If the castle is returned unfinished by you or deemed irreparable due to damage while in your possession, you shall be charged the full replacement cost of the castle.

20. Wild in Art will award commissioned artists with an honorarium of £1,000 plus VAT (if applicable). This will be paid on completion of the finished artwork, subject to sign-off, and all relevant paperwork. Payment will be made within 28 working days of receipt of invoice.

21. Wild in Art may from time to time produce facsimiles of the completed castle in both 2D and 3D form, excluding figurines. For the avoidance of doubt, any agreement reached in connection with any facsimile of your design should include any consideration to be paid to you by Wild in Art and require transfer of rights to Wild in Art.

22. Subject at all times to your agreement Wild in Art may produce a figurine of the completed sculpture as part of the event merchandise. If your castle is selected to be a figurine, this will be subject to a separate figurine contract and include a royalty fee.

23. Following the event, the castle will be auctioned to raise money for Wales Air Ambulance Charity (Registered Charity No 1083645). Artists will be invited to renovate the castles subject to, if necessary, an agreed additional fee.

24. By entering your work for consideration to be selected to be used in the event and for eligibility for payment of the honorarium you warrant that you have all required rights and consents to submit the work and allow Wild in Art to use the work in connection with Castles in the Sky. You also agree to grant an irrevocable royalty-free licence to Wild in Art and to use the completed work for the purposes described elsewhere connected with the Event.

KEEP *in touch*

There are many ways you can
keep in touch with us

General enquiries

hello@swanseacastles.co.uk

Media or communications enquiries

media@swanseacastles.co.uk

www.swanseacastles.co.uk

#castlesinthesky #swanseacastles



@swanseacastles



@swanseacastles23

