# The Robson Visual Arts Master Awards 2025-26

The University is the recipient of a generous donation to support up to three awards of £1,000 for students undertaking Masters level study in the disciplines of Design or Visual Practice.

The purpose of each is to provide financial assistance to Masters Students who are undertaking a pathway from one of the following subject areas:

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| MA Visual Practice: Contemporary Fine Art | MA Design: Animation |
| MA Visual Practice: Photography | MA Design: Fashion |
| MA Visual Practice: Glass | MA Design: Games Art |
| MA Visual Practice: Ceramics | MA Design: Graphics |
|  | MA Design: Illustration |

Potential students from the above cohort are welcome to apply and must have received a firm offer from a Visual Arts or Design MA programme (evidence and proof of enrolment required pre funding).

Applicants must complete the scholarship application form outlining how the award would benefit them and discuss their future aspirations/how they propose to make best use of their Masters study. Also to include up to 5 images of work to support the application. This can be submitted in a supporting powerpoint presentation.

Applications will be assessed by the awarding committee and selection will be based upon the following criteria:

* Quality of the applicants creative work and potential for development at Masters

level.

* Clarity of proposal
* The case made for the benefit of financial support to the student.
* Coherent plan for use of Masters study.
* Future Plans post MA

Priority will be given to applicants who can make a strong case that financial support will help them to start and complete their MA. This might relate to travel costs, relocation costs, initial resources to start the programme, or to allow the candidate to reduce paid work to focus on the programme. This list is not exhaustive, and we encourage candidates to state their individual case for funding.

The selection panel is unlikely to support funding for 'nice to have' materials and equipment, the purchase of materials or equipment which are already available on campus or for expenditure not related to the core curriculum (for example the purchase of materials, equipment or training that is not part of the programme).

Candidates will be expected to produce an illustrated report upon successful completion of their course for publicity and stewardship purposes.

# Deadline for applications is Friday 17th October 2025. Successful applicants will be notified by end of October 2025. Awarding Committee’s decision is final.

For further information or for an informal discussion please contact the relevant Programme Leader for the subject you are applying for:

MA Visual Practice – Dr Cate Watkinson MA Design – Ros Allen

For information on the application process, please contact the University’s Development Team on

development.office@sunderland.ac.uk or call 0191 515 3664