

ART AND BITCOIN: AN OPEN CALL FOR ARTISTS

1/8

International Open Call for an Original Artwork Proposal

COMPETITION RULES

1. Subject, Theme, Motivation and Aim of the Competition

The subject of the competition is an open call to the international art scene to submit a concept for a work, project, intervention or performance – in short, a proposal for an artwork – which will be made available under an open licence with no territorial restrictions, allowing for future realisations of the work.

The theme of the competition is a reflection on the phenomenon of Bitcoin in a free artistic form. Further information on the theme can be found in three texts: The Expert Committee's Statement, the Initiator's Statement and the text Art and Bitcoin, all available through the [competition website](#).

The motivation of the client – the Czech Bitcoin community, which ranks among the respected, innovative and progressive players on the international cryptocurrency scene – is to support the creation of an original artwork inspired by the phenomenon of Bitcoin.

The aim of the competition is to receive proposals across a wide range of media, from which the expert committee will select five finalists and award them prizes. The Czech Bitcoin community will then select one overall winner and reward them for finalising the documentation and for granting a licence, which will allow the artwork to be realised by anyone and anywhere in the world.

Any realisation of the proposal for an artwork will be permitted under the terms of the open licence, on the understanding that the budget for the realisation will be covered by the entity that decides to carry out the work in accordance with the documentation provided.

2. General Information

Competition title: Art and Bitcoin

Client: the Czech Bitcoin community Jednadvacet.org, represented by the association The Malahar Network z.s.

Professional guarantor and competition organiser:
Foundation for Contemporary Art Prague (NSU)

Type of competition: artistic (aimed at artists and their teams), open (anyone may enter without prior verification or invitation), single-round (applicants are already submitting their competition entries), anonymous (to ensure maximum transparency and a level playing field, the expert committee chooses finalists based on their projects anonymously)

Location for the artwork: virtual or physical; the proposal must be feasible anywhere in the world

Artwork medium: no restrictions. Material or existing in cyberspace, process-based (evolving over time), performative, interventions in public space, audiovisual works, sound works, websites, applications, software, etc., and combinations thereof.

Duration of the work: long-term, with no restrictions

Expert committee: consists of five members, comprising three independent experts in contemporary art nominated by the NSU and two internal members of the client.

Applicants: a natural person or an artistic team represented by a natural person; no restrictions on nationality; aged 18 or over.

Language of the competition: English or Czech

Competition budget:

- prizes for the five finalists: 5 × 21,000 CZK
- a prize of 95,000 CZK for the selected winner to finalise the documentation and for an open licence
- estimated budget for the subsequent realisation of the work ranging from 0 to 1,000,000 CZK. The work may or may not be implemented by the contracting authority, or by anyone else. However, this must always be in accordance with the open licence and documentation relating to the work

3. Participation in the Competition and Submission of Competition Entries

The competition is open to professional artists or collectives represented by an artist. Applicants must be aged 18 or over.

Applicants must submit a concept, proposal or project for their work.

The submitted project – whether in the form of a description or visualisation – must clearly demonstrate what the work will look like in the future, how it will be produced, the estimated costs involved, and how it addresses the theme of the brief. Project documentation, production plans, detailed technical specifications, or any other documentation required for the production of the artwork will be finalised and submitted only by the winner, in connection with the financial reward for granting the open licence to use and distribute the artwork.

The competition entries must be submitted electronically only by sending two completed forms (Application Form and Project Proposal) in PDF format in a single email with the subject line 'SUBMISSION'. Each PDF must not exceed 5 MB in size and must be sent to artandbitcoin@nsupraha.cz by the competition deadline: 10 November 2026, 23:59 CET.

Receipt of the forms will be confirmed by a reply to the sender's email within 7 days.

Form 1. The Application Form contains the applicant's identification details: name, address, contact details, a brief CV, a declaration of eligibility to participate in the competition, a declaration of no conflict of interest, a declaration of exclusive authorship of the proposal, and acceptance of the open licence and competition terms and conditions.

Form 2. The Project Proposal contains an anonymised description and documentation of the project with which the applicant is entering the competition. The document must not contain any information that could identify the applicant.

The form contains mandatory fields: Project title/working title, brief description, detailed description/explanation of the concept of the work, sketches, visualisations, other visual representations of the future work, proposed character of the site/location of the work, technical specifications (materials and technologies in the case of a physical work, definition of the electronic environment in the case of an intangible work, etc.), a production/creation schedule for the work and information on sustainability, the work's lifespan and anticipated maintenance, and a budget for the realisation of the work (0–1 million CZK).

The forms can be downloaded from <https://nsupraha.cz/program/art-and-bitcoin/>

Any enquiries regarding the competition rules should be sent to questions@nsupraha.cz until the competition closing date. Enquiries and their answers will be published within 5 days on the competition announcement page at <https://nsupraha.cz/program/art-and-bitcoin/>, without identifying the enquirer.

The organizer reserves the right not to answer enquiries that are not directly related to clarifying the competition rules.

The competition organizer reserves the right to disqualify a competition entry if it does not meet the substantive requirements, or to request additional information in the event of a formal deficiency in the application.

4. Competition Schedule

12 September 2026: Competition announcement
 10 November 2026 at 23:59 CET: Deadline for submission of entries
 10 December 2026: Announcement of the five finalists
 27 January 2027: Announcement of the winner

Next steps:

by 1 March 2027: Submission of the finalised/refined project and conclusion of a licence agreement with the winner
 from 2 March 2027: The work may be commissioned by any entity that expresses an interest in it and covers the costs of its realisation

5. Evaluation Methodology, Expert committee and Evaluation Criteria

The expert committee consists of three independent experts in the arts and new media and two internal members of the client. The expert committee selects five finalists.

The selection of the five finalists from all entries will take place through discussion amongst the five committee members, with each member having one equal vote. In the event that any committee member abstains from voting and a tie occurs, the chairperson of the committee shall have the casting vote.

The expert committee will select five finalists from the anonymously submitted projects and recommend them to the client's board for the selection of the competition winner, accompanied by a written assessment – for each project, the committee will highlight the strengths and merits of the proposal.

Once the five finalists have been selected, the competition organiser will remove the anonymity from the projects.

The client's board, comprising representatives of the Czech Bitcoin community, will select one winner from the five finalists recommended by the expert committee. The client's board's decision is final.

The client's board reserves the right not to select a winner, but must provide a transparent justification for its decision.

In the event that an obstacle arises on the part of the designated winner and it is not possible to conclude the subsequent licence agreement, the client's board shall rank the finalists in such a way as to enable the conclusion of the licence agreement and to approach the next finalist in the specified order.

Expert committee:

Independent members:

Mgr. Denisa Reshef Kera, PhD, chair of the expert committee; a Czech journalist, art historian, curator and media theorist based in Tel Aviv, specialising in blockchain, and a university lecturer

Mgr. Noemi Purkrábková, media theorist, PhD candidate at the Department of Film Studies, Faculty of Arts, Charles University, curator, editor of the journal Art Antiques, university lecturer at the Department of Photography, FAMU in Prague, co-founder of the audiovisual collective BCAAsystem

Prof. Mgr. David Kořínek, university lecturer and intermedia artist (Rafani), Vice-Rector for External Relations at the Faculty of Art and Design at Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem

Internal members:

Kamil Bouška, member of the executive committee of the Czech Crypto Association (ČKMA), populariser and key figure in the Czech Bitcoin scene, author of the book The Big Book About Bitcoin and Cryptocurrencies: Financial Literacy for Everyone

Kryštof Korč, COO of Confirno Group, co-founder of the Translux festival of interdisciplinary visual arts, editor of the journal FOTO, member of the APF and judge for the Czech Photography Personality Award

Project evaluation criteria and their weighting

Artistic quality of the proposal and innovation	30%
Relevance to the theme	30%
Feasibility, potential for transferability and sustainability of the work	20%
Economic reasonableness of the implementation budget	20%

6. Contest Results and Prizes

The results of the competition will be published on the competition organizer's website within 30 days of the competition entry deadline. The organizer reserves the right, in justified cases, to extend the deadline for publishing the results by an additional 30 days.

The competition organizer will award **5 selected participants an equal prize of 21,000 CZK each**. The prize will be transferred to the participant's bank account from the organizer's CZK bank account as a foundation grant/prize in an art competition, within 40 calendar days of the announcement of the competition results, or within 5 calendar days of receiving the bank details from the winning participant. Each participant is responsible for any taxation of the prize within their tax jurisdiction.

The selected competition winner will be asked to supplement the project proposal with detailed specifications necessary for its realisation and to enter into a licence agreement. **In consideration for granting an open licence to the proposal and documentation for the realisation of the work, the competition client will pay the winner a fee of 95,000 CZK.**

The competition organizer will not cover any expenses that participants may incur in connection with their participation in the contest.

7. Contractual Agreements, Copyright, and Licence

By submitting their entries, applicants agree that, if selected as one of the five finalists and awarded the associated prize, they grant the competition client and organizer a non-exclusive licence to publish their competition entries, their name, city, and country, and the attached CV.

By submitting their entries, applicants agree that, in the event of winning the competition, they will make the work available under an open CC BY-NC-SA licence with international validity in exchange for a prize of 95,000 CZK provided by the client. It will therefore be possible to reproduce, adapt or otherwise distribute the work freely, subject to the terms of the licence.

The competition client reserves the right to ensure that, when the work is realised, in addition to the author's name, it is stated that the work was created as part of an international open call announced by the client, as follows: *"The creation of the work was initiated by the Czech Bitcoin community jednadvacet.org with the support of the following organisations: Jednadvacet.org, GeneralBytes, Confirno, Braïns, 2Bminer, Anycoin, Kryptomagazín."*

The actual realisation of the winning work will depend on any entity wishing to use the documentation to produce the work, subject to a free licence permitting the distribution and production of the work. The competition client will seek to collaborate with both the author and any other entities that express an interest in realising the work. However, it may not make the realisation of the work conditional upon its own financial gain, physical supervision of the realisation, or in any way complicate the use of the licence and documentation for the creation of the work. The same conduct is required of the author of the winning design within the framework of the open licence provided by them.

Copyright and the open licence for the winning work

The purpose of the competition is to obtain a concept and instructions for the creation of the work, together with an open licence that will allow the work to be freely produced, copied, published, distributed, adapted, further developed and used anywhere in the world, including for commercial purposes, without the need to obtain further consent from the author or the client.

A. Licence for the artwork and documentation – CC BY-SA 4.0

The winning work, its concept, visualisations, technical and production documentation, as well as any images, sound recordings, audiovisual material and other copyright-protected materials, will be made available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 4.0 International (CC BY-SA 4.0) licence.

In particular, the licence permits:

- copying and distributing the work free of charge in any medium and format;
- physically producing the work in any number of copies and anywhere in the world;
- modifying, adapting, technically refining and further developing the work;
- using the work privately, publicly and commercially;
- to create and distribute derivative works.

The condition is that **attribution** must be maintained and, in the event of modification or the creation of a derivative work, that the work must be made available under the same or a compatible open licence.

This regime applies regardless of whether the work takes the form of a physical object, an intervention in public space, a performance, an audiovisual or sound work, a digital work, a web project or a combination thereof, provided that the relevant part of the work is eligible for copyright protection.

B. Software and source code

If the winning work includes software, an application, source code or any other standalone software component, that component shall be made available under the Apache Licence 2.0 or, where applicable, another pre-approved standard open-source licence with a comparable scope of rights.

In particular, the licence must permit the free use, copying, modification, further distribution and commercial use of the software.

All documentation necessary for understanding, modifying and further using the source code shall be published alongside it.

C. Acknowledgement of the author and project partners – **attribution**

Every published version of the winning work and its documentation must contain clear information specifying the licence under which the work is made available and how attribution is to be provided. The future implementer of the work, wherever in the world they may be, will therefore not be reliant on a non-public contract between the author and the commissioning party; they will obtain the necessary information directly from the open licence and from the link attached to the work or its documentation.

When the work is publicly distributed or implemented, information about the author of the work, the project within which the work was created, and the partners who funded the competition and the open publication of the work must be retained in a manner appropriate to the nature of the medium in question.

D. Licence agreement and prize for the winner

Given that the competition allows for a very wide range of possible works – from physical objects through to performances, audiovisual or digital works, and software, or a combination thereof – it is not practical to set out in advance the full text of the final licence agreement for a specific entry.

The competition rules therefore set out, at the time of the announcement, fixed minimum licensing terms which every participant accepts upon entering the competition: the use of CC BY-SA 4.0 for the artwork and its documentation; an appropriate open-source licence for software; the right to use the work worldwide, including for commercial purposes; the right to produce, copy, adapt and further distribute the work; the requirement to maintain the specified attribution; and the winner's obligation to provide the materials necessary for the work to be reproduced.

Once the winner has been selected, a separate licence agreement will be concluded, which will neither alter nor restrict these pre-established rules, but will merely apply them to the specific winning work. In particular, the agreement will specify exactly what constitutes the work and its documentation, which parts are subject to the CC BY-SA 4.0 licence, whether the work also includes software or other separately licensed elements, what source and implementation materials the author is to hand over, and how attribution is to be carried out.

The winner of the competition will also be asked to finalise and hand over the complete documentation of the work to the extent necessary to enable its further implementation.

Under this agreement, the winner shall, in particular:

- grant the above-mentioned rights under the CC BY-SA 4.0 licence, or, in the case of software components, under the relevant open-source licence;
- allow the publication of the complete documentation and source materials;
- grant, to the extent permitted by law, consent to modifications, technical refinements and further adaptations of the work;
- confirm that they are authorised to grant these rights and that neither the work nor the materials provided infringe the rights of third parties.

For entering into this contract, granting the aforementioned open licence and providing the required documentation, the winner shall receive a one-off prize of 95,000 CZK.

The prize of 95,000 CZK is a separate payment for making the winning work and its documentation openly available and is in addition to the prize received for being shortlisted as a finalist.

8. Disclosure of Information

The organizer and the competition client have the right to publish on their websites, in newsletters, on social media, and in other customary venues

- only the 5 selected and awarded competition projects, along with the participant's name, city, country, and a brief CV
- solely for the purpose of promoting the competition results, even after the competition has ended
- the total number of competition participants, regional representation, and the range of media through which participants entered the competition

The organizer and competition client do not have the right to publish projects that did not receive awards or the names of their authors.

9. Final Provisions

By entering the competition, participants unconditionally accept these competition rules.

Relationships between the client, the organizer, and competition participants not covered by these competition rules are governed by the Civil Code of the Czech Republic and the Copyright Act of the Czech Republic.

Any disputes between the client, the competition organizer, and the participant are subject to the jurisdiction of the Czech Republic, will be conducted in the Czech language, and will be decided by the courts in the location of the client's registered office.

Both the client and the competition organizer reserve the right to amend the competition rules during the competition, but only to enhance the clarity and transparency of the rules or to better fulfil the purpose of the competition.

Both the client and the organizer reserve the right to cancel the competition even while it is in progress, but only for exceptionally serious reasons.

10. Identification and Contact Information

Initiator and client: The Malahar Network z.s., Uralská 689/7, 160 00 Prague 6, CZ, ID No. 24063185

Professional guarantor and competition organizer: Foundation for Contemporary Art Prague (NSU), Dukelských hrdinů 500 / 25a, 170 00 Prague 7, CZ, ID No. 660 00 718

Contact Information:

Any enquiries regarding the competition rules: questions@nsupraha.cz

Submission of entries: artforbitcoin@nsupraha.cz