



Guidelines: The art of hoping

We are opening our platform to artists to share their work around the theme of 'Hope'.

This call is linked to our ['No Limits to Hope'](#) activity, which explores how learning can become a driving force for cultural and systemic renewal, helping individuals, institutions and communities cultivate the imagination, capability and collective agency needed for regenerative and hopeful futures.

In this guidelines you will find:

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What we are looking for?

Theme

We're looking for art that responds to the theme of 'Hope', work that imagines how the systems we live in (the way we learn, work and care for one another and the planet) could change for a fairer, more regenerative future. You might respond to questions like: What does a hopeful future look or feel like to you? What gives you hope when things feel uncertain? What small, everyday act of hope deserves to be noticed? What relationship between people and the planet do you wish for? Whose vision of the future do we rarely get to see, and could you share it? We welcome everything from quiet, personal expressions of hope to bold visions of systemic change.

Formats:

We accept the following:

- Pictures / photographs
- Paintings / art work
- Poetry and short text
- Videos, motion graphics, illustrations, animations

Generative AI

We prefer human-made work, the call is about human creativity, perspective and lived experience. AI-assisted pieces are welcome, but any use of generative AI (for images, text, video

or parts of a piece) must be clearly disclosed in the artist statement, including which tool was used and how. Fully AI-generated work with no human authorship will not be accepted.

Content standards

All submissions should be respectful and inclusive. We will not accept work that is hateful, discriminatory, violent, defamatory or otherwise offensive, or that promotes such views.

Submission language

You are welcome to submit your work in any language. For text-based pieces (such as poetry or short text) and for your artist statement, please provide an English translation alongside the original if the work is not in English, so that we can share it with our international audience.

How to submit?

Artists should submit their work via email to Chiara, our Communications Officer at crusconi@clubofrome.org. With the following information:

- The art piece, format accepted, depending on your submission:
 - PNG/JPG for:
 - Pictures / photographs
 - Paintings / art work
 - Graphics, illustrations, animations
 - Word doc:
 - Poetry and short text
 - MP4:
 - Videos: from short clips to long-form content (such as mini documentaries)
 - Illustrations, animations
- Author name
- Affiliation (if appropriate)
- Country of residence
- Title of the piece
- Artist statement: 100 words max on what the piece is about/ what it is responding to.

An artist may submit more than one piece.

Deadlines & timeline

- **Submission deadline:** 30 September 2026
- **Artists will be notified:** 9 October 2026
- **Physical and virtual exhibition launch on:** 4 November 2026

Benefits for participating artists

- A platform for their art, to spark conversations at The Fifth Element, a programme by the Club of Rome. The pieces will be displayed in an online exhibition, and curated list

Catalysing the Emergence of a Human Revolution

thefifthelement.earth

will also be displayed at the in-person conference of the Club of Rome '[No Limits to Hope: Sense-making for alternative futures](#)'

- Intro to our network: connect featured artists to fellows/programme participants whose work resonates.
- Cross-promotion with partner organisations.
- Cost & compensation: there is no fee to take part in this call. This is an unpaid opportunity: we are not able to offer payment, a prize or an honorarium for selected work. What we offer instead is visibility for your work and your practice, as described under 'Benefits for participating artists' above.

How are we going to use the content?

The content is going to be displayed on our channels: an online 'exhibition' on our [website](#), it will also be shared on our socials, WhatsApp, LinkedIn and Instagram. A selection of curated pieces will be displayed in an in-person exhibition at the Club of Rome international conference '[No Limits to Hope: Sense-making for alternative futures](#)'

Consent & rights

By submitting your work, you warrant that you are its original creator (or that you hold all rights necessary to submit it) and that it does not infringe the rights of any third party.

If you are under 18 years old, your submission must be accompanied by the written consent of a parent or legal guardian.

You retain full copyright and ownership of your work at all times.

By submitting your work, you grant The Fifth Element a non-exclusive, royalty-free licence to display, reproduce and share it across the channels described above, namely our website and online exhibition, our social media platforms (WhatsApp, LinkedIn and Instagram) and the in-person Club of Rome conference 'No Limits to Hope: Sense-making for alternative futures'.

Your work will be displayed with attribution at all times, including your name and, where applicable, your affiliation and country of residence.

We will not sell your work or use it for commercial purposes beyond promoting this call, the exhibition and The Fifth Element programme without first asking for your consent.

You may request the withdrawal of your work at any time by contacting Chiara at crusconi@clubofrome.org, and we will remove it from the channels within our control as soon as reasonably practicable.

Data & privacy

<https://thefifthelement.earth/privacy-policy/>

Questions?

If you have any questions about the call or your submission, please contact Chiara, our Communications Officer, at crusconi@clubofrome.org. We are happy to help.