
IST Conference 2026 – Image Competition

Terms & Conditions

All entries must comply with the terms and conditions detailed below.

Entries that do not comply will be disqualified. Entry into the IST Conference 2026 image competition implies that the following conditions have been met.

1. This competition is run by the Institute of Science & Technology (IST) and is open to all individuals within the technical community. Entrants do not need to be members of the IST. Members of the Executive and/or the judging panel, and their families are not eligible to submit entries.
2. Images being entered in the competition cannot have won any other competition, nor have been sold previously.
3. The images must be the sole work and copyright of the entrant. They must not be a copy of, or infringe the copyright of, any other individual or organisation.
4. Entries may be photographs, artistic depictions, hand-drawn images, or digitally adjusted images. Any digital edits or artistic enhancements must have been completed solely by the entrant.
5. Images must showcase the work of the technical community and relate to the competition theme, "Technicolour". Entries should focus on colourful images connected to technical work, which may include new equipment, new techniques, advances in operations, laboratory improvements, sustainability initiatives, or other aspects of technical practice. Good composition, detail, focus, exposure, colour, creativity and overall impact will be considered during judging. Any person visible within the image must have given written permission for the image to be submitted and displayed.
6. Images may be submitted in any standard image format, including but not limited to TIFF, JPEG and PNG (if appropriate as PDF). Entrants should aim to keep file sizes below 20MB.
7. Entrants should keep copies of original files and should be prepared to provide a higher-resolution or original version where this is required for judging or promotional purposes.
8. Entries must be submitted by email to office@istonline.org.uk with the subject line "IST Conference 2026 Image Competition". A title and brief description of the image, not exceeding 150 words, must accompany each entry.
9. The closing date for entries is 31 July 2026. Any entries received after this date will not be considered. After submission, entries may only be amended at the judges' discretion and before the closing date.
10. Entries to the competition are limited to two images per person.

11. By entering this competition, entrants confirm that:
 - They are the sole author and owner of each submission.
 - They have the right to submit their entry or entries.
 - No copyright, trademark or other intellectual property rights of any third person or party are infringed, nor do the images violate anyone's rights of privacy or publicity.
 - Entries do not contain commercial content promoting any product or service.
 - All persons appearing in the image have granted permission to be portrayed as shown.
 - The entrant's personal privacy is maintained and no identifiable personal details are included without appropriate consent.
 - Entries do not contain false, misleading, abusive, harassing, defamatory, libellous or profane content and do not encourage conduct that would violate the law.
 - No animals or their environments were harmed, manipulated or placed under distress in order to capture the image.
12. The IST acknowledges that entrants retain full ownership of the copyright for each of their entries.
13. By entering the competition, entrants grant the IST a royalty-free licence to use, reproduce and publish submitted images for the purposes of publicising, promoting and reporting on the competition, the IST Conference, and the work of the technical community. In all instances, full credit to the original entrant will be provided. No third parties will be granted permission to use images for other purposes without the express permission of the copyright owner.
14. Entries will be judged by a panel appointed by the IST. The judges' decision on all matters is final and no correspondence will be entered into regarding judging decisions or any aspect of the competition.
15. Prizes will be awarded as follows:
 - First Prize: £100
 - Two Runner-Up Prizes: £50 each
 - Winners and runners-up must be able to receive their prizes at the IST Conference and must book a ticket to attend.
16. Winners and runners-up will be notified before the Conference. Should the IST be unable to contact a winner or runner-up after reasonable attempts have been made, it reserves the right to offer the prize to an alternative entrant.
17. Should all entries fall below the required standard, the IST reserves the right not to award prizes or to extend the submission deadline. The IST also reserves the right to cancel the competition at any time or to alter the rules. Any significant changes to the rules or terms and conditions will be published on the IST website and social media channels.
18. Any breach of these terms by an entrant will void their entry. The IST reserves the right to request the return of a prize if an entrant is subsequently found to have breached these terms.