

SUNSHINE COAST WOOTHA PRIZE 2025

A WOODWORKING COMPETITION
WITH A CONSCIENCE

COMPETITION GUIDELINES

www.malenywoodexpo.com

**ENTRIES CLOSE MIDNIGHT
MARCH 8, 2025**



The Maleny Wood Expo is an initiative of
Barung Landcare

Proudly supported by



\$10,000 FIRST PRIZE

The overall first prize winner is selected from any of the categories of Furniture, Sculpture and Tiny Treasures, and is awarded a cash prize of \$10,000, as well as their name on Sunshine Coast Wootha Prize perpetual trophy, and will be offered a free site at the 2026 Maleny Wood Expo.

All categories will be eligible to be considered for prize money under their respective categories, as well as the overall \$10,000 Sunshine Coast Wootha Prize.

\$2,000 FURNITURE

\$2,000 SCULPTURE

\$2,000 TINY TREASURES

\$500 PEOPLE'S CHOICE

APPLICATION DUE DATE

Saturday 8th March 2025

Application form and payment online at
www.malenywoodexpo.com/wootha-prize

Proudly sponsored by Sunshine Coast Council and hosted by Barung Landcare, the Sunshine Coast Wootha Prize is the feature competition and exhibition at the Maleny Wood Expo.

Barung Landcare invites you to participate in the 15th Sunshine Coast Wootha Prize competition, to be exhibited at the Maleny Wood Expo over the weekend May 3rd to May 5th 2025.

The Sunshine Coast Wootha Prize is a truly prestigious national woodworking competition, attracting contemporary designers and innovative craftspeople in the promotion of our beautiful native timbers and the sustainable use of timber resources.

The Wootha Prize is a highly competitive and prestigious woodworking competition, inviting submissions of works under three main categories:

Furniture

The Furniture category rejoices in all aspects of furniture making, traditional and contemporary, design, artistry and innovation.

Sculpture

The Sculpture category will highlight carving to its fullest extent from the delicate to the robust, abstract to representational.

Tiny Treasures

The 'Tiny Treasures' category celebrates works of smaller dimensions. It acknowledges work small in scale but big on design and craftsmanship - beautifully designed and exquisitely crafted.

Theme

The 2025 Sunshine Coast Wootha Prize theme is 'Whimsy in Wood' where creativity knows no bounds!

Inviting inspired entries that captivate and delight, and celebrate the spirit of imagination and playfulness under any of the eligible categories.

Join us as we journey into endless possibilities, where each piece tells a unique story and sparks joy, awe and wonder in every admirer.

From intricate carvings to fantastical furniture and tantalising Tiny Treasures, let your inner whimsy shine through in ways that transcend the ordinary, and spark inspiration.

For all enquiries, please contact
woothaprizemalenywoodexpo.com

KEY DATES

Entries open: October 2024

Entries close: 8th March 2025

Finalists announced: 18th March 2025

Delivery of work: Main Pavilion by 30th April 9 am - 2 pm

Tiny Treasures entries must be received by 5 pm

Monday 28th April 2025

Maleny Wood Expo Opening and Award

announcements: Friday Night 2nd May 2025

People's Choice Awarded: Monday afternoon 5th May

Pick-up of unsold work: between 3:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Monday 5th May

ELIGIBILITY

Pieces submitted for the Sunshine Coast Wootha Prize must:

1. Not have been entered into or won any other previous competitions or been accepted into any other exhibition
2. Be made of Australian timbers sustainably harvested, or recycled, or weed timbers, and may incorporate other media
3. Be an original design
4. Have been created since May 2023
5. Adhere to the sizing regulations. For all entries except Tiny Treasures;
 - a. fit within a 1 (one) square metre footprint (eg 2000 x 500mm / 1000 x 1000mm etc)
 - b. have a maximum height of 2000mm
 - c. be able to be moved by two people; and
 - d. be freestanding
6. Tiny Treasures entry size is not to exceed 130mm L x 130mm W x 110mm D. Entries will need to fit into a Australia Post post pack box. This post pack box measures (inside) 130 mm x 130 mm x 110 mm (depth): entrants selected as Tiny Treasures finalists will be sent a post pack in which to submit their work.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

1. Please read the guidelines clearly and fill in ALL the fields in your application.
2. Ensure information is correct upon submission; no changes can be made afterward.
3. Work must be for sale. Sales commission of 20% + GST will apply to works sold. Please ensure you include 20% commission and GST in your sale price as no changes can be made once submitted. If the work is sold, payment will be made by the end of May.
4. Any work sold at the Maleny Wood Expo must remain on display for the duration of the event.

DETAILS OF COMPETITION PIECE

1. Participants entering under the Sunshine Coast Wootha Prize may submit one entry into Tiny Treasures and one into one other category. Each entry must be submitted on separate application forms and the non-refundable entry fee must accompany each entry.
2. Outline when your piece was made - must have been made within 2 years of May 2025
3. Outline the dimensions of your piece ensuring it is within the eligibility criteria.

MATERIALS USED

Clearly define the source of the timbers used in your work. Simply stating "sustainably sourced" is not sufficient.

Wood artisans entering the Sunshine Coast Wootha Prize are required to work in sustainably harvested native, weed or recycled timbers.

Sustainably harvested timbers are obtained through methods that prioritise the preservation and regeneration of forest ecosystems. This involves practices like selective logging, tree replanting, biodiversity conservation, indigenous rights protection and mitigation of environmental harm such as deforestation, soil erosion and habitat destruction.

Please tell us about where your timber was sourced. This will be promoted on your exhibition label if you are successful as a finalist.

ABOUT YOUR ENTRY

1. No names to be written in the 200 word Artist Statements (due to blind judging).
2. Up to 5 images of proposed work to be included. Provide clear images or drawings of your finished work or work in progress. Work in progress drawings accepted.
3. Provide 2 images of previous work to showcase your craftspersonship.
4. All images must be presented in one PDF document (no word docs or separate images). Ensure there are no logos, names or artist identifiers in your images.

THE PROCESS

The Sunshine Coast Wootha Prize receives high volumes of applications. We have limited space available therefore numbers of accepted applications are limited.

There are two rounds of judging and it is anticipated that approximately 50 works will be selected across the Furniture and Sculpture categories by the pre-selection process and from applications submitted.

The Tiny Treasures category is able to receive an open amount of entries.

The selection committee evaluates applications based on various criteria, including timbers used, size, theme relevance, concept and quality. The selection process is blind, meaning no names, logos or woodworker details are visible during review.

1. Applications open online in October 2024. Each entry requires a completed entry form with required attachments and \$35 payment to be received by the Maleny Wood Expo / Barung Landcare to confirm your entry.
2. Exhibition pieces / finalists will be chosen by the selection committee. Successful applicants will be notified by email or in writing and will receive a Competition Acceptance Agreement to complete by the designated date.
3. Exhibition pieces must be delivered to the Main Pavilion, Maleny Showgrounds on Wednesday 30th April 2025 between 9 am - 2 pm. Tiny Treasures entries must be received by post or hand-delivered by 5 pm Monday 28th April 2025.
4. Exhibition pieces are to be judged by an expert panel on Friday 2nd May 2025.
5. Winners to be announced at the 2025 Maleny Wood Expo Opening and Awards Ceremony on Friday 2nd May 2025. The People's Choice award will be announced on the Monday afternoon of the Maleny Wood Expo (5th May).
6. During the exhibition, all works will be labelled with:
 - o The artist's name, title of piece, timber species, how timber was sourced, and other materials used
 - o The artist's contact details
 - o A brief artist's statement
 - o Sale price, including GST and 20% commission

All exhibition pieces to be collected from the Main Pavilion, Maleny Showgrounds from 3.30 pm - 6.30 pm Monday the 5th of May

There will be no early releases of works. Works are to remain until the Wood Expo is closed on the final day.

NB: Alternative arrangements for delivery and collection must be made with the Maleny Wood Expo Coordinator at least 2 weeks prior to the Wood Expo.

PLEASE NOTE

1. The Selection Panel and Judges' decisions are final. No further correspondence will be entered into.
2. The entry fee is non-refundable. It does not include entry into the Maleny Wood Expo.
3. The Sunshine Coast Wootha Prize categories Furniture and Sculpture numbers are limited. Tiny Treasures is an unlimited category.
4. Any costs associated with freight of exhibits to and /or from the Maleny Wood Expo are the responsibility of the artist. If a piece is sold during the exhibition, any freight charges will be the responsibility of the purchaser.
5. Insurance for works during transit, at the Maleny Wood Expo exhibition and at the post-Wood Expo exhibition are the responsibility of the artist. Maleny Wood Expo management will take due care, but is not responsible for any damage, loss or theft. Entrants are encouraged to arrange insurance for their work.
6. All finalists are invited to the awards ceremony at the Maleny Wood Expo Open night, Friday 2nd May 2025. Acceptance as a finalist does not include entry into the Maleny Wood Expo from Saturday 3rd to Monday 5th May 2025.
7. The 2025 First Place winner will be invited to be a member of the judging panel for the 2026 Sunshine Coast Wootha Prize.
8. Applications can only be assessed on the information submitted in your application. All fields on the application form and payment must be completed before entry is accepted (any information sent after the application is submitted will not be accepted).
9. All works must be free standing. A limited number of plinths will be used for displaying sculptural work as determined by the curator, but due to limited space and for the need to display fair and equitable continuity for all participants, no other stands or extras are permitted.

USEFUL LINKS

Maleny Wood Expo Website:
www.malenywoodexpo.com

Sustainability Policies
www.malenywoodexpo.com/sustainability-policies/