

THE ICPA CREATIVE + PRINT AWARDS 2026

2 JUNE, GLASGOW WESTERWOOD HOTEL

We are passionate about championing people within the #TheICPAFamily as well as showcasing your achievements. Whether you are a small team offering one core service or a multi-service team, we want to celebrate the work accomplished by your organisation and shout about it.

Build those internal relationships, collaborate, and communicate with colleagues in your organisation and enter the ICPA Awards 2026!

HOW TO ENTER

- **A separate entry form is required for each submission.**
- **Awards are open to ICPA members.**
- **Submit entries to as many categories as you wish.**
- **All video must be submitted in mp4, format.**

Download and complete the relevant form for each entry you submit in each category.

All member organisations of ICPA may submit up to three entries per category; the same job can be entered into more than one category; and you may enter all of the categories.

Make sure you have read the entry criteria carefully and that you supply all media requested along with the samples of the work being entered. Ensure you have included all the appropriate forms.

Please consider how you would like your entries to be presented and submit accordingly. If only electronic entry forms and/or work samples are received, they will be printed on an office printer for the judges to consider.

Send your completed form (PDF) by email with the name of your organisation, category entered and your university's logo (large jpg or eps) to: admin@acpme.ac.uk

Also mail your hard copy entry form(s) and print samples with any digital files to: (you may share your digital artwork files via file transfer services like WeTransfer or supply on a USB drive)

Closing date:

Friday 10 April 2026

Ensure your entry is identifiable by marking the outside with: Sender's name, e-mail address and organisation, you will receive an e-mail to acknowledge receipt. If you do not receive an email acknowledgment then your parcel has either not been received or is not identifiable.

JUDGING THE AWARDS & THE PRESENTATION

Each category of award is supported by an ICPA Elite Partner. The judging panel consists of independent industry experts in Print, Design and Photography. The judges will agree a Winner and a (where appropriate) Highly-Commended award for each category, prior to the 2026 conference. Winners will be notified and trophies presented at the **'In-house Creative & Print' Conference 2026 Awards Dinner** on Tuesday 2 June 2026.

All winning entries will receive:

- A trophy and certificate
- Social Media announcements via LinkedIn
- ICPA web page announcement
- A feature article in the post-conference commemorative edition of Pages

The ICPA Creative & Print Awards

Seven Elms, Dark Lane, Astwood Bank, Redditch,
Worcestershire B96 6HB

CATEGORIES & CRITERIA

Category 1 – Service of the year (two awards)

Total staff 1 to 5 FTE (winner only)

Total staff 6+ FTE (winner only)

This category is to recognise the achievement of your in-house service whether a small one service team or a multi-service team.

Judging will consider things like:

- Investment in people or technology
- Successes
- A measurable sustainable initiative to reduce the service or organisational carbon footprint
- Diversification into new print or print related services.
- Collaboration with stakeholders e.g., marketing, estates
- Increase in income or production.
- Savings and efficiencies e.g., financial, environmental, resources
- Innovation in design, photography, or other creative services
- Improvements to service operations e.g., lean processes
- Overcoming exceptional circumstances

Submission: Your entry should consist of a summary of no more than 1,000 words and may include supporting documents or a short video clip to support your entry.

Category 2 – Digital printer of the year (two awards)

Total staff 1 to 5 FTE (winner only)

Total staff 6+ FTE (winner only)

This category recognises quality and consistency across a range of in-house digitally-printed deliverables/jobs.

Judging will consider things like:

- WOW factor
- Printing or finishing processes employed
- Colour quality and consistency
- Substrate used
- Use of data
- Impact to the organisation
- Bringing a new service in-house
- Innovative ways to resolve a problem

Entries must have been printed within your organisation in-house showcasing digital printing and finishing. Your submission can include jobs printed for your organisation, for commercial clients or for self-promotion.

Submission: One sample of 4 different products – to show quality and consistency. Plus a supporting written submission. Your entry should consist of no more than 500 words.

Category 3 – Wide format printer of the year (two awards)

Total staff 1 to 5 FTE (winner only)

Total staff 6+ FTE (winner only)

Any wide format printed job that is something beyond your normal practice and has been printed in-house.

The judges will be looking at innovations in production, service, and delivery. Please provide a clear description of the challenges faced and innovative approaches taken to meet them.

Judging will consider things like:

- Printing or finishing processes employed
- Substrate used
- Product format
- Creative installation
- Impact to the organisation
- Service delivery
- Bringing a new service inhouse
- Innovative ways to resolve a problem

Entries must be designed and printed within your organisation showcasing printing and finishing. Including jobs printed for your organisation, for commercial clients or for self-promotion.

Submission: Samples that are too big to be submitted by post can be illustrated by photography and supporting written submissions. Your entry should consist of no more than 500 words.

Category 4 – Creative imagery of the year

Photography of the year (winner)

Videography of the year (winner)

We are looking for entries that capture your client's brief and translate to imagery that communicates the passion, skill, and creativity to bring the subject matter to life. The submission can capture a single image, be a sequence of images or a video.

Photographs can be enhanced with post-camera production but must not be composite images or use AI.

Judging will consider things like:

- Translation of brief to imagery
- Technical excellence
- Composition
- Use of natural or artificial lighting
- Visual impact and interest
- Storytelling

All entries must have been created within your organisation.

Submission: Your entry should consist of a digital image or images, in jpg format or links to online video/s and supporting written submissions. Your entry should consist of no more than 500 words. If you supply links to videos please also include one clip of no more than 30 seconds in mp4 format for Awards presentation purposes.

CATEGORIES & CRITERIA

Category 5 – Digital design of the year (winner and highly commended)

We are looking for entries that capture your client's brief through website design, animation, motion graphics, social media as well as an expertly told narrative. The submission can either be for marketing or teaching purposes and must be hosted online or used in a social media campaign – either as a stand-alone video or a wider digital package (such as a microsite).

Judging will consider things like:

- Translation of brief to digital output
- Concept & writing
- Creative & technical skills
- Overall experience
- Brand Integration (if branded) e.g., does the presence of the brand seem heavy-handed, or does it strike a balance?
- Impact to the organisation / client testimonial

All submissions must have been created within your organisation.

Submission: Your entry should consist of a digital image or links to online video/s. Your entry should consist of a summary / case study of no more than 500 words and link to supporting web pages/documents. If you supply links to videos please also include one clip of no more than 30 seconds in mp4 format for Awards presentation purposes.

Category 6 – Creative campaign of the year (winner and highly commended)

We are looking for entries that capture your client's brief for a successful campaign designed across multiple channels which enhance communications, connect with audiences, and build reputation.

Judging will consider things like:

- Translation of brief to output
- Originality of your design
- Strategic thinking
- Design impact and attractiveness
- Creative & technical skills
- Effective use of channels and materials
- Whether the design will leave a lasting impression
- Brand consistency
- Impact to the organisation / client testimonial

They will also consider evidence of achieving or exceeding a measurable goal. These business benefits could include an increase in revenue, a change in consumer/student/staff attitude or uplift in social media and website traffic.

All submissions must have been created within your organisation

Submission: Your entry should consist of a digital image or online video/s. Your entry should consist of a summary / case study of no more than 500 words and link to supporting web pages/documents. If you supply links to videos please also include one clip of no more than 30 seconds in mp4 format for Awards presentation purposes.

Category 7 – Design for print of the year (winner and highly commended)

We are looking for entries that capture your client's brief through design for print. Whether it is the design or innovations used in print or finishing processes employed, or the substrate used to connect with your audience.

Judging will consider things like:

- Translation of brief / brand to output
- Originality of your design
- Effective communication with the audience
- Effective use of print and finishing processes
- Substrate used
- Impact to the organisation / client testimonial

Entries must have been designed and printed within your organisation showcasing design for print. Including jobs printed for your organisation, for commercial clients or for self-promotion.

Submission: Four printed copies to show the quality and supporting written submissions. Your entry should consist of no more than 500 words.

Category 8 – Team member or individual group of the year (winner only)

We want you to nominate a team member or individual group (max 3) that you believe should receive extra-special credit. This does not have to be a manager; they could hold any role at any level but will have done something remarkable that goes way beyond the expectations of their role. It is a broad category.

Judging will consider things like:

- One off extraordinary performance
- Personal accomplishments
- Accomplishments for your organisation or team
- Customer service (if relevant)
- Milestones crossed
- Excellence in performance
- Peer-to-peer communication and support
- Leadership qualities (if relevant)
- Working across teams in your organisation

Submission: Your entry should consist of a summary / case study of no more than 500 words and may include supporting documents.



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TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 1 Any organisation that holds current membership of the ICPA and has paid their current year's subscription may enter.
- 2 Enter any number of categories with up to three entries allowed per category with the exception of categories 1 and 3.
- 3 Entries must be produced in the period **23 March 2025 – 11 April 2026**.
- 4 Submit your entries by **Friday 10 April 2026**. Entries received after this deadline will not be accepted once the judging process has commenced.
- 5 Provide the relevant samples of your work, complete an entry form for each entry you submit in each category you enter then email and post them as instructions above.
- 6 Entries must be produced by the organisation entering the awards and for the corresponding category. Any outwork and contributors should be acknowledged.
- 7 Entries of materials produced entirely by external agencies will not be accepted.
- 8 The decision of the judges is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- 9 If you would like to collect your submission at the Conference, please indicate on your entry form as all entries will be disposed of at the end of the 2026 Conference.
- 10 Entrants agree to the use of your materials for display purposes and inclusion in any publication or event associated with the ICPA. The information supplied with winning entries may be used in case studies to be published.



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2026 ICPA AWARDS SUBMISSION

Please complete this form for **each entry you submit, in each category you enter** and attach to each piece of work.

Category (from drop down)

Organisation Name

Size of unit / no of staff

Contact Name

Title of job/publication:

Tel No

E-mail

Collect entry at Conference Yes No

Please tell us about your entry in the field overleaf

Entry deadline: Friday 10 April 2026 at 5pm

ICPA Awards Dinner & Presentation: Tuesday 2 June 2026, Glasgow Westerwood Hotel

Organisation Name

Please use this field to provide details of the client's brief, production methods, techniques, skills, substrates, equipment/technology and anything else you think will help show how you produced your entry.

Organisation Name

Continued