

Vessels of the Future

Vessels of the Future is a competition, so by entering you agree to the following competition rules.

1. Organiser
 2. How to Enter
 3. Copyright and use of images, designs, models
 4. Vessels of the Future - Categories
 5. Shortlisted Entries
 6. Winning Entries
 7. Governing law
 8. Judging
 9. Invalid Entries
 10. Liability
 11. Personal Information & Data
 12. Accepting the Rules
-

1. Organiser and Competition

- 1.1. The title of the competition is **Vessels of the Future** and is organised and owned by the Port of London Authority ("PLA") whose principal office is London River House, Royal Pier Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 2BG.
- 1.2. Vessels of the Future is a new competition inviting young people (aged 11–18) to use their imaginations and design the boats, ships or rivercraft of tomorrow. Whether you're inspired by sustainability, smart technology, futuristic materials or just have a wild imagination – we want to see your vision for the future of river travel. Through this competition we're asking: 'What will the Thames look like in 2050?' and more importantly, what will be sailing on it? You don't need to be an engineer or a ship designer – just bring your creativity and curiosity. Participants must submit their vessel design in one of the following formats.
 - 1.2.1. Conceptual Design – hand drawn sketches
 - 1.2.2. Physical Model - If constructing a physical model the entrant may submit the physical model or alternatively photographs and/or video (accepted file types: JPEG, PNG, PDF, MP4, MOV) of that physical model.
 - 1.2.3. Digital Design (2D or 3D rendering and accepted file types: JPEG, PNG, PDF (2D) , STL, OBJ, STEP (3D)).
- 1.3. All formats listed in 1.2.1 – 1.2.3 must be accompanied by a Design Statement in accordance with clause 1.4) below
- 1.4. Design Statement

1.4.1. the design statement shall accompany any entry and shall detail the reasoning behind the design. It will help judges understand your design and why you have made certain choices.

1.4.2. All submissions to the 11-14 age group must include a written or recorded design statement or explanation, maximum 300 words (these can be written in simple sentences or bullet points to organise your thoughts), or a 3-minute video/audio

1.4.3. All submission to the 15-18 age group must include a written or recorded design statement or explanation, maximum 500 words (these can be written in simple sentences or bullet points to organise your thoughts), or a 5-minute video/audio.

1.4.4. the design statement should include as a minimum:

- i) Idea & Inspiration: What is your vessel and what inspired your design?
- ii) Key Features: What are the important parts of your design, and what are they used for?
- iii) Sustainability: How does your design help protect the environment or use materials wisely?

And the design is to be presented on A4 or A3 paper, or if submitting a physical model, it should be no larger than an A3 footprint

1.5. There are two age group categories in the Vessels of the Future Competition. Each of the age group categories will have one overall winner, and three other commended awards as follows:

1.5.1. Age 11-14 Sub-Categories

Top Prize

- **Thames Visionary Award (Age Group Winner):** Awarded to the stand-out design concept that best reflects the Thames vision, it's goals and captures the spirit of the competition.

Secondary Prizes or Special Awards within Age Group

- **Best Imaginative Design:** Awarded for the most creative and unconventional design idea.
- **Best Eco-Friendly Concept:** Awarded for the most innovative sustainability features.
- **Best Community Connection:** Awarded for designs that foster social interaction or benefit local communities.

1.5.2. Age 15-18 Sub-Categories

Top Prize

- **Thames Visionary Award (Age Group Winner):** Awarded to the stand-out design concept that best reflects the Thames vision, it's goals and captures the spirit of the competition.

Secondary Prizes or Special Awards within Age Group

- **Best Innovation in Sustainability:** Awarded for the design that features cutting-edge clean energy solutions, or eco-friendly features.
- **Best Realistic Concept:** Awarded for the design that could be feasibly implemented on the Thames in the near future.
- **Best Creative Concept:** Awarded for the design that pushes the boundaries, celebrating bold artistic expression and imaginative design.

2. How to Enter

- 2.1. Entries to the Vessels of the Future competition run from 12.00pm 21 May 2025 (**“Opening Date”**) to 12.00pm on the 31 July 2025 (the **‘Closing Date’**) inclusive.
- 2.2. all competition entries must be received by the PLA by no later than 12.00pm on the Closing Date. All entries received after the Closing Date are automatically disqualified.
- 2.3. To enter the competition:
 - 2.3.1. visit the PLA’s website www.pla.co.uk/thames-visionaries and submit your entry by email to Thames.Vision@pla.co.uk.
 - 2.3.2. To register your entry, you must specify all the entrant’s names and ages along with the vessel design (see clause 1.2) and the design statement (see clause 1.4).
 - 2.3.3. After registering your entry, you shall have until the Closing Date to submit your entry.
- 2.4. By submitting an entry, each Entrant agrees to these competition rules and warrants that they are the sole copyright owner or representative of the entry or in the case of any group entry, each Entrant in such group entry are joint owners.
- 2.5. No purchase is necessary and there is no charge to register for use of the PLA’s website.
- 2.6. The PLA will **not** accept:
 - 2.6.1. Responsibility for competition entries that are corrupted, not successfully completed or transmitted, lost, mislaid, damaged or delayed in transit, regardless of cause, including, for example, as a result of any postal failure, equipment failure, technical malfunction, systems, satellite, network, server, website, computer hardware or software failure of any kind; or
 - 2.6.2. Proof of posting or transmission as proof of receipt of entry to the competition.
- 2.7. for help with entries please see the PLA’s website Thames Visionaries: Vessels of the Future | Port of London Authority or email Thames.Vision@pla.co.uk
- 2.8. the competition entries will be judged by a panel of three judges based on creativity, innovation, functionality, sustainability and presentation of the vessel design. Further specific commendations may also be awarded for designs that excel in particular aspects of creativity,

feasibility or alignment with the Thames Vision. The judges may ask additional questions about any entry. The decision of the panel of judges (acting reasonably) will be final.

3. Eligibility

- 3.1. The competition is open to individuals aged 11 to 18 years old exempt those persons as set out in 3.2 below.
- 3.2. Employees of the PLA and anyone directly involved in the organisation or judging of the competition (and includes any of the aforementioned persons immediate families or members of their household) are not eligible to enter.
- 3.3. The consent of a parent or guardian is required for all Entrants. By entering the competition, it is deemed that all Entrants have obtained consent from their parent or guardian and that they agree to the terms and conditions herein. The PLA may ask the winner to provide proof of age.
- 3.4. Entrants can either be an individual or a group entry. Any Group entry must be limited to a maximum of 4 persons per group.
- 3.5. Group entries must nominate one person to represent them in communication and submit entries on behalf of the group, if no such person is expressly nominated it will be assumed that whoever operates the email account associated with the entry is the nominated representative.
- 3.6. There is a limit of one entry to the competition per person or per group. Entries on behalf of another person will not be accepted.
- 3.7. competition entries cannot be returned

4. Winners and Prizes

- 4.1. The decision of the judges nominated by the PLA is final and no correspondence or discussion will be entered into.
- 4.2. Winners will be announced within one month of the Closing Date and the PLA will contact the winner personally as soon as practicable after such announcement using the email address provided with their competition entry.
- 4.3. If your image, design or model is selected as a category winner, your submission and / or a 3D printed version of the design will be presented as part of the PLA's exhibition at the London International Shipping Week 2025 event
- 4.4. Prizes are not negotiable or transferable and no alternative prizes are available in whole or in part.

- 4.5. The full names of the winners will be published on the competition website for a period of at least 3 months and if you object to any or all of your surname and winning entry being published or being made available, please contact the PLA at Thames.Vision@pla.co.uk. In such circumstances, the PLA may still be required to provide the information and winning entry to the Advertising Standards Agency on request.

5. Claiming the Prize

- 5.1. the prize may not be claimed by a third party on your behalf
- 5.2. the PLA will make all reasonable efforts to contact the winner. If the winner cannot be contacted or is not available, the PLA reserves the right to offer the prize to the next eligible entrant selected from the correct entries that were received before the Closing Date.
- 5.3. The PLA does not accept any responsibility if you are not able to take up the prize.

6. Limitation of Liability

- 6.1. The PLA and associated delivery partners will not be liable for any loss (including, without limitation, indirect, special or consequential loss), expense or damage which is suffered or sustained (whether or not arising from any person's negligence) in connection with this competition or accepting or using the prize, except for any liability which cannot be excluded by law (including personal injury, death and fraud) in which case that liability is limited to the minimum allowable by law.
- 6.2. The PLA reserves the right to cancel, postpone or amend the Competition and / or exhibition at any time where necessary, but will always use all reasonable endeavours to minimise the effect on participants to avoid undue disappointment.
- 6.3. If any of these clauses should be determined to be illegal, invalid or otherwise unenforceable then it shall be severed and deleted from these rules and the remaining clauses shall survive and remain in full force and effect.

7. Ownership of competition entries and intellectual property rights

- 7.1. By entering, all Entrants grant the PLA a royalty free, non-exclusive, worldwide license to use, display, publish, transmit, copy, edit, alter, re-format and sub-licence the intellectual property rights in the competition entry for the purposes of:
- 7.1.1. judging the competition;
 - 7.1.2. In exhibition displays;

7.1.3.promotional, press and marketing materials (including social media, and websites) to promote and publicise the competition, exhibition and future related competitions, exhibitions and activities; and

7.1.4.As part of wider educational, non-commercial programmes to introduce and promote the understanding of vessels that navigate the tidal Thames

7.2. Please do not submit your entry to the competition if you do not wish to grant these rights

7.3. All entrants confirm that they are the sole legal and beneficial owner of the copyright and any other relevant intellectual property rights comprised in any photos, sketches, drawings or images of any kind in any media (“**Images**”) forming all or part of their submissions.

7.4. all entrants represent and warrant the Images are:

7.4.1. their own original works and have not been copied wholly or substantially

7.4.2. are not defamatory

7.4.3. do not infringe third party rights

8. Data Protection and Publicity

8.1. The PLA will collect personal data about Entrants at the time of registration. Any personal information of Entrants will only be used and, where necessary, disclosed to third parties (such as the partner) for the purposes of running the competition and otherwise in accordance with the [PLA privacy policy](#).

8.2. You can request access to your personal data or have any inaccuracies rectified, by sending an email to thames.vision@pla.co.uk. By participating in the competition, you agree to the use of your personal data as described here.

9. Governing Law

These terms and conditions are governed by English Law and the English Courts shall have exclusive jurisdiction to determine any dispute relating to them