

INVITATION

TO PARTICIPATE IN THE INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF WELDING (IIW) 2024 DIGITAL COLLECTION WELDED ART PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION

“PROGRESSING THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL SDG 4”

7th to 12th July 2024

SDG 4 Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

BACKGROUND

Since its inception in 1948, the 51 member-country International Institute of Welding (IIW) <http://iiwelding.org/iiw-members> has held a multitude of activities to help improve the global quality of life through welding related activities.

IIW will shortly be releasing its report, **The Importance of a Country’s Welding Industry, Its National Welding Capability (NWC) and their Significance to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

IIW has also previously held four welded art photographic exhibitions, one live in Slovakia in 2019 and virtual ones in 2020, 2021 and 2023. The IIW digital document “Welded Art Virtual and Live Exhibitions and Competitions-2022 Digital Collections” which was made available to the public after the 2022 IIW Annual Assembly in Tokyo is available on https://www.iiw2022.com/files/IIW2022_Welded_Art.pdf and includes various useful links and the IIW 2023 Digital Collection Welded Art Photographic Exhibition-Sustainable Development Goals on <https://iiwelding.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/IIW-2023-Digital-Collection-UN-SDGs-Single-Page.pdf>

1. INTRODUCTION TO IIW 2024 DIGITAL COLLECTION WELDED ART PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION: PROGRESSING THE UN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL SDG 4

This invitation is to encourage people to participate in the 2024 Virtual IIW Welded Art Photographic Exhibition to be held 7th to 12th July 2024 in Rhodes, Greece. We expect 700-800 welding professionals, engineers and scientists to attend. Participants will be given an “**IIW 2024 Digital Collection**”, containing all the welded art photographic exhibits plus the write-ups on the artists and exhibits including contact details of each artist unless specifically requested not to by the artist.

The “**IIW 2024 Digital Collection**” will be promoted extensively around the world after 12th July 2024.

IIW is a not-for-profit organisation and there will be no charges/fees/stipends/income/proceeds/sales involved in this exhibition. The organisation and administration is done on a voluntary basis, with the practical costs for the exhibition being carried by the IIW. Since it is a photographic exhibition, there is no need for artists to be present, and no onerous shipping/set-up of bulky exhibits is required.

2. POSSIBLE EXHIBITS IN THE EXHIBITION

The “**IIW 2024 Digital Collection**” will include a range of exhibits covering SDG 4. Anyone is welcome to contact the undersigned to discuss a possible submission. Final completed submissions must be received by the **end of April 2024**.

Participants are likely to include individuals or teams of **career artists, hobby artists, welders, teachers, instructors, students, apprentices, trainees, young professionals, researchers and young artists** of all ages, amongst others. They may include exhibits using standard metal forming, welding and cutting processes as well as emerging technologies involving materials and joining processes.

Welded Art exhibits can be used to show the importance of **education, training, skills and career paths** throughout the life of a person from **cradle to grave**.

For example, amongst others such as improved resources and facilities, they could cover SDG 4 outcomes orientated to lifelong learning such as free primary and secondary education, equal access to quality pre-primary education, affordable technical, vocational and higher education, increased number of people with relevant skills for financial success, elimination of all discrimination in education and career opportunities, universal literacy and numeracy and education for sustainable development and global citizenship which are also essential to achieve all the SDGs.

The final number of exhibits to be included in the IIW 2024 Digital Collection is flexible. For information on SDG 4 you can link to https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sustainable_Development_Goals which also covers some of the challenges and targeted outcomes of SDG 4.

If you are aware of other people in your networks at colleges, companies, training centres, universities, research groups, art groups etc who may be producing welded artwork, I would be grateful if you would send me their contact details and I will contact them directly. Alternatively, you may wish to pass this information personally to them.

3 PROCESS FOR SUBMITTING A WELDED ART PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBIT

If you would like to accept our invitation, please acknowledge this by a short email to allbones@iinet.net.au giving me your ideas on the exhibit to be considered.

Once I have received an indication that you are interested in participating, I will then contact you to discuss this as well as receiving the following information which I will be happy to assist you in compiling:

- a) The title and a photograph of your chosen exhibit taken on a digital camera with good image quality and a resolution of 20 megapixels or more which will give high quality A2 prints.
- b) A short (200 word) write-up on the objectives / methods / techniques / materials / uniqueness used for your welded art exhibit.
- c) A photograph of you (an eight megapixels resolution should be fine) or your team and a short 100 word write-up on your or their welded art background and contact details such as email address, website, Facebook etc.
- d) Any other points which you would like to make in relation to your exhibit and its relevance to UN Sustainable Development Goal SDG 4 and lifelong learning opportunities.

4 ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION

It is important to note that this exhibition is **not** a competition but is simply intended to be an informal and unpressured platform for people to show their abilities and artistic expression.

Our main message to everyone, including the 700-800 welding professionals, engineers and scientists who will be attending, is that a key purpose of this initiative is to showcase the flexibility and versatility of the welding discipline, and how it is gaining acceptance as an artistic medium which is capable of expressing many different designs and forms, including improving quality of life through progressing SDG 4 and its effect on the other SDGs.

The photographs submitted will be treated with the utmost respect and nobody will be allowed a copy of the electronic images submitted to the organisers without your agreement to do so, in writing.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Chris Smallbone
Exhibition Organiser and Editor
IIW President 2005-2008, IIW Fellow
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01 January 2024