



Application details for 'The Hatch' A RAW Emerging Artist Exhibition



Kia ora and welcome!

Thank you for showing an interest in 'The Hatch', our emerging artist category for RAW 2026. 'The Hatch' is in its fourth year and we like to think of it as the incubator that helps to nurture the next wave of rising stars in Raglan. We are excited to have this important platform from RAW which celebrates the new creative energies of our artistic community. Thank you to Rangitahi Peninsula and Waikato District Creative Communities for making this happen for us.

This year, we expect to have capacity and funding for approximately 10 to 15 emerging artists in our group exhibition in Raglan. We are looking for artists that live locally, identify as emerging artists and are interested in collaboration. Artists will be expected to collectively exhibit a small body of work, within a multi-media space.

Definition of Emerging Artist

According to the Waikato Society of Arts, an 'emerging artist' generally refers to an artist who is developing their artistic voice and establishing a foothold in the professional area, often through competitions and exhibitions.

For the purpose of The Hatch exhibition, we are defining 'emerging artists' as the following:

Artists:

- that do not have major gallery representation
- that do not have prominent exhibiting or commission-based sales experience
- that have a desire to build their own business capability
- that are not receiving an income solely from their artistic careers

We believe that defining the category in this way will provide opportunity to artists - young and old - who would benefit most from being involved in this project.

What do you get as part of The Hatch?

You will get to connect with other emerging artists and be supported as you prepare for the group exhibition over the Raglan Arts Weekend.

Being a part of 'The Hatch' allows artists the opportunity of support and guidance, including: displaying artwork, how to reach an audience with your work, pricing, framing, online marketing, developing bios and so on.

There will also be group meetings/discussions with established artists, to further develop understanding of the art world.

We will provide exhibition materials such as partition walls, plinths, hanging equipment and labels, and offer support around hanging and curating works.

Application Process

Each artist will be assessed individually and on their own merit.

We do welcome applications from emerging artists who have previously been part of The Hatch in 2025. Inclusion again will depend on the number of new artists who apply in 2026. Priority will be given to artists who have not participated previously. Our aim is to try and support new artists and keep the exhibition fresh.

Approximately 10 to 15 applicants will be selected to form part of 2026's "The Hatch".

Applications will be open from the 9 March 2026 until 20 April 2026. Please email your application as a document or pdf, with photos as attachments rather than embedded in the document.

This is what you will need to include in your application:

- An explanation of your creative journey so far
- High quality photos of your artworks with description i.e. medium, size, materials used (either older artworks or what you intend on exhibiting) – please send as attachments.
- What you would ideally like to include in the exhibition i.e. approximate artwork sizes, materials used and how many artworks
- Any social media platforms currently used to promote your works
- Any galleries you are currently exhibiting in
- Any previous experience (if any) exhibiting and what you were involved in

Send your application and any queries to thehatch@raglanartscentre.co.nz by 20 April 2026. Unfortunately, no late applications will be accepted as we need a final group for marketing purposes.

Once applications close, we will review all interested artists, and we will get back to you with confirmation on whether you have been successful or not by 30 April 2026.

Registration costs

For those applicants who are successful, the registration fee is \$90.00. This will need to be paid into the account provided within 5 working days. Once payment is received you will get confirmation of securing your place within the group exhibition.

If payment is not received within 5 working days, you will lose your spot within the exhibition.

Good Luck! We are so looking forward to collaborating on your creative journey.