

Call for proposals “Biotech2art”

Application deadline: 31 October 2025

Artwork at the Luxembourg Centre for Systems Biomedicine

The Luxembourg Centre for Systems Biomedicine (LCSB) of the University of Luxembourg is located in the Biotech 2 building on the Campus Belval, one of the most dynamic science and innovation locations in Europe. Directly in front of the main entrance is an inviting square where researchers, students, visitors and passers-by alike arrive and meet. In this context, a permanent work of art is to be created in this public space that fits both the architectural surroundings and the scientific identity of the LCSB.

The art installation will serve as a visible symbol of the LCSB's interdisciplinary approach to researching the brain and its diseases. As a bridge between science and society, it is intended to arouse curiosity and open new perspectives on the interplay between humans, health, disease, and the environment. The call for proposals is initiated by the LCSB.

Theme

The overarching theme of the artwork is LCSB's research in the field of systems biomedicine. The Luxembourg Centre for Systems Biomedicine was founded in 2009 as one of the first interdisciplinary research centres of the University of Luxembourg. Our 270 staff members combine their expertise in a wide range of disciplines - from computational biology to clinical and experimental neuroscience - to study the brain and its diseases. This interdisciplinary approach is central to our research.

The human body is a complex biological system that constantly interacts with its environment. The LCSB aims to elucidate this complexity and gain an in-depth mechanistic understanding of the brain and the underlying processes of neurodegenerative diseases such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's disease. This knowledge will contribute to the development of new approaches for the diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of neurodegenerative diseases.

We grant full artistic freedom regarding the conception of the artwork, as long as it is permanent. The artwork can be abstract, figurative, conceptual, or interactive. It can work with traditional or innovative materials and enter into dialogue with the theme on an aesthetic, symbolic, or conceptual level.

Visit

To visit the location and find out more about the LCSB and its research, we offer the following dates for a visit:

- **2 September 2025 at 14:00 - Visit to the LCSB on the Belval campus**
Registration until 28 August
- **19 September 2025 at 10:00 - Visit to the LCSB on the Belval campus**
Registration until 12 September

The appointments are in English and last approximately 1 hour plus questions. Registration by e-mail to: biotech2art@uni.lu

Further information about the LCSB can be found on our [website](#) or [LinkedIn channel](#). Information about previous collaborations with artists can be found here:

- Mind the brain – [FNR award video](#) and [text about the sculpture kept at the LCSB](#) (to be replaced)
- Artists in residences:
<https://www.uni.lu/lcsb-en/news/art-meets-science-a-first-artist-residency-at-the-university/>
<https://www.uni.lu/lcsb-en/news/artistic-ai-generated-take-on-our-memory/>

Organisation and selection committee

The competition and its implementation are supervised by the Luxembourg Centre for Systems Biomedicine of the University of Luxembourg. The selection committee will choose the artist. The committee consists of:

- François Valentini, architect, jury lead
- Simone Asselborn-Bintz, mayor of the municipality of Sanem
- Marie-Hélène Jobin, Vice Rector for Partnerships and International Relations of the University of Luxembourg
- Sandra Lieners, artist
- Simon Santschi, director of the Europäische Kunstakademie Trier
- Michael Heneka, director of the LCSB
- Rolf Tarrach, former rector of the University of Luxembourg
- Christian Veletta, head of the Property Management department, Fonds Belval

Eligibility to participate

All professional and semi-professional artists from Luxembourg and the Greater Region (Rhineland-Palatinate, Saarland, Luxembourg, French region Grand Est, Belgian region Wallonia) who can demonstrate experience in the design of artworks in public spaces are eligible to participate. Group applications from two or more artists are also possible, whereby at least one member must have experience in the design of artworks in public spaces.

Prizes and project funding

- First prize: 2.000 Euro
- Second prize: 1.000 Euro
- Third prize: 500 Euro

Only the project of the first prize winner will be realised and funded up to a maximum total amount of 50,000 euros for artistic realisation and material costs. The 2nd and 3rd prize winners will only receive the prize money listed. Realisation of the 2nd (or 3rd) prize will only be considered should the 1st prize winning artwork not pass the feasibility stage.

If additional transport costs and preparatory work (e.g. foundations) are required, a cost calculation must be included with the application. The first prize winner undertakes to implement their project on site at 6, Avenue du Swing in Belvaux independently and on their own responsibility in the period from March to May 2026 within this budget, taking into account

any design recommendations of the selection committee and in coordination (implementation process, any technical requirements, timing) with the Luxembourg Centre for Systems Biomedicine of the University of Luxembourg. It must be guaranteed that the artwork will be weatherproof for a period of at least 10 years.

Submission

The following digital documents must be submitted as a PDF to participate:

- Own design for the artwork (PDF: Photographs, sketches, computer graphics, max. 6 pages, max. DIN A3 format, max. 10 MB)
- Own examples of artworks (PDF: max. 10 pages, max. DIN A3 format, max. 10 MB)
- Short statement on your own idea with reference to the research of the Luxembourg Centre for Systems Biomedicine (PDF: max. one A4 page)
- Optional: Your own design of the artwork as a model (max. 50x50x50cm, max. 5kg). Please contact the above e-mail address in advance to coordinate the submission.

Documents should be submitted in English (however, German and French submissions will also be considered). The documents must be submitted by Friday, 31 October 2025 by email to biotech2art@uni.lu. All participants will be informed about the three winners.

Timeline

- 31 October 2025 – Deadline for submission of artist applications
- November 2025 – Panel meeting to select the artists
- March - May 2026 – Realisation on site
- June 2026 – Official inauguration of the artwork

Annexes

- Map of the location including dimensions
- Photos and aerial view of the location