



CZECH AQUATIC ART CONTEST 2026

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Each criterion has a maximum number of points, a total of up to 600 points per competitor. The judges work independently and without the opportunity to see the ratings of others.

- **Composition and design (100 points)**

This criterion evaluates how well the aquarium is visually arranged. Work with depth, lines, proportions and the location of main and secondary elements is monitored. The jurors assess whether the layout looks balanced, natural and aesthetically pleasing, and whether the author was able to use the space of the tank so that the whole looks harmonious and has a clear concept.

- **Plant health and vitality (100 points)**

The overall condition of the plants and their growth are evaluated. The jury monitors the color, density, vitality and uniformity of growth in the individual parts of the layout. Part of the evaluation is also how the plants are maintained, whether they show signs of deficiencies, algae or damage. The goal is to appreciate careful tank management and healthy, thriving plants.

- **Originality and creative approach (100 points)**

At this point, the jury focuses on the uniqueness of the author's work. Layouts that bring a new perspective, original ideas or an interesting concept of composition have an advantage. Originality can be expressed by the choice of material, the unexpected placement of elements, an unexpected atmosphere or a creative interpretation of nature.

- **Overall impression and atmosphere (100 points)**

It is evaluated how strong the visual and emotional impression the layout evokes as a whole. It is a combination of harmony, mood, colors, the connection of plants and hardscape and the overall "story" of the aquarium. The jurors assess whether the tank looks coherent, natural and can draw the viewer into its environment.



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- **Suitability and health of animals (100 points)**

When evaluating the suitability of animals, it is evaluated whether the selected species correspond to the size and style of the aquarium, whether they can live together without stress and aggression, and whether their behavior and vitality seem natural. At the same time, it is monitored whether their presence complements the overall composition and aesthetics of the layout and whether it respects the balance with plants and decorations.

- **Long-term sustainability and functionality (50 points)**

When evaluating long-term sustainability and functionality, the jury assesses whether the aquarium is designed to be able to be kept in good condition even with regular care. For example, the ease of maintenance, the possibility of pruning and shaping plants, access to technology and materials, and whether the composition allows to maintain the cleanliness and harmony of the tank in the long term are monitored.

- **Engineering and image clarity (50 points)**

When evaluating the technical design and cleanliness of the image, the jury assesses whether all the technology such as heaters, filters or hoses is hidden in the photo and whether the overall appearance looks clean and uncluttered. The quality of the image, composition and sharpness are also important so that the aquarium is presented as best as possible and is not disturbed by visual elements that are not related to the aesthetic value of the tank itself.