The Rotunda Gallery

A display of Trinidad and Tobago’s cultural and political heritage

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Artists & Collectors

The Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago is inviting submissions for "Wonders of the Universe: Time and Astronomical Art" in commemoration of the International Day of Human Space Flight. The exhibition will be held from 4th April – 29th April, 2022.

The Vision

In astronomy1 and cosmology2, space is the vast 3-dimensional region that begins where the earth's atmosphere ends. Space is usually thought to begin at the lowest altitude at which satellites can maintain orbits for a reasonable time without falling into the atmosphere. Astronomers may speak of interplanetary space (the space between planets in our solar system), interstellar space (the space between stars in our galaxy), or intergalactic space (the space between galaxies in the universe). Some scientists believe that space extends infinitely far in all directions, while others believe that space is finite but unbounded, just as the 2-space surface of the earth has finite area yet no beginning nor end.

1 Astronomy: the study of objects and matter outside the earth's atmosphere and of their physical and chemical properties.
2 Cosmology: the branch of philosophy dealing with the origin and general structure of the universe, with its parts, elements, and laws, and especially with such of its characteristics as space, time, causality, and freedom.
The General Assembly, in its resolution A/RES/65/271 of 7 April 2011, declared 12 April as the International Day of Human Space Flight “to celebrate each year at the international level the beginning of the space era for mankind, reaffirming the important contribution of space, science and technology in achieving sustainable development goals and increasing the well-being of States and peoples, as well as ensuring the realization of their aspiration to maintain outer space for peaceful purposes.” This is the date of the first human space flight, carried out by Yuri Gagarin, a Soviet citizen. This historic event opened the way for space exploration for the benefit of all humanity.

Space technology supports the global effort to reach the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDG’s). Six space technologies that currently support the Sustainable Development Goals: Satellite Earth Observation, Satellite Positioning and Navigation, Human Space Flight and Microgravity Research, Satellite Communication, Space Technology Transfer, Inspiration from Research and Education. These benefits are linked to all seventeen of the SDG’s. For example, SDG 4 Quality Education, Space technologies can provide: High-speed internet connectivity and tailored online educational content delivered via satellite and Remote learning, e-learning and lifelong learning opportunities for remote and isolated communities. Also, SDG 9 Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure: Infrastructure mapping and monitoring, including maintenance of road infrastructure in rural environments, where the most reliable technology is satellite-based and Smart mobility, e.g. reduced fuel consumption by smarter planning and monitoring of driving behaviour. Another one is SDG 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions: Conflict monitoring; Enabling participation of remote and isolated communities in democratic processes; Enforcement of legislation and Access to reliable information.

Astronomy enthusiasts reside all over the world, and Trinidad and Tobago is not excluded, as is evidenced by the existence of the Trinidad and Tobago Astronomical Society and institutions such as the National Science Centre (NIHERST). Some of the brightest minds from our twin-island Republic have gone on to study at the
prestigious National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the most accomplished being Dr. Camille Waldrop Alleyne, NASA space scientist and founder of the Brightest Stars Foundation which was established to inspire young girls in the OECS region to achieve against all odds.

So, the Rotunda Gallery is asking the artists of Trinidad and Tobago, to show us what you think it means to explore outer space and the technological benefits that can impact us all on a wider scale.

**Inspirational Tags**
Wonders of the Universe; Space; Space Exploration; Space and Technology; Human Space Flight; Aerospace; Galaxy; Cosmology; Astronomy; Time; Space and Time; NASA; NIHERST; Science; Science and Technology; Sustainable Development Goals; Space4SDGs; Sustainable World; Sustainable Development; Sustainable Future.

**Important Notes**
- All visual art genres are acceptable (painting, photography, drawing, sculpture, prints, fabric art, collage, installation art, digital art).
- Submissions for this call are open only to nationals of Trinidad and Tobago.
- There is no submission fee, but artists and collectors will be responsible for framing, transport, and insurance of their artwork.
- No sexual content, violence, hatred, or propaganda.
- The final decision on whether your artwork will be exhibited is at the sole discretion of the Office of the Parliament Rotunda Gallery Committee.
- Artists and Collectors may be invited to exhibit by the Office of the Parliament Rotunda Gallery Committee or solicited through a call to artists.
- The Office of the Parliament will, at the Artist’s request, make contact information available to persons interested in purchasing the artwork. All sales and related negotiations are the sole responsibility of the Artist.
- You are required to submit the title, medium, year, size, and price of artwork.
**Important Dates**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call for Submissions</td>
<td>Friday 4\textsuperscript{th} March, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Email Submission deadline of artwork and other supporting documents to <a href="mailto:rotundagallery@ttparliament.org">rotundagallery@ttparliament.org</a></td>
<td>Sunday 27\textsuperscript{th} March, 2022</td>
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<td>Selection Notification via email</td>
<td>Tuesday 29\textsuperscript{th} March, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Submission of artwork at the Rotunda Gallery, Red House</td>
<td>Saturday 2\textsuperscript{nd} April, 2022</td>
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<tr>
<td>Deadline for collection of artworks from the Rotunda Gallery, Red House</td>
<td>Thursday 5\textsuperscript{th} May, 2022</td>
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**Submission Guidelines and Requirements**

- Proof of Trinidad and Tobago citizenship (National ID or Passport).
- Contact information (name, phone number, email address).
- A brief Artist Statement (not exceeding 300 words).
- An explanation of each piece submitted (not exceeding 150 words per piece).
- Images (at least 300 dpi) of up to three (3) pieces of work.
- Documents must be submitted electronically to rotundagallery@ttparliament.org in Word format and images of work must be in JPEG format. See title examples below:
  - John Doe_National ID
  - John Doe_Wonders of the Universe _2022_24x44inches
  - John Doe_Artist Statement_2022
- Collectors must submit proof of ownership of the artwork.
- You are required to submit the title, medium, year, size, and price of artwork.

**The Selection Process**

Office of the Parliament Rotunda Gallery Committee will select artwork for “Wonders of the Universe: Time and Astronomical Art” Exhibition.
Frequently Asked Questions for Exhibitions at the Rotunda Gallery

1. **WHO CAN SUBMIT WORKS?** Any citizen of Trinidad and Tobago.

2. **WHAT CAN I SUBMIT?** Artists and collectors can submit up to three (3) pieces of work in any medium or genre of visual arts which includes, painting, photography, drawing, sculpture, prints, fabric art, collage, installation art, digital art or other. **No sexual content, violence, hatred, or propaganda.** Unsuitable works will not be accepted.

3. **I CANNOT COMPLETE ARTWORK BY THE DEADLINE, ARE THERE ANY OTHER OPPORTUNITIES?** Yes, the Rotunda Gallery will be a permanent exhibition space to display Trinidad and Tobago’s cultural and political heritage. Follow the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago and Rotunda Gallery on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter for future Calls for Submissions.

4. **HOW MANY WORKS CAN I SUBMIT?** Artists may submit up to THREE (3) pieces of artwork unless specific permission has been granted to submit a collection.

5. **WHAT IS THE SIZE LIMITATION?** The maximum size is 60 inches in height and 72 inches in width.

6. **WILL THE ARTWORK BE INSURED?** It is the responsibility of the artist or the collector to arrange all insurance. While every effort will be made to ensure that artworks submitted are handled carefully and well protected, all artworks should be insured door to door by the participating artist or collector.

7. **HOW WILL I KNOW WHETHER MY WORK HAS BEEN SELECTED?** You will receive an email informing you of the status of your submission.
8. **DO I HAVE TO FRAME MY ARTWORK?** For the initial electronic submission, the artwork can be unframed. Once you receive the email advising of the selection of your piece(s), you may proceed to the framing phase to prepare your work for submission day (unless your work will be exhibited virtually). All selected works must be professionally/tastefully mounted and ready for hanging or installation in the Rotunda Gallery.

9. **WHAT CAN I EXPECT ON FINAL SUBMISSION DAY?** Artists are required to bring in their work(s), ready to hang or display. The labels and submission form will be provided in the notification email. Both documents should be completed in advance and submitted with artwork.

10. **WHAT ARE THE GALLERY HOURS?** Due to current restrictions, the exhibition and tours will be online and virtual at Rotunda Gallery TT on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram and by appointment only for in-person viewing. To book an appointment, call 701-6133, Monday to Friday, 9am-3pm.

11. **I CANNOT COLLECT MY ARTWORK IN THE WINDOW PROVIDED CAN I AUTHORISE SOMEONE TO COLLECT ON MY BEHALF?** Yes. We DO NOT have a facility to store unclaimed works. Please arrange to collect your works within the window provided. If you are designating someone to collect your artwork you must send us an email with the person’s name, and they must provide photo ID on arrival.

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