The Rotunda Gallery

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

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Artists working in the Public Sector & Collectors

The Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago is inviting submissions from Artists working in the public sector for our Virtual Exhibition: “Two Islands, One Nation: A Celebration of Independence” in commemoration of Independence Day in Trinidad and Tobago. The Exhibition will be held from 30th August – 25th September 2021.

The Vision

Trinidad and Tobago gained its independence from Great Britain on August 31st, 1962. At midnight on 30th August 1962, the Union Jack (British flag) was lowered, and the Trinidad and Tobago flag was raised for the first time. Bells tolled and sirens rang out to herald the birth of the newly independent nation. This first Independence Day was marked by more than a week of festivities and events across the country from August 28 to September 05, 1962.

Today, Independence Day is celebrated with military-style parades held at the Queen's Park Savannah, Port of Spain and in Scarborough, Tobago. After the official

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1 Public Sector includes Ministries and Departments including Elections and Boundaries Commission, Industrial Court, Integrity Commission and others; State Enterprises including TSTT, SWMCOL, CEPEP and others; Statutory Bodies including RHAs, THA, WASA, TTEC and others; Teachers; Protective Services including TTPS, Prisons, TTDF and others.
activities at the parade grounds, the contingents march through the streets to the accompaniment of live music played by the bands of the various forces (e.g., Police, Fire and Prison bands).

The evening is usually marked by the presentation of National Awards in a ceremony held at President's House. These awards, which were first presented in 1969, honour the outstanding achievements of citizens of Trinidad and Tobago in various fields. Finally, this day of celebration ends with fireworks displays at the Queen's Park Savannah, Port of Spain and the Port Authority Compound, Scarborough, Tobago.

Sustainable Development Goal 16 (SDG 16) – Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions – ushers in a new kind of development: one where people could influence the decisions that affect their lives and create communities that thrive. SDG 16 articulates the key role that governance and the rule of law play in promoting peaceful, just, and inclusive societies and in ensuring sustainable development.

In commemoration of this day, we would like to invite artists working in the Public Sector to submit works based on this theme. These include law enforcement officers, fire fighters, teachers, school employees, local government employees, etc. to produce artworks that celebrate national pride and what it means to you to serve your country dutifully and with dedication.

The Rotunda Gallery welcomes submissions that celebrate Independence Day which is pivotal to our history and culture of Trinidad and Tobago.

**Inspirational Tags**
- Parliament;
- Government;
- National Pride;
- National Service;
- Public Service;
- Public Sector;
- National Service Dedication;
- Serving the Country;
- Culture;
- History;
- Legacy;
- Cultural Legacy;
- Independence Day;
- Constitution;
- Citizenship;
- Trinidad and Tobago.

**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 who work in the public sector.
* 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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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Call for Submissions</td>
<td>Friday 30\textsuperscript{th} July</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 22\textsuperscript{nd} August, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selection Notification via email</td>
<td>Tuesday 24\textsuperscript{th} August, 2021</td>
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**Submission Guidelines and Requirements**

- Proof of Trinidad and Tobago citizenship (National ID or Passport).
- **Proof of employment in the public sector.**
- 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_Independence Day_2021_24x44inches
- John Doe_Artist Statement_2021
Collectors must submit proof of ownership of the artwork.
Submissions received after the deadline and without all supporting documents will be disqualified.

The Selection Process
Office of the Parliament Rotunda Gallery Committee will select artwork for the Independence Day Virtual Exhibition.

Frequently Asked Questions for Exhibitions at the Rotunda Gallery

1. **WHO CAN SUBMIT WORKS?** Any citizen of Trinidad and Tobago who is employed in the public sector.

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. 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, visitors are not allowed at this time, so the exhibition and tours will be strictly online and virtual.
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.