



The Rotunda Gallery

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

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Artists & Collectors

The Rotunda Gallery is inviting submissions for “**National Icons – An Exhibition of Familiar Faces**” in tribute to outstanding citizens who have contributed to society and or those who have left their marks on the world stage. The exhibition will be held from **Monday 10th July – Friday 28th July, 2023.**

Inspirational Tags

Trinidad and Tobago; Cultural Icons; Political Icons; Influence of Icons in Society; Icons in Politics; Icons in Science; Icons in Sports; Icons in Music; Icons in Art; Icons in Dance; Icons in Literature; Symbols of Culture; Cultural Beliefs; Cultural Practices; Preservation of Heritage; Preservation of Culture.

The Vision

National icons¹ are individuals (or groups and community activists) who are recognised for their significant contributions to our national heritage or the development of Trinidad and Tobago. Above all else, they should serve with patriotism and love for their country. The process of identification is subjective, and

¹ A person or thing regarded as a symbol of a belief, nation, community, or cultural movement.

“icons” are judged by the extent to which they can be seen as an authentic symbol of that culture.

In today’s society, a cultural icon may be defined as a person admired for having great influence or significance. Iconic persons can sometimes emerge as innovators and cultural or political figures who are considered to be pioneers in society. One should highlight persons in the field of politics, science, culture (literature, music, dance, arts and social work) and sports who are leaders in their respective fields, and in society at large, and explore their role and influence on society. This exhibition theme aligns with goal #11 of the United Nations SDGs - *Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable*. Target #11.4 calls for strengthening efforts to protect and safeguard the world’s cultural and natural heritage.

The Rotunda Gallery welcomes submissions of artworks that can be executed through the use of drawing, painting, or other mixed media. The pieces submitted must include the face of the featured local cultural or political icon of 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.
- ❖ 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

Activity	Date
Call for Submissions	Friday 9 th June, 2023
Email Submission deadline of artwork and other supporting documents to rotundagallery@tparliament.org	Sunday 2 nd July, 2023
Selection Notification via email	Tuesday 4 th July, 2023
Submission of artwork at the Rotunda Gallery, Red House	Saturday 8 th July, 2023
Deadline for collection of artworks from the Rotunda Gallery, Red House	Thursday 3 rd August, 2023

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@tparliament.org in **Word** format and images of work must be in **JPEG** format. See title examples below:
 - John Doe_National ID
 - John Doe_Familiar Faces_2023_24x44inches
 - John Doe_Artist Statement_2023
- ❖ 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

The Office of the Parliament Rotunda Gallery Committee will judge the selection process for “National Icons – An Exhibition of Familiar Faces” 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 of visual arts which includes, painting, photography, drawing, 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. All documents should be completed in advance and submitted with artwork.
10. **WHAT ARE THE GALLERY HOURS?** The gallery is open from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. The exhibition will also be shown online @rotundagallerytt on Facebook and Instagram and by appointment for in-person viewing. To book an appointment, call 624-7275 ext. 2365/2299 or 701-6133.
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.

Culture: At the heart of sdgs. UNESCO. (2019, October 22). Retrieved March 17, 2023, from <https://en.unesco.org/courier/april-june-2017/culture-heart-sdgs#:~:text=Culture%20has%20a%20crucial%20role,its%20formal%20introduction%20in%202015.>

International: Caribbean. Collins. (n.d.). <https://collins.co.uk/pages/international-caribbean>

Cultural icon. DBpedia. (n.d.). https://dbpedia.org/page/Cultural_icon