



# *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 our exhibition titled **"63 Years of Us: Expressions of an Independent Nation"** in commemoration of the 63<sup>rd</sup> Independence Day anniversary in Trinidad and Tobago. The exhibition will be held from **Monday 25<sup>th</sup> August - Friday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2025**.

### **Inspirational Tags**

Trinidad and Tobago; Independence Day; 63 Years Independent; Cultural Heritage; Cultural Legacy; History of Independence; 1962; National Flag; National Anthem; National Heroes; Cultural Icons; Political Icons; Trinidad and Tobago Culture; Trinidad and Tobago Traditions; Trinbagonian Cuisine; Flora and Fauna - Hibiscus; Double Chaconia, Scarlet Ibis; Hummingbird; Cocrico; Carnival; Calypso Music; Steelpan; Soca Music; Chutney Music; Chutney Soca Music; Beaches; Waterfalls; Pigeon Point; Bucco Reef; Nylon Pool; Argyle Waterfall; Avocat Waterfall; Maracas Beach; Paria Bay; Tobago Heritage Festival; Tobago Blue Food Festival; Tobago Goat & Crab Race.

### **The Vision**

This exhibition seeks to honour and explore the enduring journey of Trinidad and Tobago as an independent nation, through the lens of its rich, multicultural heritage

and the resilient spirit of its people. Rooted in the foundational messages of our national anthem, pledge, motto, and watchwords—Discipline, Production, and Tolerance—the exhibition invites artists to reflect on what it truly means to be Trinbagonian.

From the vibrant echoes of our African, Indian, Indigenous, European, Chinese, Middle Eastern, and other cultural legacies, to the bold aspirations that shaped the vision of independence in 1962, the exhibition aims to showcase artworks that trace our path of growth, pride, and perseverance. It is an artistic tribute to the early days of our sovereignty, the challenges overcome, and the triumphs achieved in our national narrative.

Artists are encouraged to delve into themes of patriotism, unity, national development, and the unique duality of our twin-island identity. Each piece will serve as a visual dialogue—celebrating our traditions, interrogating our progress, and imagining our collective future. *“63 Years of Us: Expressions of an Independent Nation”* aims to educate, inspire, and ignite a renewed sense of national pride. It is a celebration of how far we have come, and a reaffirmation of who we are: a people interwoven by difference, fortified by shared values, and forever moving forward—  
together.

## **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 to citizens/residents 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 nudity, sexual content, violence, hatred, or propaganda allowed.
- ❖ 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.

## Important Dates

| Activity  | Date                                  |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| Call for Submissions  | Monday 21 <sup>st</sup> July, 2025    |
| Email Submission deadline of artwork and other supporting documents to <a href="mailto:rotundagallery@tparliament.org">rotundagallery@tparliament.org</a> | Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> August, 2025  |
| Selection Notification via email  | Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> August, 2025 |

## Submission Guidelines and Requirements

- ❖ Proof of Trinidad and Tobago citizenship/residence (National ID/DP/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 should be at least 300 dpi.
- ❖ Artists can submit a **MAXIMUM** of three (3) pieces of work.
- ❖ Documents must be submitted electronically to [rotundagallery@tparliament.org](mailto:rotundagallery@tparliament.org) in **MS Word** format and images of work must be in **JPEG** format. See title examples below on how to name files:
  - John Doe\_National ID
  - John Doe\_Independence\_Day\_2025\_24x44inches
  - John Doe\_Artist Statement\_2025
- ❖ Collectors must submit proof of ownership of the artwork being submitted.
- ❖ All artwork submitted must be authentic, original and done by the artist submitting the work.
- ❖ **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 “63 Years of Us: Expressions of an Independent Nation” Exhibition.

## **Frequently Asked Questions for Exhibitions at the Rotunda Gallery**

1. **WHO CAN SUBMIT WORKS?** Any citizen/resident 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 nudity, 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 exists as an 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 Call 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., Mondays to Fridays to facilitate walk-ins or scheduled appointments. The exhibition will be shown online @rotundagallerytt on Facebook and @rotundagallery on Instagram and Tik Tok. To book an appointment, call 624-7275 ext. 2314/2365 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.