



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 **"Our Spirit, Our Culture, Our Independence"** in commemoration of the 64th Independence Day anniversary in Trinidad and Tobago. The exhibition will be held from **Monday 24th August to Friday 18th September 2026**.

Inspirational Tags

Trinidad and Tobago; Independence Day; 64 Years Independent; Cultural Heritage; Cultural Legacy; Cultural Practices; History of Independence; 1962; National Flag; National Anthem; National Heroes; Cultural Icons; Political Icons; Icons in Science; Icons in Sports; Icons in Music; Icons in Art; Icons in Dance; Icons in Literature; Trinidad and Tobago Culture; Trinidad and Tobago Traditions; Trinbagonian Cuisine; Flora and Fauna – Double Chaconia, Scarlet Ibis; Hummingbird; Cocrico; Carnival; Calypso Music; Steelpan; Soca Music; Chutney Music; Chutney Soca Music; 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; Preservation of Heritage; Preservation of Culture.

The Vision

As Trinidad and Tobago marks sixty-four years of Independence, this exhibition invites artists and audiences alike to reflect on the remarkable journey of a nation forged through diversity, resilience, creativity, and a shared purpose. It seeks to celebrate the enduring spirit of the people of Trinidad and Tobago, drawing inspiration from the ideals written in our national anthem, national pledge, national motto, and the watchwords of Discipline, Production and Tolerance.

Since gaining independence in 1962, Trinidad and Tobago has evolved into a vibrant multicultural society shaped by contributions of Indigenous, African, Indian, European, Chinese, and many other communities. These cultural influences continue to enrich our traditions, languages, festivals, cuisine, and music, creating a nation that is both unique and unified in its diversity. Artists are encouraged to explore what it means to be Trinbagonian through themes of patriotism, cultural heritage, national development, unity and identity. With Trinidad's dynamic urban life, historical landmarks, rich cuisine and cultural expressions like Carnival, Soca, and Calypso to the celebrated natural beauty of Tobago, along with close knit communities and treasured customs such as the Tobago Heritage Festival and the Goat and Crab Races. Individually, each island possess qualities that are cherished, together they form a rich tapestry of a nation united by shared values and mutual respect.

The artworks will serve not only as expressions of national pride but also as reflections on how culture, community, and identity continue to shape the development of Trinidad and Tobago. It is important to note that the exhibition aligns with some key Sustainable Development Goals. Particularly, *SDG 4: Quality Education* – by fostering a greater understanding and appreciation of our history. *SDG 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities* – by promoting the preservation and celebration of cultural heritage, traditions, and communities across both islands. *SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions* – by encouraging dialogue around citizenship, democracy, national values, social cohesion, and collective responsibility.

The Rotunda Gallery invites artists who are nationals or residents of Trinidad and Tobago to submit works that explore the qualities that define Trinidad, the characteristics that make Tobago unique, and the shared experiences that unite us as one nation. Through their creative vision, artists will help tell the continuing story of Trinidad and Tobago – our spirit, our culture, and our independence.

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 20 th July, 2026
Email Submission deadline of artwork and other supporting documents to rotundagallery@tpparliament.org	Sunday 16 th August, 2026
Selection Notification via email	Tuesday 18 th August, 2026

Submission Guidelines and Requirements

- ❖ Proof of Trinidad and Tobago citizenship/residence (National ID/DP/Passport/Birth Certificate).
- ❖ 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 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_2026_24x44inches
 - John Doe_Artist Statement_2026
- ❖ 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 “**Our Spirit, Our Culture, Our Independence**” 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.