



“The Rotunda Gallery”

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

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Artists & Collectors

The Parliament of the Republic Trinidad and Tobago is inviting submissions for our **Virtual Exhibition: The Journey Beyond Words: A Writer’s Dream Come to Life** in commemoration of World Book and Copyright Day 2021. The Exhibition will be held from **April 26, 2021 - May 21, 2021**.

The Vision

“World Book and Copyright Day” was created by UNESCO in 1995 to be celebrated on April 23 of every year, with the General Conference noting that “historically, books have been the most powerful factor in the dissemination of knowledge and the most effective means of preserving it”¹. The day is now marked in over 100 countries around the globe.

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goal #4 is to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all. Education provides people with the means to participate fully in their communities and promotes respect and understanding among peoples². Books are key to achieving this goal. e-Books have become even more crucial tools, as students have had to

¹ Records of the General Conference, 28th session, Paris, 25 October to 16 November 1995, v. 1: Resolutions

² Article 26(2) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights

engage themselves without the normal classroom experience. Reading has provided that space to explore when movements have been curtailed because of the pandemic restrictions.

Books do not merely provide us with information, they have the power to open our minds, challenge our beliefs and develop our empathy. Research has shown that people who read are better able to critically engage with their communities and society at large, thereby participating in the social life as citizens of the world, rather than isolated units.

Writers, like artists, convey ideas as creatively and originally as possible. Words expose deep meaning and stimulate our imaginations as readers. Our capacity to imagine is one of our defining human characteristics. It is wonder that causes us to search, to explore and then to represent; to communicate the truths that we discover.

Throughout history, visual artists have endeavoured to represent the characters, events and passions of great literature. There are numerous examples, from Greek and Roman mythology to religious texts, to the poetry of Dante and the plays of Shakespeare.

Whether you are depicting books and the value of reading directly or you have been inspired by what is written and been taken on a journey that you believe goes beyond words, help the Rotunda Gallery celebrate how books stimulate us.

Inspirational Tags

Books; Reading; Writing; Literature; Education; Celebration of Books; Art and Books; Adventure; Inspiring Imagination; Creativity; Telling Stories.

Important Notes

- ❖ All visual art genres are acceptable (painting, photography, drawing, sculpture, prints, fabric art, collage or 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.

Important Dates

Activity	Date
Call for Submissions	Thursday 1 April, 2021
Email Submission deadline of artwork and other supporting documents to rotundagallery@tparliament.org	Sunday 18 April, 2021
Selection Notification via email	Tuesday 20 April, 2021
Submission of artwork at the Rotunda Gallery, Red House	Thursday 22 and Saturday 24 April, 2021
Collection of artworks from the Rotunda Gallery, Red House	Wednesday 26 May, 2021

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@ttrparliament.org in Word format and images of work must be in JPEG format. See title examples below:
 - John Doe_National ID
 - John Doe_World Book Day_2021_24x44inches
 - John Doe_Artist Statement_2021
- ❖ Collectors must submit proof of ownership of the artwork.

The Selection Process

Office of the Parliament Rotunda Gallery Committee will select artwork for the World Book Day 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, Ceramics, Sculpture, Fabric or Other** (other media not listed) **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 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?** The gallery is open by appointment only between **Monday - Friday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm** except public holidays.
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 make arrangements 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.