



## CALL FOR ARTISTS' PARTICIPATION, ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR AFRICA (ECA) AFRICA HALL VISITORS' CENTER (AHVC) EXHIBITION



The Economic Commission for Africa, Addis Ababa invites artists in Ethiopia to participate in a temporary art exhibition in celebration of the reopening of Africa Hall in Addis Ababa, through voluntary submission of artworks.

### Category 2: ARTISTS IN ETHIOPIA (Physical Artwork Submissions)

**Artists in Ethiopia** – Contributions of physical artworks for display at the Africa Hall reopening ceremony. Initial submissions to be made via email as elaborated in guidelines below. Selected artists will be notified, and arrangements made to receive physical artworks.

### Overview: Africa Hall Renovation Project and Exhibition

In line with the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) and the AUC's goal to bring Africa up to par with world class economies through socio economic development, the Africa Hall Renovation Project was approved by the UN General Assembly in 2015. The renovation project aims at preserving the iconic building of Africa Hall, as an important heritage site and introducing features that would be impactful to a modern audience. The intention is to attract attention as well as educate on the history of Africa, as impacted by the efforts of the founding fathers of the Pan African movement, the formation of the OAU amongst other historical events.

Africa Hall stands as a symbol of African unity and progress. Its story intertwines with the broader narrative of Africa's struggle for independence, its quest for economic development, and its





commitment to regional cooperation. It continues to stand as a testament to Africa's journey towards unity, independence, and development, embodying the aspirations of generations of Africans for a prosperous and peaceful continent.

One of the prominent features of the renovated hall is a visitors' center with a permanent exhibition centering Africa Hall as a desirable destination for those wishing to learn about Africa's history, culture and heritage including the creation of what is today the African Union Commission. The space will also feature digital display of multimedia contents and physical artworks; showcasing the best of African history, art and culture as well as a reflection on post-colonial initiatives towards developing the reclaimed continent and the role that the AUC, the ECA and the UN have played in Pan-African and the socioeconomic development of the continent.

## EXHIBITION THEMES

The following are the exhibition themes which contributed artworks may portray.

1. **Building History** – Artworks, images, designs, literature and performances inspired by the Africa Hall iconology.
2. **Pan-Africanism** – Art and media inspired by Pan-Africanist leaders and movements from colonial times to contemporary times. Showcasing the footprint of the UN on the continent's socioeconomic development. The post-colonial ambitions of Africa and the role of Emperor Haile Selassie and the other African leaders in the creation of the Organization of African Unity.
3. **African Heritage, Culture and Natural Sites** – Exhibiting the rich cultural, historical, and **natural** resources of Africa (from 54 countries) Focus areas are the UNESCO World Heritage sites, Representative Intangible Cultural Heritage properties in Africa and Biosphere reserves in Africa (Portrayals of plant and animal life).
4. **African Heritage, Culture & Arts** – Showing heritage to creativity of Africa's rich cultural diversity, innovative arts, living heritage, creative industries and its contribution to socio-economic development of Africa. (To include the people; language; traditions and customs; food; architecture, fashion; music, spoken word; craft etc.)
5. **Visual Artworks** – This is to include Visual artworks in media such as Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, Installation, Photography, Digital Art, representing the general culture and lifestyle in Africa.

Artworks may draw from one or more aspects of the Sub-Themes

### *Africa Then, Africa Now and The Future of Africa*

- Taking inspiration from the Africa Hall Iconology
- Bringing to light initiatives created by Africans which challenge important status quo for world advancement.
- Highlighting technological and social progress in the continent by showing existing complex cityscapes and urban life in contemporary African societies.





- Proposing futuristic visions which draw inspiration from the brilliance of vernacular African culture.

Overall, artworks will be curated to show in order of sequence, the transformation journey of Africa from precolonial to contemporary times, in ways that restore the dignity that ought to be accorded stories and products of Africa. This is intended to speak in contrast to stereotypical portrayals of life on the continent. It will attempt to paint a holistic image and hopefully provide enough pictorial elements for well-rounded narratives to be formed about Africa.

### **Artwork Categories include:**

Drawing, Painting, Sculpture, Installation, Digital Art, Photography, Fashion, Spoken Word Performance, Architecture, Tapestry, Craft.

## **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

- We welcome submissions in any of the above-specified media categories and in accordance with the stated requirements.
- Submissions will be made via email as digital media. Interested artists are only required to submit 1 work of art but may send up to 3 to provide the Selection Team with an insight into artists' creative pursuits.
- Submissions to be made along with a short Artist's biography, Artist's statement and artwork provenance including exhibition and publication history of submitted artwork(s) (if any).
- Artists' works selected will be showcased at the Africa Hall reopening temporary exhibition in October.

## **STEP 1: Submission Via Email**

### **E-MAILING SUBMISSIONS**

Submissions should be made via email to: [eca-artcollector@un.org](mailto:eca-artcollector@un.org)

**Email Subject should please read:**

**AHVC EXHIBITION (ARTIST'S COUNTRY) Last Name of Artist - First Name**

See sample image below.

Body of email should contain a list of uploaded artworks, each with the following details:





1.

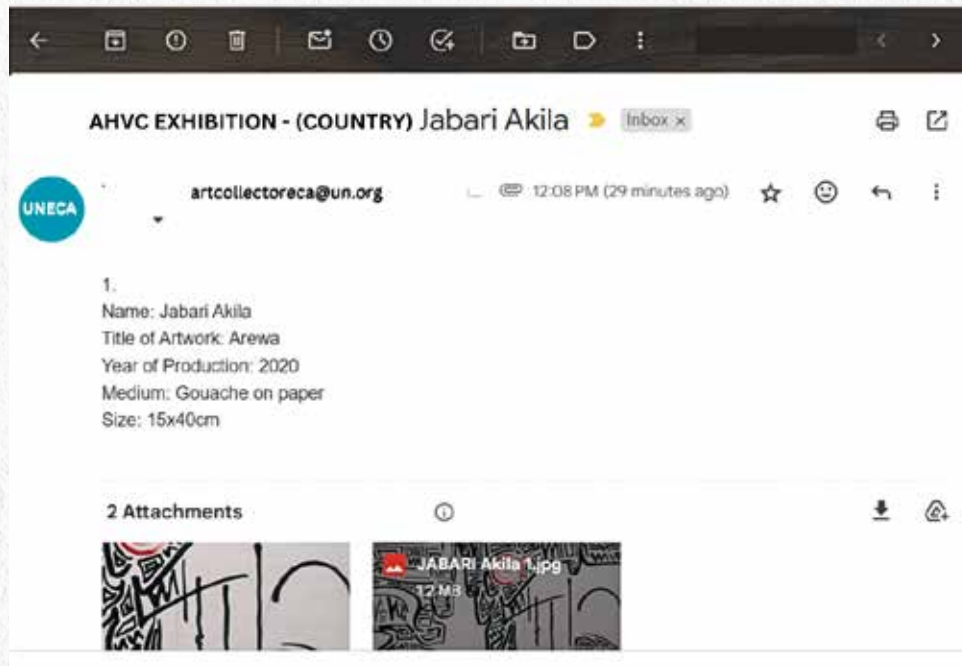
Name of Artist:

Title of Artwork:

Year of Production:

Medium:

Size:



## Image guide for Email Submission

### NAMING FILES

Please name each of your attached files as follows:

- Artist's last name (CAPITAL LETTERS) first name, followed by the entry number.
- Example: JABARI Akila 1.jpg.
- There is no need to include any other information in the file name such as title, media, year, etc. – All of such technical information should be included in the body of the email.
- Additional Detail Images - If you think it is necessary to submit details to support a particular piece, you are welcome to do so; just add 'Detail' to the file name.

Example: JABARI Akila 1 Detail1.jpg

Please limit your detail images to two per entry.





## IMAGE FORMAT

- Format - Entry image files should be in High Quality JPG, PNG or PDF Format and in Full Color.
- Size - Entry image files should be no smaller than 1000 pixels. Kindly limit maximum file sizes to 5mb.
- Images must be oriented properly (i.e. top of image is top of artwork).

## VIDEO FORMAT

- Format - All videos should be submitted as a link to a viewable online copy. The sample should be shown online in its full length.
- Online streaming content should not require a password or membership to view, preferably.
- Size – recommended resolution for entry video files is 1589 X 1200 pixels.
- Length – Maximum video length should be 180 seconds

## AHVC Artwork Selection and Participation Criteria

### ALL WORKS

- Artist's name should be written on entry.
- Artists' bio, artists' statement, contact details and details of artwork(s) should be submitted along with the email.
- Artworks will be selected based on Adherence to Theme, Aesthetics, Creativity, Composition, Craftsmanship and Social Consciousness.
- Only original artworks will be accepted.
- Previously exhibited artworks are welcome.

## Step 2: Submission of Physical Artworks

### CRITERIA FOR DISPLAY OF PHYSICAL ARTWORKS

#### 2-D Artworks:

- Should be either gallery wrapped or properly framed – all edges must be finished and completely dry. If framed, frames should be clean with no chips.
- Glass or plexiglass is acceptable – If matted, mats must be clean
- Pastels should be sealed or fixed.
- All surfaces must be dry.
- Should be securely fastened with picture wire with the center wire 3 Inches below the top of frame. Please take care to conceal sharp ends of wires.
- Artwork should not exceed 4 Ft (122cm) in length or breath.
- Weight should not exceed 12Kg





### 3-D Artwork:

- Artwork should be well wrapped with adequate protective material before transporting. ECA will cover the cost of wrapping and transportation.
- Artist should kindly provide own pedestal or recommend appropriate pedestal for specific work(s).
- Weight of up to 22Kg is acceptable
- Jewelry may be on stands that artist provides. Some jewelry may be placed in AHVC provided cases.

### RECEIVING PHYSICAL ARTWORKS

- Selected artists would be contacted for arrangements to receive original pieces of art.
- ECA would be responsible for all transportation costs to UNECA Addis Ababa
- Works not complying with standards of professional presentation and craftsmanship will not be displayed.
- All artworks may be retrieved by participating artists, with this process duly documented, after the period of the Africa Hall reopening event.
- All artwork donations/contributions are greatly appreciated.

### ARTWORK SELECTION

An ECA selection team will make the selection of Artworks.

### ORIGINALITY:

Only original works may be submitted for the exhibition. This means that the artwork must be verified to have been created as an original idea and handiwork of the artist. Copied versions of another's work of art, is considered copyright infringement and will not be accepted.

### TERMS FOR EXHIBITING AT ECA AFRICA HALL VISITORS' CENTER

1. Accepting to participate by submitting digital or physical artworks for showcasing at the AHVC exhibition would be a voluntary endeavour. ECA is unable to make any monetary offers for participation in this exhibition.
2. Artists selected via this call for participation, retain ownership and all rights to their artworks. Due acknowledgement will be given to all participating artists or creators by ECA in any published documentation of the exhibition.
3. ECA will notify artists of any interested collectors of artist's works and artist may deal directly with such collectors. ECA would not request any commission from such transactions.
4. There is no production date limit on acceptable artworks.





**FOR MORE INFORMATION, please visit:** <https://www.uneca.org/africa-hall>

**FOR ENQUIRY, please Email:** [eca-artcollector@un.org](mailto:eca-artcollector@un.org)

**Email Subject should please read:** AHVC Exhibition Participation - Question.

## **AGREEMENT**

By submitting this email, you are in full agreement with the terms of this open call as outlined in these Guidelines & Details. If you do not agree with any of the requirements stated above, please do not submit the email.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

- **Submission Deadline for Digital Images and Videos** – 27<sup>th</sup> September 2024
- **Notification of Selected Artists** - 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024
- **Submission Deadline for Physical Artworks** – 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2024
- **Exhibition at ECA AHVC** – 22<sup>nd</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> October 2024
- **Africa Hall Reopening Inauguration** - 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024.
- **Retrieval of physical artworks from ECA after Africa Hall Reopening event** – 29<sup>th</sup> October – 28<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

