



The Art Society
of Trinidad and Tobago 

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

An Introduction to the Artist Registry



What is this registry and why is it important to you as an **artist**?

Formally known as the National Registry of Artists and Cultural Workers, the **Artist Registry** is a database of nationals of Trinidad and Tobago who operate within the creative sector.

We define an artist as *an individual whose artistic endeavours result in the creation of literary, visual or performing art and audio, visual or video productions.*



Registered practitioners include:

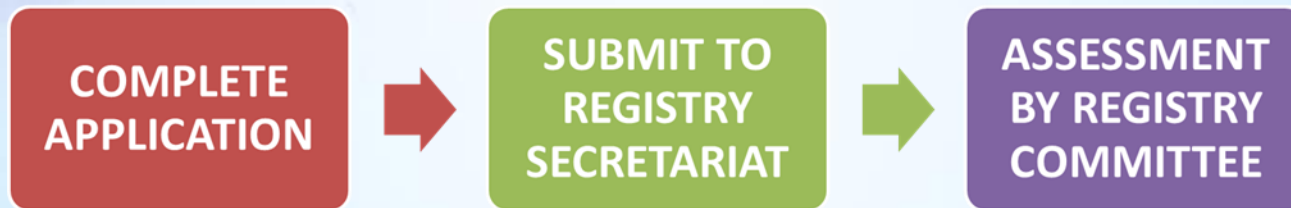
- Painters
- Sculptors
- Photographers
- Craft persons
- Designers
- New Media Artists
- Mixed Media Artists
- Art Administrators
- Art Educators **AND MANY MORE!**



Artists benefit from registration by:

1. Receiving an internationally recognised certificate
2. Becoming officially recognised as an artist
3. Receiving support for your artistic and professional development

Applying is EASY!




Application forms can be found on our website, at our offices on Frederick Street in Port of Spain or at TTConnect service centres nationwide.

Applying is absolutely FREE!!!

Copies of certificates can be included in visa applications, applications for skills certificates for CSME travel and applications for travel to the European Union under the EPA.





Partnerships that facilitate the success of registered artists include:

1. Culture Works Connect

2. A Regional Registry

3. The Art and Culture Allowance

CULTURE WORKS CONNECT



Culture Works Connect is a project linking the creative businesses in Africa, the Pacific, the United Kingdom and the Caribbean funded under the EU ACP+ Culture programme. Trinidad and Tobago has agreed to partner on this programme with organisations in South Africa, Fiji and England. It runs for three years from 2014- 2017.

The main objective of the programme is to overcome one of the major barriers to international working which is the need for good accessible information on what exists and how to contact them.

Members of the Artist Registry will be given a premium listing on the site serving to further market them globally.

A REGIONAL REGISTRY



In 2014, Trinidad and Tobago hosted consultants who are developing a strategy for the establishment and operation of a regional registry of artists and cultural workers. A regional registry would facilitate full access to benefits from the European Partnership Agreement (EPA).

Additionally, Barbados has recently launched their artist registry and the Minister of Culture is very interested in collaborating with Trinidad and Tobago to enable success for our Caribbean artists.

THE ART AND CULTURE ALLOWANCE

If you are an artist or have a registered business, you can benefit from the Art and Culture Allowance. As identified in the Corporation Tax Act, companies benefit when they:

1. Purchase work directly from a visual artist.
2. Provide funding to performing artists registered with the Artist Registry.
3. Provide funding to producers of audio, visual and video productions whose work has been certified by the Minister with responsibility for Culture as representing local culture or entertainment.

NOTE: This is a tax allowance and not a tax rebate. The amount a company pays in taxes is reduced versus the company getting 'cash back'.

HOW DOES THE ALLOWANCE WORK?

A corporate sponsor can claim as an allowance for that year of income, 100% of the actual expenditure incurred up to a maximum of three million dollars based on the first acquisition of a work of visual art that has been certified by an art. The ceiling was increased from two million to three million dollars in 2013.

When the company submits its Corporation Tax Return (Form 500 CTR), they must fill out the Schedule re: the 'Art and Culture, Sportsman, Sporting Activities/Audio, Visual or Video Production' and now 'Fashion Promotion' and attach a copy of the gallery's valuation.

DOLLARS AND CENTS

A company decides to sponsor the max of \$3,000,000 in the Visual and Performing Arts.

Financial Statement *before* investment

Net Profit	- \$6,000,000
Total deductions	- <u>(\$2,100,000)</u>
Chargeable Profit	<u>3,900,000</u>

Tax = 3,900,000 x 25% 975,000

Financial Statement *after* investment

Net Profit	-\$6,000,000
Deductions	-\$2,100,000
Art & Culture	<u>-(3,000,000)</u>
Total Deduction	
Chargeable Profit	<u>900,000</u>

Tax = 900,000 x 25% 225,000

Tax reduced by \$750,000 after investment

So...

ARE YOU AN
ARTIST?

GET REGISTERED TODAY

**NATIONAL REGISTRY
OF ARTISTS AND CULTURAL WORKERS**

TO COMPLETE YOUR APPLICATION, YOU WILL NEED:

1. Proof of citizenship: National ID and Birth Certificate OR passport
2. A letter of recommendation for all selected areas of activity from a reputable group, umbrella body, institution, academic educator or established artist
3. Portfolio of work as evidence of selected areas: Visual artists, designers and photographers are required to submit at least 15 samples
4. An artist profile of no more than 300 words
5. A headshot: 4x6 inches

We also accept proof of membership in organisations relating to areas of activity and copies of academic certificates where applicable.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

<COMPANY LETTERHEAD>

January 23, 2012

Mrs. Ingrid Ryan Ruben
Director of Culture
Division of Culture
Ministry of the Arts and Multiculturalism
51-55 Frederick Street
Port of Spain

Dear Madam,

This is to certify that Mr. Leroy Hinkson is an artist that has distinguished himself in the visual arts. He has been a member of our association, the Kairi Plastic Art Society, for seven years. He boasts of two certificates in visual arts from the University of the East Indies. He has presented two acclaimed exhibitions of his works: Genesis in 1998 at the National Museum and Origame at the Chinese Association in 2006. He has also distinguished himself as an author with a highly respected book of poems entitled 'I'm Sorry, Was That Your Foot?'. He participates frequently in our workshops and regular meetings.

We attest to his bonafide as a visual artist and author and heartily recommend his inclusion in the National Registry of Artists and Cultural Workers.

<Name>

<Position>

SAMPLES OF WORK

Submitting a body of work is critical to your application for the Artist Registry.

What should a portfolio show?

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CiT8VOxxg10>

Guide for portfolio submissions:

<http://application.gsa.ac.uk/assets/pdfs/fineart.pdf>

(pages 13-54)

Samples can be submitted as physical items or can be sent to the Registry Secretariat via e-mail to nationalregistrytt@gmail.com. As illustrated, work can be attached as images or links to an online portfolio can be sent to us.

Our **electronic application** is now available at artistregistrytt.com which allows you to upload samples to our website.

ARTIST PROFILE

An artist bio or profile is a summarized, narrative version of your resume, but shorter and with more personality. Bios are used in your professional package, as part of a catalogue at an exhibition, in publicity and printed programs, and other promotional materials. Your artist biography should integrate portions of your resume and artist statement. In general, bios are more factual about you as an artist, whereas statements are more about the ideas, concepts and techniques behind your work.

How to put it together

- Quality over quantity- keep your bio to one or two paragraphs (especially for a young artist)
- Write about yourself in third person
- Include place of birth, education, and where you currently reside
- You may want to include information on your spouse and children (if any)
- Consider creating a shortened version that can be easily sent to galleries, reporters, collectors, and audiences

Artist Statement and Bio guide:

<http://www.mica.edu/Documents/Career%20Services/ArtistStatementBio11.pdf>

HEADSHOT

A headshot is a distinct type of photographic portrait designed specifically to promote the person who is the subject of the headshot. Unlike a standard portrait that is designed to flatter the subject for aesthetic reason, the headshot is a commercial portrait carefully designed for self-promotion as a means of getting work.

<http://the-portraitist.com/actor-headshot-guide/>

<http://www.headshotsnyc.com/guide-to-great-headshots/what-is-a-headshot/>



A headshot for your registry application should be 4x6 inches.

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Collaborations can be established to promote our work.



Decibel Music Fair and Expo
2014



AMMBCON 2013



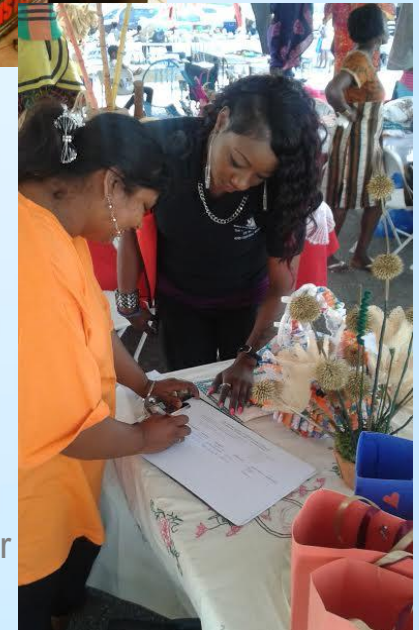
Tobago Heritage
Festival 2014



Animae Caribe 2013



Patriotism
Fair 2013



Best
Village
Folk Fair
2014



**Please send an invitation to
participate in your event to:**

The Secretariat
National Registry of Artists and Cultural Workers
Division of Culture
Ministry of the Arts and Multiculturalism
51-55 Frederick Street
Port of Spain

You can also e-mail the invitation to
nationalregistrytt@gmail.com

Contact us by phone at 753-3940/3969 or 712-1998