بسم الله الرحمن الرحيم

Ministry of Fisheries, Agriculture and Ocean Resources

Malé, Republic of Maldives

ART EXHIBITION – CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Seaside Stories – Celebrating Fisheries through Art

Event Overview

As part of this year's Fishermen's Day celebrations, the **Ministry of Fisheries, Agriculture and Ocean Resources** is continuing the ***Seaside Stories*** series - an art and craft exhibition first introduced in 2024.

Building on the success of its inaugural edition, the exhibition will once again provide a platform for artists and craftspeople to explore and celebrate the Maldives' deep connection with the ocean, fisheries and fishing communities through creative expression.

Participants are invited to submit unique and original works across a range of art and craft categories, reflecting this year's Fishermen's Day themes and the changing face of the Maldivian fisheries sector.

Through the exhibition, the Ministry aims to bring fisheries to a wider audience through creative expression, while providing artists with an opportunity to showcase their work and contribute to conversations around the people, traditions, challenges and opportunities that shape the future of Maldivian fisheries.

Application form: https://forms.gle/wzy8TVN6gpWWGBBm6

Exhibition Guidelines

This exhibition will showcase the following types of visual art:

1. Drawing
2. Painting
3. Digital Art
4. Sculpture
5. Mixed Media

Velaanaage, 7th Floor, Ameeru Ahmed Magu, Male, Republic of Maldives

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Theme:

The theme, *"Masverikamuge sinaa'ay sindhafaathu kurumah zuvaanunge baiverivun – Engaging Youth in Diversifying the Fisheries Sector"*, is the central focus of all activities held as part of the Fishermen's Day celebrations. The theme highlights the essential role of youth in the future of the fisheries industry, recognizing their potential to drive innovation and sustainable growth. All artworks should reflect the themes of fisheries diversification and the importance of nurturing a new generation of fishers.

Submission Categories:

Entries will be considered under the following submission categories:

1. **Junior Category** - participants under 12 years of age.
2. **Open Category** - participants aged 12 years and above.
3. **International Category** - open to foreign nationals. Submissions in this category should explore Maldivian fisheries "through foreign eyes", presenting an international perspective on the Maldives' fishing culture, communities, traditions and livelihoods.

Specifications and Criteria for Submission:

To be considered for inclusion in the exhibition, submitted artworks must meet the following specifications. Submissions that do not adhere to these guidelines will not be accepted.

- **Artwork types:** Works are separated into 2D and 3D for ease of display:
    - **2D Works**: These include pieces that can be displayed on a wall or panel (e.g., drawings, paintings, digital art).
    - **3D Works**: These include pieces that can be displayed on the floor or hung from the ceiling (e.g., sculptures, mixed media).
- **Artwork Limit**: Each artist may submit one work in any 2D category and one work in a 3D category.
- **Size Requirements**:
    - 2D works: Minimum 2x2 feet, maximum 4x4 feet.
    - 3D works: Maximum 3 feet in diameter.

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- **Originality**: All works must be original creations by the participant. Use of reference images requires copyright permission from the photographer. Any discovered copy will lead to immediate disqualification.
- **Content Restrictions**: Works must not depict political themes, nudity, or display content that violates any religious values.
- **Framing**: Framing is optional but not required.
- **Display Requirements for 3D Works**: Artists submitting 3D pieces are responsible for providing a stand or plinth for their work.

Submission Requirements:

Application form is available via this link:

Required information include:

- Full name as on ID card
- Title of the work
- Medium
- Size / dimensions
- Price (if for sale)
- Brief description of the work

A copy of a valid identification document shall be submitted with each application. Only Maldivian citizens are eligible to apply under the Junior or Open Categories. Foreign nationals are eligible to apply under the International Category only.

Deadline:

- Application forms shall be submitted before **14:00 hrs on 25th November 2026**.
- All final artworks shall be delivered to a venue specified by the Ministry **no later than 14:00 hrs on 6th December 2026.**

Selection of Winners

Entries will be judged separately within each **submission category**:

- Junior Category – Under 12
- Open Category – 12 years and above
- International Category – Foreign nationals

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Within each submission category, winners will be selected separately for each of the following **art types**:

- Drawing
- Painting
- Digital Art
- Sculpture
- Mixed Media

Winners will be determined by a panel of judges appointed by the organisers, subject to the quality and suitability of entries received.

Each winner will receive a cash prize of MVR 5000/-

Further information:

For further information, please contact:

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