



CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

VISUAL ARTS BIENNIAL ACCELERATOR

Deadline: February 28, 2021

WHO WE ARE

The Cultural and Creative Industries Innovation Fund (CIIF) was established in 2017 with an initial US\$2.6 million in capitalisation from the Caribbean Development Bank. It is intended to be a multi-donor fund, which will support the development of the creative industries sector in the Caribbean. CIIF's goal is to enable the Region's cultural and creative industries to be globally competitive.

WHAT WE DO

CIIF provides grant funding for innovative projects within the creative industries sector. These projects should be focused on:

- supporting the enabling environment for the development of creative industries;
- improving the quality and dissemination of research in the creative industries sector;
- enhancing or creating data intelligence or data collection methods in ways that can move the sector forward; and
- enhancing the technical capacity of creative entrepreneurs.

Projects must demonstrate a significant measure of innovation, collaboration, and sustainability.

WHAT IS THIS GRANT FOR?

CIIF in collaboration with our accelerator partner Animae Caribe is seeking applications from visual artists to participate in I.C.E Caribbean (Incubator for Collaborative Expression), the first edition of a regional Visual Arts Biennial that will take place in Nassau, The Bahamas. This experimental, cutting edge approach highlights the transversal nature of the arts and brings visual arts into discussion with environmental sustainability among other areas. This first phase of "**STATELESS**" proposes a virtual community that will create together across thematic, cultural, disciplinary and class boundaries with the resulting output of an online interactive exhibition,



artist talks and workshops. It will also facilitate the growing trend in contemporary art as the visual arts intersects with science, technology, and engineering. Climate migration has become a feature of Caribbean existence as natural disasters and the science of climate change impacts our shores. With the forced migration of people from their homes due to the global phenomenon of natural disasters, the world now faces an unprecedented experience of the century: life with and after Covid-19, which exacerbates the issue of statelessness.

Under the theme "STATELESS" emphasis will be on islands shaping their own story as not only victims of climate change, migration and the impacts of Covid-19 but champions of climate leadership and community building.

THEME: "STATELESS"

The theme of this first edition of **I.C.E Caribbean** is "STATELESS". Climate migration has become a feature of Caribbean existence as natural disasters and the science of climate change impacts our shores. With the forced migration of people from their homes due to the global phenomenon of natural disasters the people of the Caribbean have experienced a state of flux due to Hurricanes Maria, Irma, and most recently Dorian. Many communities have yet to fully recover and many historic sites have never been restored. Migration due to disasters is not only on account of climate change as we see the impacts of earthquakes and volcanoes on our Region, as well as migration due to political and economic instability. "STATELESS" thus accounts for and takes into consideration these range of phenomena with which we have found ourselves challenged to overcome, including life with and after Covid-19.

The Caribbean is working to shift its infrastructure and business processes to become more climate resilient and nations are fighting to find inclusive solutions to migration challenges that bring us face to face with statelessness. Visual arts can play a key role in facilitating community engagement in developing creative solutions. This first edition of I.C.E Caribbean, "STATELESS" will place emphasis on islands shaping their own story as not only victims of climate change, migration and the impacts of COVID- 19 but champions of climate leadership and community building.

This first phase of "STATELESS" proposes a virtual community that will create together across thematic, cultural, disciplinary and class boundaries with the resulting output of an online interactive exhibition, artist talks and workshops.

PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

The I.C.E biennial accelerator is a seven-day programme where artists, scientists, engineers, writers, IT specialists and others will co-create artistic interventions that will animate communities, address real challenges and provide visually and conceptually stimulating works



that engage the theme of “STATELESS”. Participants will have the opportunity to learn more about the challenges surrounding the theme during morning workshops followed by artist residency-type interventions where artists co-create their projects in collaboration with other artists, participants and community members followed by daily critiques. Topics to be covered by presenters across the seven days include the following:

- 1) **“Curating Statelessness”** artistic and curatorial interventions surrounding the idea of “STATELESS”
- 2) **Community Engagement:** Introduction to and interaction or pairing with various communities in the Bahamas.
- 3) **Transversality and Synaesthesia:** Exploring intersections of visual arts with science, technology, and engineering and exploring the fusion of other art forms with the visual arts
- 4) **Environmental Sustainability & Climate Change and Resilience; Immigration:** learning the dimensions of climate change, effects, solutions current work and possibilities; understanding Immigration especially pertaining to the Caribbean: history; causes and current contours including natural disasters, social, economic and political instability
- 5) **Gender Violence & the Arts:** Addressing gender violence especially in a time of seclusion.
- 6) **Arts Therapy:** Mental health and depression and how science and art can play a role in healing
- 7) **Artistic & scientific techniques for engagement of the other** – Considering members of society that experience learning difficulties for example dyslexia and autism.

YOUR PROJECT

Proposals should have a community orientation, propose visually innovative interventions that address problems of statelessness; create meaningful impact and be sustainable in nature. Proposals can be innovative by providing new models, opportunities or uses of technology for the industry or facilitating linkages between creative industries sub-sectors or the visual arts and other sectors. The biennial will be archived via a catalogue, photography and video footage.

The first phase of the application process will only require submission of a proposal concept note with no more than 300 words.

HOW MUCH FUNDING WILL CIIF PROVIDE?

CIIF will provide up to US\$16,000 in funding which will be offered as 25 participation grants between US\$500 for *Emerging visual artists and US\$950 to *established and/or export



ready¹ participating visual artists. Participating artists will pitch for larger prize grants of between US\$2500 and US\$7500 following completion of the first phase of the program which will enable participation in a face-to-face exhibition phase of the program.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY?

Visual artists may apply individually or as a team or with co-applicants. Co-applicants can be artistes from other sub-sectors or persons from any of the following backgrounds: animation, science, civil society, environmental sustainability, information technology, engineering, or literary arts.

Applicants must be citizens or residents of one of CDB’s 19 Borrowing Member Countries: Anguilla, Antigua and Barbuda, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands, and Virgin Islands.

WHAT IS THE CRITERIA?

Applicants will be grouped as emerging OR established/export ready and then assessed by the following matrix:

Specific area	Points
Originality/ innovativeness of proposal concept note	10
Aesthetic & technical merit (past work from two years prior to application.)	10
Sustainability of project	10
**Transversality of proposal	10
Collaborative potential	10
TOTAL	50

***Transversality – To what extent visual arts intersects with science, technology and engineering and exploring the fusion of other art forms with the visual arts.*

¹ *Emerging artists are those practicing for under five years with only local exhibition and outreach or very limited regional/international outreach; with or without formal background/training; *Established and/or export ready are those practicing for five years or more with significant regional and international exposure, awards and experience.



APPLY

Stakeholder consultation - Potential applicants are invited to participate in virtual stakeholder consultations on **February 19, 2021** from **2:30-4:30pm (AST)** by registering for the online [Consultation](#).

Deadline - To participate in this programme, interested applicants are asked to complete the [online application form](#) by **11:59pm AST on February 28, 2021**. *In addition to standard application information, the first phase of the application process will only require submission of a proposal concept note with no more than 300 words.*

WHEN WILL THE GRANTS BE AWARDED?

Selection of participants will be completed by March 5, 2021