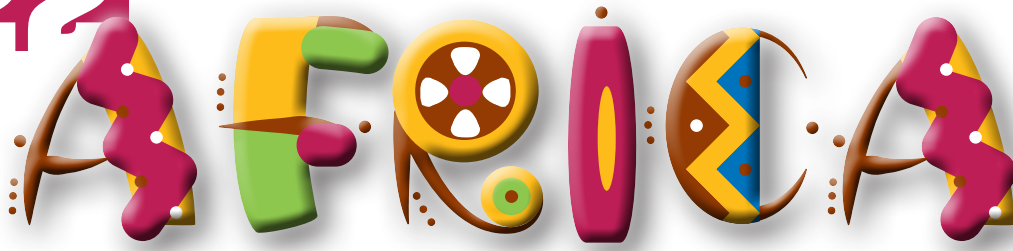


# 2022



## Young Graduates and Scholars Conference

Call for abstracts/expressions of interest

# ARTS, CULTURE AND HERITAGE: RETHINKING, REMAKING AND REBUILDING AFRICA

Organised jointly by the Africa Institute of South Africa in the Human Sciences Research Council and Tshwane University of Technology, in collaboration with the African World Heritage Fund.

Hosted by The Faculty of Arts and Design, Pretoria, South Africa. March 2022

The Africa Young Graduates and Scholars (AYGS) conference, organised annually since its conception in 2005, aims to build a body of knowledge and project emerging African voices in various disciplines and discourses about the continent. The conference intends to address burning questions and current matters within the African continent by engaging young academics on the continent and strengthening their capacities in research and knowledge production. It targets emerging scholars (at the level of Masters and PhD – obtained within the last 3 years).

The 2022 edition of the AYGS conference, organised jointly by the Africa Institute of South Africa (AISA) in the Human Sciences Research Council (HSRC) and Tshwane University of Technology (TUT), in collaboration with the African World Heritage Fund, will take place in March 2022 (provisional dates: 22-25 March TBC) as a hybrid event under the theme **Arts, Culture and Heritage: Rethinking, Remaking and Rebuilding Africa**. It will focus on the efforts of the continent towards promoting the arts, culture and heritage sector in order to build a resilient Africa that recognises and values its culture-specific knowledges, cultural codes and ethics in the face of globalisation. The title for the symposium builds on the theme chosen by the African Union (AU) for 2021 – Year of the Arts, Culture and Heritage: Levers for Building the Africa We Want – which, together with the AU Roadmap for 2021 is a step taken by the continent to reconfirm Africa's commitment to its cultures and creative industries as critical factors for the continent's emergence on the global stage.

Besides paper presentations, the conference will include performances and exhibitions. The in-person sessions and events will be held at the Faculty of Arts and Design Campus and the Breytenbach Theatre in Pretoria, South Africa.



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World Heritage  
Center



African World  
Heritage Fund



Tshwane University  
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*We empower people*

Faculty of  
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## Guidelines for submissions

The 2022 AYGS conference seeks to contribute intellectually, both as discipline-based scholarship and contribution to practice, to the 2021 AU Theme and the AU Roadmap, which stipulates the following areas as the basis of interventions (activities and programmes) within its objective:

- ✓ Arts & Culture
- ✓ Health, Wellness and Post COVID-19 Response
- ✓ Languages
- ✓ History and Oral Traditions
- ✓ Heritage

**We invite abstracts** that speak to the indicated key areas and address one of the following critical issues:

- role of arts and culture in the current challenges facing the African continent, including Covid-19 pandemic, climate change, sustainable security in Africa;
- arts education as the cornerstone for the development of the creative economy on the continent;
- intellectual property rights and the status of artists and cultural workers in Africa;
- the role of arts and culture in providing inclusive health care and strengthening wellbeing of African people;
- politics of language and the promotion of African languages;
- strengthening African unity through the promotion of regional languages;
- cultural independence and development of African States through the use of African languages;
- strengthening the links between education and culture;
- subverting cultural imperialism;
- oral history and traditions as tools for building communities and strengthening well-being of African people;
- culture as a catalyst for nation-building;
- culture and the quest for freedom;
- culture, heritage and the land issue;
- restitution of cultural property and heritage in Africa;
- balancing heritage conservation and development in the African context;
- heritage and conflict, heritage for peace.

We specifically encourage and welcome other forms of research and 'creative outputs', such as small exhibitions or mini-fashion shows (maximum of 3 artworks/garments), designs, videos, performances, poetry etc., accompanied by a commentary/interpretation related to the conference theme.

Please submit your abstract and/or a short description of your creative output (each no longer than 300 words) to both Olga Bialostocka at [OBialostocka@hsrc.ac.za](mailto:OBialostocka@hsrc.ac.za) and Pfunzo Sidogi at [arebueng@tut.ac.za](mailto:arebueng@tut.ac.za). Additionally, attach to your message a short bio of no more than 100 words (Word file) stating your affiliation, highest qualification, as well as country of nationality and country of current domicile.

A book publication opportunity will be communicated to the shortlisted paper presenters.

Deadline for submission of abstracts: 30 November 2021

Notification of accepted abstracts: 10 December 2021

Submission of full papers/final creative outputs: 10 February 2022