

Observatory of Cultural Policies in Africa

The Observatory is a Pan African international NGO created in 2002 with the support of African Union, the Ford Foundation, and UNESCO. Its aim is to monitor cultural trends and national cultural policies in the region and to enhance their integration in human development strategies through advocacy, information, research, capacity building, networking, co-ordination, and co-operation at the regional and international levels.



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OCPA News aims to promote interactive information exchange within Africa and between Africa and the other regions. Please send us information for dissemination about new initiatives, meetings, research projects and publications of interest for cultural policies for development in Africa. Thank you for your co-operation.

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Previous issues of OCPA News at <http://ocpa.irmo.hr/activities/newsletter/index-en.html>

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A. News from OCPA

Activities of the Executive Director in June 2018

A.1 Participation in the Workshop on the Development of the Implementation Guide of the Charter for African Cultural Renaissance

The City of Maputo hosted a workshop of the African Union Commission on the review and adoption of a strategy and an action plan within the framework of the implementation of the Charter for African cultural renaissance.

The document prepared by the Secretariat of the OCPA, after a consultation with its vast inter-regional network, constituted the working document of the meeting which document, after its adoption, will be presented at the next African Union STP Ministerial Conference scheduled for end of October 2018.

Participants at the Maputo meeting, in addition to the representatives of the Secretariat of the Commission of the African Union and the Ministry of Culture and Tourism of the host country, Mozambique, included representatives of the 12 States that have ratified the Charter, Champion States, as well as representatives of OIF, OCPA's partner organization and facilitator of the meeting, as well as a representative of the UNESCO Maputo Office. The workshop was chaired by His Excellency Silva Dundero, Minister of Culture and Tourism of the Republic of Mozambique.

A.2 Participation in the Board of Directors of the African Cultural Fund

From 10 to 14 June, Mr Lupwishi Mbuyamba, Executive Director of OCPA took part in a meeting of the Board of Directors of the African Cultural Fund, a fund newly created on the basis of the belief in the growing capacity of culture to contribute economically to development and the ambition to mobilize the contributions from African cultural structures as well as from various investors committed to Africa's renaissance and development.

This meeting, which took place in Seychelles, allowed the continuation of the review of the various partners of the fund, the shaping of the functioning of the Fund and the appointment of a temporary Administrator who will stay in Bamako in Mali, headquarter of the structure.

A.3 Talks with Ms Angela Martins, Head of the Culture Division at the Department of Social Affairs of the AU Commission

In the course of its various activities, the Executive Director had the opportunity to have talks with Ms Angela Martins, Head of Culture Division of the Department of Social Affairs of the AU Commission on various issues marking the cultural life of the Pan-African Organization and the expected cooperation of the various governmental and non-governmental partners.

Thus, the preparation of the next Pan-African Congress of Culture planned in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 5 to 7 September 2018, the Conference of Ministers of Youth, Culture and Sports to take place also in Addis at the end of the month of October.

The Executive Director informed his interlocutor of the calendar of major meetings of the OCPA for the second semester of the year such as the 6th SICADIA (Summit of Cultural Institutions of Africa and Diaspora) planned in Niamey in November.

A.4 Publications de l'OCPA/OCPA Publications

In relation with its research activities OCPA has produced some **25 books and publications** such as a strategy document (2004) and a research programme (2007 and 2010) on the cultural indicators of human development in Africa, a book on “African Musics – New Stakes and New Challenges” (with UNESCO, 2005), the Observatory’s 1st and 2nd Medium Term Strategy and Plan of Action (2006 and 2011), the Compendium of basic reference texts for cultural policies in Africa (E/F/S, 2006 and 2009), the Guidelines for the Design and Evaluation of National Cultural Policies in Africa (2008 and 2009). The Proceedings of the International Symposium on Policies, Strategies and Experiences in Financing Culture in Africa was published in 2010, the Manual for Training Specialist of Cultural Policy and Management in Africa and the book on the Contribution of Culture to Poverty reduction in Africa were produced in 2013.

Most of the Reports of some 25 meetings and training sessions organized by OCPA are published at <http://ocpa.irmo.hr/activities/meetings/index-en.html>.

Some 25 articles published in books and reviews of the OCPA Partners (Culturelink, AFRICOM, Interarts - Barcelona, África e Mediterraneo, Wale keru, Arts Management, Itau Cultural – Sao Paulo, Brazil, University of Pécs – Hungary, University of Gerona – Spain, Catalonia, Institute for African Culture and International Understanding - IACIU, Abeokuta, Nigeria, African Institute of the United Nations for Economic Development and Planning - IDEP, Dakar, etc.

For previous news and OCPA activities click on

<http://www.ocpanet.org/activities/news/index-en.html>



B. News, events and projects in Africa

B.1 Consultant mission for a study on cultural and creative enterprises in the DRC

Africalia and the Association 11.11.11 of the National Center for Development Cooperation (Belgium) launch a study on cultural and creative industries in the Democratic Republic of

Congo. This study aims to better understand the potential of the cultural and creative sector in the DRC and on the problems of its development. The outcome of the study may contribute strengthening to the consideration given to Cultural and Creative Industries in national policies and programs of international cooperation for development.

The research hypothesis has its source in the ability of CCIs to be vehicles for fighting poverty. In this sense, CCIs will be defined as industrial cycles related to the creation, production and distribution of cultural goods and services where the creativity of the artists plays a central role and generates revenue through the exchange of these goods and services and due to the generation of intellectual property rights.

The methodology adopted for the field studies is based on the case analysis of semi-open studies and interviews. At the end, a restitution workshop will be organized.

The expert selected will carry out the work between f August and November 2018.

Contact at Africalia: dorine.rurashitse@africalia.be.

B.2 Nigeria: 5th AFRIMA Introduces 4 New Award Categories

The 5th edition of the All Africa Music Awards, AFRIMA, organized in partnership with the African Union Commission, has debuted four new award categories to expand the playing field in the awarding process for African music and creative professionals who have begun to send in their entries for the 5th AFRIMA on the online portal that opened on May 25 to commemorate the Africa Day.

The newly introduced award categories namely African DJ of the Year; Best African Dance/Choreography; African Lyricist or Rapper of the Year and Best African Act in Diaspora (Female & Male), were carefully arrived at after extensive consultations with African music stakeholders which included the AFRIMA Academy of Voters and members of the International Committee of AFRIMA in response to requests of stakeholders, DJ's, dancers and artistes in the diaspora.

The awards ceremony, foreseen in November 2018 and will be broadcasted live to 84 countries.

Read more at <http://allafrica.com/stories/201806140328.html>

B.3 Namibia: First Nama Cultural Festival (Keetmanshoop, 23 - 27 May 2018)

The first edition of this four-day festival was an important platform that creates new pillars on which Nama communities can build unity amongst themselves namely for discussing issues affecting their communities, and for revitalising the Nama traditions, history and language.

The Nama Traditional Leaders' Association's chairperson reminded the Nama people to be thankful to their ancestors and to celebrate their rich culture and history. Time has also come for the Nama to start benefiting from their mineral resources in order to eradicate poverty.

Education minister Katrina Hanse-Himarwa said cultural events bring to the fore identities of a nation, a society and a tribal community. "It is at cultural festivals where people demonstrate their traditional practices more openly putting aside their political and social status, and display tolerance, mutual respect and understanding," she noted.

The responsibility of the government is to identify and promote the material and spiritual culture and heritage of Namibians for the purpose of nurturing national pride and identity.

Read more at <http://allafrica.com/stories/201805280381.html>

B.4 South Sudan: Workshop on the review of the country's culture policy to promote peace-building and sustainable development

On 7 June 2018, UNESCO and the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports convened key institutions for a workshop at the UNESCO Office in Juba to provide guidance and promote opportunities for all South Sudanese to develop their creative abilities and to promote their artistic renewal. The workshop was led by UNESCO expert Stephen Chifunyise and engaged participants in discussions on how to develop a national culture policy and how to promote diverse cultural industries in South Sudan, intercultural exchange and international cooperation.

The workshop was followed by a two-day training for local stakeholders from 8 to 9 June on how to develop and submit project proposals for funding to the UNESCO International Fund for Cultural Diversity (IFCD) created under the 2005 Convention for the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, which was ratified by South Sudan in 2016.

Web site: http://www.unesco.org/new/en/nairobi/about-this-office/single-view/news/south_sudan_undertakes_a_national_review_of_its_culture_policy/

E-mail: t.morita@unesco.org

B.5 Call for Project Proposals to Support Intercultural Dialogue for Social Cohesion in Urban Africa

Culture at Work Africa has launched its First Call for Proposals aiming at developing safe and neutral spaces for intercultural dialogue and at promoting active citizenship and intercommunity relations. It is open to organizations registered in one of the following African countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda and Zimbabwe.

Applications may be submitted in one of these two lots:

- Lot 1: Projects aimed at enhancing public or private cultural spaces as “safe places” for intercultural dialogue by stakeholders active in the public sphere,
- Lot 2: Projects aimed at strengthening institutional and professional capacities in intercultural mediation of cultural organisations and operators for social cohesion.

The indicative amount available for the 2 lots is 1,000,000.00 EURO. Any grant awarded will fall between a minimum of 20,000.00 EURO and a maximum of 60,000.00 EURO.

The deadline for submissions is 21 September 2018, at 12:00 (GMT)

For more information visit <http://www.cultureatworkafrica.net/apply/first-call/presentation/>

Web site: www.cultureatworkafrica.net

Contact: info@cultureatworkafrica.net



C. News about cultural policies, institutions and resources in Africa

C.1 Ethiopia: Ministry Stresses Awareness Creation to Halt Expansion of Outlandish Culture

Awareness raising activities are required to combat the invasion of outlandish culture and to transmit cultural values of the country to the next generation. This was said in a recent meeting by Desalegn Birara, Ethnographic expert working with the Ethiopian Authority for Research and Conservation of Cultural Heritages. He told The Ethiopian Herald that harmful tradition and outlandish culture have a negative effect to the society. Government, family and the local media should take the responsibility to shape the youth generation in this sense. Ethiopian National Cultural Center mainly focuses on researching, developing and promoting cultures and cultural values of the country.

In the recent workshop Bezunesh Meseret, Cultural Sector State Minister of Culture and Tourism said „Ethiopia is home to many cultural assets, but the new generation has not valued them properly. She stated that the youth should play vital role in preventing exotic cultures and promoting indigenous ones. The youth must also combat the harmful traditions of the society by creating awareness and by forming local tour clubs, the youth have to develop the culture of discovering the country, she added.

Read the full article at <http://allafrica.com/stories/201806110703.html>

NB. In April 2018, the former minister, Ms Hirut Woldemariam became Minister of Labour & Social Affairs. The new Minister of Culture and Tourism is Ms Foziya Amin. Ms Bezunesh Meseret acts as Cultural Sector State Minister of Culture and Tourism.

Read more at <http://allafrica.com/stories/201804250573.html>

C.2 Africa: Is Learning Kiswahili More Beneficial than Learning a Foreign Language?

What do Africans really think about having a common language? For many the Kiswahili could be a common African language, but how feasible is it, particularly for non-Swahili speaking countries?

Africa has over 2,000 languages, many of which are dying. A solution to preserve these endangered indigenous languages however doesn't seem to be in place. More tragically, there is no urgency from many of the African countries to address the issue of declining use of indigenous languages. Kiswahili is spoken by 10% of Africans, in eastern Africa, south eastern Africa, and some parts of Central Africa. Kiswahili is an official language of the AU but no steps have been made to adopt the language of the continent.

Could one then say that learning a foreign language is more important than learning another African language? - For Africa, learning Kiswahili has more benefits than learning a colonial language. For a long time, Kiswahili has been proposed as the language the continent should adopt. If the African Union's agenda 2063 is to be a reality, there must be a deliberate plan to having a common language indigenous to Africa which complements the other indigenous languages which exist across the continent.

Read the full article at <http://allafrica.com/stories/201806090042.html>

C.3 Botswana: Govt Vows to Support Entertainment Industry

Gaborone: Government aims to provide adequate support for a favourable environment for the entertainment industry, President Mokgweetsi Masisi has said briefing the media on May 30: He said the role of government in aiding the business of entertainment could not be overemphasised.

The remarkable performance of the private sector entertainment industry could be further developed through strategic partnerships with government to boost economic growth, the president said. He noted the government would not be reckless in implementing the entertainment industry reforms through a regional consultation. With a sustainable structure in place, the entertainment industry could be a key player in transforming the country's economy.

Minister of Youth Empowerment, Sport and Culture Development, Mr Thapelo Olopeng added that government is creating new conditions for organizing festivals.

Read the full article at <http://allafrica.com/stories/201806010159.html>

C.4 South Africa Should Turn to 'Creative Clusters' to Boost the Arts (Analysis)

Clustering has been used by industrialists for centuries as a strategy to generate economic growth. Clustering is the phenomenon whereby firms from the same industry gather together in close proximity. It is particularly evident in industries like banking centres existing in cities such as London and New York, but in South Africa clustering has been less successfully applied.

The Department of Arts & Culture is currently reviewing its culture policy which mentions supporting creative clustering in cities. This could include establishing specialised incentives for the CCIs, especially those exporting South African cultural products. Clusters, while not a panacea, help confront and counter de-industrialisation and facilitate an export-orientation, both critical for the creative industries of the future.

International best practice - and a recent focus on developing new, agile clusters - suggests that a systemic industrial cluster approach could have a significant impact on the growth and success of South Africa's creative economy. South Africa must follow suit or miss the opportunity to grow its creative economy.

Read the full article at <http://allafrica.com/stories/201805310600.html>

C.5 Sudan: Minister of Culture Affirms Importance of Cultural Diversity in Promoting Peace

Khartoum — Minister of Culture, Al-Tayeb Hassan Bedawi has underscored importance of cultural diversity in promoting and building peace culture, indicating to significant role played by culture in formulating the Sudanese mood. He called for making use of cultural diversity in promoting peace culture.

As to celebration of the World Day for Cultural Diversity, the Minister said such events showed the significant roles of culture and arts. He announced his sponsorship to all Youth Innovation Foundation activities, referring to importance of its activities in promoting peace culture through cultural diversity.

Read the full article at <http://allafrica.com/stories/201805290205.html>

C.6 Madagascar: Minister of Culture, Promotion of Handicrafts and Heritage Preservation Johasy Eléonore succeeds Jean Jacques Rabenirina

Following a change at the head of the Ministry of Culture, Promotion of Handicraft and Heritage Safeguard, Jean Jacques Rabenirina passes the torch to Johasy Eléonore, former Minister of Youth and Leisure during the transition, and Minister of Population during the Kolo Roger government of this 4th republic, she is in her third ministerial post.

The artistic world and cultural actors expect a lot from this new appointment. Several hot spots will be on his menu of his action, among others, the problem of the artists' union and the safeguarding of the heritage.

Source: <http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201806120650.html>



D. News, institutions, resources and events in other regions

D.1 A Euro-African week at the cinema (Paris, 18 - 24 June 2018)

This festival was organized by the association Eurafriclap, which aims to contribute to intercultural dialogue between Europe and Africa through the organization of conferences and screenings-debates throughout the year and a festival on African culture.

It is a space for the discovery of African cinematography too little known in Paris and support to African filmmakers who fight not only to preserve their art but also to open cinemas in their respective countries. It aims to promote African cinematography exploring the diversity of the continent, its wealth and its challenges in order to better understand them.

In this year of commemoration of the abolition of slavery, the festival will explore the dramas of slavery and colonization, as well as the relations between Europe and Africa since independence, so that we can build a a more fraternal world and a reconciled humanity.

More at <https://www.helloasso.com/associations/eurafriclip/collectes/eurafriclip-and-son-festival-de-cinema-eurafricain-4eme-edition>

D.2 Reflections of the First Americas Cultural Summit (Ottawa, Canada, 9 – 11 May 2018)

The first Americas Cultural Summit permitted to explore the emerging concept of cultural citizenship and ways in which it can contribute to more prosperous and inclusive societies.

The theme of cultural citizenship was identified in response to increasing public perceptions according to which democratic institutions, particularly those that support arts and culture, are uniquely positioned to promote cultural rights. For some, the freedom to express one's values is the basis to a genuine democracy.

Others see inclusive leadership as a key to cultural citizenship and to creating trust between governments and citizens and improve the efficacy of public institutions.

Despite its expansive geographic reach, the Summit demonstrated that common drivers are fuelling efforts to advance cultural democracy across the continent. Globalisation, technology, climate change, and demographic shifts are reshaping communities and creating complex challenges for top-down practices in the face of an increasingly participatory global culture.

Day One of the Summit tackled questions like participatory cultural policymaking, support to artists with disabilities, empowering true citizen participation in decision-making, namely as to cultural investments.

Day Two of the Summit raised critical questions about the expected depth and quality of participation to be achieved through cultural citizenship.

In keeping with the collaborative spirit of the Summit's overarching theme, the final day of the Summit provided participants with time to engage in smaller group discussions.

In a world that's increasingly divided and uncertain, society needs creative approaches that promote inclusive dialogue, harness the cultural vitality that exists in all places, and leverage the solidarity that springs forth when diverse individuals come together to co-create the future. As powerful forces continue to reshape the role of public institutions, creative practitioners are uniquely positioned to directly affect the society's development towards strengthening the cultural considerations in an inclusive governance.

More at <http://canadacouncil.ca/initiatives/summit-of-americas>

D.3 Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities – Collected texts (8th edition, 2018, ISBN 978-92-871-8604-1, 80 p.)

THE protection of national minorities is a core issue for the Council of Europe, and one of the major achievements in this field is the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities. The entry into force of the Framework Convention on 1 February 1998 was indeed an event of universal significance, for it is the first ever legally binding multilateral instrument devoted to the protection of national minorities in general. Its importance is widely acknowledged, and the number of ratifications is impressive.

The aim of this collection is to provide all those interested in the protection of national minorities a userfriendly compilation of the basic texts concerning the Framework Convention. In addition the collection contains texts pertaining to the monitoring mechanism in general and the Advisory Committee in particular.

Source: <https://book.coe.int/eur/en/minorities/7605-framework-convention-for-the-protection-of-national-minorities-collected-texts-8th-edition.html>

E-mail: publishing@coe.int

D.4 The seventh General Assembly of the States Parties to the 2003 Convention

Attended by 600 participants hailing from 129 countries, the seventh session of the General Assembly of the States Parties to the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage took place from 4 to 6 June 2018 to provide the States Parties an opportunity to discuss critical issues for the safeguarding of living heritage worldwide.

An important outcome was the adoption of an overall results framework to better monitor the implementation of the Convention at various levels and a correlated revision of the periodic reporting cycle, to move from a ratification date based 6-year cycle to a regional 6 year cycle.

On the last day of the General Assembly, twelve new members of the Intergovernmental Committee were elected three of them from Africa: Cameroon, Djibouti and Togo.

Web site: <https://ich.unesco.org/en/news/the-seventh-general-assembly-of-the-states-parties-to-the-2003-convention-00295?newsID=00295>

D.5 Atelier for Young Festival Managers (Malta, 23-29 March 2019) - Call for application

The Festival Academy (an initiative of the European Festivals Association - EFA), calls for applications for the 15th edition of the **Atelier for Young Festival Managers** organised in partnership with Festivals Malta.

Up to 35 selected participants from across the globe will have the chance to broaden their programming skills, widen their horizons and develop new project ideas under the professional guidance of renowned festival managers from all over the world who share their experience throughout the 7 days.

Those interested in this training are invited to apply for this Atelier by 16 July 2018.

The Atelier starts from the very essence of festival management – the arts, the artist and the audience - and focuses on the topics and issues raised by the participants which are further developed during the Atelier.

The Atelier aims for diversity on all levels, in its participants, its mentors and its programme. Participants will have the chance to compare their views with colleagues from various backgrounds and analyse them in view of the local context of Valletta and Malta.

More at www.TheFestivalAcademy.eu

Contact: info@TheFestivalAcademy.eu



E. Cultural Agenda in the African Press

E.1 Links to portals

<http://fr.allafrica.com/arts/bydate/?n=1>

<http://www.africaonline.com/site/africa/arts.jsp>

<http://www.apanews.net/news/fr/rubrique.php?id=65>

<http://weekly.ahram.org.eg/2003/646/culture.htm>

<http://english.alarabonline.org/display.asp?code=zculturez>

E.2 Selected information from AllAfrica/Informations provenant de AllAfrica:

Swaziland: Bushfire Festival - Africa's Love Fest

This event, hosted the last weekend of every May, gathers close to 25 000 people from 58 countries at a not-so-small music and arts festival called MTN Bushfire. The contributes significantly to the country's economy, with an estimated 33 million emalangeni being pumped

in by the immense number of tourists that spend the weekend indulging their hedonistic side, hugging strangers and trees, church-stomping to an eclectic selection of bass lines and the colourful outfits that only make sense within the confines of this set-up. Over the years MTN Bushfire has also situated itself as a champion of arts development in Swaziland. It provides different platforms for arts education and improvement in the arts sector of the country. Bushfire's evolution has been intriguing to witness as the festival has extended itself beyond the customary concept of a music and arts festival. It has tapped into the understanding that a festival can be more than its music acts and become a political commentator.
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201806090043.html>

Nigerian Creative Arts Exchange Showcases Best of Nigerian Culture in Paris

Lagos — Le Pavillon Dauphine in Paris was the scene of the Nigerian Creative Arts Exchange (NCAE) a couple of weeks ago and the platform was intended to open Nigeria for business to France and the world with a spectacular cultural exhibition through art, cuisine, fashion, film and food. Guests ranging from public figures to private individuals from both countries were in attendance as the cultural exhibition began. Some of Nigeria's most creative artists were also represented by the country's biggest art gallery. The art scene also saw another unique exhibition put together by the highly regarded Bisi Silva. After a great time getting to know Nigeria's rich and diverse cultural heritage, a now teeming crowd bore witness to the genius of Adekunle Gold through a bold performance reminiscent of his cultural roots. Another crowd favorite was the elegant dramatic enactment of a poem. The two-day cultural event is geared towards showcasing the finest and best of Nigerian culture.
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201806020079.html>

Tanzania: Record Number of Films Submitted for ZIFF 2018

There has been a record number of films, across all categories in competition this year, at the Zanzibar International Film Festival (ZIFF). There has also been a marked increase in the amount of documentaries submitted, with over 800 being entered for consideration. There has been entries coming from over 140 countries, with the USA and India leading the number of submissions. The films in selection crossed a broad spectrum of topics and genres and represent over 40 countries including East African countries, South Africa, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Iraq, Western Sahara, Niger, Iran, the United States of America, France, Ghana, Belgium, Tunisia, Swaziland, India and United Kingdom. As a final note the Festival's Director expressed his pleasure to see the potentiality of the cinema industry in East Africa being actualised and felt an urge to mention the "creativity of young Tanzanian filmmakers" that through represent the "new wave of cinema" in the country.
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201806010401.html>



F. Info from newsletters and information services

F.1 News from the International Federation of Arts Councils and Cultural Agencies

Nigeria and Gambia to promote cultural ties

7 June 2018 - The Director-General of National Council for Arts and Council, while hosting the Gambia high commissioner in his office, reiterated the need to project African culture in its originality at every international fora. The culture helmsman emphasized that the development of African resides predominantly on our culture. According to Runsewe “if we harness our potentials in the culture industries properly, we will rule the world’.

<https://www.ncac.gov.ng/news/nigeria-and-gambia-to-promote-cultural-ties/>

Stolen melodies: Copyright law in Africa

11 June 2018, Cameroon - The internet has changed the music industry — and Africa is no exception. Artists are increasingly relying on concerts to combat music piracy, and more and more people recognize that artists must be paid for their work. <http://www.dw.com/en/stolen-melodies-copyright-law-in-africa/a-44149899>

Pakistan: Cultural policy constitutionally guarantees individual’s artistic expression

8 June - Approval of the Charter of Demands for National Cultural Policy 2018 by the would pave the way for greater harmony and to ensure ethnic diversity. The roadmap would lead to cultural mainstreaming and diplomacy besides improving the cultural health of the country.

<https://pakobserver.net/national-cultural-policy-constitutionally-guarantees-individuals-artistic-expression/>

A Practical Guide to Lawful Fundraising

23 May 2018 - Fundraising in the arts and cultural sector is changing. As many organisations become less reliant on state funding and foundation grants, they are exploring further and investing more in private fundraising and philanthropy.

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/publication/practical-guide-lawful-fundraising>

Web site: www.ifacca.org

Contact: info@ifacca.org

F.2 Africultures

Black Dances workshop #3 - About the Technic Acogny (Toubab Dialaw, 18 July - 28 August 2018)

Based in Toubab Dialaw, Senegal, the Ecole des Sables wishes to return to the sources of the fundamental practices of its origins, the Acogny technique and the traditional dances that nourish it. The training offers a deep study of the Acogny Technique and the learning of traditional dances of West Africa. The different certified teachers of the Acogny Technique will offer multiple ways to incorporate the technique, to better understand the relationship with the world to better understand their own singularity. The first three weeks are to strengthen the basis of the Acogny Technique and to learn some traditional dances from different African countries. The next three weeks will focus on choreographic research around the Acogny Technique. Web site: <http://africultures.com/murmures/?no=20774>.

Site web: <http://africultures.com/>

Contact: <http://africultures.com/contact/>

F.3 Arterial Network

Meeting in Seychelles on African Culture Fund

The latest details on a new fund dedicated to African culture to help artists from the continent were finalized at a meeting held in Seychelles, said the Seychellois artist George Camille. He said the meeting had finalized the details of the fund and set up a website where artists are getting closer to information. Camille said the idea for the fund was launched by the Arterial Network Steering Committee representing Pan-African civil society organizations and institutions involved in African cultural and creative sectors. The initial contribution was made by the artists themselves with the money collected after the sale of their works. Part of the African Culture Fund will be a grant and this year only two artists will be able to benefit from it. This number is expected to increase in the future. The Fund's website will be accessible in September. Source: <http://en.allafrica.com/stories/201806180406.html>

F.4 Newsletter Casa África

Photo exhibition on African cultural landscapes (Gran Canaria, 25/05– 21/09/2018)

Casa África organizes, in collaboration with the School of Art and Superior Design of Gran Canaria, this photographic exhibition that is part of the project 'African Landscape and Heritage initiated in February of last year. The exhibition was inaugurated in Casa África on May 25, the International Day of Africa. This exhibition is also included in the programme África Vive by Casa África to commemorate the International Day of Africa. The exhibition pursues aims at contributing to mutual knowledge, respect and value our differences.

http://www.casafrika.es/agenda_europa_africa.jsp?DS28.PROID=903331

Site web: <http://www.casafrika.es/>

E-mail: info@casafrika.es

F.5 Culture resource – Mawred (Beirut)

Awards to “Local and Regional Cultural Policy Initiatives and Projects” Grants of 2018

Al-Mawred (Culture Resource) is pleased to announce that the The jury selected 7 out of 158 applications submitted to the Culture Policy Program from 14 Arab countries: Jordan, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Iraq, Morocco, Yemen, Tunisia, Syria, Palestine, Lebanon, Libya, Egypt and Mauritania.

The project selected are as follows:

- Legal Guide to Cultural Work in Morocco
- Project Together Towards Effective Cultural Policies (**Al Jana**, Palestine/Lebanon)
- Developing the Legal Environment for Tunisian Cinema
- Evaluation of the Palestinian Ministry of Education's Policies and Programs towards Performing Arts
- Bringing Cultural Policies to the Center of Political Party Concerns (Morocco)
- Towards a Locally Driven Cultural Policy (**ATAC**, Tunisia)
- Cultural Survey in Lebanon: Phase One

The “Local and regional cultural policy initiatives and projects” Grant seeks to support projects that aim to develop or change cultural policies at the local or regional level. This grant is part of the Cultural Policy program that aims to promote mechanisms that will serve in developing the cultural ecosystems in Arab countries. Read more at

<http://mawred.org/programs-and-activities/cultural-policy/>

Web site: <http://mawred.org/>

E-mail: mawred@mawred.org

F.6 The Cultural Policy in the Arab Region (ARCP) Newsletter

Iraq: Thousands of Ancient Artefacts Retrieved from America

On 2 May 2018, the United States of America returned approximately 3800 ancient artefacts, including Sumerian cuneiform tablets dating back to 2100 BC, to Iraqi officials in Washington D.C. after they were illegally smuggled out of Iraq to US retailer *Hobby Lobby*. According to *Reuters*, officials from US Immigration and Customs Enforcement handed the artefacts over to Iraqi Ambassador Fareed Yasseen at his residence in Washington D.C. *Hobby Lobby*, an arts and crafts retailer based in Oklahoma City, agreed to return the artefacts in July 2017. It also paid \$3 million to settle civil proceedings issued by the US Department of Justice.

Algeria: First Art Market Launches with Government Sponsorship

In the first half of May 2018, the Algerian Ministry of Culture held its inaugural “Spring of Arts” by launching its first art market. The event, held at the Palace of Culture in the capital, featured more than 500 works by 180 painters and sculptors from across Algeria. The government saw the “Spring of Arts” initiative as a means of involving businesspeople, economists, and governmental institutes in the promotion and creation of a market for art in Algeria. However, a number of participating and non-participating artists agreed that.. To read more, click here <http://www.arabcp.org/page/1003>

Web site: <http://www.arabcp.org/site/index>

Contact: <http://www.arabcp.org/site/contact>

F.7 Ettijahat- Independent Culture - Ettijahat Newsletter

The Launch of Building the Future Project on Pathways to Cultural Diversity

Ettijahat, in collaboration with *the European Culture Foundation*, *the Racines Foundation*, and *the German Commission for UNESCO*, has launched the *Building the Future* Project, which review selected projects that had an impact on the cultural transformation in the MENA and north Africa region between 2011 and 2017. It also focuses on creating organic relationships with societies and reinforcing freedom and the democratization of art. This project came in the form of printed publishing as well as a website in both Arabic and English language and presents artists, creators, and programme coordinators from the Arabic region.

Discussion Panel and Dialogue on Syrian Individual Arts and Production Mechanisms

On 26 May 2018, according to the Cultural Priorities in Syria, *Ettijahat* has organized an open panel on an exploratory paper entitled Syrian Individual arts and Production Mechanisms. It is a study based on an extensive interview with Dr. Marie Elias. The paper explores questions about the mechanisms of creative writing. It also discusses the process of writing and its relationship with donor institutions and existing publishing houses, as the case of dedicated writers.

Read the paper at
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1z66L_ViZGwliff0WPs_3B6zpEM1YuECD/view

F.8 Nhimbe Trust Fund

Launch of the 2005 UNESCO Convention 2018 Global Report on ‘Re|Shaping Cultural Policies: Advancing creativity for development’ (Harare, 15 – 17 May 2018)

On 15 May 2018 the UNESCO Regional Office for Southern Africa (ROSA) conducted a training workshop for media professionals on media diversity and the diversity of cultural expressions. This was followed on 16 May with the launch of the 2018 Global Report of the 2005 Convention – ‘Re/Shaping Cultural Policies: Advancing creativity for development’, followed by a debriefing meeting on 17 May 2018 to initiate the process of preparing the national Quadrennial Periodic Report which is due in 2020.. Source: www.nhimbe.org. More information at <https://www.docdroid.net/9xkwjox/culture-lens-may2018-2.pdf#page=2>



Please send addresses, information, and documents for the OCPA list serve, database, documentation centre and web site!

Thank you for your interest and co-operation
