RESILIENCE, HOPE and ARTS in UGANDA: Opportunities and challenges during COVID-19 and beyond
23 April 2020
CONCEPT

Introduction

The COVID-19 pandemic has affected the whole world, plunging the global economy into a recession. The current health crisis has enormous global ramifications for the creative sector. It has impacted the entire creative value chain – creation, production, distribution and access – and considerably weakened the professional, social and economic status of artists and cultural professionals. Entrepreneurs and small- and medium-sized enterprises, which often lack the necessary resources to respond to an emergency of this magnitude, are especially vulnerable.

Freelancers, part-timers and gig workers, who make up a large segment of the sector's labour force, are left with limited to no access to conventional social protection mechanisms. Lockdown measures around the world also directly impact the sector’s capacity.

Despite all that, artists are still resilient. Many have created their own works even within the Lock down. Ugandan artist have composed songs of awareness of Covid 19, composed poems, supported one another in networks and many continue to use own creative resources to support their families, some are forward looking and seeking for sustainable solutions in a bid to avoid such similar livelihood threats and job losses.

ResiliArt is a global movement initiated by UNESCO that aims to strengthen the resilience of artists and cultural professionals in the face of the enormous challenges posed by the current health crisis.

Uganda is replicating Resiliart movement by starting a dialogue among artists. The ResiliArt movement will:

1. Raise awareness about the impact of COVID-19 on the culture sector and the livelihoods of culture professionals
2. Give visibility to artists worldwide – renowned or unknown – and ensure their voices are heard at the policy level to address existing gaps and needs
3. Contribute to decision-making processes of Member States during the development of policies and financial mechanisms aimed at empowering artists.

ResiliArt is an online debate series with key industry professionals and artists – both established and emerging artists in Uganda.
THEME
RESILIENCE, HOPE AND ARTS IN UGANDA:
OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES DURING COVID AND BEYOND

Time and date
23 April 2020 from 11.00a.m -12.20noon

Themes
The ResiliArt debate will be structured around four key themes:

1) Constraints artists face as a result of the current confinement measures
2) The current and future financial consequences of the health crisis on creative professions
3) Measures that governments, international organizations and the private sector, among other actors, can put in place to support artists during and following this crisis
4) How to develop cultural policies and funding models that adequately respond to crisis

Panelists
Five cultural professionals from various fields

Moderator
Naumo Juliana AKORYO
Commissioner Culture and Family Affairs
Uganda

Meddi KAGGWA
Head Multimedia and Content Development
UCC

Brenda MARAKA
Award winning Fashion and Textile Designer with over 13 years’ experience in Uganda and EAC

Paul AKIIKI
A Contemporary Visual Artist with a speciality of painting on canvas

Faisal KIWEWA
Founder Bayimba Foundation
Has supported the Arts for the last 13 years

Polly KAMUKAMA
Film Curator, Film Lecturer and Journalist
Format

Four (4) questions

90-minute discussions

20 minutes for Introductions, Q&A and conclusion

Panelists will answer tailored questions while engaging in a dialogue and building and reacting to other speakers’ responses.

How to participate

Participation through Twitter and Facebook

#shareculture

#sharecultureug

Twitter.com/JulianaAkoryo

Contact

Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development,

Email: juliana.naumo@mglsd.go.ug

Tel: +256 772 488 038