

سموزيم المدينة الدولي للفنون  
AL MADINAH INTERNATIONAL ART SYMPOSIUM



# ARTIST OPEN CALL

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Al Madinah Al Munawwarah  
International Art Symposium

# MADAN



## Introduction

Artistic expression lies at the heart of human civilization, for it is through art that cultures shape and share their history, values, and vision with the world.

Medina has served as a timeless symbol of inclusion, tolerance, and mutual human understanding ever since welcoming the Muhajireen with open arms and compassionate hearts. It has introduced to history a revised definition of "Cities" that emphasizes a civilized spirit and culture rather than just the usual urban nature; it is therefore only fitting that the city hosts an initiative that is the first of its kind, represented in the inaugural iteration of an international art symposium that is a commemoration of comprehensiveness and cross-disciplinary cooperation heralding a new era of its contributions to humanity.

The fact that Medinah's full name in Arabic literally translates to "the Illuminated City" speaks volumes about its importance and role in the early spread of Islam. Its rich cultural heritage serves as evidence of how this city of light has paved the way for countless generations. This serves to honor the various artistic expressions and traditions that have grown out of this rich cultural heritage as well as to highlight Medinah as a center of culture and civilization.

Al Medina Al Munawwarah International Art Symposium, inspired by the city itself, is envisioned as a one-of-a-kind cultural phenomenon that embraces artists of various backgrounds and media and provides them with an opportunity to create and reflect on how the city's welcoming ethos inspires artistic diversity while also forging bonds of

shared humanity. By fostering artistic interconnection that enriches rather than dilutes distinct cultural voices, Medinah Art Symposium envisions culture as a unifying rather than dividing force, one that can help transform the city once more into a center for shaping the civilization of tomorrow.

The first iteration of the symposium is called "Madan," which is an Arabic word that means "citify," to acknowledge the significance of urbanization and civilization in the history of humanity as well as the influence of cities on our contemporary cultures and societies. It also emphasizes the notion that culture, such as in cities, is a dynamic process that is constantly changing and evolving rather than a static entity.

"Madan" focuses on Medina as a historical cultural center and a natural birthplace for art that celebrates cultural diversity while also highlighting shared human values. As it continues Medina's legacy in a contemporary context, it invites artists and audiences to engage with different perspectives and traditions, as well as to explore new ideas and approaches to artistic expression and the power of culture and art to bring people together, celebrate diversity, and transform our world.

The symbiosis of the different artistic mediums - Islamic calligraphy and motifs, photography and multimedia, and new forms of expression such as plastic and contemporary arts - represents how cultural exchange can spur creative growth and new visions. Rather than view different cultures as competing for prominence, the symposium sees cultural diversity as a richness that, when brought together, yields novel insights and perspectives beyond what any single culture could produce in isolation.

“Madan” does not seek to homogenize different artistic voices but rather enables them to flourish side by side, influencing and learning from one another. By gathering artists from around the world in Medina, the symposium, through the dialogues and conversations it will spark, aspires to reshape how the world sees Medina's role in the 21st century, not just as a historic Islamic city but as a vibrant cultural crossroads that, through artistic expression, seeks to build bridges of mutual understanding and inspire a renewed vision of culture as a unifying rather than divisive force for humanity.

## Program of the Al Madinah International Art Symposium (Madan)

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## Parallel Events

- Workshops
- Seminars and Panel discussions
- Art Exhibition

## Al Madinah Al Munawwarah International Art Symposium (MADAN) Open Call

- Date: 3-10 August
- Location: Madina Art Center
- Target number of participants: more than 30 artists

The open call's objectives are to bring together over 30 artists in one location and to encourage artists' creative experiences by showcasing works in a variety of mediums.

Applications are welcome from artists who specialize in photography and multimedia, Arabic calligraphy, Islamic motifs, plastic arts, and contemporary art.

All local and international artists, specializing in one or more of the previously mentioned mediums, are welcome to apply.

## Guidelines and application requirements

Guidelines and application requirements can be found through the [application link](#)

## Al-Madinah Art Center

Al-Madinah Art Center was officially established in 2018 under the generous patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Faisal bin Salman, Governor of Al-Madinah Al-Munawwarah Region. The center is managed and overseen by Namaa Al-Munawwarah, one of the most significant organizations fostering the expansion of the creative sector in Al-Madinah Al-Munawwarah.

Al-Madinah Art Center is an integrated system that supports the art movement in the Al-Madinah Al-Munawwarah region by offering all the essential components of the artistic value chain, from communication and inspiration during weekly meetings of art clubs to skill development during workshops and professional courses to offering art galleries of various sizes.

The center is distinguished by its unique and contemporary architectural design and is regarded as one of the most important art centers in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Additionally, Al Madinah-based artists frequently visit the center in support of its active artistic community, which provides them with access to information and elevates the arts to a prestigious status befitting the city's residents.

**For enquiries about the Al Madinah Al Munawwarah  
International Art Symposium Open Call, please contact us  
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**AL MADINAH INTERNATIONAL ART SYMPOSIUM**



**مركز المدينة للفنون**  
**Madina Arts Center**



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