



PANAFEST

2025

Call For
Creatives



THE PANAFEST Foundation Under the Auspices of the Ministry of Tourism
Culture and Creative Arts presents the 2025 Edition of PANAFEST-
The Pan African Arts Festival from

July 19th to August 2nd 2025

**Main Venue: Cape Coast and Elmina with preliminary
activities in Paga, Salaga and Accra GHANA.**

PANAFEST: The Pan African Arts Festival, originally known as the Pan African Historical Theatre Festival, is a landmark biennial event proudly initiated in Ghana for all Africans in the spirit of Re-Uniting the African Family, Pan Africanism and the African Renaissance. Celebrated without interruption since 1992, the festival seeks to stretch across centuries and distances, to reach Africans wherever they may be, whether at home on the continent or in the Diaspora, to transform the humiliating narratives of shame and suffering into healing statements of strength, resilience, resistance and the victory of balanced living.

Under the over-arching theme of Re-uniting the African Family, PANAFEST 2025 addresses the theme: **Let Us Speak of Reparative Justice – Pan African Artistic Activism**. “Reparations now” is a term ringing in the corridors of our political leadership such as CARRICOM and the AU but what are the roots of this call and how can it speak to the hearts and minds of our people?

The 2025 edition of the PANAFEST reaffirms the paramount role of creatives in African communities and the difference made by the artistic activism in the struggle for Pan African emancipation from the ancient keepers of our sacred rites both in the Homeland and the Diaspora to the unforgettable power of the musicians of the anti-apartheid movement, the searing consciousness of Reggae masters, the youthful passion of our Spoken Word artists and the mesmerizing images of our visual artists. Share your message, your craft and your creativity.

The 2025 edition of the festival is structured in a hybrid format to bring the African Family together. Distance must not be a barrier. Flagship Activities are

- **Wreath Laying Ceremony** (Live Streamed)
- **Traditional Akwaaba Ceremonies** (Live Streamed)
- **Grand Durbar of Leaders and People** (Live Streamed)
- **Bazaar/ Expo** (in both virtual and live formats)
- **Colloquium** (This is a fully hybrid event. A separate call for papers and panels is provided)
- **Global African International Concerts** (These will be live streamed)
- **Reverential night/ Pre-Emancipation Vigil** (A hybrid event)
- **Emancipation Day Celebration** (Live Streamed)
- **Naming and Burial Ceremonies**
- **Exhibitions – Art, Innovations, Cultural Heritage.** (In both virtual and live formats)
- **Performances both intimate and mass** (Theatre, Dance, Storytelling,
- **Practitioners' Workshops** (In both virtual and live formats)
- **African Children's World** (Children's Day Camp and virtual fun learning experience)

PANAFEST prioritises Pan African arts as a living space for creativity, thought and activism. Specialists in artistic heritages of African peoples and individual creatives

- a) Individuals: visual artists, theatre artists, dancers, musicians, film makers, film actors, literary artists, media and digital artists, photographers, architects, fashion designers, curators, content creators.
- b) Cultural institutions, governmental agencies, religious institutions, festival and event developers,

How Do We Apply

Eligible creatives are encouraged to submit proposals for participation in PANAFEST 2025. The proposal should include a synopsis of proposed activity including technical requirements for presentation (Up to 300 words). The proposal should indicate how the activity fits into the spirit of the standing theme **Re-Uniting the African Family: The African Renaissance** and/ or the theme for 2025: **Reparative Justice : Pan African Artistic Activism**. The proposal should also include a brief bio or organizational profile of not more than 500 words. Maximum number of words for synopsis and bio/profile: 800 words. You are encouraged to read the attached detailed program brief. Kindly indicate the format in which you wish to organise your event or make your contribution. To help give you a great festival experience, please indicate which of the following categories of events or capacities you are proposing to organise/ participate in

Artist(e)/ speaker/exhibitor (Please underline)

Intimate Performance

Practitioners Workshops

Large Scale Concert

Exhibition

Bazaar/ Expo

Colloquium (See call for papers)

Proposals should reach us before June 11th 2025. Please submit to the Executive Secretary via the email address supplied below. Feedback on proposals will reach applicants between June 16th - 17th June, 2025

IMPORTANT NOTE: Applicants should kindly note that PANAFEST is unable to provide funding or sponsorship. We shall be happy however to provide letters of endorsement to confirmed participants on request.

Further Information

For further information, please consult the official festival.

website: www.panafestghana.org

Twitter handle: @PANAFESTgh

Email Address: info@panafestghana.org

Secretariat: PANAFEST Executive Secretary

Address: P. O. Box 1096, Cape Coast, Ghana

Tel: +233-(0)206238577; (0)243971762 ; (0)244962202