



Indian Council for Cultural Relations
Azad Bhawan, I.P. Estate
New Delhi - 110 002
Phone: +91 11 2337 8103
e-Mail: dg.iccr@mea.gov.in

PRESS RELEASE

New Delhi, 31 March 2020

ART IN THE TIME OF CORONA

ICCR launches a global painting competition “United Against CORONA-Express Through Art”

The COVID-19 pandemic around the world has taken the world by storm touching the lives of every human being on Earth! Bringing out the best and worst of human emotions – empathy, sympathy, kindness, concern, anger, frustration, social cohesiveness and bravery among others. Since ages, emotions of this nature has driven creative thought across the world, with people coming out with innovative ideas and ways to deal with these turbulent times.

2. The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) with its focus on building cultural links with countries around the world and connecting people to people through Cultural and Educational exchanges, calls on Indians and citizens of the world to express these emotions through a competition entitled **United against CORONA- Express through Art.**

3. This competition is open to all amateur and professional artists from India and the world over in all age categories. The event encourages submissions of artistic expressions to present their emotions, feelings, ideas and innovative thoughts on the COVID-19, social distancing, quarantine and the fight against the virus through the following media:

- Paintings – on Canvas/Paper – oil, water colours, pencil, crayons
- Digital Art – Graphic Posters & Paintings

4. The expressions of artists are categorized into the following:

- Contemporary Art
- Folk & Tribal Art
- Cartoons & Illustrations
- Digital & New Age Art

5. Entries from India and all over the world are sought in following categories:

- i. Professional Artists
- ii. Amateur Artists
- iii. Children & Students – Below age of 21

6. Participants are required to send high resolution photos (upto a maximum 10MB) of their work to ICCR by 1st [May 2020](#). A high level jury consisting of eminent artists and cultural persons will select the best works. Attractive prizes shall be given to winning entries.

7. Best of the expressions will be exhibited in leading galleries in India and abroad. A permanent online exhibition will also be on display. A grand event will be held in New Delhi with a cultural extravaganza and prize giving ceremony, dates for which will be fixed depending on resolution of the COVID crisis.

8. ICCR believes that Art gives us hope, purpose and a desire to see beyond the problems of these difficult times. This competition is an effort to develop solidarity among the peoples of the earth and to bring together expressions of similar emotions being experienced in all countries. Over centuries, humanity has shown great resilience in overcoming unsettling times and we would like to capture this moment, record this period through the pure expression of Art. The hand of the artist freezes time and for eternity captures the essence of the emotions of society in that moment.

9. Social distancing, self-isolation, quarantine have separated people physically but in a unique way this has brought people even closer with a great appreciation of humanity's common fate. In this time, virtual space can serve as an analogue to the physical space providing a platform for the intermingling of ideas and Art. That is why ICCR is holding this competition in cyberspace, a place where can be together while being apart.

9. Participation details and guidelines are available on www.iccr.gov.in

10. For any query, please write to: iccr4art@gmail.com

UNITED AGAINST CORONA THROUGH ART

Art in the time of CORONA

1.0 Introduction & Objective

The COVID-19 Pandemic around the world has taken the world by storm touching the lives of every human being on Earth! Bringing out the best and worst of human emotions - empathy, sympathy, kindness, concern, anger, frustration, social cohesiveness and bravery among others. People around the world have been expressing these feelings through, poetry, prose, paintings and graphics!

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) with its focus on building cultural links with countries around the world and connecting people to people through Cultural and Educational exchanges, calls on Indians and citizens of the world to express these emotions - through **Art in the Time of CORONA: United against Corona- Express through Art.**

2.0 The Format

This competition endeavours to showcase the best of expressions of amateur and professional artists from **India and the world over**. The event encourages submissions of artistic expressions in following media:

- Paintings - on Canvas/Paper - oil, water colours, pencil, crayons
- Digital Art - Graphical Posters & Paintings

The expressions of artists are categorized into the following:

- Contemporary Art
- Folk & Tribal Art
- Cartoons & Illustrations
- Digital & New Age Art

3.0 Participants - Artists

The event encourages professional and amateur artists to enthusiastically participate and present their emotions, feeling, ideas and innovative thoughts on the COVID-19 pandemic, social distancing, quarantine and the fight against the virus. Entries will be in following categories:

A. Entries from India in following categories:

1. Professional Artists
2. Amateur Artists
3. Children & Students - Below age of 21

B. Entries from the World over in following categories:

1. Foreign Professional Artists
2. Amateur Artists- global Citizen
3. Children & Students- Below age of 21

4.0 Collection of work

In view of the ongoing lockdown in almost all the cities of India and countries across the world, with postal, courier and transport agencies not functional for normal purposes, participants are requested to send high resolution photos of their work to ICCR by 1st May 2020. Details are available on www.iccr.gov.in. Selected works will be asked to be couriered once the lockdown is called off.

All participants may please give their full name, address and number of your national identity document (in case of Indians it can be Aadhar, PAN card, Voter ID card, Passport etc.). Participants will have to fill up a form available on www.iccr.gov.in

All personal information will be strictly used for the purpose of authentication of artist and artworks and shall not be used for any other purpose.

5.0 Guidelines for submitting artworks

- a) Theme of artwork is restricted to “**Art in the Time of CORONA: United against Corona- Express through Art**”
- b) Participants may please upload their works in **PNG** or **JPG** files only with **maximum size upto 10 MB**.
- c) Please keep a copy of higher resolution files of your submitted artwork. We shall require it in case your work is shortlisted.
- d) Any form of indecent and obscene portrayal of woman and child, nudity, animal brutality, direct or indirect hate, anti-national, anti- government expressions/ visuals, sensitive to all religions, caste, creed and ethnicity is strictly prohibited.

6.0 Evaluation of Work

The works will be evaluated by a high level jury. **Jury will be fully authorised to discard inappropriate work of arts described in para 5.0 (d) above.**

7.0 Prizes

There are lots of prizes to be won under each category. Participation from all is encouraged.

8.0 Exhibition and Prize ceremony

Best of the expressions will be exhibited in leading galleries in India and abroad. An online exhibition will also be on display. Grand finale of the physical exhibition will be held in New Delhi with a cultural function and prize giving ceremony. Dates will be fixed depending on resolution of the COVID crisis.

9.0 Last Date of Submission:

- Opening of the competition - 2nd April 2020
- Deadline for receiving Entries - 1st May 2020
- Evaluation of Entries & Shortlist Announcement by - 20th May 2020
- Announcement of Prizes/Awards - on the World Environment Day - 6th June 2020

10.0 Rights over artworks

All artworks submitted, selected and awarded during the competition will be ICCR's property for it to be used in any form.

For further details please visit Indian Council for Cultural Relations at <https://www.iccr.gov.in>

For any query please write to iccr4art@gmail.com

Indian Council for Cultural Relations
<https://www.iccr.gov.in>
iccr4art@gmail.com