

# EXTENDED CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

Research Niche Area  
**Artivism**  
as a tool to  
combat Gender-Based Violence(s)

## SECOND ANNUAL GBV SYMPOSIUM

8 - 9 August 2025

TUT Arts Campus

### Canvas for Change: Creative Pathways to Eradicate GBV

*This is precisely the time when artists go to work.*

*There is no time for despair, no place for self-pity,*

*no need for silence, no room for fear.*

*We speak, we write, we do language.*

*That is how civilizations heal.*

- Toni Morrison

The Faculty of Arts and Design at the Tshwane University of Technology (TUT), in collaboration with the South African Journal of Art History (SAJAH) and the City of Tshwane (CoT), proudly announces the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Symposium.

This two-day event, hosted by the Research Niche Area (*Artivism as a tool to combat GBV*), will focus on **Multi-vocality, Interdisciplinary and Creative Expressions in addressing GBV within higher education and society**.

Recognising the urgency and importance of addressing GBV within the higher education context, we invite scholars, activists, researchers and practitioners to contribute to this dynamic gathering, exploring innovative, arts-based approaches to activism, healing and advocacy.

Symposium 2025 seeks to foreground the unique role that the creative arts - including, but not limited to fine arts, performance, music, literature, design and digital media - can play in addressing GBV. The symposium will examine how these mediums can help shift the dial on entrenched gender inequalities, challenge harmful societal norms and offer transformative strategies for prevention, intervention and healing.

The symposium will provide a platform for multi-vocal perspectives on GBV, recognising the diversity of experience and approaches necessary to confront this complex issue. We aim to create a space for rich interdisciplinary dialogue where academic research, creative practice and lived experience intersect to generate actionable strategies for change.

We encourage submissions from a wide range of disciplines - including but not limited to visual and performing arts, design, gender studies, sociology, psychology and education. We are particularly interested in contributions that reflect collaborative and community-engaged approaches.

*Please note that all accepted abstracts will be eligible for publication in a special edition of the South African Journal of Art History after a rigorous peer review process. Interested participants should therefore take note of the deadlines for article submissions.*

We invite proposals for academic papers, panel discussions, performances, workshops, exhibitions and multimedia presentations that engage with the following or related themes:

## THEMES

- **Creativity to Foster Healing:** Examining creative expressions supporting survivors' healing journeys.
- **Interdisciplinary Collaborations:** Showcasing partnerships between artists, social scientists, health professionals and educators to develop multifaceted responses to GBV.
- **Reimagining Gender Relations:** Investigating how creative works challenge traditional gender and power conceptions.
- **Higher Education and GBV:** Addressing challenges within educational institutions through creative, educational and policy interventions.
- **Art as Reflection of Social Norms:** Exploring how art illuminates and challenges cultural structures sustaining GBV.

## POTENTIAL WORKSHOP/PANEL DISCUSSIONS

- **Visual Voices:** Artivism as Catalyst for GBV Awareness
- **From Pain to Paint:** Creative Therapy for Survivors of GBV
- **Public Art, Private Struggles:** Addressing GBV through Community Art projects
- **Pixels and Protest:** Digital Artivism and the Fight against GBV

## SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

### 1. Abstracts:

Title of the presentation

Name(s) of presenter(s)

Email address(es) of presenter(s)

Institutional affiliation of presenter(s) (A researcher not affiliated to an institution is designated as "independent researcher")

Abstracts of no more than 300 words

Keywords: 3 - 5

Abbreviated biography (not more than 200 words)

Paper must be in English

Paper presentations: 20 minutes and 10 minutes Q & A session

### 2. Workshops/Discussion Groups/Panel discussions:

Submit a 300-word proposal.

Workshops: 30 or 60 minutes

Discussion groups/panel discussions: 30-minute engagements

### 3. Visual Art Presentations:

Submit a 300-word proposal. Maximum three A1-sized artworks per person

### 4. Poster Presentations:

Submit a 300-word proposal. Maximum three A1-sized posters per person

## 5. Performances:

Submit a 300-word proposal for performances up to 20 minutes long and 10 minutes Q & A. Include technical requirements and cast size.

## 6. Films:

Submit a 300-word proposal. Films can either be one session (20 minutes and 10 minutes for Q & A) or run over two sessions (50 minutes and 10 minutes for Q & A).

## ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS

To submit your abstract, please click here:

<https://forms.office.com/r/ggaNZqN1pe>

## ARTISTIC/WORKSHOP/POSTER/FILM/PERFORMANCE SUBMISSIONS:

To submit your artistic/workshop/poster/performance/discussion group proposal, please click here: <https://forms.office.com/r/1U1cactD6r>

## IMPORTANT DATES OF SYMPOSIUM

▪ Submission of Abstract	30 April 2025
▪ Notification of Acceptance of Abstract	15 May 2025
▪ Final Submission of Materials for Publicity and Programme	27 June 2025
▪ Presentation Submission	4 August 2025
▪ Symposium Dates	8 & 9 August 2025

NB. Those interested in publishing in the SAJAH special edition are to submit their completed articles (approximately 4 000 - 7 000 words) by 31 July 2025 in accordance with the specified guidelines provided to be peer reviewed.

## IMPORTANT DATES FOR PUBLICATION IN SAJAH

▪ Submission of Abstract	30 April 2025
▪ Notification of Acceptance of Abstract by	15 May 2025
▪ Completed article submission	31 July 2025
▪ Peer review of completed article	August - September 2025
▪ Publication	October- December 2025

## REGISTRATION

▪ Early Bird Registration (until 30 June 2025)	R3 000
▪ Full Registration (until 1 July 2025)	R3 500
▪ Registered Students	R1 500
▪ Daily Registration	R2 500

## GBV SYMPOSIUM CONTACT EMAIL:

For inquiries, please email [ArtivismGBV@tut.ac.za](mailto:ArtivismGBV@tut.ac.za)

Join us in exploring the power of creative expression to confront and dismantle Gender-Based Violence, envisioning a future where higher education institutions are places of safety, equity and empowerment for all.

**Research Niche Area**  
**Artivism**  
as a tool to  
**combat Gender-Based Violence(s)**