

guidelines

Open Call for International Exhibition Projects at the Museo del Mar Exhibition Galleries (Santa Pola Culture)

FOR THE YEARS 2027/2028



MUSEO del MAR



SANTA POLA CULTURA



guidelines Open Call for the Submission of International Exhibition Projects



GUIDELINES FOR THE OPEN CALL FOR THE SUBMISSION OF INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION PROJECTS FOR THE YEARS 2027/2028 AT THE EXHIBITION GALLERIES OF THE MUSEO DEL MAR (SANTA POLA CULTURE).

In order to promote contemporary artistic creation and international cultural collaboration, the Museo del Mar, through the Department of Culture, launches its 5th International Open Call for the submission of visual arts exhibition projects and exhibitions of artistic interest to be displayed in the museum's exhibition galleries during 2027 and 2028.

The Museo del Mar is located within the Santa Pola Castle-Fortress, a landmark example of 16th-century Renaissance military architecture that houses a variety of cultural and exhibition spaces dedicated to the promotion of art, heritage and culture.

Applicants

This open call is open to individuals and legal entities, artists, curators, artistic collectives and cultural institutions at the local, national and international levels.

Submission of Proposals

Applicants must submit their applications through the General Registry of Santa Pola Town Council, addressed to the Museo del Mar, within three calendar months from the official publication of these guidelines on the Museo del Mar website and through the official communication channels of Santa Pola Town Council.

Each proposal must be submitted as a PDF file (maximum size: 8 MB) and must include the following documentation:

- Project title and conceptual statement.
- Participating Artist(s).
- Exhibition layout and installation plan.
- Technical requirements.
- Sketches, images or other visual documentation.
- CV of the artist(s) and curator (where applicable).
- Contact and promotional information: email address, telephone number, website and social media profiles.

In addition to the project dossier, applicants must submit the General Application Form, duly completed through the General Registry of Santa Pola Town Council.

The submission of an application implies full acceptance of these guidelines. All documentation must be submitted as a single PDF file.

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Exhibition Spaces

This open call is intended for exhibition projects to be presented in the Museo del Mar Exhibition Galleries, located in the north wing of the Santa Pola Castle-Fortress. This exhibition space, comprising eight interconnected galleries, is particularly suited to contemporary art, avant-garde practices, artistic research, and retrospective exhibitions by established artists.

Evaluation Criteria and Selection Committee

Project selection will be carried out by a Professional Technical Committee prior to the institutional review process. The committee will consist of externally appointed professionals of recognised prestige in Art History, exhibition curating, art criticism and museum management.

Following this evaluation, the proposals will be reviewed by an Institutional Committee. The decisions issued by the Professional Technical Committee will subsequently be validated by the Institutional Committee, composed of technical representatives from the Department of Culture of Santa Pola Town Council.

Projects will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- Artistic value, concept and technical quality: 60%
- Artistic track record and research: 10%
- Suitability for the exhibition space, originality and overall impact: 30%

External members of the Professional Technical Committee will receive a fee of €400 for their evaluation work.

Following the jury's decision, the Museo del Mar will publish the list of selected projects, as well as any reserve projects where applicable, in the dedicated Open Calls section of its official website.

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Organisation and Conditions of Participation

Selected projects must be submitted in their final form at least one month prior to the opening of the exhibition. The final submission must include the technical specifications of the artworks, final images, and the estimated value of the exhibited pieces.

Following notification of the selection, successful applicants will have fifteen working days to confirm in writing their intention to formalise the collaboration agreement. Santa Pola Town Council will provide installation staff, promotional support, a digital catalogue with an ISBN, and the organisation of the opening event. Transport and packing costs shall be borne by the artist.

Through its Department of Culture, Santa Pola Town Council will provide the technical staff required for the installation and dismantling of the exhibitions and will generally cover the costs related to the promotion and communication of the exhibition, including:

- Graphic design and production.
- Exhibition vinyl graphics and display materials.
- Promotion through institutional media channels and social media.
- Digital catalogue with ISBN in Spanish, Valencian and English.
- Organisation of the opening event.

Any costs related to transport, packing or insurance shall be the responsibility of the artist, curator or participating collective, unless otherwise agreed by both parties.

The person responsible for the project shall work closely with the Museo del Mar in coordinating the exhibition installation, exhibition design and artwork placement.

The Department of Culture reserves the right to programme exhibitions outside this open call when required by institutional agreements, commemorative events, special projects or other circumstances of social and cultural interest.

Appeals

Any decision arising from this call, which concludes the administrative procedure, may be challenged by filing an administrative appeal for reconsideration before the authority that issued the decision within one month, in accordance with Articles 123 and 124 of Law 39/2015 of 1 October on the Common Administrative Procedure of Public Administrations.

Alternatively, applicants may file a contentious-administrative appeal before the Administrative Court of Alicante within two months, in accordance with Article 46 of Law 29/1998 of 13 July governing the Contentious-Administrative Jurisdiction.

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Financial Support

The jury will select a maximum of four exhibition projects and may also designate up to four reserve projects.

Once the selection process has been completed and subject to budget availability, the Museo del Mar will allocate a specific budget for the organisation of each selected exhibition within the 2027/2028 programme. All payments will be subject to the tax withholdings established under current legislation.

Each selected project will receive a total allocation of €1,500, distributed as follows:

- €1,000 for the artist or artistic collective.
- €500 for the curator, in recognition of curatorial and coordination work.

Additional Information

All proposals will be evaluated and approved by the organising body of the open call. The Museo del Mar reserves the right to reject any proposal that is considered contrary to the spirit of this call or whose content may be deemed offensive, discriminatory or violent.

The selected applicant undertakes to make appropriate use of the facilities, equipment and materials provided by the Museo del Mar for the exhibition project.

Any enquiries regarding this open call or these guidelines should be addressed to María José Cerdá (Director of Museums and Exhibition Spaces).

Tel.: +34 966 692 772

Email: secretariamuseo@santapola.es

DEADLINE FOR THE SUBMISSION OF PROJECTS: Three calendar months from the official publication of this Open Call.

The call for proposals will be open from 15 June to 15 September 2026.