



Press Release

Central Bank of The Bahamas Supports Venice Art Biennale, Italy

Bahamian excellence in business, sports, and culture is recognized in many fora and, for the first time since 2013, The Bahamas will be represented at Art Biennale in Venice, Italy in 2026.

The Venice Biennale was founded in 1895 and is widely regarded as the summit of the art world. The Bahamian Pavilion, curated by Bahamian scholar Prof. Krista Thompson, brings together works by John Beadle (posthumously) and the internationally acclaimed Bahamian artist Lavar Munroe in a dialogue titled, *'In Another Man's Yard'*. The exhibition also includes a series from the Jammin' project, a collaboration between John Beadle, Antonius Roberts, and Stan Burnside.

Since 1984, the Central Bank of The Bahamas' Arts and Culture Programme has supported creative Bahamians pursuing meaningful careers in the arts. In an increasingly interconnected world, it is a natural progression for the programme to extend its reach beyond our shores and support Bahamian artists participating on the global stage. In this context, the Central Bank is pleased to support young Bahamian artist Eddion Whyms during a three-month internship in Venice, assisting Lavar Munroe and the production team with delivering a strong and impactful Bahamian presentation. This experience will provide valuable exposure and professional development, which Eddion will bring to The Bahamas to contribute to the country's cultural and intellectual growth, while inspiring others.

The Central Bank's involvement in the Venice Biennale reflects a broader commitment to positioning the creative sector as an important pillar in the national development framework. By supporting initiatives of this scale, the Central Bank contributes to expanding opportunities for Bahamian artists, and strengthening the visibility of the country's cultural output in key international contexts. At the same time, this engagement reinforces the role of the Central Bank's Arts and Culture Programme, as both a national platform and a facilitator of international exchange. It underscores a continued investment in talent, knowledge, and collaboration—ensuring that Bahamian creativity remains active, relevant, and connected to global conversations.

The Venice Biennale opens on 5 May 2026 and continues through the end of November 2026.

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