THE STARTER

NOVEMBER 2026,
CLOSING ON 10
DECEMBER

HOW TO TAKE PART IN GLOBAL ARTIVISM MONTH

FOR ARTISTS, ARTIVISTS, COLLECTIVES, ORGANIZATIONS
AND COMMUNITIES EVERYWHERE.

GLOBAL ART—IVISM MONTH

EMBRACING CULTURAL ACTIVISM
FOR A SAFE AND JUST WORLD

Global Artivism is a Global South and Global Majority-led movement connecting artists, cultural practitioners, organizers, storytellers and activists creating change through culture.

GLOBAL ARTIVISM MONTH IS ITS MOST VISIBLE MOMENT:

a month of action across November, closing on 10 December, Human Rights Day — an open call for locally self-organized events across the world to identify themselves as part of one global mobilization, passing a spotlight from region to region, dawn by dawn, with the sun.



WHY THIS IS A RECIPE BOOK, AND WHY IT IS CALLED THE STARTER

In baking, a starter is a living culture. Someone gives you a little of theirs, you feed it with what you have, it becomes yours, and you pass it on. This is the first of six Global Artivism Month recipe books, and it works the same way: nothing here is a rule. Every recipe is meant to be adapted to your context, your budget and your community. The ones that get changed are the ones that survive.



HOW TO USE THIS RECIPE BOOK

Like a conversation, not a manual. It is organized as questions — the ones people actually ask us. Jump to the question that is yours. Every page stands on its own.



WHO IS THIS FOR

Anyone who wants in. An artist with one performance. A collective with a mural. A school, a gallery, a park, a WhatsApp group. An organization with a full November program. You do not need to be famous, funded or formal to take part.



THE SPIRIT OF THE MONTH

Participation is an open, positive invitation, framed around positive social impact: if your creativity serves your community, you belong here. Hosting an event is a registration, not a selection. A short Terms and Conditions document sets out the few commitments everyone makes — read it before you register. It is available in the Participation Form.

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THE BASICS



WHAT IS GLOBAL ARTIVISM MONTH?

A globally coordinated cultural mobilization running across November 2026 and closing on 10 December, Human Rights Day — designed to make artivism visible worldwide, and to be observed every year from now on. It grew from the Global Artivism gatherings in Pretoria (2024) and Salvador da Bahia (2025), and builds toward the movement's next global gathering in 2027.

WHAT IS ARTIVISM?

Art plus activism: creative practice used as a tool for social and political change. Artivism does not just represent issues — it provokes awareness, dialogue and change, in public and accessible spaces, with communities rather than only about them.

WHO CAN TAKE PART?

Everyone. Individuals, informal collectives, and organizations of any size. Participation is framed around positive social impact, not a political test. If you are an arts or culture organization, whatever cause your creativity serves, this month is yours too.

ARE THERE RULES?

A few, and they are short. The Terms and Conditions document sets out the minimum commitments every participant makes — on purpose, safety and consent, and on how the Global Artivism Month name and identity are used. There is no jury and no selection; the rules exist to keep the month safe and true to its purpose.

DO I NEED MONEY TO TAKE PART?

No. Taking part is free. You organize and resource your own activity, at whatever scale you can.

DO YOU FUND ACTIVITIES?

No. Global Artivism does not fund activities and does not distribute grants. What we offer instead are fundraising resources: the fundraising recipe book, the second in this series, and the activation that goes with it — built to help you raise what your activity needs, from your own context and networks.

DO I NEED TO CREATE SOMETHING NEW?

No. If you already have activities planned for November — an exhibition, a festival, a workshop, a launch — you can connect them to Global Artivism Month and be part of the global picture. Existing work counts.

WHAT DO ORGANIZATIONS GET FROM JOINING?

Visibility inside a global moment — and, concretely, that means five things:

- A place in the global picture. Your activity appears in the shared calendar of the month and in the Global Artivism Month digital space, alongside every other registered activity worldwide.
- Your region's day in the Sunrise Relay. On the day the spotlight reaches your region, the daily dispatch and the movement's channels carry work from your part of the world.
- Documentation that travels. What you document can be featured in the daily dispatch during the month and in the closing publication.
- The name and the identity. Registered participants use the Global Artivism Month name and visual identity in their own communications, so a local event reads as part of a worldwide mobilization.
- Community and practice. The regional convenings, the six recipe books and their activations, and a worldwide community of practice to stay connected to after November.

AND A SHARED FRAME — NOVEMBER — TO COMMUNICATE THAT INVESTING IN ARTS AND CULTURE MATTERS.

WAYS IN

THERE ARE THREE WAYS OF TAKING PART IN GLOBAL ARTIVISM MONTH, AND TWO FURTHER WAYS OF MAKING IT POSSIBLE. EACH ONE IS AN OPTION IN THE PARTICIPATION FORM, AND YOU CAN CHOOSE MORE THAN ONE. THEY ARE DOORS, NOT BOXES.

THREE WAYS OF TAKING PART

WITNESS
// TAKE PART

The lightest way in, and the way most people will first meet the month. Attend a gathering. Share a dispatch. Join a vigil. Amplify a piece of work.

FOLLOW AND AMPLIFY
You keep the month visible without producing anything yourself. You share, post and tell people it is happening, using our communications package and resources.

HOST
// ORGANIZE

You take responsibility for something happening where you are.

HOST AN EVENT OR ACTIVITY
You organize something where you are, at whatever scale you can manage: an exhibition, a march, a screening, a mural, a performance, a conversation — face to face, online or hybrid. You decide what it is, and you carry it. Hosts register their event, appear in the month's shared calendar, and receive the host materials.

CREATE
// CONTRIBUTE A WORK

You put a piece of work into the month: poetry, music, mural, performance, photography, fashion, installation, film, food, sport-as-culture.

SHARE YOUR ART
You send us work to be part of the month — new or existing, finished or still in progress — that we can share on our channels. Contributed works are credited and can be featured during your region's moment in the relay.

TWO WAYS OF MAKING IT POSSIBLE

These two sit alongside the three, not inside them. They are how people and organizations carry the month without necessarily producing an activity of their own.

SUPPORT
// RESOURCE SOMEONE ELSE'S WORK

SUPPORT THE MONTH
You contribute resources rather than time on the ground: funding, equipment, space, skills or connections that make other people's activities possible. What you offer goes to the people doing the work — Global Artivism Month does not itself fund activities.

PARTNER
// COMMIT YOUR ORGANIZATION

BECOME A PARTNER
You commit your organization, network or platform to the month in a sustained way, with a role agreed together rather than defined in advance and the possibility of co-creating something new.

WAYS TO PARTNER

Partnership is agreed case by case, but four shapes recur — and each one carries one of the three ways of taking part.

CO-ORGANIZER
You build an activity together with others, sharing the planning, the resources and the credit. This is a hands-on role: you help make the thing happen, not only announce it.

MOBILIZATION PARTNER
You bring your community, network or membership into the month and turn your reach into participation. You are not producing an activity yourself; you are getting people to show up for the ones that exist.

MEDIA PARTNER
You carry the story through your outlet, platform or channel — reporting on the month, publishing artwork, hosting conversations, or lending your audience.

OFFER A WORKSHOP FOR THE NETWORK
You lead a session that builds capacity for other people taking part in the month, rather than for your own audience: a skill-share, a training, a clinic, a lab. We program it with you and open it to participants across the month.

IF YOU ARE AN ORGANIZATION: THE THREE ASKS

HOST AND BE COUNTED
Indicate willingness to host events during the month and be designated as part of Global Artivism Month.

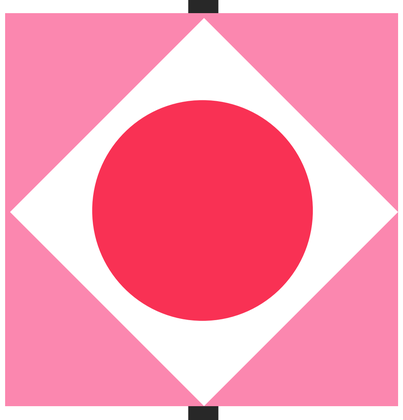
MAKE THE CASE FOR CULTURE
Use November to communicate that investing in arts and culture matters — and showcase locally how creatives contribute to positive social change.

CONNECT WHAT EXISTS
Schedule or integrate activities already planned for November into the month.

HOW TO JOIN, STEP BY STEP

STEP 1

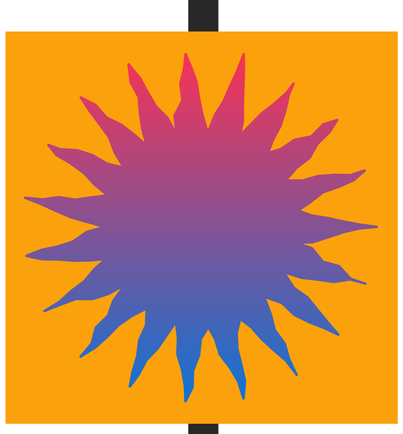
REGISTER YOUR INTEREST



The Participation Form opens on 19 August 2026 and stays open until 19 October. Registering is the single action that makes you part of the month. It is a registration, not an application: no jury, only the few minimum criteria set out in the Terms and Conditions, which keep the month safe and true to its purpose.

STEP 2

SHAPE YOUR ACTIVITY



Decide what you will do, at your scale (page 6 has formats and ideas). One person with one poem is a valid activity. So is a month-long program.

STEP 3

MEET YOUR REGION



Between late August and early October, six virtual regional convenings carry a Global Artivism Month moment — Americas & Caribbean, Africa, Europe, West Asia, Oceania & Pacific, Asia. This is where hosts meet the regional teams, the recipe book activations happen. They are online and open: joining one is the best first step after registering. Register at globalartivism.org.

STEP 4

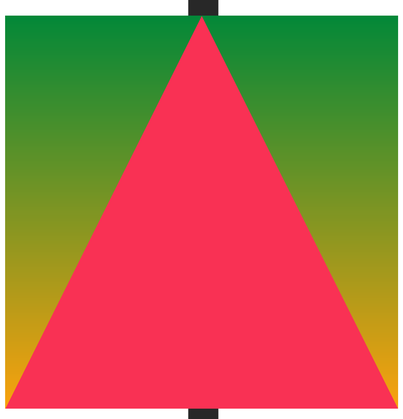
PREPARE WITH THE RECIPE BOOKS



A new recipe book is published at each regional convening (see Step 3) — fundraising, access and participation, youth artivism, regenerative practices, delivery and documentation — each with a short activation workshop. All six are then edited into one publication, the Global Artivism Month Cookbook, released in the first week of November.

STEP 5

SHOW UP



Hold your activity, document it, and feed it into the daily dispatch so your work appears in the global picture. Pages 5 and 7 tell you how.

WHAT HAPPENS DURING GLOBAL ARTIVISM MONTH

WHAT IS THE SUNRISE RELAY?

The organizing idea of the month.

Each day, the spotlight travels with the sun: a region opens the day with a short brief on the state of artivism there and the question it wants to raise, hosts a day of local activity, and passes the relay onward at dusk.

A daily dispatch and a shared digital space knit the days into one visible global story.

WHEN IS MY REGION'S MOMENT?

The regional dawn calendar — which day carries which region's spotlight — is built with the regional teams from the registrations received, and shared with hosts ahead of November.

DO I HAVE TO BE ACTIVE ALL MONTH?

No. Most participants act on their region's day, on the Global Day of Action, or on the date their own activity was already planned for. The relay makes one day matter globally; you choose which day is yours.

01 NOVEMBER

Global Opening Moment — the Sunrise Relay begins.

FIRST WEEK

Global Virtual Convening; the Global Artivism Month Cookbook is published.

16 NOVEMBER

Global Day of Action.

30 NOVEMBER

Last day of the Sunrise Relay — the spotlight completes its circuit of the world.

10 DECEMBER

Closing Declaration — a participatory public declaration that closes the month, on Human Rights Day.

WHAT CAN MY ACTIVITY BE?

ANYTHING MADE WITH CREATIVITY AND INTENTION, AT ANY SCALE. SOME WAYS IN:

IN THE STREETS

murals, chalk festivals, street theater, banner drops, rooftop performances, processions, clean-ups paired with public art.

ONLINE

meme storms, digital art campaigns, livestreams, playlists, digital storytelling, a hashtag action — all possible from a phone, from wherever you are.

IN SITES OF CHOICE

places chosen because of what they carry: a river, a forest, a coastline or another site of connection to the natural environment; a sacred site; a heritage or historic place; a site of memory. Where the place is part of the message, work with the communities and custodians who hold it, and follow the protocols they set.

IN ROOMS

exhibitions, concerts, poetry vigils, film screenings, artist talks, community dinners, healing circles, art-making workshops.

IN INSTITUTIONS

a November program framed as part of the month; a schools project; a library or university takeover.



ORGANIZING IN A SMALL COALITION

You do not have to organize alone. Two or three organizations — a collective, a venue, a school — can co-host one activity, sharing costs, audiences and care. Small coalitions are how most Global Artivism Month activities will happen.

WHAT YOU WILL NEED:
A SIMPLE CHECKLIST

✓

ONE CLEAR INTENTION

WHAT DO YOU WANT YOUR ACTIVITY TO SAY OR SHIFT?

✓

A DATE

(YOUR REGION'S DAY IS A GOOD DEFAULT)

✓

A PLACE

PHYSICAL, DIGITAL OR BOTH.

✓

THE PEOPLE

WHO CO-CREATES, WHO ATTENDS, WHO DOCUMENTS.

✓

ACCESS

CAN PEOPLE WITH DIFFERENT BODIES, LANGUAGES AND BUDGETS TAKE PART?

✓

CONSENT

FOR PHOTOGRAPHY, FILMING AND ANYTHING YOU WILL SHARE.

✓

DOCUMENTATION

ONE PERSON RESPONSIBLE FOR CAPTURING THE DAY.

PRACTICAL QUESTIONS

WHERE DO I FIND THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS?

A short document sets out the commitments every participant makes — on purpose, safety and consent, and it is available in the Participation Form.

IS THERE SUPPORT FOR ACCESSIBILITY?

An access and participation recipe book is published in mid-September, with practices for physical access, language, disability, low-resource formats and digital inclusion. Build access in from the start, not as decoration.

WHAT ABOUT SAFETY AND CONSENT?

Create a safe, respectful environment. Name one person responsible for safeguarding at your activity; use consent procedures for photography and filming; put extra measures in place where children, young people or vulnerable adults are involved. If a serious concern arises, pause the activity and review it properly.

HOW DO I FUND MY ACTIVITY, AND DO YOU FUND IT?

We do not fund activities. Our fundraising resources exist to help you raise what your activity needs. The fundraising recipe book — the second in this series — covers strategy, ethics, crowdfunding, partnerships, budgeting and templates. Short version: diversify, stay transparent, protect your independence.

WILL MATERIALS EXIST IN MY LANGUAGE?

Translations of the recipe books roll out from September; and will be made available in English, Portuguese, French, Arabic and Russian. Whatever the final list, your activity itself happens in your language — the month is multilingual by nature.

WHO DO I CONTACT?

Contact email — **info@globalartivism.ca** — and your regional convening is the best door to connect with the team.

THE WORLD DOES NOT CHANGE ONLY
THROUGH POLICIES AND ARGUMENTS.

IT CHANGES WHEN WE DANCE, WHEN WE PAINT OUR STORIES ON WALLS, WHEN A SONG GIVES COURAGE TO A WEARY STREET.

THIS NOVEMBER, MAKE YOUR ART PART
OF ONE GLOBAL PICTURE. REGISTER,
INVITE YOUR NEIGHBORS, AND TAKE
YOUR PLACE IN THE RELAY.

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EMBRACING CULTURAL ACTIVISM
FOR A SAFE AND JUST WORLD