



YEMISI SHYLLON  
**MUSEUM OF ART**  
PAN-ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2024**



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# Letter from the Director

2024 has been an extraordinary year for YSMA and Pan-Atlantic University. The museum continues to solidify its reputation as the leading university museum in West Africa, advancing its mission as a cultural and academic institution. Through impactful exhibitions, educational initiatives, and strategic partnerships, we deepened public engagement and fostered a greater appreciation for Nigeria's rich artistic heritage. None of this would have been possible without the firm support of our community, donors, and partners. This year, we reached new heights, welcoming close to 8,000 visitors—a proof of YSMA's growing recognition as a cultural hub. Our collection also expanded significantly, thanks to the generosity of artists who enriched our holdings with their works. These additions strengthened YSMA's role as a vital repository of Nigerian art and culture.

Our programming began with the YSMA Open House and the inauguration of the Students' Council. These events were followed by two major exhibitions. *Arewa?* offered a nuanced exploration of Northern Nigerian art, challenging stereotypes and sparking dialogue through workshops. Later in the year, *Collecting Now: Perspectives on Contemporary Art Collecting in Nigeria* opened in October and will run until February 2025. This exhibition provides an intimate look at the stories and motivations of six prominent collectors, including Advisory Board members Kola Aina, Dotun Sulaiman, Gbenga Oyebode, and Niyi Adenubi.

The museum also saw significant leadership developments. We welcomed three new members to our Advisory Board: Dr. Ibikunle Dashur, Ms. Adaora Ikenze, and Mr. Niyi Adenubi, further strengthening our leadership for the future. At year's end, Mr. Kola Aina stepped down as Chairman of the Advisory Board, leaving behind a legacy of vision and guidance. We are deeply grateful for his service. Stepping into the role is Mr. Dotun Sulaiman, a founding board member whose leadership will help us build on our strong foundation.

Beyond exhibitions, YSMA intensified its educational and outreach efforts. Our targeted awareness campaign positioned us as the preferred academic partner for art-related programs. From engaging secondary schools and introducing object-based learning across campus to hosting our annual HSE campers' camp and running a workshop for aspiring filmmakers at the MultiChoice Talent Factory, our initiatives continue to inspire and educate. These efforts are cementing YSMA's position as the leading educational museum in West Africa.

Looking ahead, YSMA remains committed to expanding its collection, fostering academic collaborations, and enhancing its role as a hub for contemporary art and cultural heritage. We are profoundly grateful to Prince Yemisi Shyllon, our supporters, and the Pan-Atlantic University community for their invaluable contributions. Your encouragement drives us forward, and we are excited for what we will accomplish together in the coming year.

**Dr. Jess Castellote**  
Director of the Yemisi Shyllon Museum of Art



# Mission Statement



To serve and engage the university, the art world and local communities as an educational museum, offering programs and exhibitions that inspire dialogue, foster critical thinking, spark interdisciplinary exploration, and deepen understanding of the world



# SUPERVISORY COUNCIL

Prince Yemisi Shyllon- Chairman  
 Dr. Sola Oni  
 Mr. Tayo Fagbule  
 Mrs. Nneka Okekearu  
 Mrs. Polly Alakija  
 Mrs. Yetunde Aina  
 Prof. Peju Layiwola  
 Prof. Chantal Epie  
 Prof. Juan Elegido

## MANAGEMENT TEAM

Jess Castellote, Director  
 Michael Oseghale, Manager  
 Jessica Nzenwata, Research & Documentation  
 Solomon Nkwagu, Communications  
 Charles Udeh, Research & Education  
 Glory Okwara, Administrative Officer  
 Grace Aderele, MultiMedia Developer

# ADVISORY BOARD

Mr. Dotun Sulaiman- Chairman  
 Mrs. Ifeyinwa Ighodalo  
 Mr. Gbenga Oyebode  
 Ms. Charlotte Ashamu  
 Mr. Kola Aina  
 Mrs. Ifeyinwa Momah  
 Mr. Jubril Enakele  
 Mr. Elo Umeh  
 Mr. Yiannakis Christodoulou  
 Prof. Fabian Ajogwu  
 Prof. Aderonke Adesanya  
 Mr. Gbenga Olaniyan  
 Mr. Nonso Okpala  
 Mr. Niyi Adenubi  
 Ms. Adaora Ikenze  
 Mr. Lere Awokoya  
 Mrs. Titi Akinsanmi  
 Mr. Ibikunle Dashur  
 Mr. Vincent Egbe  
 Mr. Jonah Adams  
 Mr. Olumide Soyombo



Anthea **EPELLE** Nigerian b. 1972  
**INVOLVED, 2013**  
 Oil on canvas, 142cm x 100cm

# 2024 IN NUMBERS

52

Weeks open

11

Gifts/loans

8,032

Total visitors

1,245

Works in our collection

337

Tours

37

Volunteers

6

Publications

1,163

Students of PAU at OBL classes

4

School Programmes

15

Classes

2

Exhibitions

18,469

Website visits

11,461

Social media followers

22

School Excursions

1,247

Email subscribers

7

Partners/sponsors

7

Full-time staff

## Artwork Donations



Babatunde Kesa, Flourish 2 (Essence series), 2023, Mixed media on Canvas, Gift



Freda Kesa, Colourful Dreams (Blossom 7 series), 2022, Mixed media on Canvas, Gift



Jide-Adeniyi Jones, Dignity, 2009  
Photography, Gift



Jide-Adeniyi Jones, Argungun 001, 2009  
Photography, Gift





Kaitume Gana, Bridal Gown (Chai-Mai), 2017, Mixed Media, Gift



Maryam Maigida, Halin Zamani (Character of our Times), 2024, Mixed media, Gift



Chuma Anagbado, Egwu Ogbo, 2024, Acrylic on etched repurposed pallet wood, Gift



Lawrence Meju, Eze goes to school, 2024, Giclee Archival canvas print, Gift





Freda Kesa, Colourful Dreams (Blossom 7 series), 2022, Mixed media on Canvas, Gift



Tam Fiofori, Spirit of Festac '77, 1977, Photography (print on aluminium), Gift,



Keitra Bates, Untitled, Watercolour on Canvas, Gift



Ibikunle Dashur, The Reef, 2021, Acrylic on Canvas, Gift



# Publications

## **Immersive Learning Through Art at the Yemisi Shyllon Museum of Art**

This research presents insights gathered from students and educators involved in these sessions, exploring their perspectives on the effectiveness and impact of OBL in fostering deeper comprehension and appreciation of complex ideas. Ultimately, this research looks into how Object-Based Learning can improve learning experience and promote a strong understanding of fundamental societal principles.

## **Art and the Politics of Self: Exploring Human Nature and Societal Politicking in Omoligho Udentia, Chuma Anagbado and Chima Uchay's Works at the YSMA Collection**

This paper delves into the complex interplay between human nature and social influences as portrayed in selected works from the YSMA collection

## **Artwork Information Sheet (AIS)**

The Art Information Sheets (AIS) provides detailed information about specific artworks in the YSMA collection, including details about their origin, significance, and the artist. These resources are available in PDF format on our website. In 2024, the museum published Four Art Information Sheets.

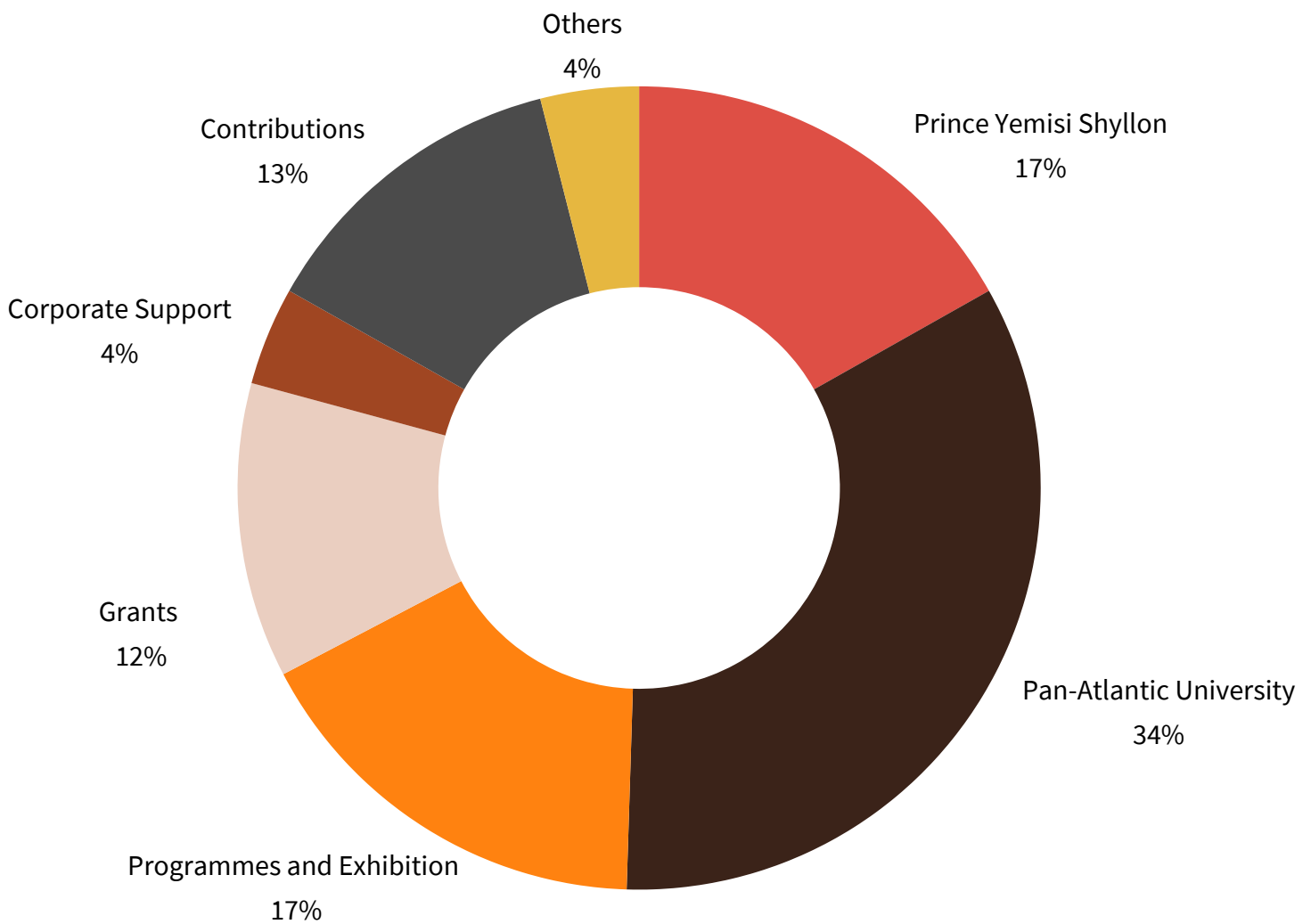
- **Art Information Sheet Thirty Nine** - Anagbado's Egwu Ogbo
- **Art Information Sheet Thirty Eight** - Jesus of Lubeck; Journey Mercies
- **Art Information Sheet Thirty-Seven** - Azekwoh's No Victor, No Vanquished
- **Art Information Sheet Forty** - Philips Nzekwe's Prodigy
- **Art and the Politics of Self: Exploring Human Nature and Societal Politicking in Omoligho Udentia, Chuma Anagbado and Chima Uchay's Works at the YSMA Collection**
- **Immersive Learning Through Art at the Yemisi Shyllon Museum of Art**



# FINANCIALS

## 2024 Income

- Prince Yemisi Shyllon
- Pan-Atlantic University
- Programmes & Exhibitions
- Corporate Support
- Contributions
- Grants
- Others

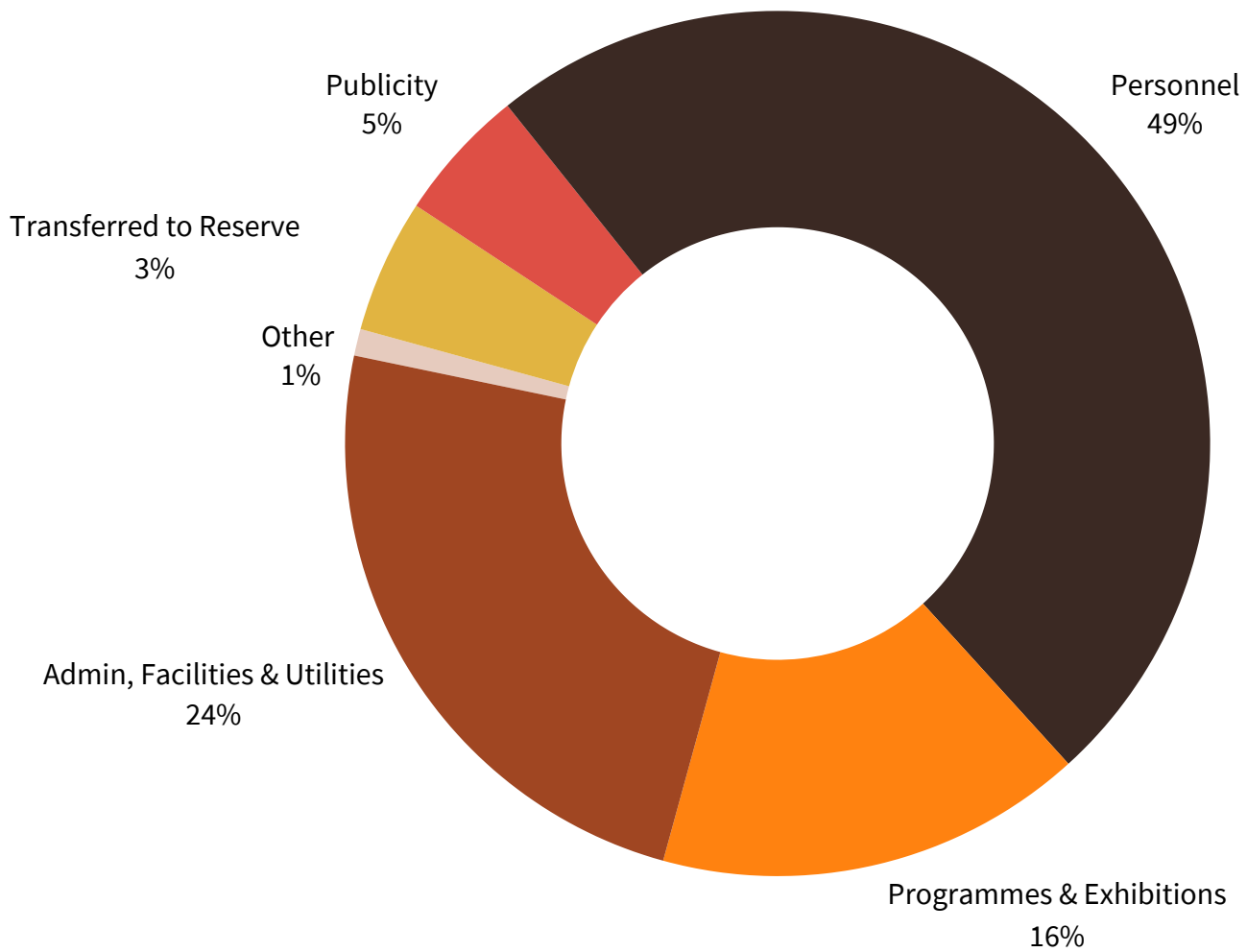




## FINANCIALS

### 2024 Expenditure

- Personnel
- Programmes & Exhibitions
- Admin, Facilities & Utilities
- Publicity
- Transferred to Reserve
- Others



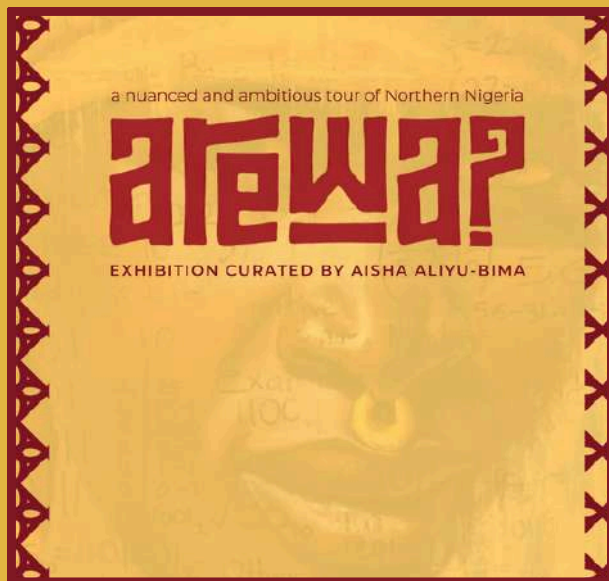


# Exhibitions

In the year 2024, the museum launched 2 exhibitions titled: “Arewa?” and “Collecting Now.”

The Arewa exhibition dives into Northern Nigeria’s diverse cultures and artistic landscape, through the works of artists from Northern Nigeria.

Collecting Now exhibition is a showcase that explores the perspectives of contemporary art collecting in Nigeria using the works from six art collectors in Nigeria, Prince Yemisi Shyllon, Kola Aina, Eyamba Dafinone, Aisha and Gbenga Oyebode, Dotun Sulaiman, and Niyi Adenubi.



## AREWA?

A Nuanced and ambitious tour of Northern Nigeria

Curated by Aisha Aliyu-Bima

July 9th to October 18th 2024



## Collecting Now

An art exhibition exploring perspectives on contemporary art collecting in Nigeria.

Curated by Charles Udeh

26th October 2024 to 28th FEB 2025



# Programmes

## Pre-Colonial Societies of Nigeria

This is a one-day program, designed for secondary school students, aiming to impart historical knowledge through the lens of art.



This year, we hosted students from 4 different schools, Magbon Alade Senior Secondary School, Debojo Community High School, Orimedu Senior Secondary School, and Akodo Community High School, the Session focused on pre-colonial Igbo culture, where students explored different forms of Igbo art, Igbo sculptures and Igbo Culture through various artworks.











# Summer Camps

## HSE Cultural Art Camp

HSE Cultural Art Camp is a yearly camp for young boys organized by the Wetland Cultural and Education Foundation in collaboration with the Yemisi Shyllon Museum of Art. It aims to enhance their understanding of Nigerian art history, crafts, values, and important life skills.

The 4th annual HSE Cultural Art Camp, was organized by the Wetland Cultural and Education Foundation and facilitated by the Yemisi Shyllon Museum of Art. The participants explored various art concepts and practices: “Principles of Art”, “Art and Society”, specifically Igbo civilization and cosmology, “printmaking”, one of the oldest art forms and “tie-dye”

Overall, the camp was filled with practical sessions that combined learning and creativity.





# Workshops

## Writing Authentic Narratives

Writing Authentic Narratives is one of the complementary programmes for the AREWA? Exhibition. The workshop aim was to build lasting networks and alliances with art and culture journalists, contributing to the advancement of Nigerian art and culture, challenging stereotypes, and promoting balanced and nuanced representations.



## Curating Authentic Narratives

Curating Authentic Narratives is also one of the complementary programmes for the AREWA? Exhibition. This workshop aims to build lasting networks and alliances with curators and art writers, contributing to the advancement of Nigerian art and culture, challenging stereotypes, and promoting balanced and nuanced representations.



# YSMA in the Press



Michael Osoaghe, Manager, Yemisi Shyllon Museum of Art (YSMA), Pan Atlantic University, Lagos (left); Aisha Akyo-Bima, exhibition Curator (second left); Jess Castellote, Director, YSMA (second right); and Madona Ioba, Communication Advancement Officer, YSMA, during the pre-event press conference held at the Gerhe Institute Victoria Island, on Thursday, for the forthcoming art exhibition titled, 'AREWAT' in collaboration with Africa No Filter, scheduled to open in July 2024 at the Pan Atlantic University.



## Yemisi Shyllon Museum of Art, Africa No Filter tell uplifting Northern Nigeria stories

The partnership involves the design, installation, and execution of an art exhibition, as well as the implementation of complementary programmes for curators, journalists, and teachers.

The Yemisi Shyllon Museum of Art (YSMA), Pan Atlantic University, Lagos, and Africa No Filter (ANF), a Lagos-based art gallery, are set to launch a new art exhibition titled 'AREWAT' in collaboration with Africa No Filter, scheduled to open in July 2024 at the Pan Atlantic University.



**Breaking News** AGF Confirms \$110 Million Assets Recovered from Foreign Countries 8 hours ago

The exhibition will offer an in-depth look at the personal and curatorial journeys of six leading Nigerian art collectors who have played a pivotal role in shaping the contemporary art landscape in the country.

The exhibition will also feature the collections of notable figures such as Prince Yemisi Shyllon, Kola Aina, Gbenga & Aisha Oyejobode, Dotun Sulaiman, Adeniyi Adenubi, and Eyamba Dafinone. As key players in the art ecosystem, these collectors have been instrumental in supporting, preserving, and promoting Nigerian art on both a national and international scale.

In a statement, Jess Castellote, Director of the Yemisi Shyllon Museum of Art, emphasised the importance of these collectors, saying,



## Collectors Take Centre Stage: 'Collecting Now' Exhibition Set To Open October 26

By Our Correspondents | Oct 26, 2024

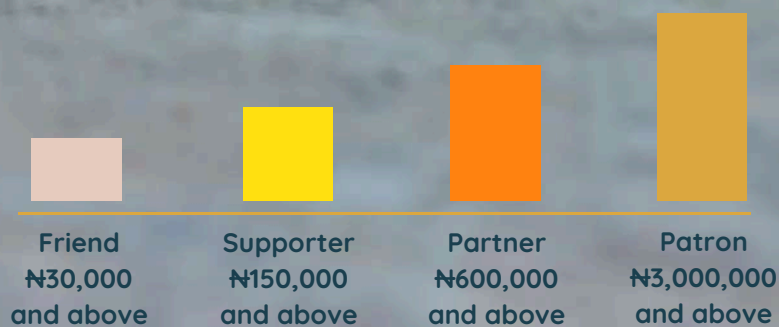




# Friends of the YSMA

To enhance engagement with our friends and supporters, our YSMA membership circle offers several member/patron categories.

Friends of the YSMA can choose from the Individual, Supporter, Partner or Patron levels, with each membership plan providing a set of exclusive benefits.



## FOUNDING PARTNERS



## SPONSORS/ OTHER PARTNERS







[www.museum.pau.edu.ng](http://www.museum.pau.edu.ng)



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