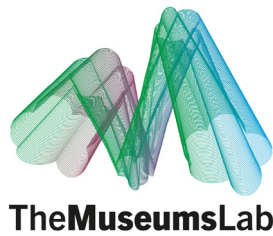# TheMuseumsLab

ONLINE AND ONSITE IN AFRICA AND EUROPE

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS
2024

TheMuseumsLab

„Restitution cannot be simply a return to the kingdom following exile.
It must draw on the wealth of new energies and meanings which the objects
in question have produced in the art world and will continue to produce after
their return, to emphasise that the time has come to reinvent the museum
as a realisation of networks and synergies.
These objects, which in the words of Amadou Mahtar M'Bow have put down new
roots everywhere they have been, now have a role to play in building bridges and
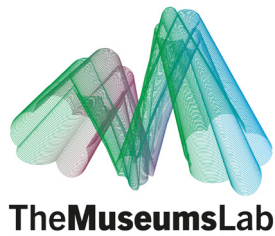*thus in forging this new kind of museum network."*

Souleymane Bachir Diagne,
Columbia University, Director of the Institute of African Studies

Museums are part of societies; they bear witness to relationships between societies, countries and continents.
As living institutions, they have a responsibility to learn from their history and actively shape change for
individuals, locally and globally.

Founded in 2021, TheMuseumsLab is a programme for joint learning, perspective exchange, networking and
career building among African and European professionals. Bringing them together to build bridges between
individuals, institutions, nations and two continents for an engaged discussion on how museums can confront
their past, meet the present needs of society and work towards an equitable future.

Therefore, TheMuseumsLab invites 50 African and European Fellows and over 100 lecturers, speakers and
mentors from arts, cultures, academia and sciences.

TheMuseumsLab is dedicated to providing a welcoming experience for every person involved. We value and
promote diversity, inclusivity, fairness and openness and reject any form of discrimination, harassment,
racism and disrespect.

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Programme Timeline 2024

Kick-Off Events (Online, Introduction and Evening Event)
6 June

Module 1 (Online)
11 to 13 June & 18 to 19 June

Module 2 (Onsite in Berlin)
Arrivals: 4 September
Programme: 5 to 11 September
Departures: 12 September

Residencies at European Partner Museums (Onsite, Europe)
Arrivals: 12 September
Programme: 13 to 18 September
Departures: 19 September
> for Fellows assigned to a European Partner Museum

Residencies at African Partner Museums (Onsite, Africa)
Arrivals: 6 November
Programme: 7 to 12 November
Departures: 13 November
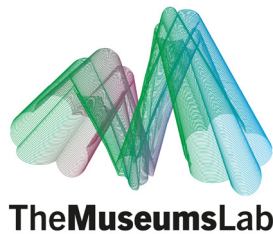>for Fellows assigned to an African Partner Museum

Module 3 (Onsite in Accra)
Arrivals: 13 November
Programme: 14 to 20 November
Departures: 21 November

Closing Event (Online)
10 December

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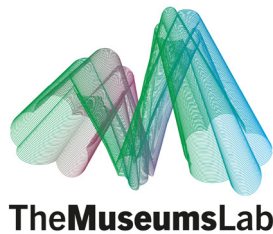## What we offer

- **Three Modules** (online and onsite) with multidisciplinary perspectives on current museum and heritage discourses

- **Innovative** formats of learning and workshops for practical skills

- **Residency** in a tandem (one Fellow from Africa, one Fellow from Europe) at a renowned African or European Partner Museum

- **Networking opportunities** amongst Fellows and with international experts

- **Certificate**, issued by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Museum für Naturkunde Berlin - Leibniz Institute for Evolution and Biodiversity Science and the Partner Institution in Africa

- **Access** to TheMuseumsLab Alumni Network

- **Partial cost coverage for the onsite Modules** in Berlin (Module 2), Accra (Module 3) and the Residency at an African or European Partner Museum according to DAAD regulations and German Travel Expanses Act
  Please read carefully what is comprised in the cost coverage and contact us if you have further questions before submitting your application.

- International and national transport to arrive to and depart from programme locations
  (lowest possible economy class airfare and 2nd class train tickets)
  Please note: transports between the place of residence and departure/arrival airport
  (home address/town <-> local airport) and travels for visa processes are not included in the cost coverage

- Ticket for local public transport if applicable during Module 2, Module 3 and the Residencies

- Airport transfers (Module 3 in Accra, Residencies in Africa if applicable)

- Reimbursement up to 40 EUR for Health Insurance (for onsite Modules and Residencies obligatory)

- Visa fees (for visa processes at official entities)

- Mandatory vaccinations (for entry to countries with programme locations)

- Accomodation during the onsite Modules and Residency locations (from official programme arrival date to official programme departure date)
  Please note: All programme related travels and accomodations will be arranged and booked by the DAAD and its supporting service provider

- Programme relevant entrance fees

- Daily allowance during the onsite Modules and Residencies
  (limited compensation for meals not provided in the programme)
  Please note: the above-mentioned regulations state fixed amounts for daily allowances for each country/city.
  The allowances are newly calculated each year. The respective amounts have to be reduced according to the meals being provided in the programme.

Please note that we do not cover any other costs.
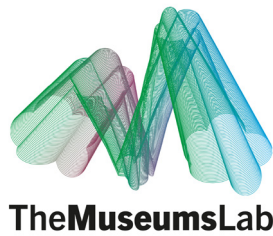
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What we expect

- **Professional competencies and experiences**
  Practical experience of at least 2 years in a museum, heritage site or art space, relating to themes such as Archaeology, Architecture, Art, Cultural History, Natural Sciences and Technology.

- **Commitment to the programme**
  High motivation to actively engage in participation formats.
  A prerequisite for the selection of a candidate is the binding commitment to participate in all activities of TheMuseumsLab. The quality of the programme depends on Fellow's participation in all events and intense exchange, both among themselves and with the speakers and lecturers.
  In case of selection employer must provide letter of consent and approved leave for training purpose which the candidate must submit.

- **Personal Skills**
  - Collaborative skills
  - Respectful communication
  - Creativity & Innovativeness
  - Self-responsibility
  - Ability to autonomously adapt to unfamiliar surroundings
  - Resilience
  - Ability to constructively question established structures
  - Ability to self-reflect
  - Aspiration to hold a leading position within a museum, heritage site or art space and to act as a multiplier

- **Mandatory participation in evaluation formats**
  TheMuseumsLab understands itself as a continuously learning programme. The Fellows' contributions are crucial to that process of constant evolution of the programme. Therefore, all Fellows commit to actively participate in comprehensive evaluations formats throughout the programme and its conclusion.

- **Language skills**
  Adequate language proficiency in English (written and spoken) is essential in order to participate actively in the programme.

Please note: for more information on the past TheMuseumsLab editions kindly visit:
TheMuseumsLab YouTube Playlist

TheMuseumsLab

Application Procedure

- **The application must include the following documents:**
    - The completed TheMuseumsLab application form
    - A short CV (in english, max 2 pages)
    - A letter of recommendation

- **The documents' name should contain your name, country of residence and the type of document**
  (e.g., Lastname_firstname_Germany_CV)

Please make sure you have read all application documents carefully before submitting your application.

Please note: Completeness of the application will affect the applicant's eligibility as a participant.

After the review by the selection committee, the invited participants will be notified by end of April 2024.

Please submit your application via the DAAD portal the latest by 29 January 2024.

Please note: If you have technical difficulties uploading your application, please document these with screenshots and reach out to the technical support directly. Applications via email cannot be accepted.

portal@daad.de

For any other questions regarding the application please contact the DAAD-TheMuseumsLab-Team
mlab.berlin@daad.de

We are looking forward to your applications!

For more information and submission of applications kindly follow this link:
www.daad.de/go/en/stipa57655437

Please note: The implementation of the programme is subject to the approval of funds.

DAAD
Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

MUSEUM FÜR NATURKUNDE
BERLIN

finnanced by

Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media

Federal Foreign Office