

REGION OF CULTURE - GOZO 2025

Call for Artistic Director



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Background

As of January 2022, Malta became subdivided into six regions: Għawdex, Tramuntana, Punent, Lvant, Xlokk, and Port. These Regional Councils were established and set-up through the amendment of the Local Councils Act in 2019 which led to a change in name as well in its composition. The Gozo Regional Council is comprised of fourteen localities – Rabat Citta' Victoria, Fontana, Għajnsielem, Għarb, Għasri, Ta' Kercem, Munxar, Nadur, Qala, San Lawrenz, Ta' Sannat, Ix-Xagħra, Ix-Xewkija u Iż-Żebbuġ (Għawdex).

The Ministry for the National Heritage, Arts, and Local Government establishes the roles of Regional Councils through regulations, developed in consultation with the Local Councils Association.

The Regional Council comprises a Regional President, Deputy President, Executive Secretary, fourteen Mayors representing localities within the Region, and ten additional members. Dr. Samuel Azzopardi presides over the Gozo Regional Council, with Ms. Rita Mifsud Attard serving as the Executive Secretary. Mr. Noel Formosa, Mayor of San Lawrenz, holds the position of Deputy President. The Administration Office of the Gozo Regional Council is currently located in Victoria, Gozo. The Regional Tribunal operates under the jurisdiction of this Region and convenes at the Għarb Local Council.



39,287

7.6% of Malta's population
(2021, National Statistics Office)

About Region of Culture

The Regions of Culture started back in 2022 where all six regions together with the Local Government Division and the Local Councils' Association (LCA) convened to create this initiative. Here an agreement was made with all parties for this to occur with the order decided on through a process of chance as all six regions placed their names for this opportunity. In 2023 the title was awarded to the Southern Region and in 2024 this was awarded to the Eastern Region, the Region currently holding the title. Both Regions created a year long programme of arts, creativity and innovation whilst keeping key factors of their environment, community and space as well as their strategies. Through this they fostered a legacy for their Regions one that we wish to create for our Region for the year 2025.

The Gozo Regional Council is therefore in search of an Artistic Director (AD), to champion its mission and vision by crafting, developing, and executing an artistic and cultural agenda for the forthcoming Region of Culture 2025. Collaborating closely with the Regional Council President, Executive Secretary, and Regional Cultural Manager, the Artistic Director will spearhead this initiative. The Region of Culture, spearheaded by the Parliamentary Secretariat for Local Government under the Ministry for the National Heritage, the Arts and Local Government, aims to spotlight the region's distinct cultural identity through partnerships among its communities, Local Councils, organizations, artists, and stakeholders. This cultural endeavour rotates among the six regions, showcasing their unique heritage and creativity.

Duties & Responsibilities

- To provide artistic leadership
- To oversee an artistic vision and set strategic goals for the Region of Culture in collaboration with the Gozo Regional Council;
- To identify and select the artistic content for the programme.
- To ensure the participation of creative practitioners and enterprises, organisations, Local Councils from within the region;
- To enable and support collaboration between Local Councils, organisations and creatives.
- Ensure that Gozo's Regional Cultural Strategy's main themes are covered with the artistic programme, including ongoing initiatives such as the European Region of Gastronomy title for Gozo 2026 and the bid for the European Capital of Culture 2031
- Focus on the development of local artistic talent.
- Attract considerable audiences in pursuit of strategies designed for audience development.
- Ensure that the Region's heritage, culture and traditions are preserved, highlighted and celebrated.
- Work closely with the marketing team regarding communications, public relations and social media.
- Be in line with the Gozo Regional Council's policies and adherence to public procurement policies.
- Attending and supervising all scheduled rehearsals and performances
- Be required to speak publicly about the Region of Culture.
- Devote whatever time may be necessary for the success of the Region of Culture programme.
- Be based in Malta at least 3 weeks before and during the events as part of the Programme of Activities
- Respect set budgets, time frames and deadlines by the Gozo Regional Council.
- Perform any other related duties as assigned by the Regional Board

Skills & Experience Required

- A Level 6 qualification with a minimum of 180 ECTS, or equivalent in any of the following areas, or similar – European Studies or Creativity and Innovation or Tourism Studies; or
- Level 5 qualification with a minimum of 60 ECTS or equivalent in any of the following areas, or similar – European Studies or Creativity and Innovation or Tourism Studies together with related/relevant management track record of 5 years' work experience in the sector; or
- Experience in artistic direction or creative production, showcasing a strong and diverse portfolio demonstrating artistic excellence and vision for the arts;
- Proven track record in arts and culture development within the community with a passion for advancing the regional cultural vision and initiatives;
- Strong project management skills and strategic thinking capabilities;
- Knowledge and access to national and international cultural networks and familiarity with the cultural and creative sectors of Malta and Gozo;
- A proven understanding, track record and commitment to audience development, to develop learning and participatory opportunities;
- Excellent communication skills for internal and external presentations, debates and media engagements;

- Familiarity with contemporary and emerging arts disciplines, both locally and internationally;
- Up-to-date knowledge of cultural policy, copyright laws, intellectual property and regulations
- Awareness and understanding of audience expectations, patterns and emerging trends in the arts sector;
- Fluency in English and Maltese;
- Proficiency in communications and dissemination techniques across written, oral and visual media;
- Knowledge of marketing, advertising, and public relations strategies to enhance cultural participation;
- Knowledge of the technical aspects required to compose, produce and perform works of music, dance, visual arts, theatre and other forms of artistic expression.
- Experience in managing high profile cultural events, productions, and festivals.
- Ability to generate ideas and manage and deliver projects from conception to completion.
- General awareness of office procedures and familiarity with Government Procurement Regulations.
- Related qualifications will be considered an asset

Compensation & Start Date

The appointed candidate will enter into a fifteen (15) month service contract starting in October 2024. Reporting to the Executive Secretary and the Regional Cultural Manager, they will be responsible for crafting the artistic programme and collaborating closely with the Regional Cultural Manager for Gozo, maintaining flexible working hours to accommodate the demands of the role.

Adherence to the regulations of the Malta Public Service is mandatory.

The services to be provided by the Artistic Director shall be capped at €30,000.00 (incl. VAT) for the duration of the fifteen (15) months. Payment will be processed monthly by the Gozo Regional Council upon receipt of a valid VAT-inclusive invoice and a monthly report submitted to the Executive Secretary and the Regional Cultural Manager. Upon settlement, the candidate must provide a VAT receipt to the Contracting Authority.

The selected candidate may engage in negotiations with the Gozo Regional Council for additional commitments, whether artistic or otherwise, with other organizations and/or in other countries, provided such engagements do not directly conflict with their commitment to ensuring the successful and visionary direction of the Gozo Regional Council. The details of such engagements and commitments will be discussed prior to finalizing the agreement pertaining to the Artistic Director's engagement.

This agreement and employment will be subject to the Ministry of Local Heritage, the Arts and Local Government confirming the Gozo Region as the Region of Culture 2025. The individual chosen will be paid pro-rata to the work created.

Applications

Interested individuals are invited to submit a detailed curriculum vitae and portfolio showcasing their artistic achievements, together with a letter detailing their motivation and aspiration to serve as the Artistic Director for Gozo's Region of Culture 2025. This letter should outline the candidate's strengths, as well as the objectives they aim to accomplish in this role.

Applications should be addressed to the Executive Secretary of the Gozo Regional Council and sent to regjun-ghawdex.dlg@gov.mt. The deadline for submissions is **13th September 2024**

Late applications will not be considered.

Further information + context

Arts Council Malta - Strategy 2025

<https://artscouncilmalta.gov.mt/files/uploads/misc/STRATEGY%202025%20ENG.pdf>

Gozo Region - Gozo European Region of Gastronomy 2026 Bid Book

<https://regjunghawdex.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Gozo-Region-Bid-for-Gozo-2026-Web-Res.pdf>

Arts Council Malta - Regional Cultural Strategy for Gozo

<https://artscouncilmalta.gov.mt/files/uploads/misc/Arts%20Council%20Malta%20Regional%20Cultural%20Strategy%20Booklet%20Gozo%20EN.pdf>

GRDA - The Gozo Regional Development Strategy

https://grda.mt/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/GRDA_RDS-Document_A4_VH_2023_Web.pdf



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