**PRESS RELEASE**

**Kampala, February 2021**

FOTEA and the Department of Journalism and Communication at Makerere University are pleased to announce a student exhibition at the College of Humanities and Social Sciences opening on February 4th, 2021.

The exhibition will showcase the outcomes of the “Photography and Visual Literacy for Active Citizenship” programme which has been running for a year supported through [Culture at Work Africa](https://www.cultureatworkafrica.net/) and co-funded by the European Union.

The programme was developed by FOTEA in collaboration with the Makerere University Department of Journalism and Communication (DJC) to supplement the photography education provided to students. Participants took part in a series of in-depth workshops, lectures and talks. The focus of the programme was to develop visual literacy skills, as well as to encourage learning about the history of photography on the African continent, critical and creative thinking, project research and idea development techniques. It also encompassed technical skills, and encouraged participants to engage with Ugandan history and archives and work on projects documenting local communities and looking into cultural, political and social issues.

The exhibition will kick off with a small opening ceremony on February 4th where we’ll endeavour to follow the COVID-19 standard operating procedures. This will be followed by an exhibition walkabout where some of the students will talk about their work and experiences. The programme will have panel discussions run by some of the students that participated in the programme, on February 4th and 5th.

The exhibition is planned to run until February 28th, 2021 so that more students can engage with it.

**About FOTEA:**

The Uganda Press Photo Award (UPPA) was conceived in 2012 to offer support and appreciation for Ugandan photojournalists and photographers who sometimes take great risks to document the world around us and keep us informed. Our aim is to promote the best of today’s photojournalism in Uganda and support visual literacy, as well as encouraging a new generation of photographers by focusing on photographic education through our programmes. We also seek to remind the viewing public of the importance of a vibrant press for democratic development.

As of 2016 UPPA is a program of the FOTEA Foundation, which was established to provide umbrella support for the UPPA and its satellite activities. These include most recently the East African Photography Award, the Young Photographers’ Award and Young Photographer Mentorship Programme, workshops, film screenings, portfolio reviews and exhibitions. Through all of this FOTEA strives to bring together photographers and other visual storytellers to encourage unique voices that document and engage with social change. With the East African Photography Award we’re looking to up the ante as we not only foster some healthy competition with our neighbours but also share our different worlds and perspectives.

[www.ugandapressphoto.org](http://www.ugandapressphoto.org/)

[www.fotea.org](http://www.fotea.org)

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**About Makerere University Department of Journalism and Communication:**

The department has for over three decades maintained a vibrant training programme in Journalism and Communication education in Uganda. The Department aims to continuously improve the quality of academic programmes, teaching, learning and research through regular curriculum and staff evaluations, controlled enrolment, student support services and staff development. We are home to the Bachelor’s of Journalism and Communication; the Postgraduate Diploma in Investigative Journalism; and the Master’s in Journalism and Communication. We also offer a Doctoral degree in Journalism and Communication. Toensure quality training, a number of facilities are available at the Department. They include [journalism@mak](mailto:journalism@mak), an online news platform run by students; a training radio station (107 Campus Fm) for applied broadcasting; multimedia laboratories; as well as audio-visual equipment for multimedia production. Further, students undergo field attachment (Internship), which is an apprenticeship program geared towards bridging class training with field experience. Before graduation in the Fourth year, our students get an opportunity to work in print, radio, public relations, television, and advertising.

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