



2022

# Annual Report



## VISION

Creative activism is honored as a human right, and a source of social change.



## MISSION

Build creative programs for activist artists promoting human rights around the world.



## WHO WE ARE

IHRAF is an international arts and human rights organization. We have presented over **1500** artists from **97** countries and **37** US states in live performances, on literary and book publishing platforms, through hosting International and youth fellowships, and by opening the IHRAF African Secretariat, with offices in Ibadan, Nigeria; Gweru, Zimbabwe; and Nairobi, Kenya.

The next three years will be even more ambitious. IHRAF will expand our book publishing platform, increase the frequency of our literary magazine publishing and pay the writers (moving us into the **top 8%** of literary magazines which do so), and broaden our reach through global partnerships, fellowships, ambassadorships, direct-action grants to artists-at-risk, awards, and creative support to help artists when help is needed most. We will expand our interactions with politicians, government agencies and non-art activists, so creative activists' voices ring louder in the halls of power. And we will continue our work producing live events, classes, workshops, and partnerships which expand audiences, engagement, and outlets for creators around the world.

**Through amplifying artists' voices on a global scale, we will make our shared vision of positive social change a reality.**



# OUR INITIATIVES

- IHRAF Publishes
  - Book Publishing
  - Literary Magazine
  - Translations
- Fellowships & Awards
  - 2 International Fellowships and 2 Youth Fellowships
  - 12 Creative Awards
- Live Events
  - Annual Festival
  - Multiple interim events across the world, both in person and online



# OUR IMPACT IN 2022

## 2022 Recap

I want to thank everyone for another great year! We couldn't have done it without our artists from Algeria to New Zealand, Uganda to Macao and everywhere in between. And we especially want to thank you, for being a part of our outreach, growth and international impact. We hope to see you in the new year,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Blair".

**Founding Executive Director**  
*International Human Rights Art Festival*

# IN 2022 WE . . .

- [IHRAF Publishes: Books](#) — Published four books with content generated from our programming— including writers from 30+ countries.
- [IHRAF Publishes: Literary Magazine](#) — Published 60 literary pieces (poetry, short story and essay) from 70+ countries.
- [IHRAF Publishes: Translations](#)— Continued IHRAF's translation program to further highlight works from around the world — with pieces in Arabic, Romanian, Hindi, Ukrainian, Dutch, Spanish, Chinese, Russian and more.
- [IHRAF African Secretariat](#) — Inaugurated two more offices in our African Secretariat, adding Kenyan and Zimbabwean offices to our original seat in Nigeria, which published 50 interviews with creators from around Africa, initiated writing prizes, literary collections, award-winning videos, teen and youth workshops and worked with creators from Somalia to Ghana to Uganda.
- [Youth Fellows](#) — Supported youth fellows who provided writing on issues of concern, collected three anthologies of youth writers opining on the most pressing social issues, and sponsored a youth art exhibit. IHRAF also published pieces from youth writers around the world.
- [IHRAF International Fellows](#) — Supported fellows from Tunisia and Kenya who presented online programming, video works, literary submissions and initiated and edited writing works from within their networks.
- [IHRAF Art of Unity Award Creative Award](#) — Received 278 entries from 52 countries and 26 US States, including more than 90 from creators under 21.
- [IHRAF Creators of Justice Award](#) — Received over 228 submissions, from 58 countries and 29 US States, including 45 from creators under 21.

*Phew!*

And we're excited about continuing and expanding our programming, working with artists from Tunisia to Bangladesh, Kenya to Indiana (USA) and everywhere in between in 2023!

# WHAT WE ARE DOING IN 2023

IHRAF has grown from its humble beginnings as a once a year performance festival into an international movement for activist artists promoting human rights. We've developed a strong network of artists who are ready for their voices to be heard. Now, it's time to scale our resources to spread artists' messages more broadly.

In 2023 we will become **the International Human Rights Arts Movement**. In line with our growth, we have an ambitious plan to continue to scale our initiatives to impact more artists around the world. In turn we provide the platforms for social change through the arts.

- IHRAF strengthens our platforms
  - Plan to be in the 8% of literary magazine publishing platforms that PAY our artists
  - More translated works – bringing unheard voices from around the world
  - More books from authors around the world
  - Go global with IHRAF's message – expanding into Africa, Asia, Central and South America and Europe – in person and through publishing
- Scaling our organization, sustainably
  - Hire a Director of Development
  - Transform from a volunteer organization into a multi-staff member organization

# SUPPORT US NOW AS WE BECOME THE INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS ARTS MOVEMENT

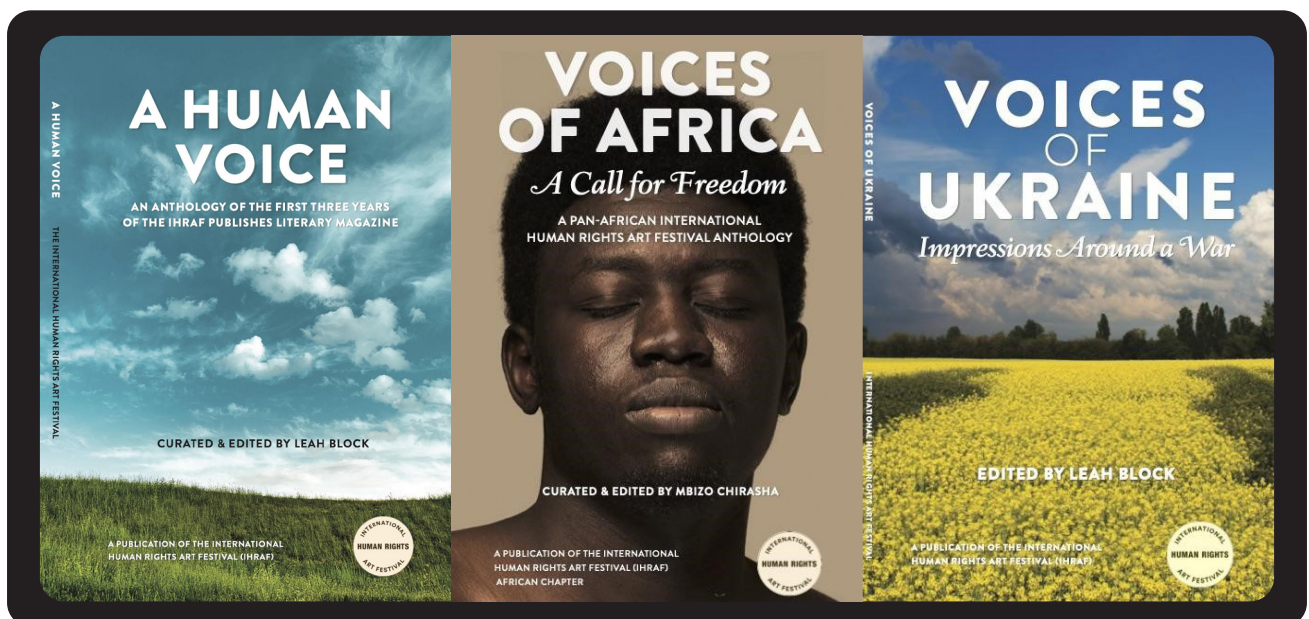
We've reached over 1000+ artists so far, help us make their message have an impact.

This year we received our first 2 government grants totalling \$25,000. We also met our Giving Tuesday Goal of \$5,000. But to meet our ambitious goals for 2023, we will need your help!

**Our growth campaign fundraising goal is \$25,000. Can you contribute to help us reach our goal?**

Donate now at [ihraf.org/donate](https://ihraf.org/donate)

## YOU CAN CHECK OUT OUR LATEST BOOKS HERE



# CONTACT INFO

 [hello@ihraf.org](mailto:hello@ihraf.org)

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