

**For Immediate Release**

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## University of Tartu Museum Wins the UMAC Award 2020



The 2020 UMAC Award was won by the project 'A Hundred Faces of the University of Tartu', submitted by the Tartu University Museum, Estonia. The award was accepted by Mariann Raisma, Director of the Museum, during an online ceremony held today on youtube.

The objective of the University of Tartu Museum's project was to portray the University through encounters between current scholars and historical objects. In the course of the project, a photo exhibition called "Get Your Spirit Ready! A Hundred Faces of the University of Tartu" was mounted, and a book called *A Hundred Faces of the University of Tartu* was published. The latter focused on 100 objects from the University of Tartu collections which enabled the scholars to describe their fields of activity. The exhibition travelled to the University's various buildings around Estonia, thereby introducing colleagues to each other, and the University's outstanding scholars to the students. Now the exhibition is part of a new permanent exhibition called *The University of Our Lives* at the Museum.

In second place were the "Egyptian Coffins Project" by the Fitzwilliam Museum (Cambridge University, UK) and the "Return of Cultural Heritage Project: Manchester Museum Repatriation" by the Manchester Museum (University of Manchester, UK).

UMAC, the International Committee of ICOM for university museums and collections, established the UMAC Award in 2016. It is presented annually to a university museum or collection in the world whose projects or initiatives demonstrate innovation and creativity, excellence and transferability of ideas that can be adopted by other university museums and collections, and that have significant impact on the host university, the community or society at large. Nominations for the Award may cover all areas of museums and collections theory and practice, including exhibition, education, conservation, teaching, research, management and business models, design and architecture, ethics, service to the university and the public, strategic planning, and advances in museology.

UMAC looks forward to receiving nominations for UMAC 2021, which will be announced next month. We would like to promote every promising aspect of all of the university museums worldwide.

Akiko Fukuno, Chair of the UMAC Award Committee