

For Immediate Release
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UMAC AWARDS 2025: FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

Tokyo, Japan—The UMAC Award 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.

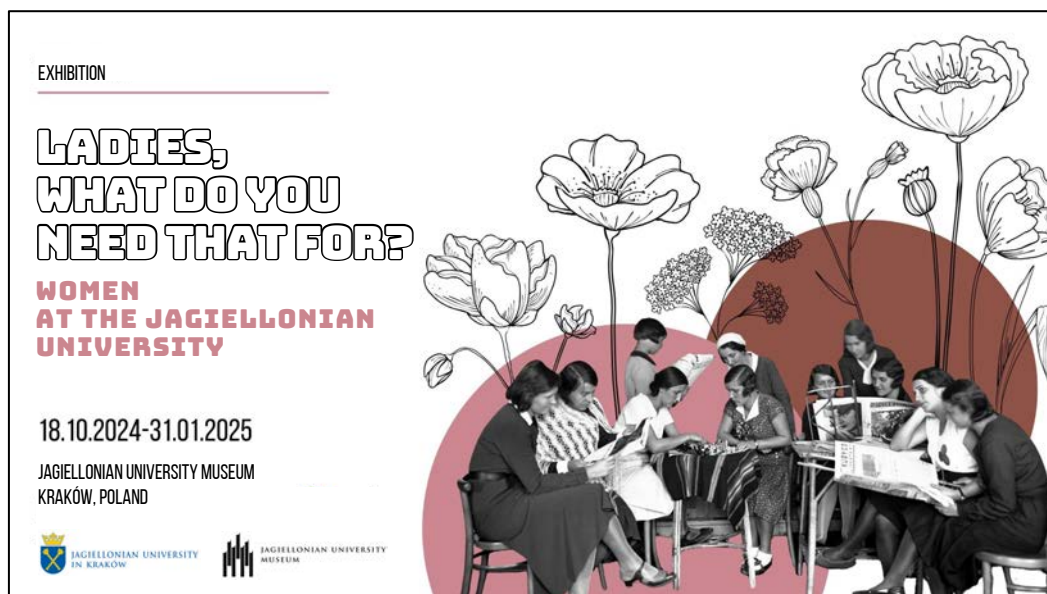
The Award will be announced during ICOM Dubai, on UMAC's ICs Day on November 15, at the American University of Sharjah.

Akiko Fukuno
Chair of the UMAC Award Committee

The finalists for the 2025 UMAC Award are (in alphabetical order of the institution):

Jagiellonian University Museum

Project Title: "Ladies, what do you need that for? Women at the Jagiellonian University"



In 1894, the first female students were admitted to the Jagiellonian University, opening the doors of higher education to women. But does this milestone mean women were entirely absent from the University before then? What about Queen Jadwiga, its co-founder? Or the many women who worked behind the scenes - cooks, caretakers, administrators, whose contributions have long gone unrecognized? The 130th anniversary of this historic admission offered a perfect opportunity to reflect on the often-overlooked presence of women in the University's past. To honor their legacy and spark conversation, we created a special exhibition that brings their stories to light.

University of Canterbury Teece Museum of Classical Antiquities

Project Title: **Accessibility Project**



In 2024 the UC Teece Museum expanded efforts to diversify its services by undertaking an Accessibility Project comprised of an audit and a new phase of creating audio descriptions. The Audit assessed museum facilities and procedures to understand what changes could be made to make the Teece more accessible to members of the Deaf and disabled community. The audit also aimed to provide a framework for other heritage collections to learn from and apply to their own contexts. Similarly, the Audio Descriptions sought to increase investment in the creation of resources designed specifically for the Blind and low-vision community.

University of Navarra Museum (MUN)

Project Title: **Arts and Life**



ARTS
& LIFE



●●● Museo Universidad de Navarra

The nomination entitled "Arts and Life" demonstrates how specialists in Palliative Care at the University of Navarra utilize the Museum of Contemporary Art as a key tool for advancement in the scientific field, university teaching, and transferring knowledge to society. The theater play "Cicely and David" is the most recent initiative complemented by innovative research and teaching activities, where exhibitions and artworks from our Collection serve as resources for members of the ATLANTES Research Group, a collaborating center of the World Health Organization (WHO), which belongs to the Center for Research in Social Sciences and Humanities at the University of Navarra. The group has entrusted its progress in the university museum since its inauguration in 2015 to the present day. With proven results, they will continue to do so and encourage researchers from all fields to rely on art for their development.