

TOP CHARITY Venice Experience.

The Polish model of philanthropy enters the international stage for the first time

The strategic partnership between Omenaa Foundation and UNESCO opens a new chapter in the development of the philanthropic model created by Omenaa Mensah. Its first international expression will be **TOP CHARITY Venice Experience**, taking place on 10 September in Venice. It will be the first international edition of TOP CHARITY and a symbolic step in bringing to the global stage a model that combines philanthropy, art, culture, education and private capital.

From the outset, TOP CHARITY has been built around the idea that philanthropy can be a tool for long-term social change, while also creating a space for cooperation between business leaders, artists, collectors, foundations and social organisations. Across five editions, the initiative has raised more than **EUR 55 million** and supported **238 projects**.

All previous editions of TOP CHARITY have taken place in historic locations in Poland. Contemporary art entered into dialogue with history, while places rooted in the past opened themselves to new audiences and new functions. The aim is not only to preserve architecture, but also to educate audiences, bring the stories of these places back into focus and strengthen their relevance for future generations. The next stage in the development of this idea is Venice, inscribed together with its lagoon on the **UNESCO World Heritage List**. It is a place where history, heritage, contemporary art and international cultural exchange coexist.

TOP CHARITY Venice Experience will demonstrate how philanthropy, contemporary art and cultural education can work together to support the protection of heritage and give it renewed meaning for future generations.

The central theme of this year's event will be **Ethiopia and its cultural heritage**, further developing the Europe-Africa dialogue that is central to the work of Omenaa Foundation. The programme will feature works by artists from around the world, including Andy Warhol, Tegene Kunbi, Cornelius Annor, Ewa Czwartos and Xawery Wolski. The event will bring together art, music, philanthropy and international cooperation.

TOP CHARITY Venice Experience is therefore not only the first international edition of the initiative, but also the first event to demonstrate the direction of the next stage in the development of Omenaa Mensah's ecosystem: **from a model developed in Poland, Europe and Africa to a platform for cooperation on a global scale**. Venice will show that contemporary philanthropy can **protect, create, educate and connect people across borders**.



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