

THE SOVEREIGN ART FOUNDATION



ANNUAL REPORT
JUNE 2017 - MAY 2018



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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

I am delighted to report on what has been a very significant year for The Sovereign Art Foundation.

Over the past 12 months, our Hong Kong-based charitable programme, Make It Better (MIB), has seen huge growth, due in no small part to a generous HK\$5 million grant from The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust. The grant has been used to launch a three-year pilot project, titled 'The Hong Kong Jockey Club Expressive Arts Programme for Children'. A team of dedicated staff have been hired to run this project, led by our first ever in-house Arts Therapist. These increased resources have enabled us to scale up the reach and impact of the MIB programme, by more than doubling the number of workshops provided on a weekly basis and working in local schools as well as community centres.

The launch of a Train-the-trainer programme, in partnership with The University of Hong Kong, (HKU) has allowed us to introduce the benefits of expressive arts to local teachers in the hope that they can use these skills to better support children with special educational needs. A programme of public events and exhibitions is allowing us to effectively spread the message of MIB and make an impact on a community scale. Finally, it is hoped that a research project carried out by the expert staff at The

Centre on Behavioral Health at HKU, the results of which will be published in 2020, is going to further prove the therapeutic benefits of our work.

At the same time, The Sovereign Asian Art Prize continues to grow in scale and prestige. Our 2018 Finalists Exhibition was shown in a professional gallery setting in the iconic H Queen's Building, considered Hong Kong's new 'art hub', attracting an unprecedented 8,000 visitors. The programme also included educational outreach in the form of a sell-out panel discussion at Christie's Hong Kong. The auctions raised a significant amount for MIB as well as the overseas programmes that we continue to support.

Meanwhile the scope of our work continues to expand through our Students Prizes (more locations are added every year), our appearances at art fairs and various other projects and collaborations. With the assistance of our supporters, we believe we have made a real impact this year both through our contemporary art programming and our charitable projects. As always, we had assistance from many different sponsors, nominators, judges and of course those who have come to our events. We are extremely grateful to you all and look forward to yet another successful year to come.



ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The Sovereign Art Foundation (SAF) is a charity that was established in 2003 in Hong Kong and is now also registered in the UK, Guernsey, Singapore and South Africa. SAF runs the annual Sovereign Asian Art Prize with the purpose of recognising some of the best mid-career artists in the region, while raising money to help disadvantaged children. Since its inception, the Prize has continued to grow in stature – it is now considered the biggest and most prestigious art award within Asia Pacific, having raised over US\$6 million for artists and charities worldwide.



MISSION STATEMENT

The Sovereign Art Foundation has two primary objectives:



To use funds raised to help disadvantaged children, using the arts as rehabilitation, education and therapy.



To give recognition to some of the most important artists of our time through The Sovereign Art Prize.

STRUCTURE

Chairman & Founder
Howard Bilton

Non-Executive Board of Directors

Esther Heer
David Legg
Levina Li
Angela Mackay
Peter Siembab
Tony Tyler
Vita Wong

Managing Director

Tiffany Pinkstone

Art Foundation Team

Amy Cadman
Carol Tsang
Mary-Jane Wong
Joey Lau
Joanne Bae

THE SOVEREIGN ASIAN ART PRIZE



NOMINATION AND JUDGING

Entry to the Prize is by nomination. SAF appoints independent nominators who select the best mid-career artists within their region. The artists can enter up to three pieces of work. Entries are then presented to a panel of judges who select the best 30 artworks.



EXHIBITION, PRIZE AND AUCTION

The 30 works are brought to Hong Kong and exhibited in a public space. The judges select the winner, who is awarded a prize of US\$30,000. The winning piece becomes property of SAF (who then lends the work out to patrons, partners and institutions) and the remaining 29 finalists are auctioned, with the proceeds being split evenly between the artists and SAF.



PUBLIC VOTE

To encourage interaction with the Prize and to increase exposure for the artists, the public are invited to cast their vote online or in person for their favourite piece displayed in the exhibition. This artist is awarded the Public Vote Prize and US\$1,000.



Left

Acapella

Halima Cassell

Grand Prize Winner –
The 2018 Sovereign Asian Art Prize

Right

25th December 2016

Muhammad Onaiz Taji

Public Vote Prize Winner -
The 2018 Sovereign Asian Art Prize



CHARITABLE PROJECTS

Money raised by SAF funds community arts programmes around the region. These programmes have helped thousands of children using art as a way to heal and educate. Different art forms can work as effective therapy for children that have gone or are going through abuse, neglect, family problems and other traumatic events. Art allows children to express themselves in their own way, at their own pace and under their total control. As well as allowing them to share feelings, art allows even the most timid or troubled child to build confidence and

self-esteem. The sponsored arts programmes are also used as a way to engage children and get them involved with the schools and community centres that SAF works with.

Once children are enrolled in the programmes, social teams are able to work with families to confront the core problems while the children go back to school. SAF currently supports arts programmes in Cambodia, Vietnam, Mongolia, Nepal and Sri Lanka.

13,726

Children across the region have received direct support from SAF since 2003, through sponsorship of art projects, charities and the Make It Better project in Hong Kong.

1,081

CNCF - Mongolia

5,987

Child Welfare Scheme - Nepal

582

Make it Better, Individual Projects - Hong Kong

1,749

CNCF - Vietnam

4,089

M'Lop Tapang - Cambodia

27

Mullegama Youth Arts - Sri Lanka

The projects that The Sovereign Art Foundation supports have both direct and indirect beneficiaries.

CHARITY PARTNERS



M'Lop Tapang Arts

Sihanoukville-based charity M'Lop Tapang provides disadvantaged Cambodian children with shelter, medical care, sports and arts programmes, education and training, counselling, family support and protection from all types of abuse. For over nine years, The Sovereign Art Foundation has partnered with M'Lop Tapang to provide arts programs to thousands of children.



Christina Noble Children's Foundation (CNCF)

CNCF works in Vietnam and Mongolia and is dedicated to protecting children at risk of economic and sexual exploitation and ensuring these and other children in need have access to basic care and educational opportunities. As the sole sponsor of the Christina Noble Children's Foundation's Arts and Music Programme, The Sovereign Art Foundation has played a significant role in helping the many disadvantaged Vietnamese and Mongolian children in their care.



The Child Welfare Scheme (CWS)

Since March 2013, The Sovereign Art Foundation has supported CWS to bring art to the children of remote villages in Nepal. More recently, the Sovereign Art Foundation extended its support by bringing art to the street children of Pokhara, and by helping children in Nepal learn and advocate for Child Rights through art.



Without the close support of SAF, this tremendous development and success could not be possible. Over 400 students a month are now enjoying and benefiting from having creativity and arts in their daily lives!

- Maggie Eno, Coordinator at M'Lop Tapang

By creating and exploring different creative techniques and methods of expression, the children develop a real sense of pride in their accomplishments and as they do so, their self-belief grows ever stronger, something which we believe will go a long way towards making them confident, responsible citizens of tomorrow.

- Jo Simmonds, Christina Noble Children's Foundation



SAF supports the Child Welfare Scheme by providing funding for art materials and art trainings for children in remote mountain villages and urban slums in Nepal. Art plays a significant role in early years education and creativity, but above all it brings joy and colour into the lives of children and their community.

- Zein Williams,
Child Welfare Scheme



MAKE IT BETTER

In 2013, The Sovereign Art Foundation (SAF) launched Make It Better (MIB), an initiative that supports children from low-income backgrounds and with special educational needs (SEN) in Hong Kong. MIB works in local schools and community centres to offer children a programme of expressive arts workshops, designed to build self-esteem, confidence, self-awareness and interpersonal skills.

The workshops cater for children aged 6-12 and are led by creative arts therapists and experienced art facilitators, supported by social workers and volunteers. They cover a series of modules based on tangible learning experiences – ‘Self Awareness’, ‘Community’, ‘Interpersonal Skills’ and ‘Exploring Nature’. These modules are delivered using artistic activities and are designed to support each child’s creative and emotional process in a non-judgemental and supportive environment.



In 2015, SAF formed a partnership with the Centre on Behavioural Health, The University of Hong Kong (HKU); and began working with their Masters of Expressive Arts Therapy students to keep up with best-practice techniques, research and evaluation criteria. In 2017, SAF further cemented its partnership with HKU by securing a grant from The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust to launch a three-year ‘train-the-trainer’ programme titled ‘Jockey Club Expressive Arts Programme for Children’. The pioneering programme, which began in August 2017, is led by the MIB team with the support of HKU research staff and aims to train teachers in Hong Kong to integrate principles of expressive arts therapy into their classes, in order to better support children with diagnosed SEN and their classmates.

MAKE IT BETTER PARTNERS



Christian & Missionary Alliance Sun Kei Primary School
F.M.B Chun Li Primary School
Hans Anderson Club
HKSKH Kowloon City Children and Youth Integrated Services Centre
HK TA Wun Tsuen School
Kwun Tong Methodist Social Service
Language Training Programme (PLK) Causeway Bay
Ling Liang Church Sau Tak Primary School
Lok Sing Tong Lau Tak
Meng Tak Catholic School
Our Lady of China Catholic Primary School
Po Leung Kuk, Bank of America Merrill Lynch Children’s Learning Centre
Po Leung Kuk, Sprouts Foundation and HKRU Education Services Centre
Shatin Methodist Primary school
S.K.H. Holy Cross Primary School
Society for Community Organization (SoCO)
The Hub
Wong Tai Sin Catholic Primary School

A close relationship with these experienced partners helps SAF properly understand the specific needs of each community. The organisations and schools provide venues, identify children most in need of the programme and give crucial feedback on the progress of those children.

MIB MILESTONES

During 2017-2018, The Jockey Club Expressive Arts Programme for Children began:



HK\$5 MILLION

SAF was awarded a grant of HK\$5 million from The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, to carry out a three-year expressive-arts empowerment programme.

5

Programme staff, including 1 full-time registered Arts Therapist

62

Teachers attended the Train-the-trainer programme

Participants of the MIB workshops enjoyed nature outings, a visit to the Hong Kong Maritime Museum and special workshops held in partnership with 7-Eleven, Christie's and Hogan Lovells.



香港賽馬會慈善信託基金
The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust
同心同力 共創美好未來 RIDING HIGH TOGETHER



香港大學行為健康教研中心
Centre on Behavioral Health, HKU

10,477

Beneficiaries of the programme, including indirect beneficiaries of community events and seminars

18

Number of schools and community centres serviced by MIB workshops





THE SOVEREIGN ART FOUNDATION STUDENTS PRIZES

The Sovereign Art Foundation Students Prizes celebrate the importance of art in the education system and recognise the quality of art produced by young students across the world. SAF launched the first Sovereign Art Foundation Students Prize in Hong Kong in 2012. The Sovereign Art Foundation Students Prizes invite teachers from secondary schools to nominate their best art students to enter the prize. It is also open to university students in some jurisdictions.

After two rounds of judging, both online and in person, the final shortlisted works are exhibited in a prominent space, usually an art fair, where the public are invited to vote on their favourite piece. The winning students and their schools are awarded with cash prizes. Sovereign Offices have now established additional Students Prizes in Bahrain, Guernsey, the Isle of Man, Malta, Mauritius, Portugal and Singapore, with further Students Prizes planned worldwide



1.



2.



3.



4.



5.



6.



1.

Urban Reflections
Emma Torode

Judges' Prize Winner - The Sovereign Art
Foundation Students Prize, Guernsey 2018

2.

Torment
Charlotte Halsall

Judges' Prize Winner - The Sovereign Art
Foundation Students Prize, Isle of Man 2018

3.

African Modern Fashion
Marie Nancy Milena Sandrine

First Prize Winner - The Sovereign Art Foundation
Students Prize, Mauritius 2018

4.

Valletta 2018
Polina Loginova

First Prize Winner - The Sovereign Art Foundation
Students Prize, Malta 2018

5.

The Floating Civilization
Chen Chunze

Secondary School Winner - The Sovereign Art
Foundation Students Prize, Hong Kong 2018

6.

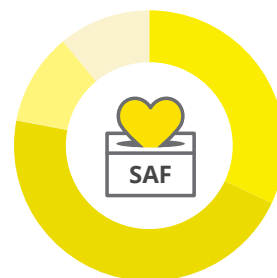
Dance of Life
Yalda Abbasi

First Prize Winner - The Sovereign Art Foundation
Students Prize, Algarve 2018

FINANCIAL REPORT

Where SAF donations come from

SOURCE (HK\$)	AMOUNT
Auction proceeds	1,886,377
General donation	1,282,387
Patronage	435,350
Other fundraising events	466,547
Total	4,070,661



Auction proceeds	46%
General donation	32%
Patronage	11%
Other fundraising events	11%

How the money was spent

BENEFICIARY (HK\$)	AMOUNT
Grants to artists	896,241
Grants to Make It Better programme	1,032,217
Grants to other programmes	1,419,548
Total	3,348,006



Grants to other programmes	42%
Grants to Make It Better project	31%
Grants to artists	27%

Summary of Accounts

Extracted from financial statements audited by Cheng & Cheng Limited.

INCOME (HK\$)	2018 (HK\$)	2017 (HK\$)	2018 VS 2017 (HK\$)	
Auction Dinner tickets income	1,423,220	1,203,828	219,392	18%
Book sale	127,364	181,273	(53,909)	-30%
General donation	1,282,387	2,348,991	(1,066,604)	-45%
Patronage income	435,350	452,500	(17,150)	-4%
Sponsorship income	416,000	780,000	(364,000)	-47%
Sales proceeds and paintings	1,886,377	2,714,015	(827,638)	-30%
Wine event income	339,183	-	339,183	100%
Total	5,909,881	7,680,607	(1,770,726)	-23%
DEDUCT: COST OF INCOME (HK\$)				
Art prize	241,800	80,445	161,355	201%
Book printing	81,661	182,100	(100,439)	-55%
Exhibition and related costs	1,025,541	2,262,338	(1,236,797)	-55%
Reproduce painting	-	55,123	(55,123)	-100%
Transportation, package and storage	88,119	57,785	30,334	52%
Wine event expense	136,278	-	136,278	100%
Total	1,573,399	2,637,791	(1,064,392)	-40%
Add: Other revenue	11,469	11,470	21,527	188%
Deduct: Administrative and other operating expenses	613,739	596,774	16,965	3%
Surplus for the year before distribution	3,755,739	4,457,511	(701,772)	-16%
DEDUCT: DISTRIBUTION (HK\$)				
Artist grants	896,241	1,535,076	(638,835)	-42%
Grants to Make It Better programme	127,833	91,929	35,904	39%
Grants to Jockey Club programme	808,028	-	808,028	100%
Grants - other	611,520	748,570	(137,050)	-18%
Staff cost	904,384	468,485	435,899	93%
Total	3,348,006	2,844,060	503,946	18%
Deficit for the year	407,733	1,613,451	(1,205,718)	-75%
Cash at bank and on hand (HK\$)	5,662,869	5,414,850	248,020	5%

THE FUTURE

The past year has been one of significant development and we are extremely proud of all that has been achieved so far. There is still a long way to go but we are hopeful that the major boost provided by 'The Hong Kong Jockey Club Expressive Arts Programme for Children' has set us on a course for continued success and expansion of the Make It Better programme in Hong Kong.

We look forward to being approached for collaboration opportunities by every kind of children's group, charity and organisation in Hong Kong – together, we can create a more significant overall impact on the lives of

disadvantaged children in the city. Meanwhile, we will continue to dedicate our organisation to promoting the educational and therapeutic benefits of art for all.

We are also excited about further developing our professional arts programmes, not least The Sovereign Asian Art Prize, by continuing to support and give a platform to talented mid-career artists from different arts communities around the region, inviting the public to freely enjoy and engage with their work and building an inclusive space for discourse around Asian contemporary art in Hong Kong.



SPONSORS



CHRISTIE'S



SUTTON

Aēsop.



Civil Registration Service #3

Saule Suleimenova

Finalist - The 2018 Sovereign Asian Art Prize

SovereignArtFoundation.com