

# **Contents**

ABOUT US	5
The Sovereign Art Foundation	4
Message from Chairman	4
Governance and Patrons	9
Our Impact	10
PROGRAMMES	13
Expressive Arts	14
Make It Better Programme	17
lockey Club Expressive Arts Programme for Children	23
F U N D I N G	2.9
Programmes We Fund	3 (
ART PRIZES	3 5
The Sovereign Asian Art Prize	3 6
The Sovereign Art Foundation Students Prizes	4 4
SPECIAL PROJECTS	4.9
Year of the Pig Public Art Project	5 0
FINANCES	5 3
Financial Summary	5 4
SUPPORT	5 7
Patronage Programme	5 8
Bet Involved	6 (



ABOUT US

# The Sovereign Art Foundation

#### **Our Mission**

The Sovereign Art Foundation (SAF) is a charitable organisation founded in 2003 to recognise, support and promote contemporary art talent; and to bring the therapeutic benefits of art to disadvantaged children.

#### We Support Artists

We run contemporary art prizes for professional artists and students of art, the most established being art award in Asia-Pacific. The Prize increases the international exposure of professional artists in the region and supports their development, whilst raising funds through art auctions.

"To recognise, *support and promote* contemporary art talent; and to bring the therapeutic benefits of art to disadvantaged children"

#### We Serve Disadvantaged Children

We run Make It Better (MIB), an initiative supporting children from low-income backgrounds and with special The Sovereign Asian Art Prize - the most prestigious educational needs in Hong Kong through a programme of expressive arts workshops designed to build selfesteem, confidence, self-awareness and interpersonal skills. We also support teachers, social workers and caregivers of these children by introducing them to the therapeutic benefits of art.

> We inspire and empower individuals and communities to find a place for art-making and creative play in their daily lives, by providing free and accessible content and resources.

#### Funding

We provide funding to a portfolio of programmes internationally, including an art-empowerment programme geared towards Vietnam's most vulnerable children, a music and arts programme for orphaned or abandoned children in Mongolia's capital, creative arts healing projects for victims of human trafficking in Cambodia, and a youth-lead pilot project in rural Nepal designed to raise awareness of children's rights.

ABOUT US

# **Message from Chairman**

Things look very different now than they did 12 months ago. Through the latter half of 2019, Hong Kong experienced an extended period of social unrest. Then, the arrival of 2020 brought with it a global pandemic - a crisis that continues to unfold as the year progresses. It has, without doubt, been one of the most challenging years in our Foundation's history.

We forged ahead with The Sovereign Asian Art Prize as usual but due to the COVID-19 outbreak, the gala dinner and live auction could not take place. Instead, our team worked hard to pivot the fundraising strategy and due to their nimble work, we secured an impressive exhibition venue with thanks to our sponsors at K11 HACC, K11 Atelier, and successfully held a series of small-scale events tailored to engage small groups of collectors and supporters, as well as making the most of the digital platforms available to conduct a virtual symposium and announce this year's winning artists. Credit is due to Grand Prize Winner Alex Seton, the first Australian to take the title Prize, for his impressive sculpture Oilstone 05 Corrosion (2019). Art sales were more challenging than usual, but thankfully, we still managed to raise substantial funds for many of the artists and programmes we support.

Meanwhile, the pandemic crisis has disproportionately affected the poorest elements of society in Hong Kong. Throughout the lockdown, our Make It Better (MIB) programme continued its work, and in addition to switching workshops online, found new ways to assist beneficiaries, such as distributing packs of art materials to children and their families at home. The Hong Kong Jockey Club Expressive Arts Programme for children is approaching its end, having served thousands of children and hundreds of teachers over the past three years. But there is still lots to be done. The final data will soon be gathered and processed, and the team will be planning a big event to share the results with experts far and wide. With the support of The Hong Kong Jockey Club Trust, we have successfully scaled up our programme, our focus will now be deciding how to use the results of this programme to further our work and our impact.

Our thoughts go out to the individuals and organisations around the world that have been adversely affected by this unprecedented turn of events, and to those who have sadly lost loved ones amidst this most heartbreaking of circumstances, our deepest condolences.

As an organisation we have always believed in the power of multi-agency collaboration. As we look to 2021, we continue to seek opportunities to partner with other charities, NGOs an expert within the fields of art therapy and holistic education with the aim of providing the most comprehensive support to our beneficiaries in Hong Kong. Though the future may seem uncertain this belief holds firm - as ever, we are stronger together.

Thank you to those who supported us over this past year - sponsors, nominators, Prize judges, artists; and of course, those who came to our events and donated to our cause. Your involvement means more now than ever, and with you support, we look forward to a brighter future in 2021.

**Howard Bilton** Chairman and Founder



ABOUT US

### Governance

#### Chairman and Founder

Howard Bilton

#### **Managing Director**

Tiffany Pinkstone

#### **Executive Director**

Amy Cadman

#### **Non-Executive Directors**

Angela Mackay David Legg Esther Heer Levina Li Peter Siembab Sara Mao Tony Tyler

#### The Sovereign Art Foundation Team

Beth Corner Christy Chung Georgina Angus Joanne Bae

#### Make It Better Team

Head of Programme Design and Lead Art Therapist Mimi Tung

#### Programme Team

Christina Lum Judith Lau Julia Choi Sum Chan Yana Ng

## **Patrons**

#### Gold

Aaharn by David Thomson

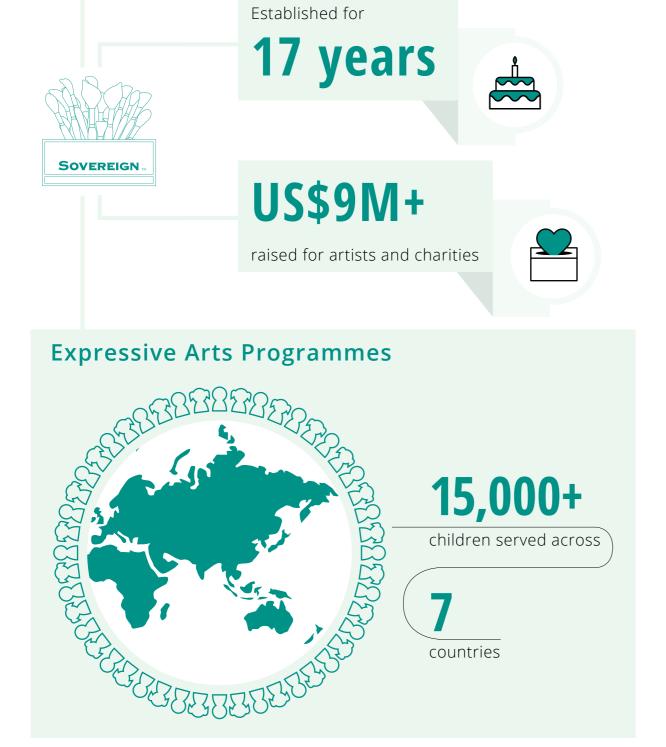
#### Silver

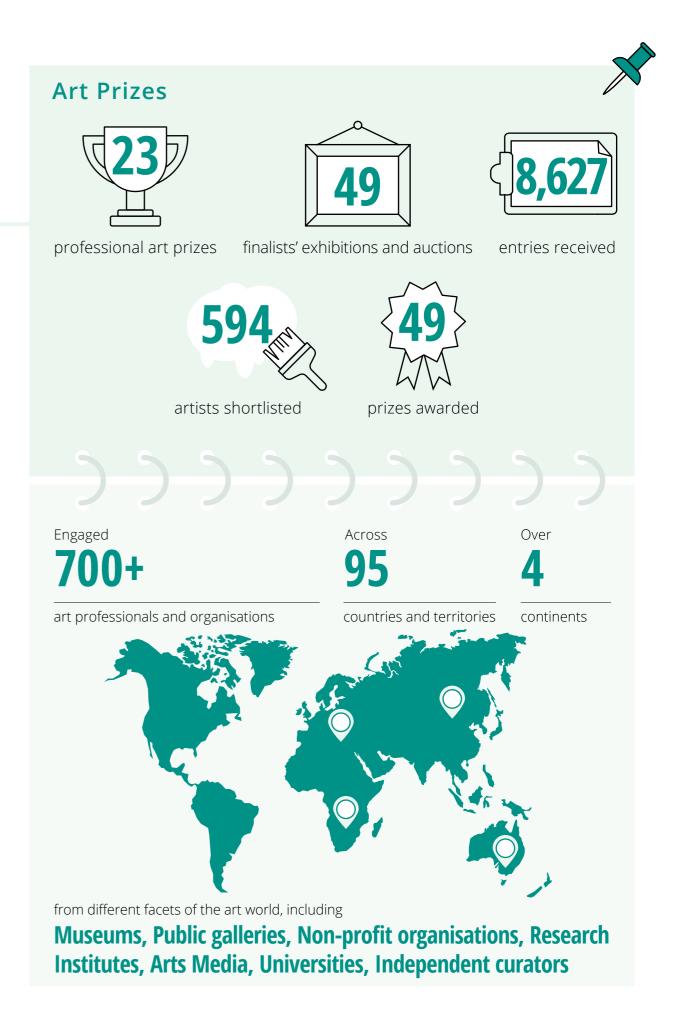
Esther Maria Heer-Zacek IPG Pay Nicole Schoeni Susie Rippingall

Angela Mackay Coenraad and Kerry Jonker David Legg Dean and Angie Locke Espen Larsen Gushi Sethi IR Guerrieri Magnus McGlashan Mark Cullinan Paul Cadman Peter and Ana Siembab Rob Schlipper and Claire Young Sarah and David Kidd Susee Tang Tom and Chai Hall Tony and Charlotte Tyler Vita Wong

ABOUT US

# **Our Impact To Date**





ABOUT US - THE SOVEREIGN ART FOUNDATION - ANNUAL REPORT 11



PROGRAMMES

# **Expressive Arts**



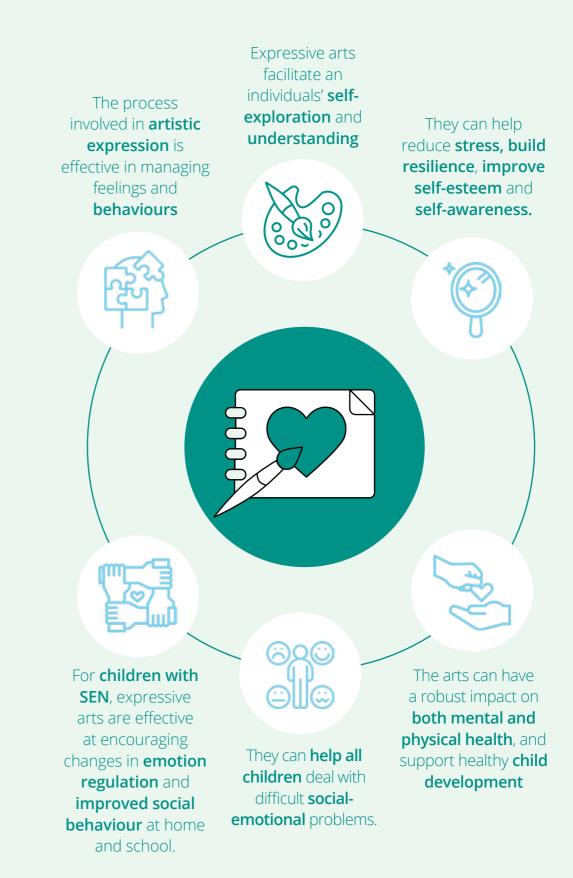
"The expressive arts combine the visual arts, movement, drama, music, writing and other creative processes to foster deep personal growth and community development...By integrating the arts processes and allowing one to flow into another, we gain access to our inner resources for healing, clarity, illumination and creativity."

- International Expressive Arts Therapy Association (IEATA)

Our charitable programmes use the creative process of artmaking to help our beneficiaries achieve personal growth and wellbeing. Our work is rooted in the principles therapists carefully design our programme content of expressive arts therapy, an integrative profession that combines different art modalities with psychology to bring about empowerment, healing, and change in the lives of individuals, families and communities.

Our team is led by registered expressive arts therapists who are experts in this discipline. Our and work closely with our beneficiaries to foster their engagement in this therapeutic process.

### Research Shows That...



PROGRAMMES - EXPRESSIVE ARTS THE SOVEREIGN ART FOUNDATION - ANNUAL REPORT



PROGRAMMES

## **Make It Better**

In 2013, 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 free expressive arts workshops, designed to build self-esteem, confidence, self-awareness and interpersonal skills. MIB programme workshops run for 24 weeks annually. They are led by expressive arts therapists and experienced art facilitators, supported by

social workers and volunteers. In addition, MIB provides support to social workers and caregivers of children with SEN, by introducing them to the therapeutic benefits of art and nurturing a culture of peer support. Community workshops and exhibitions are run by MIB to serve to educate the public and further promote the advantages of the programme; and ongoing collaborations with local universities and research professionals aid in its continuous evaluation and development.

### Aims and Objectives

To bring the therapeutic benefits of expressive arts to children from low-income backgrounds/with special educational needs (SEN) in Hong Kong, fostering personal growth and wellbeing.

To empower social workers, teachers and caregivers of children with SEN by providing access to education and training around expressive arts methods and nurturing a culture of peer support.

To promote the benefits of expressive arts to the Hong Kong public, engaging them with free resources and events and advancing the development of local communities through arts.

To advocate for the integration of expressive arts programming across the community sector in Hong Kong, by promoting and facilitating discourse, supporting research and partnering with similar organisations.

### **Beneficiaries**

Children are recruited through our communications to schools and community centres that have expressed an interest in our service and children can be enrolled by their teacher, social worker or their caregiver at home.



Aged 6-12 years old

Diagnosed or suspected SEN



From a low-income background

Living in target areas in Hong Kong

### **Special Educational Needs**

Special Educational Needs (SEN) is a term referring to children who need special educational support due to learning or adjustment difficulties. SEN includes Attention Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), dyslexia (the most common), autism, mental illness, intellectual and/or physical disabilities and other deficits such as visual, hearing, and speech and language impairments.

### Child Poverty and SEN in Hong Kong

A significant proportion of Hong Kong's children face hardships and inadequate support to thrive. Extra-curricular activities are a luxury most cannot afford, perpetuating a cycle whereby children who grow up in low-income households tend to have less access to opportunities and therefore are more likely to remain poor in adulthood.

Children with special learning needs are considered as a substantial and vulnerable group of individuals in Hong Kong. The rapidly rising prevalence of children with SEN highlights a growing need for research and resources for this population of children, in order to mitigate

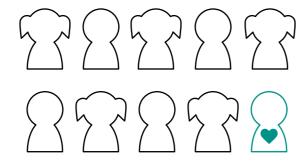
massive economic and educational strain to society. This includes exploring interventions and strategies that aim to improve well-being of children with SEN.

Parents and other family members who are taking care of a child with SEN often face higher levels of stress. These stresses often impact the quality and stability of family relationships making supportive and caring parenting more challenging. In addition to stress, a wide range of negative social and psychological effects, including poorer social and interpersonal relationships, frustration and feelings of guilt, depression and reduced self-esteem, are experienced by these caregivers.

# 23% of children in Hong Kong live below the poverty line.



# 10% of the Hong Kong schoolaged population are classified as having SEN.



Sources: Hong Kong Poverty Situation Report (tbc) Hong Kong Audit Commission, 2018.

### Programme Content

MIB workshops cover a series of modules based on tangible learning experiences.

Self-AwarenessInterpersonal SkillsCommunityExploring Nature

These modules are delivered using artistic activities and are designed to support each child's creative and emotional process in a non-judgmental and supportive environment.

### **Self-Awareness Activities**



#### **Emotion Check-in Wall**

The children take part in an opening ritual every time they attend a workshop. They are encouraged to express their feelings or energy level through use of a rhythm, a gesture, a drawing or a colour.



#### **Calming Bottles**

The children decorate their bottle with calming symbols and colours. Shaking the bottle and watching the glitter rise then settle soothes their emotions and reminds them to remain calm.



The children explore happiness and excitement, weaving a net together with happy memories that they can name. They enjoy working together on this collaborative activity.



The children explore the three elements of mindfulness (feeling as grounded as a mountain, fresh as a flower and calm as a lake) by imagining themselves in a comfortable and natural environment.

PROGRAMMES - MAKE IT BETTER

THE SOVEREIGN ART FOUNDATION - ANNUAL REPORT



PROGRAMMES

# **Caring for the Caregivers**

In 2019, the Caring for the Caregivers programme received funding from The Rosebud Foundation to launch a new programme providing therapeutic programme took place over a 10-week period during which caregivers participated in therapy groups. Sessions were aimed at equipping them with specific skills and a mindset grounded in the principles of expressive arts.

Participants were able to engage with a Child-Parent Relationship Therapy model that focuses on forming a bridge to better communication with their children: support to caregivers of children with SEN. The enhancing parental understanding and learning how to better handle their children's behaviours, while demonstrating empathy and respect for their children. The group setting provided a safe and non-judgmental platform for caregivers to reflect on their own personal experiences and encouraged them to share in a group environment, allowing caregivers and parents to learn from each other.

### Aims and Objectives

To bring the therapeutic benefits of expressive arts to caregivers of children with SEN and with low-income backgrounds in Hong Kong, fostering personal growth and wellbeing.

To teach caregivers the importance of self-care, methods to improve parent-child relationships, practical parenting skills, and art as self-expression through a series of experiential art activities.

### **Beneficiaries**

Caregivers of children with SEN from low-income backgrounds in Hong Kong.





Mothers and caregivers of young children with SEN



From a low-income background

Living in target areas in Hong Kong

### **Impact**

5

Participating groups

Sessions (grou

Sessions (group and individual)

33

Direct caregiver beneficiaries

72

Indirect child beneficiaries

"I enjoy making art with the other mothers. The art-making process is so helpful to me. It has taught me skills and given me parenting advice, such as not judging myself and my daughter, and letting go of the desire to control things. The art-making time has also bonded us together as mothers."

- Mother of a child with SEN, aged 8

### **Supporting Organisations**

We would like to thank The Rosebud Foundation for funding this programme.

### **Testimonials**

"Art-making time helps me to relax which I've hardly experienced before. I can put my worries and burdens aside and just focus on art-making. I love to come [to sessions] because I can share my thoughts and feelings freely with the mothers who I've gotten to know well... I feel close to them because it is not a one off activity. The continuity of the program has helped us develop trust and bonding with each other."

- Mother of two boys with SEN, aged 6 and 9

"This is the only time I can feel and think. The only personal time I have for the whole week. I need to attend to [my children's] needs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Now with COVID, we are at home all the time. I am responsible for their learning, schooling, and everything else. My children have conflicts with each other and fight all the time. They are unable to go out and it is so hard for them physically and emotionally. I am overwhelmed and burnt out. Coming here is my only chance to feel and connect with myself. I need this time a lot and wish there were more programs like this for us."

- Mother of two girls with SEN, aged 5 and 9

"I am very nervous because both of my boys are hard to control. They won't listen to me, so I keep telling them what to do all the time. Of course, I sometimes yell at them. It is very hard to raise two children both with ADHD and language difficulties. The making of puppets and practicing "reflecting" through the puppets helped me understand more about how to listen to my boys and how to connect with them in a better way."

- Mother of two boys with SEN, aged 6 and 9

PROGRAMMES - CARING FOR THE CAREGIVERS



PROGRAMMES

# Jockey Club Expressive Arts Programme for Children

In August 2017, SAF secured a grant from The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust to launch a three-year programme titled 'Jockey Club Expressive Arts Programme for Children'.

This expressive arts-based programme, delivered in partnership with The University of Hong Kong, aims to enhance both students with SEN's and teachers' efficacy in communication and in teaching and learning

activities. The goal is to help children with SEN integrate into mainstream classrooms and community centres. Training for teachers, with an expressive arts approach, supplements their existing skills and curriculum to help develop bonding between student and teacher and encourage peer support. The programme is due to finish in August 2020, after which research results will be published.

### Aims and Objectives

To make sure children with SEN get the attention they need while in school in order to help them communicate better and expand learning capabilities.

Integrate those children within the mainstream environment.

**To empower teachers** to develop effective communication skills and teaching methodology, especially for children with different learning needs.

### **Beneficiaries**





Teachers and social workers around Hong Kong who deal with a high proportion of children with SEN in a mainstream environment



Children in those schools and centres

# Expressive Arts-Based Activities for Children, Parents and Their Communities

The COVID-19 pandemic presented significant challenges to the running of the programme. However, the Make It Better team worked hard to develop innovative ways in which to stay engaged and connected with programme beneficiaries during times of social-distancing. This included reaching teachers and children remotely through live digital workshops, distributing creative art kits, and providing freely accessible online resources through "Art At Home".

"Art At Home", launched in April 2020, is an online learning platform comprised of three sections:



#### Storytime

The Stationery Island series of picture books was created to enhance children's social skills, leading to better performance at school and increased overall happiness. Each story is illustrated by SAF ambassador Tanya Bennett (aka Pirate).



#### **Playtime**

Instructional videos were created to guide children through fun and engaging craft activities. The MIB team also created a lighthearted comic book series following the Tissue family and their encounters with Covid-related struggles.



#### **Kindess Corner**

The children are able to practice self-care through mindfulness activities, each one encouraging them to be kind to themselves and one another.



#### **Testimonials**

"My kid enjoyed the art activities. His creativity was given a chance to be realised. The art kits are very suitable for him too. Thank you so much for this programme."

- Mother of Apollo (anonymised), Po Leung Kuk & Sprouts Foundation Education Services Centre

"I think Chloe has has shown improvement in getting along with her friends and learnt to be appreciative of others. She can also make use of art making to release her emotions. Thank you so much!"

- Mother of Chloe (anonymised), Ling Liang Church Sau Tak Primary School

"The Jockey Club Expressive Arts Programme for Children allowed our students with weaker communication skills and other special educational needs to share their thoughts through Expressive Arts, which is very positive and constructive in their childhood development. Thank you for offering such a valuable programme to encourage students to be creative and expressive in a non-judgmental environment."

- Ms. Cheng, School Principal, TWGHs Sin Chu Wan Primary School

### Impact (Jockey Club Expressive Arts Programme for Children)

Workshops delivered in schools and communities

**Events** 

Direct and indirect beneficiaries of TT programme

Attendance at Events

May 2020

Below are examples of observations shared by our team over the course of the programme so far.

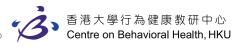
- Miss Phoebe, Dance and Movement Therapist said: "I was impressed by Evan's description of his artwork as it demonstrated strong progress in his personal growth throughout the course of the programme. He is a creative boy and always full of energy. He learnt to channel his wild energy into movement games and have fun with his friends. He developed a lot of friendships in the group, which was very important to him. Evan was very peaceful when introducing this special calming bottle to us. He was so proud of what he had made and described it as "soothing and relaxing"."
- Jasmine, Art Therapist at Jockey Club Tin Shui Wai Integrated Services Centre said: "One student appeared to be very quiet and shy at the beginning of the MIB programme. As the sessions progressed, she became more engaged and was increasingly to eager participate. The nature outing seems to have been a turning point for her and she was more outspoken after the outing. She appeared to have developed her own voice and was able to express her own opinions. She was able to use art-making to process negative emotions, recognize and name the different ranges of emotions."

### **Supporting Organisations**

We would like to thank the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust for funding this programme, and the University of Hong Kong for being our research partner.







PROGRAMMES - JOCKEY CLUB EXPRESSIVE ARTS PROGRAMME FOR CHILDREN THE SOVEREIGN ART FOUNDATION - ANNUAL REPORT



FUNDING

# **Programmes We Fund**

The Sovereign Art Foundation provides funding to relevant grassroots organisations that use arts to support children. We currently provide funding to four organisations that run programmes across Asia and the Middle East; including an art-empowerment programme geared towards Vietnam's most vulnerable children, a music and arts programme for orphaned or abandoned children in Mongolia's capital, creative arts healing projects for victims of human trafficking in Cambodia, and a youth-lead pilot project in rural Nepal designed to raise awareness of children's rights.

### **Funding Goals**

We are always looking to expand our current portfolio of partner organisations and to fund more programmes in Asia. Our long-term goal is to further build and expand our network, contributing resources from the Make It Better programme to enhance programming of partner organisations, facilitate collaboration and cross-communication.

SAF welcomes applications from organisations seeking grants for arts-led programmes helping disadvantaged children. All organisations that receive funding from us must demonstrate a good match between their mission and objectives and those of SAF and demonstrate a commitment to meet SAF's organisational values of Compassion, Empowerment, Integrity and Innovation.



### Christina Noble Children's Foundation



The Christina Noble Children's Foundation (CNCF) is an international partnership of people dedicated to helping underprivileged children and those at-risk of commercial or sexual exploitation. Its operational centres in Mongolia and Vietnam provide shelter to underprivileged, orphaned or abandoned children whilst ensuring all children in its care have direct access to a good education, a high standard of healthcare, and other social and employment opportunities. They also engage in sustainable development initiatives that directly benefit the families and wider communities of the children they support.

The Sovereign Art Foundation supports the CNCF Vietnam Music & Art Education Programme, a programme that gives children living in desperate poverty the chance to express themselves creatively and achieve their potential through interests outside of schooling such as art, dance, singing & drama.

Learn more about CNCF at www.cncf.org

### **Child Welfare Scheme**



The Child Welfare Scheme (CWS) is a charity committed to bringing change to the lives of the most disadvantaged children and their families through protection, education and healthcare. CWS works in Nepal and addresses big issues through grassroots, low-cost, replicable and sustainable solutions. The Sovereign Art Foundation supports CWS to provide art to the children of remote villages in Nepal.

Through its partner Child Welfare Scheme Nepal (CWSN), CWS supports children in remote villages; providing Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) to children aged 2 to 5. Previously, these centres lacked both art supplies and facilitators with the knowledge of how to stimulate children's creativity through art specifically. The children benefit from SAF-donated art supplies and activities, and facilitators can receive art training in expressive-arts techniques.

Learn more about CWS at www.cwshk.org

THE SOVEREIGN ART FOUNDATION - ANNUAL REPORT

### M'Lop Tapang



M'Lop Tapang is a non-profit organisation that has been working with the street children of Sihanoukville, Cambodia since 2003. It works in the Sihanoukville area to provide street children access to the learning tools, resources, and opportunities they need to build a better future. It offers regular meals, shelter, medical care, sports and arts, education, training and protection from all types of abuse.

The Sovereign Art Foundation partners with M'Lop Tapang to give thousands of Cambodian children and youth the opportunity to try something new and to cultivate their own unique talents. Through programs that include dance, music, acrobatic and circus acts, as well as painting and drawing classes, these children have the chance to express themselves creatively.

Read more about M'Lop Tapang at www.mloptapang.org





ART PRIZES

# The Sovereign Asian Art Prize

Launched in 2003 by SAF, The Sovereign Asian Art Prize increases the international exposure of artists in the region, whilst raising funds that are used to support its expressive arts programmes for disadvantaged children. Held annually, The Prize is recognised as the most established and prestigious annual art award in Asia-Pacific. The Prize acts as a springboard, enabling many artists to achieve record prices and wider audiences for their work. Notable successes include Adrian Wong, Debbie Han, Haris Purnomo, Jeongmee Yoon, Qi Zhi Long, Rashid Rana and Yang Yongliang, amongst others.

### Aims and Objectives

To exhibit a true and balanced representation of the most significant contemporary art from the Asia-Pacific region to showcase its diverse character and qualities, and to build and share a rich educational programme around the artists and the exhibition.

To widen and build knowledge of the work of lesser-known mid-career artists in the region, to give them public visibility, exposure in the art market and a wider international following.

To exhibit the works in a public art space or museum so that people in Hong Kong and overseas visitors may directly engage with some of the best contemporary art from the region and to make this exhibition available online to as broad an audience as possible.

To sell artworks and raise a significant amount for the artists and for charitable causes helping disadvantaged children in the region.



#### **How it Works**

#### Nomination and Shortlisting

The Prize invites mid-career contemporary artists, nominated by a board of independent art professionals, to each enter up to three artworks online. A judging panel comprised of world-class art experts shortlist the 30 best artworks from a range of digital images.

#### **Exhibition and Artwork Auction**

The shortlisted artworks are then exhibited in Hong Kong, where they are judged for a second time and voted on by the public. The judges scores are aggregated, and a Grand Prize winner is named. The other shortlisted artworks are auctioned, and proceeds split evenly between the artists and SAF.

Artists receive the same split as they would through a gallery and the artworks often fetch higher prices thanks to generous bidding from charity patrons.

#### **Public Vote**

To boost engagement and increase exposure for the artists, the general public are invited to cast a vote online or in person for their favourite artwork displayed in the exhibition.

### **Prizes**

US\$30,000 US\$1,000

**Grand Prize** 

Public Vote Prize

US\$5,000

Vogue Hong Kong Women's Art Prize, launched in 2019 in partnership with Vogue Hong Kong

THE SOVEREIGN ART FOUNDATION - ANNUAL REPORT 39

### The 2020 Sovereign Asian Art Prize

"What a brilliant surprise! Thank you to The Sovereign Art
Foundation for this honour and of course an enormous thank
you to the brilliant Mikala Tai for nominating me. Without
curator advocates like Mikala, it's almost impossible to
stand out in the wonderful roar of contemporary art now.
This year's field of artists have my admiration and heartfelt
congratulations for their bold and sensitive works, and I'm
proud to show alongside them together as artists of the
Asia-Pacific region. It is after all, where all the most exciting
art is being made now."

- Alex Seton Grand Prize Winner, The 2020 Sovereign Asian Art Prize



Oilstone 05\_Corrosion (2019) Alex Seton Australia

#### Grand Prize Winner, The 2020 Sovereign Asian Art Prize

Alex Seton is a multidisciplinary artist working in sculpture, photography, video and installation, but is best known for his use of marble carving: playing with, inverting and exaggerating techniques of classical statuary and monument to create works that reflect on the contemporary world. Alex was nominated into The Prize by curator, researcher, and academic, Dr Mikala Tai, Director of 4A Centre for Contemporary Asian Art in Sydney.

ART PRIZES - THE SOVEREIGN ASIAN ART PRIZE





*Daily parade* Made Wiguna Valasara Indonesia

Public Vote Prize Winner The 2020 Sovereign Asian Art Prize *Inbezelment*Saba Qizilbash
Pakistan

Vogue Hong Kong Women's Art Prize Winner The 2020 Sovereign Asian Art Prize

### **Judging Panel**

An international panel of world-class art specialists



David Elliott Writer, Curator and Museum Director



Jan Dalley Arts Editor, Financial Times



Jiyoon Lee Art historian, curator, writer and consultant



Miao Xiaochun Artist and professor



Zhou Li Artist

A Hong Kong-based panel comprised of architect, artist, collector and educator William Lim, Executive Director of Asia Society, Alice Mong, and Elaine Lin, Head of Collections at Asia Art Archive, weighed in with scores from the Finalists Exhibition, which were aggregated with those of the international panel to determine the final winners.

### **Educational Programming**

#### **Digital Symposium**

On 20 June 2020, a digital symposium titled Art In Hong Kong: People, Place and Practice was held in partnership with CoBo Social, comprising five sessions of panel discussions with notable art professionals. This was the first time SAF held a digital event of this scale. Over 200 viewers tuned in to watch live over Zoom.

Speakers included Angela Mackay, Bao Ho, Camilla Russell, Caroline Ha Thuc, Charles Fong, Chui Pui-chee, David Elliott, Hera Chan, Howard Bilton, Jeff Leung, Katie de Tilly, Kristopher Ho, Kurt Chan, MAP Office, Peggy Chan, Willem Molesworth and Yang Yeung.

#### **Finalists Exhibition**

At our finalists exhibition, we provided self-guided learning kits for visitors of all ages, encouraging critical thinking and enjoyment through art based learning. The kit posed various questions, centred around 'thinking' and 'feeling' that corresponded to specific artworks throughout the exhibition.

There was also an interactive Education Corner awaiting visitors at the end of the exhibition. Visitors were encouraged to interact with the various materials used in some of the artworks (marble, ceramic, wood) and experience their musicality using bespoke xylophones. Visitors could also relax and read one of the many art related books on offer.

### **Supporting Organisations**

Venue Partner

ATELIER -K11-

Venue Partner

<11 ||A(( **Education Partner** 



Auction Partner

CHRISTIE'S

Media Partner



Media Partner



**Communications Partner** 



Online Partner

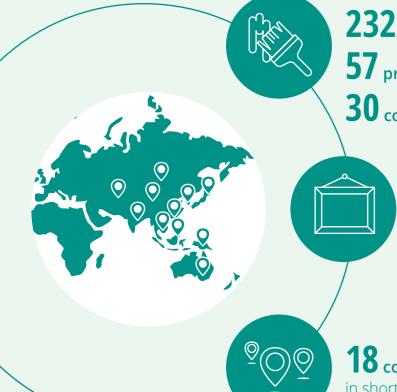


Online Partner



ART PRIZES - THE SOVEREIGN ASIAN ART PRIZE

### **Quick Facts**



88 nominators from across Asia Pacific nominated

232 mid-career artists alongside

**57** previous finalists from

**30** countries and territories

31 finalist artworks on an array of subject matters, from history, memory and heritage, to social isolation and climate issues

18 countries and territories represented in shortlist





Exhibition held at



Private tours and wine tastings held, attended by

200+ VIP guests



**HK\$1M** raised in auction proceeds





ART PRIZES

# The Sovereign Art Foundation Students Prizes

The Sovereign Art Foundation (SAF) Students Prizes are annual awards that celebrate the importance of art in the education system and recognise the quality of artworks produced by secondary-school students across the world.

The first Students Prize was established in 2012 in Hong Kong, followed by additional Students Prizes in Bahrain, Guernsey, the Isle of Man, Malta, Mauritius, Portugal and Singapore.

### Aims and Objectives

To recognise the work of talented secondary-school level art around the world and exhibit their work to a wide and engaged audience.

To celebrate the importance of art in the education system, rewarding successful secondary-school art programmes to the benefit of a greater number of students.

To partner and engage with local organisations that share our aims of promoting arts in the community and encouraging cultural development.

To long-term goal is to unite all regional winners in an annual Global Students Prize exhibition, showcasing their talent on an international stage and facilitating cultural exchange.



#### **How it Works**

#### **Nomination and Shortlisting**

The Students Prizes invite teachers from secondary schools to nominate their best art students to submit artworks online. A judging panel of local art professionals then shortlist the 20 best artworks to be exhibited in a public space.

#### **Exhibition and Artwork Auction**

The judges visit the exhibition to select one artwork to be awarded a Judges Prize.

#### **Public Vote**

To boost engagement and increase exposure for the artists, the general public are also invited to cast a vote online or in person for their favourite artwork displayed in the exhibition.

The winning students receive cash prizes and trophies, their school art departments also receive cash grants to be used to for the wider benefit of all students and their creative pursuits.

### The Sovereign Art Foundation Students Prizes, 2020

US\$20,000+ US\$25,000+

in cash grants awarded to students

in cash grants awarded to student's school

#### **Prize Winners**

#### Guernsey Isabella Lee Catherine Lees

Timothy Neal Jasmine Morgan Amelia Hart

#### Hong Kong Chan Pak Hin Ip Chung Kiu

#### London

Kerri-Ann Annan Fritzie Anne de Gala

#### Malta and Gozo

Paraskovia Podorvana Cody Langley Andrei Tabone

#### Mauritius

Aisha Akbar Vanusha Kaully

#### Portugal

Cozmin Razvan Olalau André Tavares Varandas

#### Singapore

Yixuan Yang Sophie Khoo

ART PRIZES - THE SOVEREIGN ART FOUNDATION - ANNUAL REPORT 4











Our regional Finalists Exhibitions (clockwise from the top): Hong Kong, London, Portugal, Mauritius, Guernsey.

#### **Testimonials**

"Thank you for this amazing opportunity of the Arts Prize and the awards evening, it was great to be able to talk to all the other artists and see their work up close! It's mostly due to the competition that I've decided that I want to pursue a career in the creative industry, and I wouldn't have been able to come to that conclusion without your support! We're very lucky to have this opportunity on the island so thank you again."

- Isabella Lee, Judges Prize Winner, Guernsey

"Art education is a crucial part of the school curriculum. It allows for moments of pausing and reflection, an attention to Life and a foreseeing of future possibilities. Art competitions are a wonderful opportunity for students to be ambitious with their art work and see it existing in the world, confronted to a different audience from that of school and family. We are very grateful for the money awarded by the SAF Schools Prize and have already started ordering specialist photography equipment in order for students to create works to a professional standard, something that would not have been possible without it."

- Luana Duvoisin Zanchi. Teacher at St Saviour's and St Olave's



SPECIAL PROJECTS

# **Year of The Pig Public Art Project**

In early 2020, SAF concluded its 'Year of The Pig' public art project and fundraising initiative, with a total of over US\$100,000.00 raised for charitable programmes helping disadvantaged children in the region; including the Make It Better programme. 'Year of the Pig' was the first public art project ever to be organised by SAF.

The project delighted the Hong Kong public with a citywide line-up of enigmatic painted pig sculptures - each pig representing a unique art piece, as interpreted by local and international contemporary artists and members of the Hong Kong arts community.

presentation of pigs by Hong Kong artists, with support from Phillips Hong Kong.

Other supporting organisations included Credit Suisse, whose staff collaborated on a large pig artwork, later

HART Collective Limited (under Henderson Land Development Company Limited), a long-time partner of SAF's arts programmes in Hong Kong, was a major supporter of the project. Amongst the rich network of creatives mobilised by SAF to paint pigs were resident artists of HART Haus – HART's modern-day artist atelier and event space in Kennedy Town, as well as well-renowned Beijing-based artist and photographer Miao Xiaochun, who created his pig during a short residency at HART Haus.

An online auction of the pigs began in October 2019 together with an exhibition at The Rooms in Tai Kwun, Hong Kong's Centre for Heritage and Arts. Also offered for sale were works concerning pigs by notable Russian collective AES+F and performance artist Nezaket Ekici, both generously donated by the artists. The auction closed in December 2019 together with a final presentation of pigs by Hong Kong artists, with support from Phillips Hong Kong.

Other supporting organisations included Credit Suisse, whose staff collaborated on a large pig artwork, later purchased and displayed in their Hong Kong offices in ICC in commemoration of the Credit Suisse 50th anniversary; and Baker McKenzie, who purchased a pig by Scottish artist Robert Mach, now on display at their offices in Quarry Bay.

The Sovereign Art Foundation would like to warmly thank all participating artists and supporting organisations for their generosity and contribution to this project.







# **Financial Summary**

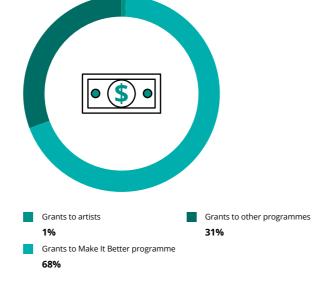
### Where our donations come from

INCOME SOURCE (HK\$)	AMOUNT
Auction proceeds	1,284,503
General donations and sponsorships	2,128,616
Patronage	25,000
Other fundraising events	110,799
Total	3,548,918



## How donations were spent

DISTRIBUTION (HK\$)	AMOUNT
Grants to artists	26,000
Grants to Make It Better programme	2,293,784
Grants to other programmes	1,029,961
Total	3,349,745



### **Summary of Accounts**

INCOME (HK\$)	2020 (HK\$)	2019 (HK\$)	2020 VS 2019 (HK\$)	
Auction dinner ticket sales	-	737,300	(737,300)	-100%
Book sale	10,799	6,223	4,576	74%
General donation	85,404	866,777	18,627	2%
Patronage income	25,000	505,000	(480,000)	-95%
Sponsorship income	1,243,212	1,326,988	(83,776)	-6%
Sales proceeds and paintings	1,284,503	1,978,400	(693,897)	-35%
Sponsorship of a child		57,643	(57,643)	-100%
Lottery event income	-	67,076	(67,076)	-100%
Wine event income	100,000		100,000	0%
Total	3,548,918	5,545,407	(1,996,489)	-36%
DEDUCT:COST OF INCOME (HK\$)				
Art prize costs	340,800	60,000	280,800	468%
Book printing			<u>-</u>	0%
Exhibition and related costs	787,795	1,862,476	(1,074,681)	-58%
Artwork framing cost	1,000		1,000	100%
Transportation, package and storage	147,698	30,438	117,259	385%
Wine event expenses		9,562	(9,562)	-100%
Total	1,277,292	1,962,476	(685,183)	-35%
Add: Other revenue	645,418	26,465	618,953	2339%
Deduct: Administrative and other operating expenses	1,092,965	1,320,218	(227,253)	-17%
Surplus for the year before distribution	1,824,079	2,289,178	(465,099)	-20%
DEDUCT:DISTRIBUTION (HK\$)				
Grants to Artists	26,000	734,920	(708,920)	-96%
Grants to Make It Better programme	30,814	68,277	(37,462)	-55%
Grants to Jockey Club Expressive Arts Programme for Children	256,391	946,838	(690,447)	-73%
Grants to other programmes	773,570	666,380	107,190	16%
Grants to Make It Better programme (staff costs)	2,262,970	1,598,843	664,127	42%
Total	3,349,745	4,015,258	(665,513)	-17%
Deficit for the year	1,525,667	1,726,080	(200,412)	-12%
Cash at bank and on hand (HK\$)	2,877,424	3,676,366	(798,942)	-22%

FINANCIAL SUMMARY



SUPPORT

# **Patronage Programme**

Consider making an annual gift to The Sovereign Art Foundation's charitable programmes and join our patronage programme. Enjoy privileged access, exclusive benefits and the opportunity to get closer to our cause.

Patronage offers networking and learning opportunities, as well as access to bespoke events, including private dinners, exhibition previews and educational talks. You will also have the opportunity to get more closely involved in our Make It Better workshops or excursions.

Individual, Couples, Silver and Gold tiers are available to those who wish to join our programme.





SUPPORT

# **Get Involved**

### Donate

Visit our website to donate quickly and securely online or contact us on the details above to donate using transfer or cheque. Single-time or recurring donations are accepted.

Official receipts can be issued. We observe and respect our donor's rights as set out in the Hong Kong Good Practice Guide on Charitable Fund-Raising (please check our website for our full Donor Charter detailing our policies on acceptance of donations and donor's rights).

### Corporate

Visit our website to donate quickly and securely online or contact us on the details above to donate using transfer or cheque. Single-time or recurring donations are accepted.

### Volunteer

We are constantly in need of volunteers to support our expressive arts workshops with children in our partner schools and centres in Hong Kong or lend a hand at our many arts events and exhibitions. Volunteer must be at least 18 years of age. Please contact us for more information.

### **Contact Us**

The Sovereign Art Foundation Suites 1601-1603 Kinwick Centre, 32 Hollywood Road Central, Hong Kong

+852 2542 1177

art@SovereignArtFoundation.com

www.SovereignArtFoundation.com

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The Sovereign Art Foundation

