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The Sovereign Art Foundation Students Prize, Gibraltar 2021

Gibraltar [Sovereign Gibraltar](#) employs over 140 staff locally through its main subsidiaries Sovereign Trust, Sovereign Pension Services, Sovereign Wealth and Sovereign Insurance Services. It is one of the most significant private sector employers, locally. The Sovereign Group is one of the largest independent providers of corporate, private client, retirement planning and insurance services.

Sovereign are immensely proud of its charitable arm, [The Sovereign Art Foundation](#) (SAF) - 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.

Today, SAF announce the arrival of the inaugural edition of the Sovereign Art Foundation Students Prize, Gibraltar. This annual award celebrates the talent and quality of artworks of secondary school art students, whilst drawing awareness to the importance of art in the education system and rewarding secondary school art programmes for nurturing this talent.

Art teachers of secondary schools in Gibraltar are invited to nominate their best art students to submit artworks to the competition online between 28 June – 22 October 2021. The 20 shortlisted artworks will be displayed in Gibraltar in the *Finalists' Exhibition* in early December, details to follow.

The overall winner of The Sovereign Art Foundation Students Prize, Gibraltar 2021 will be determined when the judging panel examine the shortlisted works at the Finalists Exhibition; selecting one student to be awarded the Judges' Prize trophy and £800 (their school art department will receive £2,000). To boost public engagement and increase exposure for the students, exhibition visitors and online viewers will be invited to cast a vote for their favourite finalist artwork to receive the Public Vote Prize trophy and £400 (and their school £1,000).

The judging panel will comprise professionals from different facets of the art world, including Gibraltarian contemporary artist, **Christian Hook**, who won the Sky Arts Portrait Artist of the Year Award in 2014. His subjects have included Sir Ian McKellan, Simon Callow and Kristen Scott Thomas; Gallerist and Curator **Magda Bellotti**, who is of Gibraltarian descent and recently curated an exhibition at the Gustavo Bacarisas Gallery, *Winds of Pontiente*, **Mrs Gabriela Giménez**, professor for Arts & Heritage at Escuela Superior de Turismo Costa del Sol and **Howard Bilton**, Founder and Chairman of SAF.

The SAF Students Prizes are annual awards championing the importance of art in the education system. SAF runs ten Student Prizes around the world and Gibraltar is the latest addition to the portfolio. The winners of both Gibraltar prizes (Judges and Public) will be automatically entered into the annual SAF Global Students Prize, showcasing their talent on an international stage and facilitating cultural exchange and dialogue. The winners of this will be announced in Q1 2022.

Howard Bilton Founder and Chairman of The Sovereign Art Foundation, commented: “We are thrilled to see the SAF Students Prize coming to Gibraltar, the birthplace and head office of Sovereign, since 1987. We are somewhat late initiating a students’ prize in Gibraltar. We have existing students prizes in Isle of Man, Malta, Hong Kong, Singapore, Portugal, Guernsey, Bahrain, Mauritius, London. The Prizes encourage art and creativity and raise a little money for local charities if works are sold. The Prizes have gained huge interest from students around the world, and we are excited to be able to give students in Gibraltar this platform and opportunity.”

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#SovereignArtFoundation #SAFSP2021

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Editor’s Notes

The Sovereign Art Foundation Students Prize, Gibraltar 2021 is staged with support from Ministry for Culture, Gibraltar.

Partnership Opportunities

If you or your business are interested in supporting the SAF Students Prize Gibraltar, a wide range of packages exist. Also, SAF always look to engage with local organisations that share its aims of promoting arts in the community and encouraging cultural development. Please get in touch for more information: SophieB@sovereignartfoundation.com.

The Sovereign Group

Sovereign began in Gibraltar in 1987 and has since grown into one of the largest independent providers of corporate, private client, retirement planning, insurance and tax services.

With a network of 23 offices spanning Europe, Asia, Africa and the Middle East, Sovereign's global headcount is now approaching 500. We currently manage over 20,000 structures for a wide variety of clients – companies, entrepreneurs, private investors or ultra to high-net-worth individuals and their families – and have assets under administration in excess of US\$20 billion.

Sovereign pride themselves on the exceptional breadth and depth of technical knowledge, with an entrepreneurial culture but a commitment to maintaining compliance and promoting ethical conduct.

Sovereign Gibraltar offers a complete, complementary suite of services:

- **Sovereign Corporate Services** – assisting companies of all sizes to establish business operations across all major jurisdictions, together with the necessary support and employee benefits packages to sustain operations successfully.
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The Sovereign Art Foundation

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.

In the same year, SAF launched The Sovereign Asian Art Prize, now recognised as the most established and prestigious annual art award in Asia-Pacific. The Prize increases the international exposure of artists in the region, whilst raising funds by auctioning shortlisted artworks and sharing proceeds equally between the participating artists and SAF. SAF uses these proceeds to fund programmes that support disadvantaged children using expressive arts. This model has so far raised over US\$9 million for artists and charities worldwide.

In 2013, SAF launched Make It Better (MIB), an initiative that supports children from low-income backgrounds and with special educational needs 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. SAF also supports teachers, social workers and caregivers of these children by introducing them to the therapeutic benefits of art.

SovereignArtFoundation.com

