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Exhibition

The Hong Kong Jockey Club Community Project Grant: stART Up Community Arts Project Promoting equality and inclusivity



High-resolution images: <https://bit.ly/48IGUot>

(6 March 2024, Hong Kong) *The Hong Kong Jockey Club Community Project Grant: stART Up Community Arts Project* is an inclusive programme inspired by the idea that art is a universal language that can bring individuals and communities together. Organised by Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation and funded by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, the three-year programme offers accessible arts opportunities for participants of all ages, cultures and abilities, promoting understanding and equality between people of diverse backgrounds, and expanding perceptions of what art can be.

From now until 17 March 2024, a free exhibition of artworks and performance videos produced during the 2023/2024 edition of this programme is on display at the Artificial Grass Area, D-PARK, Tsuen Wan.

The works on display are a result of community collaborations involving 15 local artists, over 700 teenagers and schools and organisations working with people with disabilities that took place between September 2023 and March 2024. The artist-led collaborations involved a variety of art forms: *Beginning with Music*, 3D collage images; *Multi-dimensional Masks*, 3D fabric masks; *Playing Card Portraits*, illustrations; *Touring in the Dark*, tactile 3D relief images; *Tree of Life*, collaborative ceramic work; *Approachable Dragon*, tactile soft sculpture; *Our Inner and Outer Dimensions*, installation art; *Life Baking Workshop* cake decoration and portrait photos; and the *Voices Unleashed Music Programme*, song writing, choir performance and recording.

The exhibition can be viewed daily from 10am to 8pm at the Artificial Grass Area, Level 1, D-PARK, Tsuen Wan. Free admission. No registration required.

On the weekends of 9/10 and 16/17 March, visitors can also take part in *Experience Tactile Art* – a creative blindfold challenge that offers insight into how visually impaired artists navigate their world. Free admission. Advance registration required at <https://bit.ly/42TMN0F>.

Playing Card Portraits – The illustrations created in this workshop were inspired by an idea from hearing-impaired artist Wong Sheung. The colourful, two-way, playing card-style portraits are designed to show the balance of the strengths and weaknesses that exist within all of us. Talking about the workshop experience, Wong said, “At first, I wasn’t sure if I would be able to handle the event with my hearing impairment. But after we started, I discovered a new ability. The teachers and students were able to meet people with different abilities and be inspired. The event was so meaningful for promoting an inclusive society.”

Beginning with Music – In this workshop led by artist Candice Keung, students worked in mixed-ability groups to create bright 3D collage images inspired by the melody and lyrics of their favourite Cantopop songs. In one group, participants Lily Lee Ching-yi and Trada Ip Man-yi collaborated on a work inspired by Eason Chan’s *Today*. They both agreed that they found the experience interesting, and although they sometimes had different ideas, they were able to create something they were both happy with. The sun, wings and seagulls in their image convey a similar positive message: If we can get through the darkness and problems, soon we will see the light.



Multi-dimensional Masks – In this workshop, local fabric and knot designer artist Zoe Siu and young participants combined abstract shapes, colours and materials of different textures to create tactile 3D masks representing their public and private selves. As part of the process, they spent time looking at their faces in the mirror and getting to know themselves. Visitors to this display are encouraged to close their eyes and explore the masks with their hands for an alternative perspective on the participants’ work.

Editors’ Notes

The Hong Kong Jockey Club Community Project Grant: stART Up Community Arts Project (2023-24)

Exhibition

Date: Now until 17 March 2024
Time: 10am – 8pm
Venue: Artificial Grass Area, Level 1, D-PARK, Tsuen Wan
Free admission. No ticket required.

Weekend Activity: *Experience Tactile Art*

Date: 9, 10 and 16, 17 March 2024 (Saturday, Sunday)
Time: 11am, 2pm, 3pm, 4pm
Venue: Artificial Grass Area, Level 1, D-PARK, Tsuen Wan
Free admission. Advance online registration required at <https://bit.ly/42TMN0F>

More information: www.hkyaf.com ([Facebook](#) / [Instagram](#) @hkyaf)

Exhibition Artworks

Approachable Dragon

Artist: Karen Pow Cheuk-mei

Five metres long and two metres tall, this colourful dragon was collaboratively created by artist Karen Pow Cheuk-mei and two groups of students. First, Karen crafted a dragon-shaped metal frame to help visually impaired students from Ebenezer School feel its shape and size. The students then designed and created scales using colourful textured yarn, threads and non-woven fabrics. The dragon's head and body were created by sighted students from CCC Ming Yin College, who also helped attach all of the scales to the metal frame. Visitors are invited to pet this friendly dragon and explore the different textures with their hands!



Beginning with Music

Artist: Candice Keung Lap-yu

During the *Beginning with Music* workshop, local artist Candice Keung Lap-yu and nine student participants created bright collage images inspired by the melody and lyrics of their favourite Cantopop songs. Using materials with different textures, like EVA foam, fuzzy wires and light clay, participants arranged colourful cut-out designs. Integrating ideas from the work of French artist Henri Matisse and their own personal life stories, they arranged the shapes to make these vibrant pictures.



Playing Card Portraits

Artist: Wong Sheung

These colourful, two-way, playing card-style portraits are designed to show the balance of the strengths and weaknesses that exist within all of us. In a teacher workshop led by artist Wong Sheung, participants learnt about techniques for choosing colours and creating bold compositions, and created their own personalised playing-card style images. Back in the classroom, teachers shared the ideas they had learnt with their students, working with them to create nearly 600 unique playing card portraits. The two-way images show different aspects depending on which way up they are viewed, and the creation process encouraged the youngsters to embrace and appreciate both their weaknesses and their strengths.



Touring in the Dark

Artist: Molly Wong Man-yui

Tasked with thinking about how differently-abled people perceive the world around them, artist Molly Wong worked with student participants to research familiar scenic spots around the world. After learning about the culture and history of these sites, they used textured materials like corrugated cardboard, craft paper, linen paper and woven paper, to create tactile 3D relief images of these places. To provide extra information for audiences with visual impairments, participants also recorded audio descriptions for their work.



Life Baking Workshop

Artist: Tiffany Chan Jingxi

Artist and professional baker Tiffany Chan Jingxi has been a wheelchair user most of her life, but her physical difficulties have not prevented her from having a successful career in the baking industry and the arts. In this workshop, Tiffany worked with around 60 primary school students, sharing her life experiences and goals as a differently-abled professional, and showing them how to decorate cupcakes with fondant icing. After personalising their cakes, students wrote messages describing how the collaboration with Tiffany had inspired them, and took portrait photos to share their work and reflections.



Our Inner and Outer Dimensions

Artist: Wy Lee

This colourful tent is the collective work of local artist Wy Lee and five hearing-impaired students from the Lutheran School For the Deaf. Made from a variety of common everyday objects, the tent is designed to show our inner and outer lives – the peace and safe space of the world inside our minds and the busy outside world around us. The objects you see were collected by the students and represent their thoughts and feelings about different aspects of their lives.



Tree of Life

Artist: Chao Harn-kae

This collaborative artwork was created by artist Chao Harn-kae and members and volunteers from the New Territories PHAB Centre. In an inclusive and nurturing workshop, Chao Harn-kae guided participants to create ceramic bas-reliefs of figures, animals and plants inspired by personal life experiences. Using simple techniques such as kneading, shaping, glazing and adding texture with small hand tools, they produced intricate images, which Chao put together on a cement trunk to produce this proud tree.



Multi-dimensional Masks

Artist: Zoe Siu

In this workshop, artist Zoe Siu asked participants to create masks to reflect their personalities. The participants began by observing their face in a mirror and creating blind outline drawings. They then decorated the outlines with abstract shapes, colours and materials of different textures to create 3D masks representing their public and private selves. The masks were created in a Cubist-style, with bold and abstract compositions creating a three-dimensional visual effect. Viewers are encouraged to close their eyes and touch the masks to explore them from a new perspective.



Voices Unleashed – Music Programme

Artists: Kessay Chan, Samuel Cheng, Joseph Ho, Ivy Hung, Sonic Lee, Winky Wong, Oliver Wong

In the first stage of this inclusive song-writing and performance programme, a group of budding songwriters collaborated with members of the disabled community to pen uplifting and original Cantonese songs inspired by their personal stories. In the second stage, the songwriters worked with choral music arrangers to rearrange the songs, which were performed and recorded by the mixed-ability *Voices Unleashed* choir. The performances of the three resulting songs – *Loneliness Prescription*, *Path Without Footsteps* and *Nebula M78* – were documented in the videos displayed in the exhibition.



Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation

Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation (HKYAF) is a charity that provides access to high quality, noncompetitive free-of-charge arts experiences for young people aged 5 to 25. Established in 1993 by Lindsey McAlister OBE, JP, HKYAF organises inclusive and inspirational projects that reach out to youngsters of all cultures, backgrounds, languages and abilities, and actively creates opportunities for those who are disadvantaged and underprivileged. Each year, HKYAF reaches over 800,000 people through its projects, exhibitions and performances.

Media Enquiries

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