

News Release

UOB Indonesia launches its 2017 Painting of the Year competition and a series of art education programmes to nurture Indonesian artists

Jakarta, 30 May 2017 – PT Bank UOB Indonesia (UOB Indonesia) today launched its 2017 UOB Painting of the Year competition and announced plans to nurture Indonesian artists in the area of Asian contemporary art through a series of art education programmes.

UOB Indonesia will partner leading art experts and artists to conduct art education sessions at two universities, namely the Bandung Institute of Technology and the Indonesia Institute of Art Yogyakarta. One of the art experts is Mr Raiji Kuroda, Executive Director of Operation and Management, Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Japan. He will share his insights into how artists in Indonesia can showcase their work on the international stage.

Mr Kevin Lam, UOB Indonesia's President Director, said the UOB Painting of the Year competition is part of the Bank's efforts to widen the appreciation of art and to nurture artistic talents, in line with its long-term commitment to the communities in which it operates.

"We believe art plays an essential role in the progress of a country, its economy and its people. Through their work, artists can engage in a dialogue with the world around them. We hope to broaden the perspectives of Indonesian artists and to encourage them to keep alive the diversity of our cultural heritage by connecting them with international art experts from multiple disciplines," Mr Lam said.

The art education sessions will also cover the theme of this year's UOB Painting of the Year competition, *Reciprocity*, which is how viewers perceive and appreciate art through their own experiences and memories. The sessions aim to explore the rise of Asian contemporary art and how it has drawn attention on the global art stage.

UOB Indonesia will hold the art education sessions in Yogyakarta and Bandung, cities that play a significant role in shaping the Indonesian art landscape. Yogyakarta has a vibrant artist

community and attracts many artists from all over Indonesia, while Bandung serves as an avenue for modern art with many of its budding artists gaining local and international recognition.

UOB's art education programme will also be enriched across the region. In Singapore, UOB will partner its Painting of the Year artist alumni to conduct a series of art sharing sessions with secondary school and junior college students. In Thailand, art workshops and art sharing sessions with UOB POY alumni artists will also be held at universities and colleges across the country.

UOB Indonesia invites artists to enter the 2017 Painting of the Year competition

The 2017 UOB Painting of the Year competition is now open for entry. Artwork submission for both the Established and Emerging artist categories will be accepted until 3 September 2017.

This year's judges are Mr Agung Hujatnikajennong, Independent Curator and Lecturer at Bandung Institute of Technology, Mr Hendro Wiyanto, Art Curator, and Mr Anindityo Adipurnomo, Artist, Owner of Cemeti and Co-Founder of IVAA (Indonesia Visual Art Archives).

The Indonesia winners will be announced at an award ceremony on 25 October 2017, and the top winner will compete with fellow artists from Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand for the UOB Southeast Asian Painting of the Year award. The prestigious award will go to the artist with the most outstanding work in the region.

In addition, the UOB Painting of the Year country winners in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand will be considered for a month-long residency programme at the Fukuoka Asian Art Museum in Japan.

More details on how to enter the competition can be found at www.uobpoy.com.

Note to media:

About UOB and art

The Bank started its annual UOB Painting of the Year (POY) competition in Singapore in 1982 and has since extended it to Thailand in 2010 and then Malaysia and Indonesia in 2011. Over the years, the competition has helped to discover many talented emerging artists and to recognise several established professionals who have contributed significantly to the development of the Southeast Asian art scene. Today, the annual art competition is the longest-running in Singapore and is one of the most prestigious in Southeast Asia.

As part of the UOB POY competition, the Bank started a residency programme with the Fukuoka Asian Art Museum in 2009 with the aim of encouraging artists to exchange creative ideas with their peers in the region. Every year, one winner of the UOB POY competition is given an opportunity to attend the residency programme as part of the prize.

Winners of this year's competition will have the opportunity to exhibit their artworks at the UOB Art Gallery. They will also be invited to participate in art exchange workshops overseas and conduct art education activities for UOB employees and children from beneficiaries supported by the Bank.

In Indonesia, the UOB Painting of the Year competition has attracted the participation of thousands of emerging and established artists and cultivated strong alumni of artists over the last six years.

The high quality of Indonesian art has seen Indonesian artists winning the UOB Southeast Asian Painting of the Year award four times. Indonesia is also the only country to win this regional award for three times in a row. These past winners are Mr Y. Indra Wahyu in 2012, Mr Antonius Subiyanto in 2014, Mr Anggar Prasetyo in 2015 and Mr Gatot Indrajati in 2016.

The UOB POY competition has cultivated strong alumni of artists across the region over the last 35 years. Mr Goh Beng Kwan, one of Singapore's masters of modern art, was the inaugural winner of the competition in 1982. Mr Goh went on to receive Singapore's most

distinguished arts award, the Cultural Medallion, in 1989. Other well-known artists who won the competition are the late Mr Anthony Poon and Mr Chua Ek Kay in 1983 and 1991 respectively. Both artists are also recipients of the Singapore Cultural Medallion.

The competition's illustrious alumni also include talented artists in the region, such as Indonesia's Mr Gatot Indrajati who won the 2016 UOB Southeast Asian Painting of the Year and the 2016 UOB Painting of the Year (Indonesia) awards with his artwork, *'Right or Wrong My Home'*. The 2016 UOB POY competition also recognised the works of Singapore's Mr Carey Ngai, Malaysia's Ms Yim Yen Sum and Thailand's Mr Jongjit Moolmat.

In recognition of the Bank's long-term commitment to art, UOB was presented with the National Arts Council's Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award for the 12th consecutive year in 2016.

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About UOB Indonesia

PT Bank UOB Indonesia (UOB Indonesia) is a subsidiary of United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB), a leading bank in Asia with global network of more than 500 offices in 19 countries and territories in Asia Pacific, Western Europe and North America.

UOB Indonesia was established in 1956. The bank's service network comprises 41 branch offices, 137 sub-branch offices and 185 ATMs across 30 cities in 18 provinces in Indonesia. UOB Indonesia's banking services are accessible through its regional ATM network, the ATM Prima and Bersama networks and the Visa network.

UOB Indonesia is committed to providing quality products and excellent customer service. UOB Indonesia offers various banking products and services categorised into Retail Banking business and Wholesales Banking.

The bank has a strong retail customer base through its wide range of saving products, mortgage services and credit card under Personal Financial Services while also catering the SME business under Business Banking. On the Wholesale Banking, it serves the needs of customers in Commercial Banking, Corporate Banking, Global Markets and Investment Management.

With its full suite of corporate/commercial and its extensive network in Asia, UOB Indonesia offer customers a range of treasury and cash management products and services. UOB Indonesia has been increasingly focused on helping companies with their expansion plans. It has facilitated many enterprises from industries such as construction, mining, real estate and the services sector expanding into Indonesia. UOB Indonesia is rated AAA (idn) by Fitch Ratings.

UOB Indonesia plays an active role in the community, focusing in Arts, Education and Children. Since year 2011 UOB Indonesia has held an annual art competition called UOB Painting of the Year which reflects from the Regional South East Asia competition held in Singapore since 1982. UOB Indonesia also encourages its employees to be involved in its regular volunteer activities. This includes the annual UOB Heartbeat Run, Blood Donation and Book Donation activities.

For further detail of UOB Indonesia, please visit www.uob.co.id

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