

## **UOB Indonesia launches 2020 UOB Painting of the Year in solidarity with artists in Indonesia; extends reach amid COVID-19 restrictions through digital submissions**

**Jakarta, Indonesia, 14 August 2020** – PT Bank UOB Indonesia (UOB Indonesia) today announced that artists in Indonesia will be able to submit their entries for the 2020 UOB Painting of the Year (POY) competition digitally given social distancing amid the pandemic. The annual UOB POY competition, Singapore’s longest-running and one of Southeast Asia’s most prestigious annual art awards, is now open to artists in Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.

The UOB POY is UOB’s flagship art programme that aims to uncover and to nurture artistic talent across the region. This year, the Bank is inviting all artists to share their impressions on the theme of ‘Solidarity’ and the importance of staying united in the face of adversity. UOB hopes to draw out artwork that showcases the resilience of the human spirit in overcoming COVID-19-related challenges.

Mr Kevin Lam, President Director, UOB Indonesia, said, “This year, we celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary as UOB Indonesia, following our merger with PT Bank UOB Buana Tbk<sup>1</sup>. It is also the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary our UOB POY annual art competition in Indonesia. Just as we have been dedicated to helping our customers manage their finances wisely and grow their businesses over the last decade, we have been supporting many Indonesian artists develop their talent and build their profile on the global art stage.

“In the current challenging situation, local artists have been finding new ways to create and to exhibit their work through the use of technology. As we continue to promote the appreciation of art among the community, we also hope to bring people together and to foster a sense of solidarity. In addition, we hope that by enabling artists to submit their artwork digitally, we can help more Indonesian artists to step forward to see through the current challenges and focus on the brighter days ahead through their paintings.”

<sup>1</sup> UOB Indonesia was founded on 31 August 1956 as PT Bank Buana Indonesia. In 2004, the UOB Group invested in PT Bank Buana Indonesia Tbk and in 2007 it was renamed PT Bank UOB Buana Tbk. In 2010, PT Bank UOB Buana Tbk merged with PT Bank UOB Indonesia and changed its name to PT Bank UOB Indonesia.

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The 2020 UOB POY Indonesia competition is open to artwork submissions for both the Established and Emerging Artist categories from 14 August to 11 October 2020.

This year's judges are:

**1. Dr Agung Hujatnikajennong, Chief Judge**

Dr Agung Hujatnikajennong obtained his doctoral degree from the Faculty of Art and Design at the Bandung Institute of Technology in Bandung, Indonesia. In 2014, he was nominated for the Independent Vision Curatorial Award by the Independent Curator International in New York, USA. Since 1999, he has been contributing as a writer, and curating many exhibitions and presenting in any international seminars in Indonesia and abroad.

**2. Ms Ay Tjoe Christine**

Ms Ay Tjoe Christine is one of Indonesia's most well-known artists who has been active in Indonesia's contemporary art scene for around a decade. Her works have been exhibited across Asia, including a major retrospective at the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Museum of Contemporary Art in Kanazawa, Japan in 2018. Her works have also been featured in international group exhibitions, including at the Royal Academy of Arts in London, United Kingdom in 2017.

**3. Mr Asikin Hasan**

Mr Asikin Hasan is a curator at Salihara Gallery and a member of the Board of Curators of the National Gallery of Indonesia. He has been actively writing for major publications including *Kompas*, *The Jakarta Post* and *Tempo* and he was the co-author of *15 Years of National Gallery of Indonesia: Process and Progress*.

The winners of the 2020 UOB POY (Indonesia) award will be announced at a virtual award ceremony in November 2020. The artworks of the top eight finalists will be exhibited virtually on the Bank's social media channels

The winner of the 2020 UOB POY (Indonesia) award will also compete with fellow winning artists from Singapore, Malaysia and Thailand for the UOB Southeast Asian Painting of the Year award.

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The prestigious award will go to the artist with the most outstanding artwork in the region. More competition details can be found at [www.UOBandArt.com](http://www.UOBandArt.com).

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### **Note to media:**

#### **About UOB and Art**

UOB's involvement in art started in the 1970s with its collection of paintings by Singapore artists. Today, the UOB Art Collection has more than 2,400 artworks, made up primarily of paintings from established and emerging Southeast Asian artists.

UOB plays an active role in communities across the region, most notably through its long-term commitment to art. As part of this, the Bank has led a wide range of visual arts programmes, partnerships and outreach initiatives across the region.

UOB's flagship art programme is the UOB POY Competition, which was started in 1982 to recognise Southeast Asia's artists and to offer them the opportunity to showcase their works to the wider community. The competition was extended to Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand.

The competition has cultivated and advanced the careers of many artists in Singapore. Notable among them are Mr Goh Beng Kwan (1982 winner), and the late Mr Anthony Poon (1983 winner) and Mr Chua Ek Kay (1991 winner), who received the Singapore Cultural Medallion, Singapore's most distinguished art award.

The competition has also recognised talents from across the region through the UOB Southeast Asian POY award. Previous winners include Mr Anagard from Indonesia in 2019, Mr Sui Wahyudianto from Indonesia in 2018, Mr Sukit Choosri from Thailand in 2017, Mr Gatot Indrajati from Indonesia in 2016, Mr Anggar Prasetyo from Indonesia in 2015, Mr Antonius Subiyanto from Indonesia in 2014, Ms Stefanie Hauger from Singapore in 2013 and Mr Y. Indra Wahyu from Indonesia in 2012.

Together with past UOB POY winners, UOB also runs art workshops for underprivileged and special needs children regularly. At these workshops, the young learn art techniques from art professionals and award-winning artists.

In recognition of its long-term commitment to art, UOB was presented with the National Arts Council's Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award in Singapore for the 16<sup>th</sup> consecutive year in 2020.

#### **About PT Bank UOB Indonesia**

PT Bank UOB Indonesia (UOB Indonesia) was established in 1956. The Bank's service network comprises 41 branch offices, 137 sub-branch offices and 173 ATMs across 32 cities in 18 provinces in Indonesia. UOB Indonesia's banking services are accessible through the regional ATM network, the ATM Prima and Bersama networks and the Visa network.



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

UOB Indonesia is committed to providing quality products and excellent customer service, offering various banking products and services under personal financial services, business banking, commercial banking, corporate banking, global markets and investment management.

The Bank has a strong retail customer base through our wide range of saving products, mortgage services and credit cards. UOB Indonesia's banking services are also accessible in Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, and Thailand through hundreds of UOB ATMs.

UOB Indonesia also offers a full suite of corporate/commercial and personal banking products, including a range of treasury and cash management products and services. The Bank has also been increasingly focused on helping companies with their expansion plans, facilitating many enterprises from industries such as construction, mining, real estate and the services sector in their ventures into Indonesia. UOB Indonesia is rated AAA (idn) by Fitch Ratings.

We believe in being a responsible financial services provider and we are committed to making a difference in the lives of our stakeholders and in the communities in which we operate. Just as we are dedicated to helping our customers manage their finances wisely and to grow their businesses, UOB is steadfast in our support of social development, particularly in the areas of art, children and education.

For further details on UOB Indonesia, please visit [www.uob.co.id](http://www.uob.co.id)

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