

News Release

UOB celebrates the Mid-Autumn Festival with an exhibition of lanterns painted by special needs students

*Past UOB Painting of the Year winner shares his acrylic painting techniques with
students from APSN Chaoyang School*

Singapore, 15 September 2016 – Thirty lanterns painted by students from the Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN) Chaoyang School lit up the UOB Art Gallery in celebration of the Mid-Autumn Festival today. The lantern-painting session was held as part of UOB's annual Mid-Autumn Festival workshop.

During the session, the 30 young artists and volunteers from UOB were taught acrylic painting techniques by 1992 UOB Painting of the Year winner Mr Soh Chee Hui. The participants then applied their newly acquired skill onto traditional fabric lanterns.

Mr Soh said, "The Mid-Autumn Festival is an occasion where we spend time bonding with people who are dear to us. This year's festival is especially heartwarming for me as I wanted to help inspire and fire up the artistic passions of these children. I hope that this will lead them to pursue developing their creative talents and exploring different art forms."

The students also brightened up the financial district when they proudly displayed their colourful lanterns during a walk along the Singapore River to commemorate the festival.

Mr Jetno Tsai, a volunteer from UOB Personal Financial Services, said, "I was touched by the glowing smiles on the children's faces as they held up their lanterns to the public. I could see their confidence grow with the cheers and encouragement from passers-by. They were also thrilled about having their artwork exhibited at the UOB Art Gallery for their friends and families to admire their lanterns."

The exhibition by APSN Chaoyang School students which starts today will be held till 28 October at the UOB Art Gallery. It will run alongside an exhibition by professional artist and 2015 UOB Painting of the Year winner Mr Aaron Gan.



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UOB's Mid-Autumn Festival lantern painting workshop is part of the UOB Heartbeat Volunteer programme to give back to the community in the areas of art, education and children. Since January 2016, the Bank has organised 10 art education workshops for more than 120 children from underprivileged backgrounds or who have special needs. It aims to enable these children to express themselves more fully through art and also to expose the medium to those who may not have an opportunity to experience it.

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About United Overseas Bank

United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) is 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. Since its incorporation in 1935, UOB has grown organically and through a series of strategic acquisitions. UOB is rated among the world's top banks: Aa1 by Moody's and AA- by Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings respectively.

In Asia, UOB operates through its head office in Singapore and banking subsidiaries in China, Indonesia, Malaysia and Thailand, as well as branches and representative offices.

UOB plays an active role in the community, focusing on art, children and education. It has, over more than three decades, held the longest-running art competition in Singapore, the UOB Painting of the Year, which has since been extended across Southeast Asia. In recognition of its contributions to the arts, UOB was conferred the Singapore National Arts Council's Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award for the 12th consecutive year in 2016. UOB also encourages its employees across the region to be involved in its regular volunteer activities. This includes the annual UOB Heartbeat Run which is held in China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.

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