

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**“Life is Only One – Imagination of Life” Art Competition receives an enthusiastic response
60 winning and selected artworks will be exhibited at Chantal Miller Gallery for a week**

(Hong Kong, Aug 9, 2015) “Life is Only One – Imagination of Life” Art Competition, organized by Asia Society Hong Kong Center (ASHK), was concluded with an award ceremony at Hong Kong Jockey Club Hall on August 9, 2015. The competition was held in association with the *Life is Only One: Yoshitomo Nara Exhibition* as part of the educational offerings of the exhibition. The winning and selected artworks will be exhibited at Chantal Miller Gallery during August 9 – 16, 2015. The competition received 492 entries in total from three divisions: children, youth and open. Among all submissions, 60 entries were nominated as finalists by ASHK for the judging panel’s final selection of 10 winning entries from each division. The judging panel comprised of the management of ASHK and four famous local artists - Ms. Carrie Chau, Mr. Yeung Hok Tak, Mr. Kit Lau and Ms. Prudence Mak.

The member of Asia Society Hong Kong Center Gallery Advisory Committee, Mr. William Lim, officiated at the award ceremony and was joined with the featured artists of the Illustration Master Class, Ms. Carrie Chau and the Head of Gallery & Exhibition of Asia Society Hong Kong Center, Mr Dominique Chan, to present prizes to winners of the competition.

High-quality Entries Demonstrating Strong Creativity and Inspirations from Nara

In association with the *Life is Only One: Yoshitomo Nara Exhibition*, ASHK organized *Life is Only One – Imagination of Life: Art Competition and Exhibition*, aiming to encourage participation in art creation and promote the appreciation of contemporary art. The competition received an enthusiastic response with 492 entries across different media, including drawing, painting, sketching, sculpture and installation. Participants gave in to their imaginations and engaged in a dialogue with Nara’s work to develop their own creations. “We are excited to see so many quality submissions. The selection panel was had to make tough choices to come to the decision of awarding the highly impressive entries which display strong creativity and inspirations from Nara’s works,” said Ms. S. Alice Mong, Executive Director of Asia Society Hong Kong Center. “The success of the competition is an affirmation of our efforts in arts education. We look forward to seeing participants developing their interests in art and continuing life-long learning which would lead to more extraordinary creations,” she added.

Teaching, Learning and Transformation

ASHK arranged a series of education programs alongside the exhibition which attracted more than 2,800 participants. Through workshops and the Illustration Master Class, which featured famous local artists Ms. Carrie Chau, Mr. Yeung Hok Tak, Mr. Kit Lau, Ms. Prudence Mak and Mr. Wilson Shieh, participants acquired art-making techniques and a deeper understanding of Nara's art. "I am impressed by all the participants' passion for art creation," said Ms. Carrie Chau. "Participants of the children division express their feelings directly through their paintings, which are pure and simple. Entries of the youth division are loaded with the participants' reflection, mixed feelings about growing-up, and demonstrate mature art techniques. For the entries of the open division, imagination and diversification is demonstrated through participants' good use of different media in their creations," she added.

Winning pieces revealing "Life is Only One"

Nara expresses his view towards life through his art. Participants imitated Nara's creation method and tried to have a dialogue with their artworks. Some of their artworks expressed sadness of life in a dark and humorous way, some showed their passion for life through an ironic expression while some of them tried to light up others through their artworks. 60 winning entries will be exhibited during Aug 9 -16 2015 at Chantal Miller Gallery Entry is free of charge.

The Opening Hours of "Life is Only One – Imagination of Life" Exhibition:

Date: August 9, 2015

Time: 3:30pm to 6:00pm

Date: August 10 to 16, 2015

Time: 11:00am to 6:00pm

You may also connect with Asia Society Hong Kong Center on social media:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Asiasocietyhongkong

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/AsiaSocietyHK>

Instagram: @AsiaSocietyHK

Organizer:



Hong Kong Center

Exclusive Sponsor:



香港賽馬會慈善信託基金
The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust

Outreach Partner:



About Asia Society

Founded in 1956 by John D. Rockefeller 3rd in New York, The Asia Society is a leading not-for-profit, non-government educational organization dedicated to promoting mutual understanding and strengthening partnerships among peoples, leaders, and institutions of Asia and the United States in a global context. Across the fields of arts, business, culture, education, and policy, The Asia Society provides insight, generates ideas, and promotes collaboration to address present challenges and create a shared future.

About Asia Society Hong Kong Center

As one of the eleven centers of The Asia Society, Asia Society Hong Kong Center (the “Hong Kong Center” or “ASHK”) was established in 1990 by a group of Hong Kong community leaders, led by the late Sir Q.W. Lee, the honorary chairman of Hang Seng Bank.

In February 2012, the Hong Kong Center established its new permanent home in Admiralty at the Old Victoria Barracks, Former Explosives Magazine site. Steeped in history, cultural significance and natural beauty, the site was originally built by the British Army in the mid-19th century for explosives and ammunition production and storage. Through careful conservation, restoration and adaptive re-use, this heritage site was successfully transformed into a cultural, artistic and intellectual hub. ASHK warmly welcomes the public to visit the Center, to join the programs and view the exhibitions organized by ASHK and its partners.

As the leading regional knowledge-based platform for furthering the understanding of the countries and cultures of Asia and global issues that impact the region, Asia Society Hong Kong Center boasts extensive regional and international networks of leaders and scholars, and offers a broad variety of programs in the form of lectures, performances, film screenings and exhibitions to the community.

Asia Society Hong Kong Center was established entirely with local funding and is supported through membership dues, fundraising events, and contributions from individuals, corporations and foundations that work together to support and advance its mission.

About The Hong Kong Jockey Club

Founded in 1884, The Hong Kong Jockey Club is a world-class horse racing operator and Hong Kong's largest community benefactor, as well as one of Asia's most prestigious membership clubs. Operating as a not-for-profit organisation, the Club allocates its surplus funds for charitable and community projects. In 2013/14, its donations reached a record \$3.6 billion, and in the last decade alone it supported over 1,275 projects. The Club is also Hong Kong's largest single taxpayer, contributing a record HK\$19.58 billion in 2013/14. With about 70% of its revenue given back to society every year through donations and tax contributions, The Hong Kong Jockey Club delivers a significantly higher return to the community than any other racing and/or sports betting organisation in the world. As a socially responsible organisation, the Club helps Government combat illegal betting and advocates responsible gambling. The Club is also one of Hong Kong's largest employers with over 24,800 full-time and part-time staff. Committed to global excellence and giving back to society, the Club is always "riding high together for a better future" with the people of Hong Kong. Please visit 130.hkjc.com.

About Hang Lung Properties

Hang Lung Properties Limited, a constituent stock of the Hang Seng Index and Hang Seng Corporate Sustainability Indices in Hong Kong, is a leading real estate developer in Hong Kong and mainland China. Boasting a diversified portfolio of investment properties in Hong Kong, the Company has progressively branched out into the Mainland since the 1990s, building, owning and managing world-class commercial complexes in key cities, projects that have earned international acclaim for their exceptional quality of architectural design, services and sustainable features.

Riding on the immense success of its two landmark properties in Shanghai, Plaza 66 and Grand Gateway 66, the Company's footprint has expanded to Shenyang, Jinan, Wuxi, Tianjin, Dalian, Kunming and Wuhan, with all the Mainland projects carrying the "66" brand. Subsequent to the grand openings of Parc 66 in Jinan, Palace 66 and Forum 66 in Shenyang, as well as Center 66 in Wuxi over the past few years, Riverside 66, another world-class investment property in Tianjin, also came into operation in September 2014. As Hang Lung's business continues to grow, the Company is set to develop into the most admired mega national commercial property enterprise in the market.

Media Enquiry

For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact:

Senior External Affairs Manager, Asia Society Hong Kong Center

Ms Christy Ko

Tel: +852 2103 9513

Email: mediahk@asiasociety.org / cko@asiasociety.org

Senior External Affairs Officer, Asia Society Hong Kong Center

Ms May Tam

Tel: +852 2103 9559

Email: mediahk@asiasociety.org / mtam@asiasociety.org