

**For Immediate Release  
PRESS RELEASE**

# **ISTANA ART EVENT 2008**

**In Conjunction With the Istana's National Day Open House**

**3 August 2008, Sunday, 8.00 am – 5.00 pm**

(07 July 2008) The Singapore Art Museum is delighted to announce the Istana Art Event 2008 in celebration of the 43<sup>rd</sup> National Day. This year the Istana Art Event will feature the On-The-Spot Art Competition, *An Orchard of Windmills* installation, and a variety of fun-filled art and heritage activities for families and kids.

On-The-Spot Art Competition is open to all age groups. Into its 8<sup>th</sup> year, this art competition has attracted children and individuals of all ages. Prizewinners will receive awards from President S R Nathan, who will also review the exhibition of winning entries. This year's theme is "Celebrating the Singapore Spirit". Cash prizes will be awarded to prizewinners, and McDonald's snack packs will be given to the first 2000 registered participants upon submission of completed art entries.

*An Orchard of Windmills*, an installation comprising 10,000 windmills, will be set up amidst the lush and beautiful grounds of the Istana. Installed by National University of Singapore's first year Architecture students, the windmill installation will feature designs by students from 3-16 years old, whose reflections towards our Nation's Independence is embodied in the various windmill designs. The windmill is chosen for the installation as the four arms represent the four different races of Singapore coming together cohesively, in conjunction with the theme of "Celebrating the Singapore Spirit". Through engaging students in designing the windmills, the gesture is symbolic in conveying the important role of art, heritage and culture in contributing towards engendering the Singapore spirit. The windmill installation also represents the ability of people in Singapore to use their heritage and culture as tools to regenerate, renew and prepare for challenges in the future.

Says Director, Singapore Art Museum, Mr Kwok Kian Chow, "Each year, we are amazed by the quality of artworks that we receive through the On-The-Spot Competition. The entries of the competition each year demonstrate how art has been an effective medium in allowing us to express our reflections of our national identity and nationhood as Singaporeans, and our hopes for the future. Through onsite activities, the Istana Art Event brings to fore, how art, heritage and culture are an intrinsic and enriching part of our everyday experience."

A wide range of art and heritage activities in conjunction with the Istana's National Day Open House is being offered from 10am to 5pm. In "Joys In The Wind" workshop conducted by cartoonist Peter Draw, kids will be taught the basics of sketching, and will have fun with caricature. Selected drawings will be featured on the giant red windmills. In "Where Am I From?", children can strengthen their knowledge in geography through matching stamps to the countries of origin on a magnetic world map. In "The Amazing Syonan Race", participants who take on the challenge of navigating their way through perils and uncertainties which our forefathers faced in World War Two, stand the chance to win attractive prizes for bravery and innovativeness. A whole exciting array of quizzes and games are offered at the Istana Art Event. All activities on-site are free of charge, and there will be music performances for all to enjoy. Activities are courtesy of Singapore Art Museum, Singapore Philatelic Museum, and National Archives of Singapore.

**Supported by People's Association**

**Sponsorship of refreshments for participants by McDonald's Singapore**

Please refer to the following Annexes for more information:

Annex A	<b>Information of On-The-Spot Art Competition</b>
Annex B	<b>About the <i>Orchard of Windmills</i></b>
Annex C	<b>About Peter Draw</b>
Annex D	<b>About Singapore Art Museum</b>

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For more information, visit [www.singart.com](http://www.singart.com)

## **Annex A**

### **Information of On-The-Spot Art Competition**

8.00am – 9.00am	Registration for participants of On-The-Spot Art Competition
9.00am – 11.00am	Submission of Art Competition entries
11.00am – 12.00pm	“Joys In The Wind” workshop at SAM booth
12nn	Announcement of winners of the art competition at Main Tent and Villa
1.15pm – 1.45pm	Prize presentation ceremony by President S R Nathan
2.00pm - 5.00 pm	Exhibition of winning entries at Main tent
*10.00am – 5.00pm	Activities by National Heritage Board Museums

### **On The Spot Art Competition Categories and Prizes**

Ages 8* and below:	1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	\$400
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	\$200
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	\$100
	Merit Award	\$50 x 6
Ages 9 – 16*:	1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	\$400
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	\$200
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	\$100
	Merit Award	\$50 x 6
Open category	1 <sup>st</sup> Prize	\$400
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Prize	\$200
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Prize	\$100

\*Age at 31st January 2008

Note from the Organizers:

Please note that the judges' decision is final. Organizers reserve the right not to award prizes if submitted works are not up to standard.

All winners must be present at the prize giving ceremony to qualify for their prize. All unclaimed prizes at the end of the ceremony will be forfeited.

Selected works will be displayed at the Istana during the Istana Art Event on 3rd August 2008. All artworks submitted will remain the property of Istana for reproduction purpose. Artists selected for this purpose will be informed with a letter from the Istana as well as be gifted with a souvenir.

NHB Official Art Block will be provided and accepted as entries. Participants will bring their choice of colouring mediums. For enquiries and registration, please email [nhb\\_sam\\_programs@nhb.gov.sg](mailto:nhb_sam_programs@nhb.gov.sg) or call 6332 3220.

Entry to the Istana grounds is free for Singaporeans and Singapore Permanent Residents, S\$1 admission fee for others. Entrance to grounds is via the main gate at Orchard Road.

Entry into Istana Main Building (tickets at \$2 / complimentary for all art participants). All entry admissions charged support President's Challenge.

Please note that all times shown are indicative and may be subject to change.

**Annex B**

**About the *Orchard of Windmills***



Students creating windmills for *Orchard of Windmills*.



Windmills designed by students.



Selected windmill designs will be featured in the pavilions.

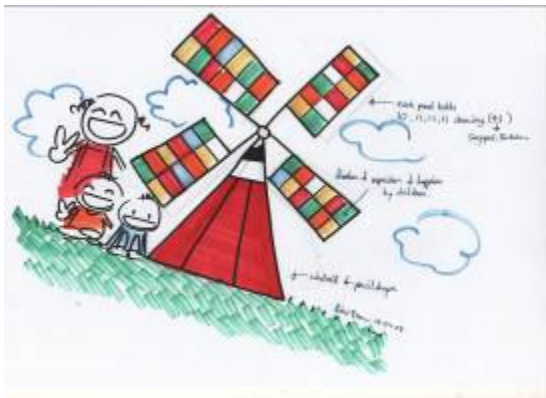
**Annex C**  
**About Peter Draw and “Joys In The Wind” Workshop**

Peter Draw is an artist, social entrepreneur, happiness ambassador and founder of Happy Drawing, inspiring children to draw and helping children-in-need around the world. He is also a Guinness Book of Record holder for his World’s Largest Caricature of movie star Jackie Chan.

Peter will conduct the “Joys in the wind” workshop at SAM booth during the Istana Art Event 2008. Kids will be taught the basics of sketching and will have fun with caricature. Selected drawings will be featured on the giant red windmills.



Peter Draw teaching kids sketches.



Selected drawings will be featured in the giant red windmills during Istana Art Event.

## **Annex D** **About Singapore Art Museum**

Opened in January 1996, the mission of the Singapore Art Museum (SAM) is to preserve and present the art histories and contemporary art practices of Singapore and the Southeast Asian region. To date, SAM has amassed the world's largest public collection of modern and contemporary Southeast Asian artworks with a growing component in international contemporary art. The museum has presented shows covering both local and international art practices, traditional and cutting edge art expressions. Through strategic alliances with international arts and cultural institutions, SAM has been facilitating visual arts education, exchange, research and development within the region and internationally. Through forging collaborative partnerships and staging innovative programmes to engage different audiences, SAM aims to contribute to an enlarged role in the regional visual arts community and Asian art museology, as well as facilitating developments in art as well as the art sector in Singapore.