

Head Office

Central Plaza Office Building
17 Le Duan, Ben Nghe Ward, District 1,
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.
Tel 1800 599 921 (Retail)/
1800 558 880 (Wholesale)
Fax (84-28) 3827 2246
uob.com.vn

News Release

UOB launches inaugural ‘UOB Painting of the Year’ regional art competition in Vietnam

- *The 42nd UOB Painting of the Year Call for entries in five ASEAN countries including Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam*
- *The UOB Painting of the Year country top winner is eligible for VND 500 million cash prize and stands a chance to win the prestigious UOB Southeast Asian Painting of the Year award*

Hanoi, Vietnam, 9 May 2023 – The flagship UOB Painting of the Year art competition expands its reach to Vietnam this year, welcoming entries from Vietnamese citizens and permanent residents for the first time. The launch ceremony of the 1st edition of the UOB Painting of the Year competition in Vietnam gathered more than 150 artists and art advocates from across the country, together with Guest-of-Honour, **Mr Ngo Tuan Phong, Deputy Head of Fine Arts, Photography and Exhibition Department** from the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism in Vietnam.

UOB has been championing Southeast Asian art and artists in the region over the past four decades through a wide range of visual arts programmes, partnership and outreach initiatives across the region. Established in 1982, UOB Painting of the Year is the longest-running annual art competition in Singapore and one of the most prestigious in Southeast Asia. The competition aims to promote art and culture in the region and to showcase the talent of established and emerging artists, having uncovered more than 1,000 artistic talents across the region since its inception.

Vietnam has a rich cultural heritage that has been strongly visualised through the arts. UOB's decision to launch the competition in Vietnam is a testament to the country's growing art scene. The expansion into Vietnam also reinforces UOB's long-term commitment to supporting the arts and artists in Southeast Asia.

Mr Victor Ngo, CEO of UOB Vietnam, said, "Art inspires and connects people, reflecting culture and identity, while transcending geography and time. For the past four decades, UOB



Head Office

Central Plaza Office Building
17 Le Duan, Ben Nghe Ward, District 1,
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.
Tel 1800 599 921 (Retail)/
1800 558 880 (Wholesale)
Fax (84-28) 3827 2246
uob.com.vn

News Release

has been committed to bringing the joy of art to more audiences across the region, with the UOB Painting of the Year competition helping to uncover and nurture generations of great Southeast Asian artists. In conjunction with UOB's celebration of 30 years in Vietnam, we are thrilled to be bringing our flagship regional art competition to Vietnam this year as we continue to build the future of ASEAN. We believe this competition will help artists, established and aspiring, to uncover their passion for art, and to contribute to the development of the visual arts scene in Vietnam".

1st UOB Painting of the Year competition identity design and Call for entries

The 1st UOB Painting of the Year competition identity design was unveiled by Mr Victor Ngo and **Mr Ngo Tuan Phong** at the official launch event. Inspired by the 2022 UOB Southeast Asian Painting of the Year winning artwork, *Dystopia* by Thai artist Chomrawi Suksom, the evolving sphere symbolises our world in a constant state of change and renewal, represented by different cultures and identities. This is aligned with the Bank's long-term commitment to constantly evolve and stay relevant, and to do right by the community.



At the launch event, UOB Painting of the Year alumni artists from Thailand and Malaysia shared their perspectives on how the competition has been a springboard for their career growth.



Head Office

Central Plaza Office Building
17 Le Duan, Ben Nghe Ward, District 1,
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.
Tel 1800 599 921 (Retail)/
1800 558 880 (Wholesale)
Fax (84-28) 3827 2246
uob.com.vn

News Release

Having clinched the accolade as the top winner of the 2018 Most Promising Artist of the Year (Thailand) in the Emerging Artist Category for his first submission to the UOB Painting of the Year competition, Chaichana Luetrakun decided to apply for the Established Artist Category in the following year and became the top winner of the 2019 UOB Painting of the Year (Thailand). “As an artist, winning the UOB Painting of the Year competition is an important stepping stone to elevate my name and my artworks to the global arena. This competition stands out as it grants artists the unique opportunity to showcase their works both locally and regionally, allowing us to establish a presence within ASEAN and beyond.”, Chaichana Luetrakun shared.

Another artist, Mr Chok Yue Zan, was the top winner of the 2017 UOB Painting of the Year (Malaysia). In 2018, He was also selected for a one-month residency programme at the Fukuoka Asian Art Museum, Japan and UOB Art Gallery Shanghai, China respectively. “I would like to express my gratitude to UOB for providing me with this opportunity to participate in the residency programmes in Fukuoka and Shanghai. These were precious experiences in my art career that have opened my eyes to the regional art world and gave me new inspiration for my works.”, said Mr Chok Yue Zan.

Call for entries for 1st UOB Painting of the Year competition in Vietnam

The 1st UOB Painting of the Year competition in Vietnam is open to all Vietnamese citizens and permanent residents, with the call for entries closing on 6 August 2023. Participation is free. A panel of judges comprising prominent figures in the Vietnam art scene will judge the submitted artworks based on the following criteria: Message, creativity, composition, and technique. The winners will be announced at an award ceremony and the winning paintings will be showcased in a public exhibition in Ho Chi Minh City in October 2023.

The top country winner will receive VND 500,000,000 and a chance to compete for the prestigious UOB Southeast Asian Painting of the Year award, which carries a cash prize of S\$13,000, and a one-month residency programme at the Fukuoka Asian Art Museum in Japan. More information about the competition can be found at UOBandArt.com and Appendix A.



Head Office

Central Plaza Office Building
17 Le Duan, Ben Nghe Ward, District 1,
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.
Tel 1800 599 921 (Retail)/
1800 558 880 (Wholesale)
Fax (84-28) 3827 2246
uob.com.vn

News Release

The Chief judge of the panel of judges, President of Vietnam Fine Arts Association, Former Deputy Director of the Culture and Arts Department, Propaganda Department of the Party Central Committee and artist, Luong Xuan Doan, said, "I am honoured to be leading the judging panel for the 1st UOB Painting of the Year competition in Vietnam. This prestigious competition is a great opportunity for artists to showcase their talent and to have the opportunity to gain recognition in the international art market, bringing stronger value to Vietnam's fine arts scene. I look forward to seeing the entries and discovering new talents through this competition".

- Ends -

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 2,600 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 the leading patron of the arts in Asia, the Bank continues to make art accessible to a wider audience through a diverse range of visual art programmes, partnerships and community outreach across the region.

The Bank's flagship art programme is the UOB Painting of the Year competition, which was started in 1982 to recognise Southeast Asian artists and to offer them the opportunity to showcase their works to the wider community. The competition was extended to Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and in 2023, to Vietnam. It is now the longest running art competition in Singapore and one of the most prestigious in Southeast Asia.

Over the past 41 years, 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 Chomrawi Suksom from Thailand in 2022, Mr Saiful Razman from Malaysia in 2021, Mr Prabu Perdana from Indonesia in 2020, Mr Anagard from Indonesia in 2019, Mr Suvi Wahyudianto from Indonesia in 2018, Mr Sukit Choosri from Thailand in 2017, Mr Gatot Indrajati from Indonesia in 2016, Mr Anggar Prasetyo



Head Office

Central Plaza Office Building
17 Le Duan, Ben Nghe Ward, District 1,
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.
Tel 1800 599 921 (Retail)/
1800 558 880 (Wholesale)
Fax (84-28) 3827 2246
uob.com.vn

News Release

from Indonesia in 2015, Mr Antonius Subiyanto from Indonesia in 2014 and Ms Stefanie Hauger from Singapore in 2013.

Together with the UOB POY winning artists, 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 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 18th consecutive year in 2022.

About United Overseas Bank Vietnam

United Overseas Bank (Vietnam) Limited (UOB Vietnam) commenced operations officially on 2nd July 2018. It is a wholly-owned subsidiary of United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB), a leading bank in Asia with a global network of around 500 offices in 19 countries and territories in Asia Pacific, Europe and North America.

UOB established its presence in Vietnam with the opening of a representative office in 1993 and was the first Singapore bank to launch a branch in the country in 1995. Today, UOB Vietnam offers a range of personal and institutional financial services to both Vietnamese and overseas customers across the country backed by the seamless connectivity offered through UOB's regional network. In 2019, UOB Vietnam expanded into northern Vietnam with a branch in Hanoi.

For nearly nine decades, UOB has adopted a customer-centric approach to create long-term value by staying relevant through its enterprising spirit and doing right by its customers. UOB is focused on building the future of ASEAN – for the people and businesses within, and connecting with, ASEAN.

The Bank connects businesses to opportunities in the region with its unparalleled regional footprint and leverages data and insights to innovate and create personalised banking experiences and solutions catering to each customer's unique needs and evolving preferences. UOB is also committed to help businesses forge a sustainable future, by fostering social inclusiveness, creating positive environmental impact and pursuing economic progress. UOB believes in being a responsible financial services provider and is steadfast in its support of art, social development of children and education, doing right by its communities and stakeholders.

For media queries, please contact:

Name: Vu Nguyen Hoang Yen
Strategic Communications and Brand
Email: Vu.NguyenHoangYen@UOBgroup.com
Tel: 077 694 6574

Name: Pham Tieu Giang
Strategic Communications and Brand
Email: Pham.TieuGiang@UOBgroup.com
Tel: 0937 813 613



News Release

Appendix A: Judging Panel, Award Categories and Prizes

I. Judging Panel

The panel of judges for the 1st UOB Painting of the Year competition in Vietnam includes:

1. **Mr Luong Xuan Doan**, President of Vietnam Fine Arts Association, Former Deputy Director of the Culture and Arts Department, Propaganda Department of the Party Central Committee. He is the Chief judge of the panel.
2. **Mr Kwok Kian Chow**, UOB Special Art Advisor, Singapore
3. **Mr Tran Luong**, Leading visual artist, independent curator, founder of APD centre.
4. **Ms Tia-Thuy Nguyen**, PhD in Fine Arts at the National Academy of Fine Art and Architect, Kiev, Founder of The Factory Contemporary Arts Centre, ‘Top 50 most influential women in Vietnam 2019’ by Forbes Vietnam

II. Award Categories and Prizes

Established Artist Category

Award	2023 Prize
UOB Painting of the Year Award	VND 500,000,000
Gold Award	VND 220,000,000
Silver Award	VND 180,000,000
Bronze Award	VND 110,000,000
UOB Southeast Asian Painting of the Year Award <i>This regional prize is awarded to the most outstanding of the five (5) UOB Painting of the Year Award country winners.</i>	SGD 13,000
Residency Programme <i>One (1) of the five (5) UOB Painting of the Year Award country winners will be selected for a residency programme at the Fukuoka Asian Art Museum in Japan. The recipient will be selected through an interview process conducted by the Chief judges of the competition from five countries.</i>	





United Overseas Bank (Vietnam) Limited

Head Office

Central Plaza Office Building
17 Le Duan, Ben Nghe Ward, District 1,
Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam.
Tel 1800 599 921 (Retail)/
1800 558 880 (Wholesale)
Fax (84-28) 3827 2246
uob.com.vn

News Release

Emerging Artist Category

Award	2023 Prize
Most Promising Artist of the Year Award	VND 85,000,000
Gold Award	VND 60,000,000
Silver Award	VND 40,000,000
Bronze Award	VND 30,000,000



Singapore Australia Brunei Canada China France Hong Kong India Indonesia Japan
Malaysia Myanmar Philippines South Korea Taiwan Thailand United Kingdom USA Vietnam