

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – MEDIA RELEASE**

## **Brave HeARTs, Blossoming Futures: Children's Cancer Foundation Launches Fundraising Campaign, The Hope Train at Gardens by the Bay**

**Singapore, 4 November 2024** – Children's Cancer Foundation (CCF) is excited to unveil *The Hope Train x ARTrepreneur 2024* — a unique art exhibition and auction that aims to empower youth survivors of childhood cancer by providing them with a platform to showcase their creativity and resilience. The opening reception, graced by Guest of Honour Ms. Jane Ittogi, will be held at the iconic Gardens by the Bay on 5 November 2024. This event will feature the inspiring works of young artists who have overcome significant health challenges, making it a true celebration of courage and artistry.

This year, CCF embarks on a mission to empower youth survivors who grapple with employment challenges due to their health struggles. In partnership with the *ARTrepreneur* programme, CCF offers customised art skills training, equipping these young artists with the tools they need to refine their craft and improve their job prospects. During the opening reception, Ms. Ittogi will add the final brushstroke to a curated artwork, symbolising the culmination of the collaborative efforts and support for these talented young individuals.

Our campaign tagline, “*Brave HeARTs Blossoming Futures*,” captures the courage and tenacity of youth survivors. It serves as a testament to how they turn adversity into growth, inspiring hope and proving that resilience can create extraordinary outcomes. This initiative not only provides these aspiring artists with a platform to showcase their talents and skills but also opens doors to new futures and opportunities.

### **Collaborative Art Mentorships and Exhibition**

*The Hope Train x ARTrepreneur 2024* will also feature unique collaborations with artists who have used art as a medium for transformation and healing. Among them are acclaimed ex-offender-turned-artist Barry Yeow and self-taught local artist Ridhuan. Barry, founder of Art Gallery 5seventeen, has exhibited his works globally in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Taiwan, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Türkiye, and New York. Together with Ridhuan, they facilitated six art sessions with the youth survivors from May to July 2024, nurturing their creative talents and encouraging them to explore new artistic techniques.



*From left to right: Barry Yeow, Ridhuan.*

The Hope Train x ARTrepreneur 2024 exhibition will highlight the extraordinary talent of our youth artists while providing them a platform to express their personal journeys through art. Among the talented youth artists featured in this exhibition are Ariffin and Sheng Yang, whose personal journeys exemplify the spirit of resilience that The Hope Train seeks to highlight.

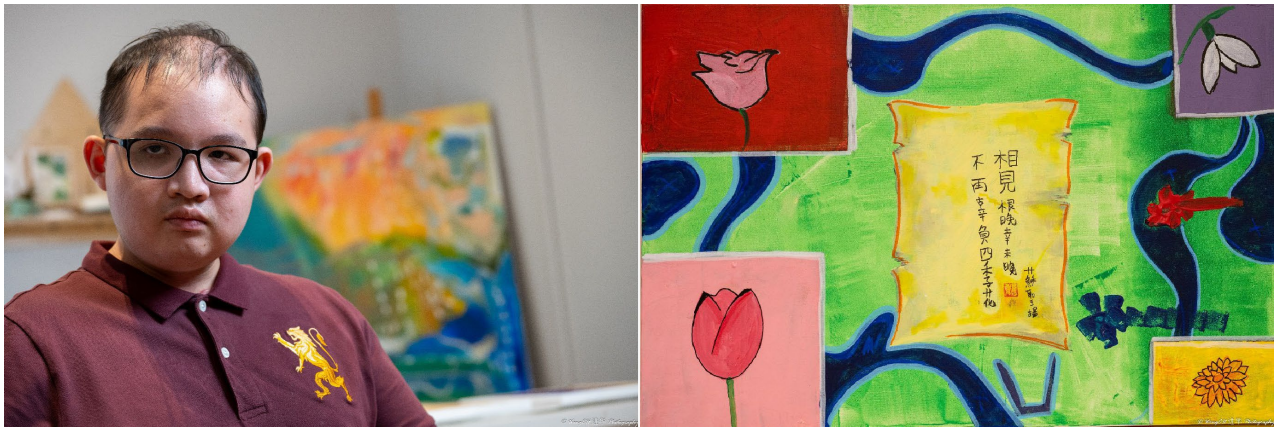
Ariffin is a compassionate individual who approaches new experiences with thoughtfulness. Despite facing mobility issues and chronic pain, his passion for art has inspired him to pursue his creative interests through the opportunities provided by the ARTrepreneur Programme.

**“Art has revitalised my sense of hope and purpose, transforming my perspective on employment,”** Ariffin shares. **“Through my work, I aim to turn fears and anxieties into whimsical forms, demonstrating that challenges can empower us.”** His art, characterised by vibrant colours and dynamic techniques, reflects his journey and serves as a beacon of strength for others facing similar struggles.



*Ariffin Nasir  
Childhood Cancer Survivor of Ewing Sarcoma  
Friend In Finality*

In contrast, Sheng Yang has embarked on a profound journey of self-acceptance and purpose following his battle with childhood cancer. **“I embrace my identity and explore new avenues for self-discovery through art,”** he explains. **“My creations are deeply influenced by my memories and emotions, as well as by Chinese poetry and the breathtaking beauty of the universe. I hope my art invites others to engage with their own experiences and fosters a deeper appreciation for the expressive power of creativity.”** Sheng Yang’s artistic exploration reflects his desire for connection and growth, offering viewers a glimpse into his world of personal transformation.



*Soh Sheng Yang  
Childhood Cancer Survivor of Brain Tumour  
The Four-Season Flowers*

Reflecting on the significance of the event, Dr. Kevin Tay, Chairman of Children's Cancer Foundation, stated, **“We are not merely celebrating the art on display, but the incredible journeys of our youth survivors. Their resilience and creativity stand as powerful reminders of the impact hope and community support can have. By nurturing their artistic talents, we empower these young artists to overcome challenges and blossom into their fullest potential.”**



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## **The Hope Train x ARTrepreneur 2024 Exhibition**

We invite the community to join us at Gardens by the Bay to support our youth survivors and participate in the art auction where each piece holds a story of courage and transformation. Your participation will make a significant difference in the lives of these young artists, helping them navigate their futures with confidence and creativity.

Let us come together to celebrate the extraordinary spirit of these young individuals as we work towards a brighter, more hopeful tomorrow.

### **Exhibition Details**

Date: 5 November 2024 – 4 January 2025

Time: 9:00 am to 9:00 pm

Location: : Mediterranean Garden in Flower Dome, Gardens by the Bay

For more information and to get involved, visit [www.ccf.org.sg](http://www.ccf.org.sg) or contact us at [hello@ccf.org.sg](mailto:hello@ccf.org.sg).

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