

Background Information

About Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts

Established in 1938, the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) is Singapore's pioneer arts institution. The academy is known for its rigorous and high-quality curriculum, innovative and practitioners-led teaching approach, diverse artistic creations and community outreach.

NAFA has nurtured 13 recipients of the Cultural Medallion – Singapore's highest accolade bestowed on art practitioners who have significantly impacted arts and culture. Another 14 alumni have been presented the Young Artist Award. Many of the academy's alumni have gone on to make their mark in the professional arts scene in Singapore and abroad.

The academy offers full-time diploma and degree programmes across three schools: the School of Art & Design (which offers studies in Fine Art, 3D Design, Design & Media and Fashion Studies), the School of Arts Management, Dance & Theatre and the School of Music. Diploma courses are aligned with the degree courses offered in partnership with reputable universities in the United Kingdom.

NAFA's courses are designed and delivered by experienced art educators and leading industry practitioners. The academic schools regularly review and refine their curriculum to reflect the changing needs of the industry. Since 1999, NAFA has received polytechnic-level funding from Singapore's Ministry of Education.

As an advocate of lifelong learning, NAFA dedicates its effort to developing a greater appreciation of the arts for all ages. The NAFA Arts Preschool (formerly the NAFA Arts Kindergarten), is the first arts-themed preschool in Singapore. The School of Young Talents offers weekend courses in Art, Dance, Drama and Music to 4- to 18-year-olds. For adults, the Centre for Lifelong Education offers enrichment courses and part-time certificate programmes.

With a rich heritage, established track record and an unwavering dedication to the highest standards of arts education, NAFA strives to live up to its mission of “inspiring learning and growth through the arts”.