

【Press Release】

Jul. 27, 2022
Benesse Holdings, Inc.

Representative Director and President CEO

Hitoshi Kobayashi

The 13th Benesse Prize will be awarded at the Singapore Biennale 2022

Benesse Holdings, Inc. (Benesse; Head Office, Okayama-shi, Okayama. Presentative Director and President CEO Hitoshi Kobayashi) in collaboration with Singapore Art Museum (SAM) will present the 13th Benesse Prize at the Singapore Biennale 2022. The prize will be awarded to an outstanding artist or artist collective chosen from the artists participating in the Biennale. The prize recognizes an artist whose work embodies an experimental and critical spirit beyond conventional practice and who is expected to have the potential to create works that will lead to "Benesse = Well-Being."

The winning artist(s) selected for the 13th Benesse Prize will be announced at the opening week of the Singapore Biennale 2022.

About the Benesse Prize

The Benesse Prize was established in 1995 when Fukutake Publishing Co., Ltd. changed its corporate name to Benesse Corporation, and it was first awarded at the Venice Biennale in the same year. It was created to recognize the artistic endeavours of outstanding artists and support those who embody the corporate philosophy of the Benesse Group, which is "Well-Being."

Since the 11th Benesse Prize (2016), the Benesse Prize has shifted its focus to Asia, and has been presented to artists participating in the Singapore Biennale in collaboration with Singapore Art Museum.

In addition to a cash prize of JPY 3 million, the winning artist(s) receives a commission to create an artwork to be exhibited at Benesse Art Site Naoshima, Japan, or the opportunity to have their works collected at the Site.



11th Benesse Prize (2016)
Pannaphan Yodmanee (Thailand)



12th Benesse Prize (2019)
Amanda Heng (Singapore) (left)

[For more information regarding to publishing or press] Benesse Art Site Naoshima

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Appendix:

Past Benesse Prize Winners

- 1st Benesse Prize (1995): Cai Guo-Qiang (China)
2nd Benesse Prize (1997): Alexandros Psychoulis (Greece)
3rd Benesse Prize (1999): Olafur Eliasson (Iceland, Denmark)
4th Benesse Prize (2001): Janet Cardiff & George Bures Miller (Canada)
5th Benesse Prize (2003): Rirkrit Tiravanija (Thailand)
6th Benesse Prize (2005): Tacita Dean (UK)
7th Benesse Prize (2007): Adel Abdessemed (Algeria, France)
8th Benesse Prize (2009): Hans-Peter Feldmann (Germany)
9th Benesse Prize (2011): Adrian Villar Rojas (Argentina)
10th Benesse Prize (2013): Anri Sala (Albania, France)
11th Benesse Prize (2016): Pannaphan Yodmanee (Thailand), Soichiro Fukutake Prize: Zulkifl Mahmod (Singapore)
12th Benesse Prize (2019): Amanda Heng (Singapore)

* The 1st through 10th Benesse Prizes were hosted by the Venice Biennale. (The 2nd Benesse Prize was hosted collaboratively.)

* Since the 11th Benesse Prize (2016), Benesse Prize has been hosted by the Singapore Biennale. (collaborately with SAM.)

About Benesse Art Site Naoshima

Benesse Art Site Naoshima is the collective name for all art-related activities conducted by Benesse Holdings, Inc. and Fukutake Foundation on the islands of Naoshima and Teshima in Kagawa Prefecture and on Inujima island in Okayama Prefecture. Our fundamental aim is to create significant spaces by bringing contemporary art and architecture in resonance with the pristine nature of the Seto Inland Sea, a landscape with a rich cultural and historical fabric. Through contacts with art and nature, sceneries and inhabitants of the Seto Inland Sea region, we seek to inspire visitors to reflect on the meaning of Benesse's motto, Well-Being. In all our ongoing activities, we are committed to foster a relationship of mutual growth between art and the region, aiming to make a positive contribution to the local communities.

To learn more, visit <https://www.benesse-artsite.jp/en>

About Benesse Holdings, Inc.

Guided by the corporate philosophy, "Benesse = Well-Being", the Benesse Group conducts business in the fields of education, language/global leadership training, lifestyles, and senior/nursing care, helping every customer to nurture their desire to learn and to solve problems throughout their lives. Group companies include Benesse Corporation which runs Shinkenzenmi: correspondence courses for children from preschool to high-school ages, Shinken Simulated Exams and student pocketbooks; Udeemy, one of the world's biggest video learning platforms as the Japanese partner; Benesse Style Care Co., Ltd., Japan's leading operator of senior and nursing homes. Benesse Holdings, Inc. has been working on community development utilizing art for more than 30 years at Benesse Art Site Naoshima, together with Fukutake Foundation. Benesse Art Site Naoshima and the Benesse Prize are activities consistent with the Benesse Group's sustainability vision and they will contribute to create a sustainable future.

To learn more, visit <https://www.benesse-hd.co.jp/en/>

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About the Singapore Biennale 2022

visit <https://www.singaporebiennale.org>

About the Singapore Art Museum

Singapore Art Museum opened in 1996 as the first art museum in Singapore located in the cultural district of Singapore. Known as SAM, the museum presents contemporary art from a Southeast Asian perspective for artists, art lovers and the art curious in multiple venues across the island, including a new venue in the historic port area of Tanjong Pagar.

The museum is building one of the world's most important public collections of Southeast Asian contemporary art, with the aim of connecting the art and the artists to the public and future generations through exhibitions and programmes. SAM is working towards a humane and sustainable future by committing to responsible practices within its processes.

To find out more, visit www.singaporeartmuseum.sg.