Arts For Good Fellowship

The Singapore International Foundation and NalandaWay Foundation had jointly organized the "Arts for Good Fellowship" program in the month of February, 2020 at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. This global forum periodically brings together a dynamic group of arts educators, practitioners and programmers to share best practices in artistic collaborations and working with diverse communities. This year we had 32 fellows from across the globe who converged at Delhi, India, for a week of learning and collaboration, which ended with the open-to-the-public event at the Juniper Hall of The India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, on the 14th of February, 2020.

The fellowship program had started on the 10th of February, 2020, and was geared towards sharing of best practices, building capacity and learning key skills and knowledge for the 32 fellows attending. It also provided them an opportunity to connect with professionals from an international ecosystem who are keen in harnessing the arts for social change.

The first two days of the program (February 10 and 11, 2020) were an intensive learning journey with artists and senior professionals from notable organizations sharing insights into their work and how they have been able to make strong social impact. We had thought provoking discussions by representatives from the human rights organization, Breakthrough, and capacity building workshop conducted by experienced social enterprise catalyst, Manisha Gupta, founder and CEO of START UP!. 
The next two days (February 12 and 13, 2020) of the program offered Fellows hands-on opportunity to work directly with the communities. One of the community projects at the program saw Fellows from Indonesia, India, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and USA leading 30 underprivileged children from the NalandaWay Art Lab program on an art activity that embraced their individuality through self-portraits.

On the last day of the Fellowship Meet, the Arts for Good Forum was graced by Mr Lim Thuan Kuan, High Commissioner of the Republic of Singapore to India. The Forum had Dr Pawan Sudhir, Head, Department of Education in Arts and Aesthetics, National Council of Education Research (India), deliver a keynote address on the integration of arts into classroom education, as well as the Indian government’s efforts behind it and the challenges faced.

“I appreciate how the Arts for Good Fellowship creates circles of creative expression, cross-cultural compassion and convergence among artists and social programmers, through which the impact of their individual creativities is multiplied and harnessed towards collective action for transformative social change”, shared Filipino A4G 2019 Fellow Pia Ortiz-Luis.

The Arts for Good (A4G) Fellowship aims to grow the Arts for Good ecosystem, through a community of practice that harnesses the power of arts and culture to create positive social change, which is the credo that NalandaWay totally supports in all the work that we do.