



Wildlife Conservation Nepal



Photo: WCN/NPP



Photo: WCN/NPP



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## GENERAL REPORT

ArtLife – the Art Program for Conservation

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## PROGRAM TEAM

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**Program Director:** Ms. Sanjeevani Yonzon Shrestha, WCN

**Program Instructor:** Ms. Priyanka Rana landoli, The Crafty Cat Art Club

**Program Coordinator:** Mr. Rohan Shrestha, WCN

### **NPP Support Team:**

Ritu Gurung KC

Nabin Gopal Baidya

Subash Chandra Kharel

Rajeshwar Rijal

Sarita Pandey

Sabin Maharjan

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# ArtLife

## I. Background and Introduction

### A. The Art Program for Conservation

Art is a window to see the world around us. It gives us a medium to express our feelings, emotions, state of affairs in society and marvel at both beauty and problems in our world. It depicts life and can touch people at human level, beyond borders, backgrounds and timeline. Thus, Art has been an exclusive medium of communication for WCN to connect with children and the public on pertinent issues of the environment and to magnify the beauty of nature. Since 2002, WCN has been working with artisans and organizations on numerous projects to promote nature conservation through art- be it through illustrations to depict state of the environment, pictorial books for children and teachers and scientific drawing collection.

WCN also holds Art competitions, workshops and exhibitions to create awareness programs through art. More than anything WCN prefers to work on varied mediums to bring people from different backgrounds and age groups to a common platform to understand nature connect. Therefore, through ARTFLIFE, WCN reaches out to people for this common connect.

### B. Project Description:

'ArtLife' WCN's 3D artwork competition open for schools of Kathmandu Valley. With this competition, WCN/NPP intends to communicate a strong message to the public so that we can collectively find solutions for the current environmental crisis in Kathmandu Valley. This year for the competition the theme is 'Environment and Pollution'. Pollution is one of the major environmental crisis we are facing today it would be great to have creative input from the students to create sculptures/installations from the used or waste materials.

### WCN's first 3D Art Competition & Exhibition

WCN/NPP together with artist, Ms. Priyanka Rana-landoli from The Crafty Cat Art Club, UK announced a 3D artwork competition on 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of August 2019. The theme was 'Environment and Pollution'. Pollution is one of the major environmental crisis we are facing today. One of the main objectives of the program was to create sculptures/installations from used and waste materials that will communicate a strong message to the public so that we can collectively find solutions for the current environmental crisis in Kathmandu Valley through creative input from the students. Best 3 winning concepts were selected and participating students were divided into each groups to work together.

WCN's first 3D Art Exhibition, "ArtLife", was inaugurated by Mr. Sujan Chitrakar, Head, Department of Fine Arts, Kathmandu University, amidst a gathering at WCN office at Dhapasi Height on August 8, 2019. The 3D artwork depicted the 3 winning concepts by Ms.

Mowli Shah, Grade 5, Ace School, Ms. Sony Majhi, Grade 5, Shristi School and jointly by Ms. Deepika Singh, Grade 7, Ace School and Ms. Kritika Rayamajhi, Grade 7, Triyog School. The concept based Art Installations highlighted the Kathmandu Valley's State of the Environment. The exhibition was culmination of a two-day long workshop based installation mentored by Ms. Priyanka Rana landoli, an artist, art practitioner and founder of The Crafty Cat Art Club based in Cater ham, East Surrey, UK.

More than 100 young artists had applied to the concept brief competition. The main purpose of this program was to make people take notice of the catastrophic environmental problems we are facing today in Kathmandu. The Installations were displayed in participating schools as a "Travelling Exhibition" throughout the year from 2018 to 2019.

## **II. Implementing organizations**

### **A. The Crafty Cat Art Club**

The Crafty Cat Art Club based in Caterham, East Surrey, England is an art club, which values the connection between art and emotional wellbeing in children. A fun, inspiring super creative art club for children aged 7-11 in Caterham. Ms. Priyanka Rana landoli, founder of the Crafty Cat Art Club, is an Artist and Art Practitioner who strongly believes that "every child is an artist".

The art sessions for the program was tailor-made with guidance from WCN to develop an interesting portfolio for art with waste materials. A 2-day creative workshop was developed to be led by Crafty Cat Art Club's Director, Ms. Priyanka Rana landoli. Thought was given to conduct the workshops in a calm, inspiring environment. Children were encouraged to explore and experiment with an array of materials and techniques, freely create and discover the wonderful world of Art.

### **B. Wildlife Conservation Nepal**

Wildlife Conservation Nepal (WCN)'s educational program Nepal Prakriti Pathshala (NPP) aims to contribute to higher awareness and behavioral change towards responsible natural resource use in Nepal by promoting a more hands-on Environmental Education (EE) in schools.

WCN has been working extensively to improve the quality of Environmental Education for children in line with its mission is to involve local communities, civil societies, scientific communities and conservationists in environment protection and sustainable use of natural resources so that the benefits accrued from sustainable livelihoods and safe environment reaches the grass root level.

To promote and extend the importance of Environmental Education WCN has partnered with Sattya Media Arts Collective on their latest art initiative, Art 25: Live Painting Competition, for children, young artists and general public on 27th January 2018 and 6th October 2018. The Children's round was in collaboration with WCN's Nepal Prakriti Pathshala (NPP) in which students from WCN's eco-smart

member schools who are currently implementing the eco smart school program participated.

### III. Winning Concepts

#### A. First - Our Choking World



Concept by Mowli Shah, Ace School

Concept detail: Beat Plastic Pollution - was the slogan of 2018's World Environment Day. Moreover, the need for urgent action on plastic pollution has been strongly focused all over the world as it is emerging as the greatest threat to human health and wildlife. Plastic waste has sharply deteriorated environment worldwide and Kathmandu Valley is no different. In fact, we are eating, drinking and breathing plastic in our daily lives. According to an estimate, 8.3 billion metric tonnes of plastic has been manufactured since its introduction in the 1950s. More worrisome is the fact that every piece of plastic that was ever made exists in some shape or form even today barring some small amount that has been incinerated.

Today, just in Kathmandu, its population of about one million use 4,700,000 to 4,800,000 plastic bags daily. Moreover, 2.7 tons of plastic

waste is produced daily here. Now, when we look around our Valley, river banks and landfills sites are covered with mountains of garbage – 16 per cent comprised of just plastics.

**Slogan of the art piece - WE EACH NEED TO CUT DOWN ON OUR PLASTIC USE! AND WE CAN AND MUST START TODAY!!**

Mowli says -“This model shows that soon the earth is going to be full of plastics. And the earth wants to spit it out all the plastics.”

#### Materials used for this Art

- PVA glue
- Acrylic Paints
- Used Cardboards
- Used Rope
- Old Newspapers
- Used Plastics
- Used Straws
- Exercising Ball

#### Contributing Artists:

1. Aasna Aryal (Kaasthamandap)
2. Khushi Diyali (Shrisiti School)
3. Mowli Shah (Ace School)
4. Niswartha Thapa (Ace School)
5. Raghav Shrestha (JD School)
6. Rajan Moktan (Sudesh High School)
7. Roshmi Tamang (Sudesh School)
8. Shreeyen Bhadel (JD School)
9. Yuta Raj Ueno Ghale (JD School)

## B. Second - Factories: GIVE or TAKE?



Concept by Sony Majhi, Shristi School

Concept detail: This model is based on air pollution. The theme of World Environment Day 2019 is air pollution, and how to reduce it. This is not just a health issue for individuals, but one that affects the planet we live on.

Research has shown that air pollution is so bad in parts of northern India, eastern China and the Kathmandu Valley that it reduces the lifespan of people by an average of four years. Even if action is taken immediately, and greenhouse gas emissions are capped, in the best-case scenario one-third of the remaining glaciers in the Himalaya will be gone this century. There are various types of air pollution, which is made up of a complex mixture of components that can negatively affect human health. These outdoor pollutants include particulate matter (PM), ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), carbon monoxide (CO) and other

chemicals. However, particulate matter affects more people than any other pollutant.

Coarse particulate matter has a diameter of 10 microns or less ( $\leq$  PM<sub>10</sub>) which is roughly one-seventh the diameter of a normal human hair and can block passages deep inside the lungs. Whilst fine particulate matter, with a diameter of 2.5 microns or less ( $\leq$  PM<sub>2.5</sub>), is even more dangerous because of its ultrafine size that can penetrate not only the lung barrier but also enter the blood system. Today's PM<sub>2.5</sub> value has reached up to 64 g/m<sup>3</sup>, which is higher than its standard value.

**Slogan of the art piece - IF WE CAN'T REUSE IT OR RECYCLE IT, LET US REFUSE IT**

Sony says, "Our industries not only provide the goods that we need for our daily lives but in return they take away so many the natural essentials which we need to survive"

### Materials used for this Art

- PVA glue
- Acrylic paints
- Cotton wool
- Old Large carton box
- Old red saree
- Used wire
- Used cardboards
- Old shuttlecock containers
- Old Newspapers

### Contributing Artists:

1. Aanchal Singh (Creative Academy)
2. Anusha Tamang (Sunrise Boarding School)
3. Binit Maharjan (Creative Academy)
4. Bhavya Shretsha (Kaasthamandap)
5. Muna Magar (The Skylark English School)
6. Samrat Puri (The Skylark English School)
7. Shova Chaudhary (The Skylark)
8. Slesha Siwakoti (Creative Academy)
9. Smriti Hamal (Triyog High School)
10. Sonu Maihi (Shristi School)

### C. Third - No More Pollution & Pollution Underwater



Concept by Deepika Singh, Ace School & Kriti Rayamajhi, Triyog School

Concept detail: Water pollution truly harms biodiversity and aquatic ecosystems. The toxic chemicals can change the color of water and increase the amount of minerals - also known as eutrophication - which has a bad impact on life in water. Thermal pollution, defined by a rise in the temperature of water bodies, contributes to global warming and

causes serious hazard to water organisms. Also plastics wastes are to be found in water bodies making the scenario worse. If this continues, there will be more plastics than fish in the ocean by 2050 as per another estimate. One fourth of fish are found to have plastic in their gut.

Inorganic & organic effluents, domestic waste and sewage, Hot water, poison, oil, pesticides, insecticides and fungicides, nitrates and phosphates are the major pollutants of water and they have adverse effects to the aquatic living organisms. These reduce the oxygen content of water and adversely affect aquatic flora and fauna. It has been estimated that about 75 % water pollution is caused by domestic waste and sewage. It causes spreading of water-borne disease and the toxic substances in water kill the useful living organisms and destroy the biological activity. A large volume of hot water released from many industries cause serious thermal pollution. The poisonous chemicals, which are used by farmers in their fields to kill agricultural pests, are washed from the fields into the river and are taken up by many organisms through food chain.

**Slogan of the art piece - SO LET US START TODAY...TAKE CARE OF OUR RIVERS, STREAMS, PONDS AND LAKES**

Deepika & Kritika say - "This 3D model shows the problems and the present condition of the water sources where the aquatic animals are facing the consequences. May be one day, even fish will discovered with grown legs because of water pollution, if we don't do something now."

#### Materials used for this Art

- PVA glue
- Acrylic Paints
- Sand
- Ply wood
- Old large carton box
- Old Sandal
- Used Batteries
- Old Newspapers
- Old Strings
- Plastic wastes

#### Contributing Artists:

1. Abhigya Dangol (Triyog High School)
2. Deepika Singh (Ace School)
3. Kritika Rayamajhi (Triyog High School)
4. Shreevani Shrestha (Sanskriti School)
5. Shreejal KC (Sudasha High School)
6. Fiona Sitoula (Sunrise Boarding School)
7. Kevish Shrestha (Sunrise Boarding School)
8. Sabika Bhujel (Shristi School)
9. Subin Pokharel (Ace School)



#### IV. Travelling Exhibitions

All the three installations were then put up as travelling exhibition for one month at each participating schools from 2019 to 2020. The aim of this travelling exhibition was to reach out to the entire student population and guests of the participating schools. To provide the more general idea, brief of the each installations were displayed alongside the artwork. Travelling exhibitions played a huge role on disseminating the impacts of plastic waste and highlighting the current scenario of plastic pollution in our environment. Nepali daily newspapers covered the artworks and exhibition. Here are the links:

<https://www.newskaroobar.com/posts/ आर्ट-लाइफ-थ्री-डी-कला-प्रदर्शनी-उद्घाटन>

[https://archive.rajdhanidaily.com/186881/?fbclid=IwAR1PHMO1MfBQe7qL-QzhF-bFRyWMINa8tmr4Ndv2uDONFPB43ZacBYrW\\_kE](https://archive.rajdhanidaily.com/186881/?fbclid=IwAR1PHMO1MfBQe7qL-QzhF-bFRyWMINa8tmr4Ndv2uDONFPB43ZacBYrW_kE)



Travelling Exhibition at Ace School



Travelling Exhibition at Triyog School

## V. ANNEXES

### A. Glimpses of the workshops



## B. Poster of the event announcement



### **Art Life** – WCN'S 3D ART PROGRAM FOR ENVIRONMENT



WCN/NPP together with artist, Ms. Priyanka Rana-landoli from The Crafty Cat Art Club, UK is pleased to announce a 3D artwork competition for schools of Kathmandu Valley. The theme is 'Environment and Pollution'. Pollution is one of the major environmental crisis we are facing today. We would like creative input from the students to create sculptures/installations that will communicate a strong message to the general public so that we can collectively find solutions for the current environmental crisis in Kathmandu Valley.

#### OBJECTIVES

- To make the people of Kathmandu aware of these catastrophic pollution problems we need to deal with.
- To make people aware of their individual, personal responsibility towards these issues.
- To create a 3D piece of artwork for public display. This will be a travelling display of WCN.



#### BRIEF FOR PARTICIPANTS!

Think of what we could build that would be eye catching and puts the message across to people on environmental crisis of Kathmandu Valley. You are required to develop a 3D art design that portrays the environment problem or solution of Kathmandu Valley.

Carefully think of what material could be used to create the sculpture. For example, house hold waste, single use plastic, discarded vehicle tyres, bottle lids, plastic bags etc.

- The final 3D should be decorative and may be graphic, illustrative or abstract in nature.
- A brief description behind the idea will be considered as one of the evaluation points.
- Forms available at school or log on to [www.wcn.org.np](http://www.wcn.org.np)



#### A. Who can Participate?

This Art Program is open for students from Grade 5 to Grade 9 who are interested in environment and art. The application however must come from School.

#### B. How to Participate?

- Read the **Detailed Brief for Participating Artists** attached with the entry form carefully.
- While filling up the form, describe and sketch out your ideas on creating the artwork (sculpture) respective to the given theme.
- Submit it to your school or at WCN office.

#### C. Assessment:

- WCN team and Ms. Priyanka Rana-landoli will select the winners from the entry form you have filled up.
- 30 artists will be selected on the basis of their brief ideas however, only 3 winning installation ideas will be selected for final installation. One school can send more than 15 briefs for the competition. From each school upto three best briefs will be selected as semi-finalists. All selected participating artists will also get to participate in a full day art workshop from Ms. Priyanka Rana-landoli

**The event will be of 2 days; training session with Ms. Priyanka Rana-landoli on first day (5<sup>th</sup> July) and installation of the sculpture on the second day (7<sup>th</sup> August).**

#### REGISTRATION DETAILS

One school can send upto 15 briefs for the competition. From each school best three briefs will be selected as semi-finalists. Applicants can be from Grade 5 to Grade 9.

**Entry fee:** Rs. 1000 (per school)

**Venue:** WCN office, Dhapasi Height, Kathmandu

**Phone no.:** 01-4375460

**Date:** 5th August and 7th August, 2019

**Time:** 10 am to 2:30 pm (\*Lunch will be provided during the program)

#### PRIZES FOR THE WINNERS

**Best 3 briefs will be awarded with Rs. 5000/- each.**