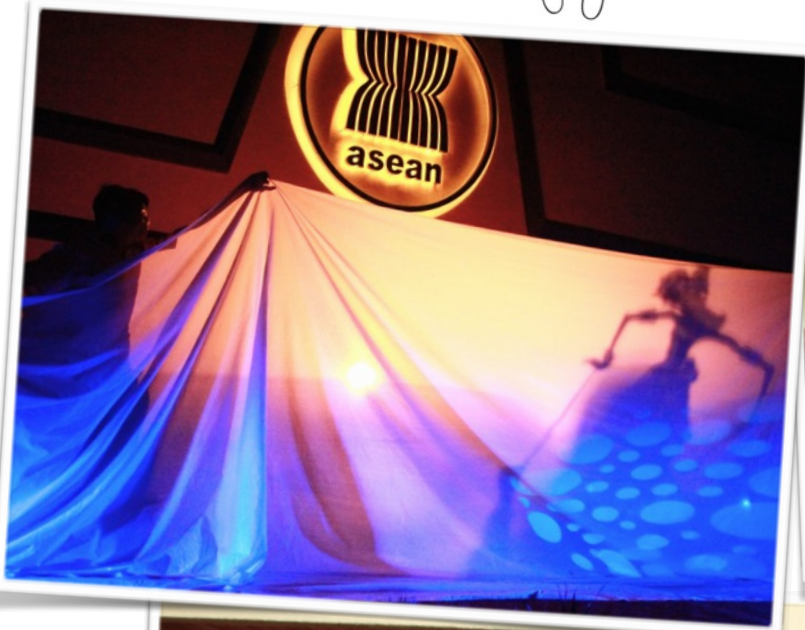


APEX

ASEAN Puppets
Exchange



Building One ASEAN Heritage



ASEAN Puppets Exchange

Building One ASEAN Heritage

The ASEAN Puppets Exchange programme (APEX) was initiated in 2014 to **develop and strengthen a united yet diverse community and cultural identity among ASEAN's puppet artists.**

This is to support ASEAN's goal to forge a common identity and build a caring and sharing society which is inclusive and where the well-being, livelihood, and welfare of the peoples are enhanced.

APEX's goals include:

1. Developing an inclusive workshop for all ASEAN member states' puppet traditions and heritages;
2. Growing an artist network that embraces all ASEAN languages, skills, crafts, cultural influence, technologies and audience;
3. Introducing ASEAN's communities and artists to APEX's model of intercultural growth for the development and progress of a One ASEAN community.



Above: ASEAN's artists collate ideas over lunch after rehearsals.



Left: Wawan (Indonesia) presents different forms for the same character and story.

Right: Thet Thet (Myanmar) teaches Sopheavouth (Cambodia) her style of puppetry.



Programmes from November 2014 to August 2015

To date, the following exchange programmes have been organised -

a. Laos-Thai exchange:

Professional classical artists from Bangkok visit, coach and inspire community youth artists in Vientiane (November 2014).



b. Brunei-Singapore exchange:

Professional artists from Singapore of multiple heritages visit, teach and inspire community artists in Brunei (December 2014).



c. Philippines-Indonesia exchange:

Professional classical artists from Jogjakarta and Jakarta teach and demonstrate various puppet forms to community and commercial artists of Manila (March 2015).

d. Malaysia-Cambodia exchange:

Classical artists from Siem Reap and Phnom Penh visit and develop a collaborative performance of the Ramayana/Reamker with artists from Kuala Lumpur (May 2015).

e. ASEAN Puppets Exchange, Jakarta:

Puppet artists of Cambodia, Myanmar, Philippines, Indonesia and Japan create a renewed, collaborative format of the Ramayana. Artists of all ten ASEAN member states present the puppet performance "Water" for the 48th ASEAN Day (August 2015).

Top right: Joe Louis Puppet Theatre (Thailand) introduces classical Thai art to a secondary school in Vientiane province.
Above: Manila ventriloquists and classical Indonesian artists perform at Resorts World Manila.
Right: Classical Cambodian and Kelantan artists combine their opening scenes at Universiti Malaya for UNESCO Day.



Upcoming Programmes

In the upcoming years, the ASEAN Puppets Exchange intends to develop three areas to meet ASEAN's needs.

Cultural Development	Environmental Development	Social Development
Develop and promote intercultural, contemporary and traditional works of art	Promote and support disaster risk reduction (DRR) practices and infrastructures	Develop and enable lifelong skills and education among ASEAN's communities
Targets artists, businesses, tourists, cultural enthusiasts, international art associations	Targets local and international private, people and public sectors concerned with DRR	Targets schools, ministries of education, educators, children and youth, community artists
Regular collaboration and programming by professional artists	Annual fundraising and advocacy programmes by all artists	Regular workshops and outreach programmes by community artists
Raise local and international appreciation for traditional, contemporary and intercultural ASEAN works	Develop awareness, resources capabilities and support for DRR practices by private and people sectors	Reduce school dropouts and immigration of youth for an increase in local economies and identities

Below: ASEAN puppeteers take a photo with ASEAN Secretary General H.E. Le Luong Minh after their performance at the ASEAN Secretariat.



ASEAN Puppets Exchange Steering Committee

The ASEAN Puppets Exchange is coordinated by Artsolute Ltd of Singapore for fellow members of the ASEAN Puppetry Association and other ASEAN puppet enthusiasts. The APEX steering committee comprises of advisors and coordinators comprising of:

Area of Development	Name	Nationality/ Residence	Organisation(s)
Lead Coordinator	Tan Si Peng, Terence (Mr)	Singapore	Artsolute Ltd
Brunei	Haji Abdul Hakim bin Haji Mohd. Yassin (Mr)	Brunei	Penggiat Seni Tanah Air Brunei
Cambodia	Mann Kosal (Mr) Sopheavouth Vann (Mr)	Cambodia Cambodia	Sovanna Phum Art Association Wat Bo Puppet Theatre
Laos	Phannaly Thepphavongsa	Laos	Vulnerable Youth Development Association
Philippines	Prof Amihan Bonifacio Ramolete (Ms)	Philippines	Teatrong Mulat Ng Pilipinas
Myanmar	Khin Maung Htwe (Mr)	Myanmar	Htwe Oo Myanmar
Thailand	Mychy Choonaker (Ms)	Thailand	Joe Louis Puppet Theatre
Vietnam	Nguyen Tien Dung (Mr)	Vietnam	National Puppet Theatre of Viet Nam

Candidates for developments for Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore are presently in consideration. International relations are currently handled by the overall manager

Public Outreach

Outreach channels and further detail may be found on [facebook.com/ASEANpuppetry](https://www.facebook.com/ASEANpuppetry) and [#apexasean](https://twitter.com/apexasean)

Queries and interests may be directed to lead coordinator Mr Terence Tan at terence.tsp@artsolute.asia