Spring 2022 Workshops
Learning Programme for Children and Families

21 May–25 June 2022

Running in parallel with the spring exhibitions at Sharjah Art Foundation, the Learning Programme for Children and Families offers workshops conducted by professional artists working in a broad range of visual and performing arts. Designed for participants aged 6 to 15 and their families, the programme aims to teach children technical art skills in order to strengthen their creative expression.

The Spring Exhibitions learning programme includes workshops on map-making, drawing, painting, photography, embroidery and collage-making. Participants will also experiment with sound as a form of art and learn how to create cyanotype prints on paper.

Workshops take place on Saturdays from 21 May to 25 June 2022, 10:00 am to 12:00 pm, at the Collections Building in Arts Square, Al Shuwaiheen as well as Al Hamriyah Studios, Al Hamriyah. Depending on the needs of the participants, sessions are conducted in English and/or Arabic.

Sharjah Art Foundation is committed to making its programmes as inclusive and accessible as possible. Disability symbols are included with all session descriptions to indicate accessibility.

Key to symbols:

To learn more about the Learning Programme for Children and Families, email children@sharjahart.org or call (06) 568 5050.

All workshops offered by the Learning Programme for Children and Families are free and open to the public. Materials are provided by the Foundation.

WORKSHOPS

Patterns on Textiles

Date: Saturday, 21 May 2022
Timings: 10:00 am–12:00 pm
Location: Collections Building, Arts Square
Ages: 6–10
Languages: English and Arabic

Inspired by the textiles and patterns seen in the photographs of artist Gerald Annan-Forson, participants will discover the dominant trends in #SAFneighbourhood’s vibrant textile market. They will visit the nearby tailoring shops to collect fabric scraps, and then discuss their findings.
Working in groups, participants will come up with new patterns, which will be printed on plain textiles.

Cross-stitching Motifs

**Date:** Saturday, 21 May 2022  
**Timings:** 10:00 am–12:00 pm  
**Location:** Collections Building, Arts Square  
**Ages:** 11–15  
**Languages:** English and Arabic

After visiting Khalil Rabah’s exhibition, *What is not*, participants will learn basic falahi stitches, the Palestinian cross-stitching technique. They will take part in a series of embroidery exercises to become familiar with the language of symbols and motifs that have been used to record stories of generations of Palestinian people for thousands of years.

Black and White Photography

**Date:** Saturday, 28 May 2022  
**Timings:** 10:00 am–12:00 pm  
**Location:** Al Hamriyah Studios, Al Hamriyah  
**Ages:** 11–15  
**Languages:** English and Arabic

In this workshop participants will go on a tour of the exhibition, Gerald Annan-Forson: *Revolution and Image-making in Postcolonial Ghana (1979–1985)*. The tour will be followed by a workshop on basic photography skills and the different ways they apply to black and white photography. Participants will learn how to identify great opportunities for capturing a monochrome image.
Ink Drawings

**Date:** Saturday, 28 May 2022  
**Timings:** 10:00 am–12:00 pm  
**Location:** Collections Building, Arts Square  
**Ages:** 6–10  
**Languages:** English and Arabic

Inspired by Aref El Rayess’ use of black ink in his drawings, participants will depict vignettes of Sharjah after going through photographs and objects from Sharjah as an inspiration. Participants will be sketching with pencil and then inking their drawings using pens, and exploring with the different hatching and stippling techniques.

Radio Stories

**Date:** Saturday, 4 June 2022  
**Timings:** 10:00 am–12:00 pm  
**Location:** Collections Building, Arts Square  
**Ages:** 6–10  
**Languages:** English and Arabic

In this workshop, participants will be listening to different radio frequencies and stations. They will then come up with a story inspired by what they heard on the radio; the story can either be written, drawn, or a combination of both.

Chalking Up Narratives

**Date:** Saturday, 4 June 2022  
**Timings:** 10:00 am–12:00 pm  
**Location:** Collections Building, Arts Square  
**Ages:** 11–15  
**Languages:** English and Arabic
In this workshop, participants will create their own stories, inspired by Aref El Rayyes’ artworks. They will be sketching in the galleries, sharing narratives and making connections related to the material language experienced across painting, sculpture and installation in El Rayyes’ work.

**Fashion Through History**  
**Date:** Saturday, 11 June 2022  
**Timings:** 10:00 am–12:00 pm  
**Location:** Al Hamriyah Studios, Al Hamriyah  
**Ages:** 11–15  
**Languages:** English and Arabic

During a tour of Gerald Annan-Forson’s exhibition, *Revolution and Image-making in Postcolonial Ghana (1979–1985)*, participants will observe patterns and learn how they are traditionally cross-stitched on dresses and headdresses to reflect identity. Participants will sketch the most common pattern they notice in the photographs to create their own and then use different mediums and colours to build a dress on a drawn model.

**Collage Murals**  
**Date:** Saturday, 11 June 2022  
**Timings:** 10:00 am–12:00 pm  
**Location:** Collections Building, Arts Square  
**Ages:** 6–10  
**Languages:** English and Arabic

Inspired by artist Aref El Rayess’ collage on plywood artworks, participants will be working in groups to create their own collage. Using newspaper and magazines, each group will select an emotion to represent in their final artwork. They can also add drawings and writings to the collage.

**Charcoal Still Life Drawings**  
**Date:** Saturday, 18 June 2022  
**Timings:** 10:00 am–12:00 pm  
**Location:** Collections Building, Arts Square
Ages: 11–15
Languages: English and Arabic

In this workshop, participants will learn about drawing with charcoal. They will gain an understanding of how to show contrast between elements and the direction of light and shadow, and finally, how to fix the charcoal on their completed work.

Creating Maps

Date: Saturday, 18 June 2022
Timings: 10:00 am–12:00 pm
Location: Collections Building, Arts Square
Ages: 6–10
Languages: English and Arabic

In this workshop, participants will be divided into groups to create maps using different mediums. They will go for a walk in the art spaces to observe landmarks on the way and collect objects they find during the walk. Later, they will create a visual map by using the items they collected. At the end of the workshop, the groups will share the outcomes with each other and learn about the importance of mapping.

Cyanotype Prints

Date: Saturday, 25 June 2022
Timings: 10:00 am–12:00 pm
Location: Collections Building, Arts Square
Ages: 6–10
Languages: English and Arabic

In this workshop, participants will learn how to create striking cyanotype prints on paper using plastic sea waste to create marine shapes. The cyanotype photographic process for making prints utilises photosensitive iron salts to create white prints on a Prussian blue background.
Landscape and Nature Paintings

**Date:** Saturday, 25 June 2022  
**Timings:** 10:00 am–12:00 pm  
**Location:** Collections Building, Arts Square  
**Ages:** 11–15  
**Languages:** English and Arabic

Participants will go on a tour of the exhibition *Aref El Rayess* to view the artist’s paintings from his Desert series. They will then create their own paintings of natural landscapes. Participants will be given images of mountains and the desert to recreate as painting.