Spring 2018 Community and Outreach Programme

OVERVIEW

Sharjah Art Foundation presents the Spring 2018 Community and Outreach Programme, which caters to participants aged 15 and older. This season’s programme offers engaging community workshops and excursions inspired by ongoing artist exhibitions, the surrounding neighbourhood and contributions from artists and urban and cultural researchers. These immersive activities emphasise public participation, urban research, sustainability and creativity.

The foundation is committed to growing its local creative community and offers a number of opportunities for participants to come together and experience the rich heritage and dramatic landscapes of Sharjah.

All foundation events are free and open to the public.

Sharjah Art Foundation Exhibitions

Sharjah Art Foundation presents a year-round programme of exhibitions featuring the work of local, regional and international artists. This season’s programme includes solo exhibitions for artists Mona Saudi, Latif Al Ani, Anna Boghiguian, Mohammed Ahmed Ibrahim and Zineb Sedira as well as an exhibition of works from the Sharjah Art Foundation Collection, which has been organised in conjunction with March Meeting 2018: Active Forms.

#SAFneighbourhood

In an effort to reflect on, document and learn more about the narratives of the neighbourhood surrounding Sharjah Art Foundation, the #SAFneighbourhood Project aims to compile an intimate guidebook about Sharjah’s diversity in places, people and stories.

Photo Walks and Photography Workshops

Offering its established community of photographers a variety of photo walks and photography workshops inspired by foundation exhibitions, locations of historical and cultural interest and #SAFneighbourhood themes, the Community and Outreach Programme provides participants with the opportunity to experience Sharjah’s art and culture scene, meet fellow photography enthusiasts and learn new photography and visual art techniques.
Workshops, Excursions and Courses

Photo Walk and Photography Workshop: Photographing #SAFneighbourhood and Deconstructing Its Architecture
With Hussain Al Moosawi
Saturday, 10 March 2018
3:00 pm–6:30 pm
Meeting point: Al Mureijah Square

In all aspects, #SAFneighbourhood is a melting pot of the old and the new, including shops, buildings, alleyways and architecture. In this excursion and workshop, participants will take a walking journey through #SAFneighbourhood, guided by photographer Hussain Al Moosawi, to experience and capture the unique architectural and graphic elements of both the modern and historic buildings with their cameras and smartphones. The excursion will be followed by a short editing session covering simple editing methods.

Excursion and Workshop: Customising Travel Sketchbooks
With The Curious Nomad
Saturday, 17 March 2018
10:00 am–1:00 pm
Meeting point: Collections Building, Arts Square

Inspired by Anna Boghiguian’s practice of visualising and recording momentary experiences, this workshop will guide participants through the process of documenting their journeys through photographs, text and illustrations and using these images and documents to customise their own travel sketchbooks. The workshop will cover observation skills and ways to preserve memories of constantly shifting urban and natural landscapes, brief encounters with local people and new experiences with food.

Culinary Explorations: Karak Culture
With Frying Pan Adventures
Saturday, 24 March 2018
11:00 am–1:00 pm
Meeting point: Collections Building, Arts Square

Looking at one of the most favoured to-go drinks in the UAE, this workshop will explore the historical significance and preparation methods of the famous chai karak. Coming from the Hindi word kadak, which means ‘strong’, karak is a brewed tea with milk, sugar and occasionally spices such as cardamom and saffron. Participants will have the opportunity to witness the step-by-step preparation method and learn from a professional chai wala, who has been delivering chai karak and paratha sandwiches to Sharjah Art Foundation employees and #SAFneighbourhood for years. Participants will then visit nearby cafeterias on a hunt for their favourite chai karak.
Excursion and Workshop: Art from Khorfakkan
With Mohammed Ahmed Ibrahim
Saturday, 31 March 2018
9:00 am–5:00 pm
Meeting point: Information Centre, Al Mureijah Square

In this workshop, participants will tour the exhibition of Mohammed Ahmed Ibrahim’s work at Al Mureijah Square in Sharjah and then embark on a trip to Khorfakkan to create sculptures inspired by the artist’s work and hometown. Drawing on the charm of Khorfakkan, participants will collect natural materials and found objects to make sculptures. The artist will join participants in Khorfakkan to guide them as they create their sculptures whilst he recounts some of his favourite stories and experiences of the area. Transportation from Al Mureijah Square to Khorfakkan and back will be provided.

Excursion and Workshop: #SAFneighbourhood on Film
With Mazna Al Mazrouei
Saturday, 7 April 2018
9:00 am–2:00 pm
Meeting point: Information Centre, Al Mureijah Square

Informed by the work of pioneering photographer Latif Al Ani, who documented urban life in Iraq, participants in this workshop will photograph the lively and bustling streets, alleyways, shops and people of #SAFneighbourhood using traditional film techniques. They will also learn how to develop their rolls of film employing methods introduced in the workshop.

Photo Walk and Photography Workshop: Kalba Ice Factory and the Mangroves
Saturday, 14 April 2018
9:00 am–5:00 pm
Meeting point: Information Centre, Al Mureijah Square

Built in the 1970s with a view of the mangroves, Kalba Ice Factory is situated between the khor (creek) and a main road at only a short distance from the centre of the city. In this photo walk, photographers will explore the abandoned structure of the factory and witness the surreal effect of light and shadow on its remains. Participants will also be offered special access to the surrounding protected area of mangroves to view some of Kalba’s endangered wildlife. Transportation from Al Mureijah Square to Kalba and back will be provided.
Course: Narrative and Sequential Drawing for Family Stories, Folklore and Urban Legends
In collaboration with the Adult Education Programme
With Wafa Ibrahim and Manar Laham
Saturdays, 21 April – 12 May
Duration – 4 sessions
10:00 am—1:00 pm
Meeting point: Collections Building, Arts Square

While exploring a wide range of preparatory drawings, storyboards and media technique experiments, participants in this four-session course will revisit their own family stories and discuss local urban myths and traditional folklore in the context of artist Zineb Sedira’s themes of family, tradition and oral history and her comic drawings. For their final project, participants will create an illustrated realisation of a family or folkloric story, which will be exhibited at the end of the course.