

Menu

Menu

- [Home](#)
- [Khmer](#)
- [Nation](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Property](#)
- [Youth Today](#)
- [International](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Opinions/Features](#)
- [Special Supplements](#)
- [Press Release/Advertorial](#)
- [The Weekly](#)
- [Archive](#)

Menu

Wednesday, 25 January 2017 17:26:41 GMT (ICT)

[Editorial and News Contributions welcome >>](#)

—

Search for news Retrieving Suggestions Please enter search keyword.

—



- [Home](#)
- [Khmer](#)
- [Nation](#)
- [Business](#)
- [Property](#)
- [Youth Today](#)
- [International](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Opinions/Features](#)
- [Special Supplements](#)
- [Press Release/Advertorial](#)
- [The Weekly](#)
- [Archive](#)

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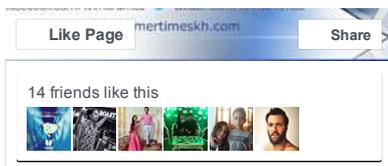
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Khmer Times / Va Sonyka Tuesday, 24 January 2017 129 views

Workshop promotes arts careers among students

[High school students paint on a white board after attending a workshop on careers in the arts.](#)

"I Love Arts," a workshop to raise awareness about careers in the arts, was held at Preah Sisowath High School on Friday.

Four guest speakers shared their experiences of working in art-related fields to audience of approximately 100 students.

They were: abstract artist Chhan Dina; Huot Dara, chief executive of the Phare Performing Social Enterprise; Samay TV founder Veal Helene; and Kor Borin, culture department chief at Institut francais du Cambodge.

So Phina, project manager for education, network and policy at Cambodian Living Arts (CLA), said the workshop was designed to serve as a guide to careers in the arts for high school students and to provide information they can use after they graduate.

"The workshop helps students learn about potential careers in the arts, lets them know about the roles of people who work in art and culture, and guides them as to what careers are open to them after graduation," she said.

Mr. Dara said the current challenges facing artists include insufficient job opportunities and the lack of income. However, Phare Performing Social Enterprise is creating more opportunities for artists.

"Now we have created more job opportunities for artists in order to help them secure a reasonable income and not have to rely on a second job," he said.

Though not often successful, art centers throughout Cambodia try to persuade students to consider careers in the art sector. Ms. Phina said CLA plans to organize more workshops in order to promote the value of arts among the younger generation. She said that at the very least, she wants young people to boost their knowledge of the arts.

Students attending the workshop raised questions about arts careers after listening to the guest speakers. Chea Chanraksmeay, a 10th grader who asked many questions, said he is very interested in a career related to art. He hopes to learn a musical instrument.

"I like working in art very much and I really want Cambodia to develop its art sector as they have done in South Korea. Many people are now familiar with South Korea through K-pop music," he said.

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