

## Japanese children experience HK artwork at school workshops

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About 130 Japanese primary school students experienced the fun of art creation by joining two art workshops hosted by Hong Kong artist Danny Yung at their school in Rikuzen-takata, Iwate Prefecture, Japan today (April 24).

The children, under the guidance of Mr Yung and three art co-ordinators from Hong Kong art association Zuni Icosahedron, were able to develop their creative talent by designing their own art piece based on the “Tian Tian Xiang Shang” statue created by Mr Yung.

Watching the children produce their artworks during the workshop, the Principal Hong Kong Economic and Trade Representative (Tokyo), Ms Sally Wong, was very impressed by their creativity.

“Art is an important form of appreciation of life, nature and the world. In experiencing art and artistic creation, children can develop their aesthetic sense, creative thinking, power of expression and communication. They can also experience joy and satisfaction through creation.

“This workshop enables the children to explore their artistic talent and get a taste of foreign culture. It is also a kind of cultural exchange between Hong Kong and Japan,” Ms Wong said.

The workshop is part of an art project titled “Hong Kong + Japan: Crossing Partnership in Creativity” organised by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Tokyo). One of the workshops’ aims is to enhance collaboration between Hong Kong and Japan in the area of art and creative industries.

The children’s works will be displayed at a “Tian Tian Xiang Shang” statue exhibition to be held in Tokyo from May 15 to 20 together with others created by Japanese designers as well as and Hong Kong designers and students.

“Through these activities, Japanese children will contribute to the

fostering of cultural ties between Japan and Hong Kong, which will also help enhance friendship between the people of the two places,” Ms Wong added.

The Hong Kong + Japan: Crossing Partnership in Creativity project is one of the events to mark 2012 Hong Kong Design Year and to celebrate the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

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