



SUNSHINE ARTS & MUSIC PROGRAMME VIETNAM

ANNUAL REPORT 2018



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ABBREVIATIONS

BIS	British International School
CNCF	Christina Noble Children's Foundation
DOLISA	Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs
HCMC	Ho Chi Minh City
MOLISA	Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs
SSMC	Sunshine Social & Medical Centre



REPORT 2018

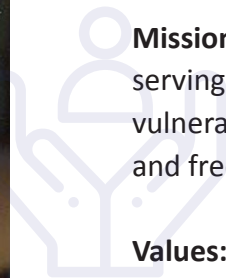
OUR VISION, MISSION, VALUES



Vision: A united world where children are free from suffering, poverty, exploitation, fear, and oppression. Where children are aware of their fundamental human rights.

Mission: The Christina Noble Children's Foundation is dedicated to serving the physical, medical, educational and emotional needs of vulnerable children. We believe that every child deserves love, respect and freedom from all forms of exploitation.

Values: Our values represent our beliefs and guide how we behave. They are: Love, Compassion, Respect, Honesty, and Integrity.





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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Heartfelt thanks and deep gratitude for the very generous support of **The Sovereign Art Foundation Hong Kong**, who since 2011, have been our annual primary sponsors of the Sunshine Arts & Music Programme. We cannot express enough just how much of an impact this on-going generous support has meant and which has been instrumental in CNCF fulfilling our founder Christina Noble's mission of giving children in our care an emotionally rich and happy childhood. By introducing our young people to creative experiences, they learn the power of self-expression and self-exploration, which helps them build a strong platform upon which they can build well-rounded lives where then can grow and flourish. CNCF is about our children thriving, not just surviving, and the prolific support and belief in our work we have received from **The Sovereign Arts Foundation Hong Kong** has allowed us to deliver the commitment and promise we make to our children, that every child deserves a happy childhood.


We also thank Vinspace Art Gallery and InPages for providing the Linoleum Cut workshop for the Boys' and Girls' Sunshine Homes (instructors provided by the Tin Em Project) and for buying the students' artwork, printing notebooks using their artwork, and returning profits earned to CNCF.

Thank you to the British International School, Caravelle Hotel, Saigon Trade Center, Starbucks, and The Deck Restaurant HCM City for hosting our Choir and Dance team performances and for providing food and gifts to the children.

Finally, thank you to Ms. Nhung Vo for teaching dance workshop to the Dance class.

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PROGRAMME OVERVIEW



ESTABLISHED	1997
LOCATION	Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC)
OBJECTIVES	To use the transformative power of the arts to enable disadvantaged children to build their self-esteem, self-confidence, and social skills and develop into happy, fulfilled, and expressive young adults by allowing them to explore their imagination and creativity in a safe, supportive, and loving environment
PROGRAMME COMPONENTS	Classes and workshops in music (instruments and choir), dance, and visual arts
BENEFICIARIES	Children from the Sunshine School, SSMC, Boys' and Girls' Sunshine Homes, Child Sponsorship Programme, and other disadvantaged and/or street children in HCMC.
LOCAL PARTNERS	MOLISA (through the SSMC) and DOLISA (through the Sunshine Homes)
CNCF INVOLVEMENT	Fully responsible for funding, programme management, monitoring, and evaluation



CNCF MANAGEMENT

Helenita Noble, CEO; Son Thu Trinh, Director of Operations Vietnam; David Tran, Programme Manager

CNCF STAFF

Art Teachers: Nguyen Lan Phuong, Hang Thi Ngoc Hien, Le Thi Thien Huong; Music/Organ/Choir Teacher: Ho Thi Phuong Anh; Guitar/Piano Teacher: Pham Phu Gia Cat; Dance Teacher: Do Thi Xuyen Nhu

MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Because CNCF is directly responsible for funding and programme management, we conduct regular monitoring and evaluation activities. The programme manager conducts monitoring visits during programme activities. Internal staff hold weekly meetings to discuss programme related issues and updates. CNCF staff send monthly reports and semi-annual reports to the Board of Management and an Annual Review of the programme is sent to all stakeholders. Most importantly, the progress the children are making is displayed in talent shows and performances throughout the year

2018 ACTUAL COSTS

USD \$20,591.00

FUTURE PLANS

In 2019, in addition to maintaining our current arts and music curriculum, we plan to reassess the program and make changes where needed, increase the number of students involved in the extracurricular classes, and continue to organise workshops with professional artists and musicians. We also aim to provide more excursions that inspire the students' creativity

REPORTING PERIOD

January – December 2018



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2018, the Sunshine Arts & Music Programme continued to provide disadvantaged children from impoverished backgrounds access to creative activities including visual art, music, and dance. Through these activities, children built self-esteem, confidence, and social skills that will help them develop into happy, fulfilled, and expressive young adults.

DURING 2018

200
CHILDREN

participated in the Arts & Music Programme from our Sunshine School, Sunshine Homes, and Child Sponsorship Programme. Classes offered included General Art & Music, After-School Art, Dance, Aerobic Dance, Keyboard, Choir, Guitar, and Piano. In addition to lessons, children participated in excursions, received visits from art groups and professional dancers, and performed at CNCF and community events.

IN 2019

We plan to increase the number of students involved in the extracurricular classes and continue to organise workshops with working professionals. We also aim to provide more excursions that inspire the students' creativity.



6,265
CHILDREN

have been assisted by the Sunshine Arts & Music Programme in Vietnam



“



High on the wall is a painting done by one of my Sunshine Children. The painting keeps fresh in my mind the reason I am here. The little boy who painted it said it represented what he wanted most in the world; sunshine and flowers for happiness, a red heart for love and a schoolhouse which represented an education. For me, this picture proves that children, no matter where they come from, need essentially the same things.

- Christina Noble OBE -



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PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

CNCF strongly believes in the transformative power of the arts. Exercising creativity helps disadvantaged children build self-esteem and develop into happy, fulfilled, and expressive young adults. We believe that an education without exposure to the arts is not a complete education.

Art and music play a crucial role in the social, intellectual, cognitive, and emotional growth and development of all children. Art and music can help children control their emotions, which is a critical skill for all children and is particularly vital for the children our Foundation serves who are raised in poverty and experience daily emotional stress. Through creativity, children can express themselves more freely and effectively and develop self-confidence and self-awareness.

Education in the arts can also enhance critical thinking and creativity. During a child's school years, there is a tremendous opportunity to counteract the negative impacts of poverty. For example, music lessons can improve neural function and academic performance in children.

Our Sunshine Arts & Music Programme offers classes suitable for all our children, whether they are new to studying art and music and just learning the basics, or they have a specific talent and want to deepen their studies and hone their skills. We provide the children with a diverse range of creative activities, allowing them space to explore their active imaginations in a structured and supportive environment. The aim of our programme is to nurture the children's innate creativity by introducing them to various avenues of artistic expression, and in doing so, facilitate the manifestation of their imaginative landscapes, helping them effectively communicate their thoughts, feelings, and emotions.

Programme activities foster individuality and self-reflection, but also encourage group work, community, and togetherness. This dual focus is achieved by offering a range of activities, some of which are more introspective, where the children are encouraged to work independently, and others that emphasise group coordination, sharing of ideas and working together to complete tasks.

By providing our children an arts education, we introduce them to an alternative way of learning, one which is often more suitable to their individual needs.

The Arts & Music Programme currently offers a general arts and music class and more specialised classes in dance, choir, advanced art, guitar, keyboard, and piano.

OUR YEAR

The Arts & Music Programme operates across four of our Foundation’s Projects: the Sunshine School, the SSMC Day Care, the Sunshine Homes for Boys and Girls, and the Child Sponsorship Programme. Underprivileged community children are also allowed to join if classes are below full capacity. 2018 was an exciting year for the Sunshine Arts & Music Programme. In addition to the regular activities, the children also participated in a variety of extra events and workshops. Students from the Sunshine School interacted with professional artists and musicians and showcased their talents at various events.

IN 2018

200 CHILDREN participated in programme activities.

143 STUDENTS

from our Sunshine School (143) took part in a compulsory General Art & Music class and extracurricular courses in choir, dance, and musical instruments. In addition, girls and boys from our Sunshine Homes participated in dance and art classes and children from the SSMC participated in an aerobic dance class.

2018 Sunshine Arts & Music Programme Participation



General Art & Music Class

Choir

Guitar



Piano

Keyboard

Dance



SSMC Aerobic Dance

After-School Art

Boys' Home Art



Girls' Home Art

Girls' Home Dance

QUOTES



I really like to mix colours and the feeling to create. Art lightens up my stress, plus I like being with my classmates. I think most importantly, I understand life more.

- Sunshine Girls' Home Art Class participant, age 14 -



Piano helps me to feel relaxed and creative. I can play alone. I'm learning a lot from my teachers, so I really want to improve my skills.

- Piano Class participant, age 16 -



When Ngoc Lan is doing artwork, she shows attention to detail and works quietly. She isn't like this when she does her academic work. Art class really focuses her attention.

- Ms. Xoa, Sunshine Girls' Home guardian -



Huong's parents passed away years ago and it's just the two of us now. I am happy she is in art class and is learning the piano because I think it can help her cope with her parents passing away.

- Grandmother of Art and Piano Class participant -





2018 HIGHLIGHTS

SUNSHINE CLASSROOM MURAL

touch-up by head art teacher.

DANCE AND CHOIR PERFORMANCES

at Graduation Day, International Children's Day, Mid-Autumn Festival, Christmas, and Teacher's Day.

LINOLEUM CUT PRINTING WORKSHOP FOR SUNSHINE BOYS' AND GIRLS' HOME

(16 students participated)

presented by Tin Em Project in collaboration with Inpages and Vinspace Art Studio.

ART EXHIBITION HELD AT HCMC ART ASSOCIATION

(40 students participated)

40 pastel drawings and 5 paintings by students from the General Art, Advanced Art, and Sunshine Boys' and Girls Homes art classes.

ERICA AND FURIO FROM CNCF ITALY

visited dance and art classes to shoot a promotional video.

PAINTINGS GIVEN TO VIP GUESTS

from British Business Group Vietnam and the British Consulate General.

DAM SEN WATERPARK EXCURSION FOR CHRISTMAS CHOIR AND DANCE TEAM MEMBERS

(33 students participated)

CHRISTMAS CHOIR AND DANCE TEAM PERFORMANCE

(25 students participated)

at Starbucks, Saigon Trade Center, Caravelle Hotel, The Deck Restaurant, and British International School.

DANCE WORKSHOP WITH GUEST DANCER NHUNG VO

(7 students participated)

NEW KEYBOARD CLASS

added to curriculum.





PROGRAMME ACTIVITIES

Art

Our art classes are designed to be a fun exploration of and an introduction to art styles and techniques. Our children express their creativity through visual arts such as crafts, drawing, and painting. Our children love creating art; they produce vibrant colours and imaginative imagery with ease, transforming blank canvases into exciting and captivating pieces of work.

Art class is a light into their lives'. Class is something they look forward to attending and just the act of colouring instantly relieves irritability levels. And there is much more to it. Our General Art classes focus a lot on drawings. Each child has their own art book and throughout the year, that book gets filled with numerous colourful creations from their creative minds.

General Art is possibly the most influential class of all the classes in the program just by the number of students involved. On a deeper level, this class influences the children in various ways. First, it fosters positivity and

self-progress through the use of a personal art book. And through self-progress comes reflection, better self-esteem and a higher sense of worth that will build healthy habits to tackle life's challenges.

The children who attend our classes carry many daily worries and concerns in their lives. All see and experience things a child should not be subjected to. All come from dysfunctional backgrounds. Their parents fight, they're abused by in-laws, constantly change living locations, and for many can go throughout the day on empty stomachs. It's just a few of their daily challenges so it's reasonable for our students to be irritable, unfocused, and sometimes troublesome.

General Art has been able to let those students de-stress and lower their irritability levels. Their attention is positively directed to the task at hand and all their troubles, for just a precious moment in the day, get set aside. They are allowed to escape in a safe and secure environment which enables them the precious gift of the Arts.

Our students continue to build self-management skills practicing focus and building discipline which are important for a healthy lifestyle. In addition, it has helped some of the most isolated students to open up to their

teachers for help. General Art is therapy to almost 150 students in the Sunshine School program.

The After-School Art Class builds upon the therapeutic aspects of art and dives deeply into the development of the child. This class has focused on mixing colours, design and drawing, craftwork, and improving technique. Through these activities our children practice being creative, develop fine motor skills, and they practice problem-solving skills to tackle various projects which will be useful in their future careers. Our teachers carefully guide our students to interpret, use objective criticism, and to use that information to make informed decisions to create at times stunning pieces of artwork.

Their works have been given as gifts to VIP guests and sold at various events (with proceeds going to the artist). In 2018, paintings were given to VIP guests from British Business Group Vietnam and the British Consulate General among other.

After-School Art Class aims to not only improve their art skill but works toward the healing of the child and the future development of healthy habits.





Dance



CNCF strongly believes in the power of dance and the wide-reaching benefits it can have for children. Dance affords children the opportunity to explore and communicate emotions, increase self-confidence, and enhance social skills. It is also highly physical and provides a fun and effective way for our children to improve their overall health and fitness.

Our dance classes are a fun way for our children to express themselves through body movement and to learn how to listen and work as a team. This is a very popular class and the programme was designed to attract both girls and boys. Our dance troupe performs throughout the year.

In addition to the dance classes and the classes for the girls at the Sunshine Home, we also have an aerobic dance class for our younger day care children. This class helps the children develop motor skills and includes lots of fun stretching, dancing, and learning of small routines to musical tracks.





Music

Music can inspire, relieve anxiety, and create memories that we carry with us throughout our lives. Christina Noble personally recognises the magical and reviving capabilities of music; she has described many lonely and desperate times as a street child in Dublin in the 1950s when music and singing were her only forms of escape and connection to a world beyond her own daily reality.

Our extracurricular music lessons cover both philosophy and practice of guitar, piano, keyboard, and vocals. In response to student requests, a keyboard class was added to the curriculum in 2018.

Choir

Our Choir provides the children a chance to express themselves through song. The sweet sound of our children's voices coming together in harmony is now a regular feature at both CNCF and community events. Children learn a variety of popular and traditional songs in both English and Vietnamese.

Guitar, Piano, and Keyboard Lessons

Private guitar, piano, and keyboard lessons are offered to older students who show interest. Our aim is to work with students to develop technique and an understanding of musical score reading. We schedule recitals to build the children's performance skills and showcase their talents.

OUR STORIES



Art Inspires

Ai Vy*

Ai Vy is a 10-year-old third grade student at the Sunshine School. She lives with her father and two older sisters in a one-room home. Ai Vy spends every day at school, from seven in the morning to seven at night. Her father earns approximately \$30 USD a month fixing electronic equipment. Work is inconsistent.

Ai Vy used to play on the street often and wandered around school when not in class. She sat by herself with nothing to do, and always with an empty stomach because her only meal was breakfast. She was introduced to the Sunshine Arts & Music Programme by the social worker and got involved immediately. She started with Dance class and her personality blossomed. She also greatly expanded her social circle, making friends with classmates. Since joining the Arts & Music Programme, she seems much happier at school. Her dance teacher has complimented her on her hard work and ability to learn routines quickly. This year, Ai Vy performed at five events with her dance team. Because of her success with dance, Ai Vy has joined Choir and After-School Art!



My Linh and Thanh Thao*

My Linh used to live together with her parents, older sister Thanh Thao, and two younger siblings in a shack on a trash landfill. Her father worked as a security guard for the landfill and mother collected and resold recyclables. Together, their income was \$10 USD per day. The family split up because they could not make ends meet, and My Linh now lives only with her grandparents in a one-room home. Family life has been stressful; My Linh's grandmother was forced to go back to work cleaning dishes and her grandfather became a motorbike taxi driver. Her father recently had a nervous breakdown and burned all Thanh Thao's school books.

My Linh and her siblings barely see each other, and their circumstances have been challenging.

Her older sister Thanh Thao is actively involved in the Arts & Music Programme, giving both sisters an opportunity to meet after their separate academic classes. Both girls participate in Choir, Dance, and After-School Art, which are fun and relaxed classes. The sisters have together performed for the Christmas tour and various CNCF events, enjoyed time with each other at a water park excursion and art gallery, and proudly exhibited their work at the CNCF art exhibition. They even share class meals during the After-School Art class. We are proud to have given these sisters a chance to bond and strengthen their family relationship. They continue to make memories they will share for the rest of their lives.

*Names changed to protect privacy.







Programme Graduates Excel

Nguyen*

Nguyen graduated from the Foundation three years ago. He is now in eighth grade. Nguyen was an avid participant in the Choir and Art classes. One of the events he looked forward to every year was the Christmas tour where the choir performed at various venues around the city. Although Nguyen has graduated, he and other graduates, still return for the Christmas tour. When he has time, he comes to rehearsals to help the younger students. During performances, he helps with transporting and setting up equipment. We love that Nguyen and other graduates want to remain connected with the programme and the younger students love seeing big brother Nguyen as well.

Cam*

Cam's parents passed away when she was a little girl, and she went to live with her grandmother. She joined the Foundation as a first grader. She was a quiet student, talked softly, and usually interacted most with younger students. Cam showed a talent for music in her General Music class but did not join extracurricular music classes until fourth grade when she joined the choir. Those two years of choir made a huge impact; she opened up to more friends her age and gained confidence performing in front of others. She learned songs quickly and the social worker noted she participated more than in her academic classes. Choir sparked her curiosity in the Art & Music Programme. After graduating from the Foundation, she still returns to participate in the choir. In addition, she has joined the After-School Art class and has started taking piano lessons. In just one year, Cam has already started to work with acrylic paints and is working toward a piano recital.

*Names changed to protect privacy.

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FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

The total cost of running the Sunshine Arts & Music Programme in 2018 was

USD \$20,591.00



Thank you to The Sovereign Art Foundation who have enabled CNCF to keep this project operating since 2011.

<https://www.sovereignartfoundation.com>

Thank you also to those who generously support with gift, support and time in-kind throughout the year which enables us to keep our annual costs down.

Our 2018 audits are available on line here.



SUNSHINE ARTS & MUSIC EXPENDITURE 2018

DESCRIPTION	BUDGET 2018 USD \$	ACTUALS IN 2018 USD \$	VARIANCE ACTUAL VS BUDGET 2018 USD \$
Salaries	24,122.00	19,367.82	(4,754.18)
Art teacher	4,128.00	2,178.56	(1,949.44)
Guitar teacher	884.00	417.17	(466.83)
Piano teacher	884.00	-	(884.00)
Dance teacher	1,352.00	1,105.53	(246.47)
Music teacher	2,024.00	1,619.68	(404.32)
Arts & Music Project Coordinator (partial salary)	14,850.00	14,046.88	(803.12)

SUNSHINE ARTS & MUSIC EXPENDITURE 2018

DESCRIPTION	BUDGET 2018 USD \$	ACTUALS IN 2018 USD \$	VARIANCE ACTUAL VS BUDGET 2018 USD \$
Other Operating Costs	3,408.55	1,223.18	(2,185.37)
Art class supplies	998.89	374.69	(624.20)
Dance class supplies	497.55	214.89	(282.66)
General (Food expenses for X'mas performances, excursion)	453.33	487.72	34.39
Guitar class supplies	3.67	2.80	(0.87)
Music class supplies	57.44	39.16	(18.28)
Photography class supplies	44	-	(44.00)
Piano class supplies	3.67	-	(3.67)
Stationery	150	-	(150.00)
Transportation	200	103.94	(96.06)
Contingency	1000	-	(1,000.00)
TOTAL COST	27,530.55	20,591.00	(6,939.55)



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