



ANNUAL REPORT 2020  
**ARTS & MUSIC  
PROGRAMME  
MONGOLIA & VIETNAM**

“

First you feed a child's stomach,  
then you feed their spirit.”

- Christina Noble OBE -



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## ABBREVIATIONS

<b>CNCF</b>	Christina Noble Children's Foundation
<b>SSH</b>	Sunshine Home for Boys & Girls
<b>DOLISA</b>	Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs
<b>HCMC</b>	Ho Chi Minh City
<b>VND</b>	Vietnamese Dong (currency)
<b>USD</b>	US Dollar (currency)
<b>UNICEF</b>	United Nations Children's Fund



# 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 (CNCF) 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. We establish long-term relationships with the children we support and empower them to live happy, emotionally rich, and independent lives.

**Values:** Our values represent our beliefs and guide how we behave. They are love, compassion, respect, honesty, and integrity.

# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

## MONGOLIA

### ESTABLISHED

2008

### LOCATION

Blue Skies Ger Village, Songino Khaikhan District, Ulaanbaatar  
Rehabilitation Centre For Youth, Ulaanbaatar  
CNCF Office, Gerel Center, Ulaanbaatar

### OBJECTIVES

To provide a safe and supportive environment enabling disadvantaged children to build their self-esteem, self-confidence and social skills, explore their imagination and creativity and develop into happy, fulfilled and expressive young adults through the transformative power of the arts and music

### BENEFICIARIES

Children from the Blue Skies Ger Village, Child Sponsorship Programme and Rehabilitation Centre For Youth Education Programme

### LOCAL PARTNERS

NaturDance Production, Mongolian Children's Art Centre

### CNCF ACCOUNTABILITY

CNCF is completely responsible for funding, programme management, monitoring and evaluation

### MONITORING AND EVALUATION

CNCF's Arts & Music Programme Manager conducts regular monitoring visits during programme activities. Internal CNCF staff meetings are held weekly to discuss programme related issues and updates. Monthly reports and semi-annual reports are provided to CNCF Board of Management and an annual report of the programme is made available to all stakeholders. The progress of each child is highlighted at various events such as talent shows and performances throughout the year

### ACTUAL COST 2020

USD \$20,099.31

### REPORTING PERIOD

January - December 2020

### 2021 OBJECTIVES

- To maintain our current curriculum and continue providing the creative activities that support children's happy and healthy development
- To enrich our young people's creative experience with new avenues for therapeutic and positive self-expression
- To provide greater consistency through a variety of arts and music classes in partnership with other child development organisations in the community

# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

## VIETNAM

### ESTABLISHED

1997

### LOCATION

Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC), Vietnam

### OBJECTIVES

To provide a safe and supportive environment enabling disadvantaged children to build their self-esteem, self-confidence and social skills, explore their imagination and creativity and develop into happy, fulfilled and expressive young adults through the transformative power of the arts and music

### BENEFICIARIES

Children from the Sunshine School, Sunshine Social & Medical Centre, Sunshine Boys' and Girls' Homes, Child Sponsorship Programme and other disadvantaged and/or street children in HCMC

### LOCAL PARTNERS

Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (through the Sunshine Social & Medical Centre) and Department of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (through the Sunshine Homes)

### CNCF ACCOUNTABILITY

CNCF is fully responsible for funding, programme management, monitoring and evaluation

### MONITORING AND EVALUATION

CNCF's Arts & Music Programme Manager conducts regular monitoring visits during programme activities. Internal CNCF staff meetings are held weekly to discuss programme related issues and updates. Monthly reports and semi-annual reports are provided to CNCF Board of Management and an annual report of the programme is made available to all stakeholders. The progress of each child is highlighted at various events such as talent shows and performances throughout the year

### ACTUAL COST 2020

USD \$14,988.39

### REPORTING PERIOD

January - December 2020

### 2021 OBJECTIVES

- To maintain current arts and music curriculum and reassess the programme to increase the quality of the extracurricular classes
- To continue organising workshops with professional artists and musicians and aim to provide more excursions that inspire the students' creativity

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

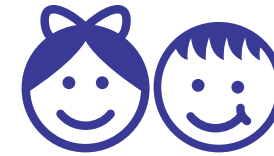
The creative arts and music play an important role in the holistic education and development of each child. CNCF's Arts & Music Programme provides children from disadvantaged backgrounds with access to creative activities including Visual Arts, Crafts, Music and Dance, enabling them to develop self-esteem, self-confidence, social skills and foster positive ways to express their feelings and emotions.

In 2020, CNCF's Arts & Music Programme activities were suspended in compliance with COVID-19 safety measures and lockdown restrictions. However, CNCF's Blue Skies Ger Village residential children were able to attend the Arts and Music classes which were facilitated inside the Village. As restrictions eased, the activities resumed to operation as our children across programmes expressed their excitement to be able to join in their usual Arts, Crafts and Music lessons. Combined with educational support and accommodation assistance, the Arts & Music Programme solidifies the holistic support of the Foundation.

Vietnam has come a long way in its socio-economic development since Christina first arrived in 1989 and, in more recent years, the Government has made great strides in its commitment to free education for all primary school aged children and increased access to well-equipped school facilities. Therefore, with the support of our government partners the Ministry of Labour, Invalid and Social Affairs and the Ho Chi Minh City Department of Education, CNCF has been able to successfully transition all of our Sunshine School students into mainstream schooling near their dwellings in their local community this year, which resulted in the graduation of our Sunshine School students contributing to the number of students participated in the Sunshine Arts & Music Programme in 2020. This is great progress for Vietnam and its commitment to its children from disadvantaged communities. The decision was also made due to the rapid development of the inner city in recent years where the School is located and more families locating to the outskirts of the city where cost of living is significantly lower. In turn, this made travel long and arduous for children and their families, with some having to travel up to 2 hours each-way every day making the journey to school hazardous and a growing safety concern for CNCF. CNCF continues to remain committed to supporting our students throughout the remainder of their education and whose welfare remains paramount to us all. All children have been transitioned on to our Child Sponsorship Programme to ensure families have monthly financial support so the children are supported with their educational needs and remain in school, which CNCF will continue to monitor.

In 2021, the Arts & Music Programme will continue to provide creative activities that support our children's healthy emotional and physical development.

In 2020,



**376**  
CHILDREN

attended CNCF's Arts & Music Programme  
in Vietnam and Mongolia

<b>188</b> CHILDREN	<b>75</b> CHILDREN	<b>103</b> CHILDREN
engaged in Arts classes	engaged in Art Therapy	engaged in Crafts classes

<b>239</b> CHILDREN	<b>59</b> CHILDREN
engaged in Music classes	engaged in Dance classes

Since inception



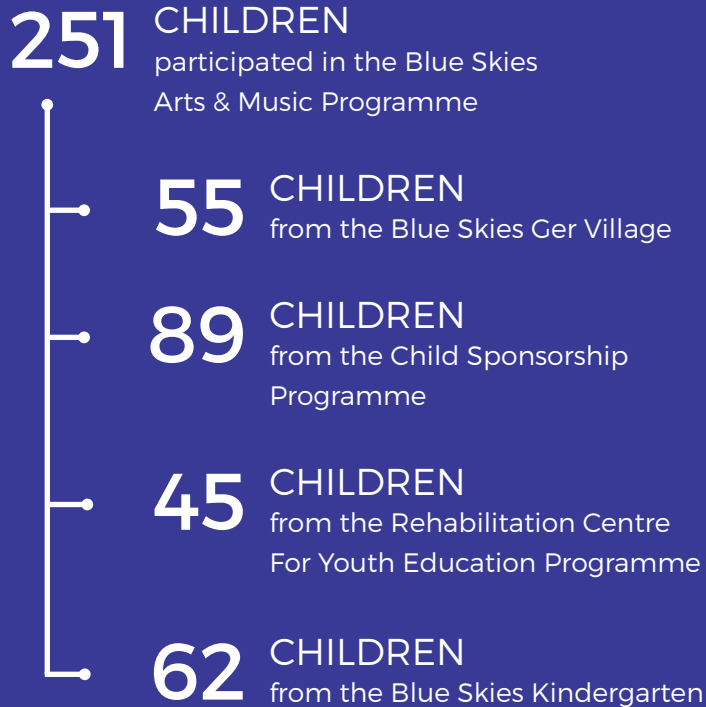
**8,685**  
CHILDREN

have been enrolled in the Sunshine and Blue Skies Arts & Music Programme, which has played a central role in achieving our mission of giving children back their childhood

# OUR YEAR

CNCF believes that an education without exposure to the arts is not a complete education. In addition to supporting a child's academic skills, through CNCF's Arts & Music Programme, children are able to develop imagination and creativity, cultivate interpersonal and social skills, and express themselves in a therapeutic and positive environment.

## MONGOLIA



### Age Group



0 - 5



6 - 10



11 - 15

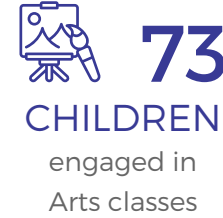


16 - 18



19 and above

### Class Participation



### Blue Skies Ger Village Participants





# OUR YEAR

## MONGOLIA

### Rehabilitation Centre for Youth Education Programme Participants

 **32** CHILDREN attended Art

 **20** CHILDREN attended Art Therapy

 **35** CHILDREN attended Music

### Blue Skies Kindergarten Participants

 **60** CHILDREN attended Music

 **15** CHILDREN attended Crafts

 **08** PARENTS attended Embroidery

### Child Sponsorship Programme Participants

 **14** CHILDREN attended Art

 **71** CHILDREN attended Crafts

 **06** CHILDREN attended Embroidery

 **11** CHILDREN attended Art Therapy

### Social Skills Development

 **04** CHILDREN attended additional Crafts classes at the Mongolian Children's Art Centre

 **200** DRAWINGS & PAINTINGS by students were displayed at the Ger Village's Art Exhibition

 **03** ARTS & MUSIC TRAININGS & WORKSHOPS were facilitated for children

### Staff Training

 **06** STAFF TRAININGS were conducted

# OUR YEAR

## VIETNAM

**125** CHILDREN participated in the Sunshine Arts & Music Programme



### Age Group



## Activity Participation



**115** CHILDREN engaged in Arts



**103** CHILDREN engaged in Music



**32** CHILDREN engaged in Dance

## Class Participation



**103** CHILDREN attended General Art



**34** CHILDREN attended Keyboard



**10** CHILDREN attended After-School Art



**10** CHILDREN attended Dance



**48** CHILDREN attended the Girls' Home Art



**31** CHILDREN attended the Girls' Home Dance



**103** CHILDREN attended General Music



**47** CHILDREN attended SSMC Aerobics



REPORT 2020

# PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

CNCF strongly believes in the transformative power of the arts on the development of a child's emotional and physical wellbeing. We believe that an education without exposure to the arts is not a complete education. Creative activities enable children to develop self-confidence and self-expression, and support the psychosocial growth as well as intellectual and cognitive development of each child.

Many of the children who arrive at CNCF had previously spent their early years in dire circumstances of abject poverty where they experience daily emotional stress and severe trauma. The Arts & Music Programme creates a safe and supportive environment for our children to explore their imagination and express themselves creatively, which remains essential to their healing and future development.





REPORT 2020

# PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

## MONGOLIA

The Blue Skies Arts & Music Programme was established as an initiative to nurture the creative talents of our children and young adults. In 2007, CNCF's tenth anniversary in Mongolia was held at the Blue Skies Ger Village, highlighted by an impressive and extraordinary concert staged by the children from the Ger Village and the Child Sponsorship Programme. CNCF CEO Helenita Noble, then proposed the initiation of a full-time music and dance programme which later expanded to become the Blue Skies Arts & Music Programme. Since its inception in 2008, **2,195 children** have been provided with access to creative enrichment activities through the Blue Skies Arts & Music Programme.

The programme offers classes suitable for children who are new to arts and music and want to learn the basics, as well as those who have a talent they wish to nurture. From making felt crafts to lessons in contemporary dance, our programme provides a diverse range of creative activities to accommodate our children's unique characters and interests, benefiting the children's social skills and enabling them to build self-confidence and self-awareness. For many of our young people who have come from exceptionally disadvantaged and traumatic backgrounds or experienced daily emotional stress, the arts can facilitate healing and give them a tool to regulate and communicate their emotions in a healthy and positive way.

# PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

## MONGOLIA

### Art

The Blue Skies Art lessons provide a learning environment of creativity and imagination for all children. During the classes, students explore different art mediums including clay, pastels, paints, and pencils whilst expressing their unique ideas and working on their artworks. We also encourage our children to reflect and grow through the arts by exposing them to art in galleries, books and other visual art forms. We believe that by creating the opportunities for our children to connect to new ideas, experiences and people, they can discover new interests and capabilities and see beyond their limiting and challenging circumstances.

#### Blue Skies Ger Village Art

The Art lessons take place every Sunday in the Ger Village classroom. The three-hour sessions are taught by professional artist, Altansukh and are open to all of our young people. The students are divided into two groups by skill level.

The beginner's class is joined by fourteen enthusiastic students where they are taught basic drawing techniques and are encouraged to participate in activities such as making posters about the Ger Village and painting coloured stones.

The advanced class is opened for children who wish to gain greater insight on oil painting, sculpture and working with clay. Throughout the year, a core group of ten students is established who have shown a keen interest in arts and great commitment to the subject. They have produced an array of captivating art pieces showcasing their artist growth and development.





REPORT 2020

# PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

## MONGOLIA

### Art

#### Art Therapy

Healing the emotional trauma that many children who come into our care have previously suffered is crucial to CNCF's work. Through Art Therapy, CNCF's Psychotherapist connects with these children and supports them in regaining trust, managing stress, developing self-awareness as well as supporting their overall wellbeing. The therapeutic techniques include drawing, painting, colouring, sculpting, and collage. By talking to our children about their art and the underlying inspiration, our psychotherapist gains a deeper understanding of our young people and works with them closely to address and resolve any emotional challenges.

All children also participate in group sessions where they are encouraged to share their thoughts and feelings and discuss how to become supportive of themselves, each other and their community. Through the creative process, our children have been able to explore their feelings, resolve emotional conflicts, manage their behaviour, develop social skills, reduce anxiety and foster self-awareness and self-esteem.

Having successfully secured funding from the Mongolian Association of State Alumni, CNCF's project 'Youth Empowerment through Art Therapy' was facilitated for children from the Ger Village, Rehabilitation Centre For Youth Education Programme and Child Sponsorship Programme. In 2020, each child aged between 5 to 18 years old attended 8 art therapy sessions, in a total of 52 groups sessions.

# PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

## MONGOLIA

### Art

#### Rehabilitation Centre For Youth Art

Each week, professional artist Altansukh Purevdorj teaches two three-hour Art lessons at the Rehabilitation Centre For Youth. For many of the students at the Centre who come from adverse conditions, this is the first time in their lives that they have been engaged in the arts. Students are taught basic drawing techniques and diverse art concepts, as the teacher closely monitors and supports each student's progress in class through Art projects.

The classes create a safe environment for the students to open up creatively and express their thoughts and feelings, enabling significant changes in their attitudes and behaviours through the development of self-confidence, self-belief, patience and pride.

#### Child Sponsorship Programme Art

In addition to the monthly financial assistance, we support every family emotionally and offer personal development opportunities such as workshops, seminars and extracurricular activities for the children in our Child Sponsorship Programme.

The Art classes take place at CNCF's office every Sunday providing children who have no access to art materials with the opportunity to further their skills and express themselves creatively. A beginners' class is organised in the morning while an advanced class is scheduled in the afternoon. These sessions are taught by a talented artist who once was living at the Blue Skies Ger Village and is now on our Child Sponsorship Programme studying at university.







REPORT 2020

# PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

## MONGOLIA

### Crafts

The weekly Craft classes have been part of our Blue Skies Arts & Music Programme since 2016, taking place in our central office. Each session last between 2 to 3 hours. During the lessons, our children learn a wide range of techniques such as sewing, stuffing, beading and following patterns.

Some of the children's beautiful and well-designed crafts include decorative gers (mini traditional Mongolian felt homes), cushions, camels, frames and felt bags. The CNCF's Craft classes enable our children to develop a greater sense of patience, concentration, listening and following instructions skills as well as creating lasting childhood memories.

# PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

## MONGOLIA

### Crafts

#### Embroidery

Taught by our Volunteer Dulamjav, Embroidery class aims to boost the creative skills of adolescents and adults. Starting from September, a three-month embroidery class was implemented for the children of the Blue Skies Ger Village, Child Sponsorship Programme and mothers of the Blue Skies Kindergarten children.

In the weekly lesson, all participants worked on a variety of projects, specifically tailored for a wide range of skills development including self-confidence and self-esteem, providing a necessary tool for children and parents to express themselves in a safe environment.

All children participated in Embroidery class enjoyed the class sessions and showed significant improvements in their skills. With the skill learned and their great commitment, three mothers of kindergarten children were able to earn stable income by embroidering for local clothing stores, supporting their families.





REPORT 2020

# PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

## MONGOLIA

### Music

CNCF recognises the importance of music in healing the soul and inspiring the mind of a child. CNCF's music classes have become a safe haven for our children to explore and develop their talents with commitment and enthusiasm. It is always clear to see their progression at our celebratory events when the children perform what they have learnt with pride and confidence.

#### Blue Skies Ger Village Music

The Blue Skies Ger Village's Music Teacher supports the children in learning a variety of instruments including Guitar, Ukulele and Piano.

This year **7 children** attended Piano lessons, **8 children** attended Guitar lessons, and **12 children** attended Ukulele lessons regularly.

In addition to learning Contemporary Music, the children attend lessons on traditional Mongolian instruments such as the Yatga which is the Mongolian half-tube zither and the Shanz, a plucked three string instrument that is commonly played across Asia. Through the Traditional Music classes, students are encouraged to gain greater insights on their cultural heritage.

Saturday is known as our music day at the village and is a time for the children to gather and take part in musically inspired games and watch inspirational movies. The children enjoy this fun time as a break from their daily schedules.

# PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

## MONGOLIA

### Music

#### Rehabilitation Centre For Youth Music

In March 2018, we extended our Music programme to the students at the Rehabilitation Centre For Youth who can now attend Ukulele, Guitar and Singing lessons two afternoons each week. The experience from the Music class enables the children and young adults to relieve negative emotions and create positive memories in a caring and safe environment as they go through some of the hardest times in their lives.

### Dance

Dance is an essential activity for our children to build self-confidence, develop social skills and improve physical health and wellbeing. The children of the Ger Village attend weekly Modern Dance and Traditional Dance classes at the Ger Village. The lessons comprise of a beginners' class for students who are interested in dance and would like to take part in the activity and an advanced Dance class for students who wish to further their skills.







REPORT 2020

# PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

## VIETNAM

Established in 1997, the Sunshine Arts & Music Programme in Vietnam offers classes suitable for our children's creative needs including basic and general classes and advanced classes to refine their skills. Classes offered included General Art & Music, After-School Art, Dance, Aerobics Dance, Keyboard, Choir, Guitar and Piano.

The programme aims 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 to effectively communicate their thoughts, feelings, and emotions and enhancing critical thinking and creativity. By offering a range of activities where the children are encouraged to work independently and others that emphasise group coordination and ideas sharing, the programme fosters individuality and self-reflection, but also encourages teamwork and togetherness.

Since inception, the Arts & Music Programme in Vietnam has assisted **6,490 children** and nurtured their imagination and creativity in a structured and supportive environment.

# PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

## VIETNAM

### Art

The Sunshine Art classes are designed to be a fun exploration of thoughts and feelings expressed through art with the introduction to art styles and techniques. Our children express their creativity and produce vibrant and captivating pieces of work through visual arts such as crafts, drawing and painting.

### General Art

The General Art classes focus on basic drawing and colouring techniques and is an introduction to the After-School Art class which dives deeper into art techniques and style. In this class, students learn the basic concepts of colour, patterns and size, borders and boundaries and they are enabled to develop motor skills using pencils and scissors. All children are

empowered to participate in CNCF's Art Exhibition where their drawings are selected to be displayed. The General Art class has supported the children in various ways to foster positivity and self-motivation. For many of our children who come from dysfunctional and abusive backgrounds or who do not receive enough support from their families, the daily life challenges have a vastly greater impact on the quality of their childhood and their psychological wellbeing. This class is a safe environment allowing the students to build self-esteem, reflection and self-regulation, to develop healthy emotional outlets and to build healthy habits to tackle life's challenges.

Children are enabled to direct positive attention to the task at hand and channel their feelings and thoughts, for just a precious moment in the day. In addition, it has become a therapeutic outlet for some of the most isolated students to open up to their teachers about their experiences and begin to heal.





REPORT 2020

# PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

## VIETNAM

### Art

#### After-School Art

The After-School Art classes build upon the therapeutic aspects of art and dive deeply into the development of the child. Students in the class are able to advance their skills and techniques on mixing colours, painting, drawing and crafting. Our teachers carefully guide each student in the process of artwork creation. Through these activities the children develop creativity, fine motor skills and problem-solving skills to tackle different art projects which remain the essential skill set for future careers as well as healing the child's emotional challenges and nurturing healthy habits. Our children's artworks have been given as gifts to VIP guests and sold at varied events and exhibitions with proceeds directly going to the artist.

In 2020, due to COVID-19 restrictions and the transition of all Sunshine School students, the After-School Art classes were not implemented.

#### Girls' Home Art

The weekly Girls' Home Art classes focus on drawing and painting techniques and is open to the girls living at the Sunshine Girls' Home. The classes enable the development of every child's creativity whilst providing an opportunity to promote positive expression of emotions in the setting of their own home. The children's artworks are showcased at CNCF's Art Exhibition.





REPORT 2020

# PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

## VIETNAM

### Dance

CNCF believes in the power of dance and its benefits to a child's comprehensive development. Dance brings the children the opportunity to explore and communicate emotions, increase self-confidence and enhance social skills. It is also a fun and effective physical activity for our children to improve their overall health and fitness.

#### Girls' Home Dance

The 90-minute Girls' Home Dance class takes place at CNCF's Sunshine Girls' Home weekly. This is the opportunity for the girls to practise dance routines and develop teamwork, listening, physical and spatial skills. The lessons mostly focus on choreographed contemporary dance with occasional traditional routines.

#### Sunshine Dance

The Sunshine Dance class is opened for both boys and girls, where they learn to control body movements and work in groups. The regular lessons support a child's sense of rhythm, coordination, motor control, balance and spatial perception. The students of the dance class have opportunities to prepare for performances at varied CNCF's events.

#### Sunshine Social & Medical Centre Aerobics (SSMC Aerobics)

The SSMC Aerobics class is designed for children at CNCF's Son Ca Kindergarten, focusing on early childhood movement and development. Each session is limited to 10 children to ensure maximum benefits. The children are enabled to form and develop motor skills with fun jumping, stretching, dancing and learning activities.

# PROGRAMME DESCRIPTION

## VIETNAM

### Music

CNCF believes that a child's holistic growth is not just dependent on academic development. For our Founder, Christina Noble, music gave her strength in some of the hardest moments in her life. For many of our Sunshine children, music relieves anxiety and creates positive childhood memories that they carry throughout the rest of their lives.

### General Music

In the General Music class, children learn basic music philosophy including components of rhythm and note reading through guided lessons which are designed to speak to various emotions. Through songs and games, they are able to express those emotions and improve their listening skills.

### Choir

Choir provides the children a chance to express themselves through a variety of popular and traditional songs in both English and Vietnamese. The class also creates the opportunity for students to develop teamwork skills as they perform together and support each other throughout the performance. The sweet sound of our children's voices coming together in harmony is now a regular feature at both CNCF events such as International Children's Day, Graduation Day, Christmas and Teacher's Day Celebrations.

The class also creates the opportunity for students to develop teamwork skills as they perform together and support each other throughout the performance.

The annual CNCF Christmas Choir is an opportunity for our students to practise and showcase their talents to the local community. This year the Christmas Choir was not facilitated due to COVID-19 restrictions.

### Guitar, Piano and Keyboard

Guitar, Piano and Keyboard classes provide an encouraging environment for students to practise together and improve their reading skills and social skills. Private Guitar, Piano and Keyboard lessons are offered to older students who show interest. Our aim is to work with students to develop techniques and an understanding of musical score reading. We schedule recitals to build the children's performance skills and showcase their talents.

In 2020, due to COVID-19 restrictions and the graduation of our Sunshine School students, Guitar, Piano and Keyboard classes were not implemented.

REPORT 2020

# MONGOLIA & VIETNAM STATISTICS

Due to the negative impacts of constant food, housing and income insecurities, many children living in poverty-stricken circumstances, who face daily distress and trauma, experience severe impacts to their mental health. Without an attentive and safe environment for self-expression and healing, these children are at heightened risk of neglect, abuse, detrimental to their social and mental development. It is therefore imperative to support these children to cultivate essential skills and provide the young people with a therapeutic environment to explore and achieve their full potential through a range of enrichment activities and programmes.



Globally,

**1 in 7**

adolescents experienced mental health challenges in 2019 <sup>[1]</sup>



In Vietnam,

the prevalence of general psychosocial challenges ranges

**from 8% to 29%**

for children and adolescents <sup>[2]</sup>



In Mongolia,

**1 in 3**

adolescents suffer from emotional or behavioural challenges <sup>[3]</sup>



[1] United Nations Children's Fund, 2019  
[2] United Nations Children's Fund, 2018  
[3] United Nations Children's Fund, 2018

# OUR STORIES

## Thriving Through Arts

Bilgee\* grew up with his mother in a dilapidated ger (a traditional Mongolian home) in the countryside, approximately 590KM away from the capital city Ulaanbaatar. Despite his challenging childhood circumstances, Bilgee was supported to enrol and then graduated from a secondary school, bringing a ray of hope to a brighter future for the family. As the family's financial hardships worsened, Bilgee had no choice but to give up his dream of tertiary education whilst struggling for survival, and eventually arrived at the Rehabilitation Centre For Youth in May.

Through CNCF's Rehabilitation Centre For Youth Education Programme, Bilgee was not only enabled to go back to school, but also to engage in a variety of Arts, Music and Crafts classes during his time in the Centre. From a shy young man to an active student in class, Bilgee's development was supported by a dedicated team of teachers at the Centre who have and continue to inspire the young man to realise and follow his passion – the Arts. Every drawing tells a story, and to Bilgee, it is where he is able to express and communicate himself creatively and openly. Bilgee is a fast learner and in just a short amount of time, Bilgee began to show significant improvements to his drawing techniques and social skills. Recently, Bilgee participated in the 'Adding Colours' drawing contest organised by the Family, Child and Youth Development department of Ulaanbaatar city, where his skill and talent was recognised with the fourth-place and a special finalist award.

CNCF is incredibly proud of the achievements of Bilgee and we believe the young man is well on his way of building a better future upon his reintegration back into the community. When provided with the right opportunities and support, every child can thrive, just like our Bilgee.

\*Name and identity changed for child protection





REPORT 2020

# OUR STORIES

## The Power Of Music

“Music is a special and effective communication tool which has its own way to reach every person. Having only been practising Yatga (a traditional Mongolian zither) for only a year, I have noticed such drastic development in my social skills and overall wellbeing.

When I first arrived at the Ger Village in 2016, I was extremely shy and unable to express my emotions. My childhood lacked a father, and my mother was struggling to make a living. Extracurricular activities were just a dream to me, until the Ger Village made it a reality. I had always been driven by the Mongolian culture and I was over the moon when I was able to engage in the Traditional Music classes as part of CNCF’s Arts & Music Programme. A zither brings out an extremely unique melody that every time I play Yatga, I feel extremely calm, happy and confident. As a result, it enables me to see and approach a matter from different angles and to become more amiable to connect with other children.

The Ger Village’s inspiring and committed music teacher has taught me basic techniques and many songs such as ‘A song of a Lake’, ‘Wind horse’, ‘Friends’, ‘Juuraa gelden’ and ‘Wonderful love’, which I am elated to learn. I hope to become a professional musician in the future. Thank you to CNCF and all the teachers at the Ger Village for everything.”

- A Blue Skies Arts & Music Programme Child -

# OUR STORIES

## Thank You From A Mother

“My name is Suren\* and I am the mother of Ninjee\*. My daughter is 14 years old and currently enrolled in the Children Sponsorship Programme. Since my husband left us seven years ago, it has been only me and my children relying on each other. It was also the time when I was diagnosed with tuberculosis. Due to my health conditions, I was unable to work and therefore we did not have any income coming in and were struggling to put food on the table. Moreover, our ger was run-down and heavily damaged that our children were shivering in the Mongolia’s winter cold. It was the hardest time of our lives.

A new chapter was opened for us when CNCF came into our lives. My daughter was enrolled in the Child Sponsorship Programme, where she is encouraged to participate in varied life skill training activities and personal enrichment classes such as Crafts, which we would never have the means to afford. Ninjee enjoys the Crafts classes a lot and often shows me her accomplishments. CNCF also gifted us a fully furnished new ger, now we can feel safe and secure in the warmth of a functional home. My children can now attend schools and are much happier, they have also started to make lots of new friends.

I am so thankful to CNCF and all of the kind-hearted people who support and helped to change our lives. All these miracles came to us thanks to you. Thank you.”

- Parent of a Blue Skies Arts & Music Programme Child -

\*Names and identities changed to protect privacy





REPORT 2020

# OUR STORIES

## A Passion For Arts

Hanh\* was a vivid and active student of CNCF's Sunshine School who excelled not only in her academic education but also extracurricular activities. Hanh's parents divorced when she was just 5 years old. Growing up in significant hardship and dire circumstances, where child enrichment programmes are not deemed as a necessity but rather a luxury, Hanh dreamt of an opportunity to engage in extracurricular classes and explore her talents. CNCF then became a safe place for Hanh to develop holistically with guidance, safety and care.

It was through the Sunshine Arts & Music Programme that Hanh was given the opportunity to explore and find her passion in Arts and Dance. Hanh often received positive feedback from her teachers and carefully followed the teacher's instructions and advice. As continuous practice enables further development of her skills, Hanh always completed her assignments on time and always with 100% effort. Hanh's talent for the arts continue to facilitate her development as she gains self-expression and improves her drawing techniques.

\*Name and identity changed to protect privacy



REPORT 2020

# OUR STORIES

## Blossoming Through Music

Giang\* has been living under the care of CNCF's Sunshine Girls' Home for nearly 10 years. Giang's father passed away and her mother left the family when she was young. Lacking parental care from a very young age, Giang arrived at the Girls' Home to the heart-warming welcome of the teachers and other children. At the Homes, Giang has always been eager to take part in a variety of Arts and Music activities facilitated by CNCF, which to this day, remains her favourite way to spend her time.

In 2019, thanks to her skilled dance techniques, Giang was selected to perform at CNCF's 30th Anniversary Gala Celebration. She was thrilled to receive the news and filled with immense joy. The experience remains one of Giang's proudest moments as she was able to showcase her talents and in doing so, connect with her peers from CNCF Mongolia.

Throughout this year, Giang's interest in dance classes continues to develop. CNCF could not be prouder to see Giang continue to thrive and develop creatively. The young girl is well on her way to achieve greater success and share her talents with her CNCF family and the wider community.

\*Name and identity changed for child protection



REPORT 2020

# OUR STORIES

## A Childhood Enriched

Tran\* was born into abject poverty and was supported to enrol at CNCF's Sunshine School for her primary education. At the school, Tran was surrounded by good friends and supportive teachers, who provided timely assistance that helped Tran obtain quality academic knowledge and skills that she would not have otherwise.

Through CNCF's Sunshine Arts & Music Programme, Tran was supported to engage in a variety of extracurricular activities that nurtured her confidence and social development. From singing to dancing, Tran showed great excitement and determination to improve her techniques. Each year Tran took part in the CNCF Christmas Choir where she was empowered to sing to the community at varied venues. With a good team spirit, Tran rapidly developed social skills through supporting and connecting with other students in class. Tran has shown significant potential in music as she is a fast song learner, and we believe that with the right and continued support, Tran will continue to succeed and make great progress.

\*Name and identity changed for child protection



REPORT 2020

# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

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The operational cost of the Blue Skies Arts & Music Programme in 2020 was:

**USD \$20,099.31**

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The operational cost of the Sunshine Arts & Music Programme in 2020 was:

**USD \$14,988.39**

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Heartfelt thanks to our kind donors who enable CNCF to keep this project operating and also to those who generously support with gift and time in-kind which enables us to keep our costs down.

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Audit in progress at time of reporting. Our audits can be found at:  
[www.cncf.org/finance-policies/](http://www.cncf.org/finance-policies/)



# BLUE SKIES ARTS & MUSIC PROGRAMME EXPENDITURES IN 2020

Description	Expenditure 2020
Staff salary	15,488.60
Social Insurance	803.42
Firewood & Coal	504.65
Electricity	582.13
Supplies and Equipment	1,795.82
Public & Staff Relations	79.77
Miscellaneous / Others	142.48
Depreciation	702.44
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>20,099.31</b>

# SUNSHINE ARTS & MUSIC PROGRAMME EXPENDITURES IN 2020

Description	Expenditure 2020
Student Celebrations & Events (decorations, transportation & catering)	1,668.29
Food for Students	202.25
Arts Class Supplies & Stationery	30.43
Teachers' Salary (Arts, Music & Dance)	2,941.82
CNCF Programme Manangement Staff Partial Salary	9,373.41
Contingency	772.19
<b>TOTAL COST</b>	<b>14,988.39</b>



REPORT 2020

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



CNCF would like to extend our heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation to our annual primary donor The Sovereign Art Foundation Hong Kong, for the generous and on-going support to the Sunshine Arts & Music Programme and Blue Skies Arts & Music Programme over the past 9 years.

The prolific on-going support and belief in our work that we have received from **The Sovereign Art Foundation** has enabled to CNCF to continue delivering critical services to nurture the creative skills and emotional development of our young people, which remains critical in fulfilling our founder Christina Noble's mission of giving children in our care an emotionally rich and happy childhood.



For more information on this report and our CNCF projects in Vietnam and Mongolia please contact:

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