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# **NEWS RELEASE**

# United Overseas Bank Launches The 25th Painting Of The Year Competition

The Junior Section Will Be Recategorised To Form the Youth and Junior Sections

**24 May 2006, Singapore** - United Overseas Bank Limited ("UOB") is pleased to announce the launchof Singapore's only annual premier art event - The 25th UOB Painting of the Year Competition and Exhibition ("POY"), with the Junior Section recategorised to form the Youth and Junior Sections.

The recategorisation is the result of feedback from judges following last year's POY. The judges commented that there was a large disparity in the standard of artwork submitted by teenagers and younger children, and thus recommended that the Junior Section be recategorised into two - the Youth Section for participants aged 13 to 18 and the Junior Section for those aged 6 to 12.

"The previous categorisation of the Junior Section groups all junior participants 18 years and below in one broad category. This age range puts kids in the pre-primary group at a disadvantage as they will have to compete with the older and more mature children. Children at this young age should enjoy painting without the pressure of competition", said Mr Choo Thiam Siew, Chief Judge of 24th UOB POY and President of the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts.

POY is part of UOB's efforts to promote greater interest in local arts, as well as encourage and recognise local artists and their work. Since the inaugural competition held 25 years ago in 1982, the competition has grown in scope and prestige and has come to be regarded as a major art competition and a key arts event in Singapore.

Many past winners of the Competition such as Goh Beng Kwan, Thomas Yeo, Chua Ek Kay and Anthony Poon have gone on to attain greater local and international recognition. The competition is now considered a key event in the local arts scene.

UOB, once again, invites photographers and painters in Singapore to take part in this prestigious Competition. The Competition is open to all Singapore citizens, permanent residents and foreigners who hold employment pass, work permit or student pass.

Participants of the 25th UOB POY stand to win one of the following prizes:

#### Prizes

UOB Painting of the Year Winner	S\$20,000 and a Trophy

## **Most Promising Young Artist**

Youth Section	S\$1,500 and a Trophy
Junior Section	S\$1,000 and a Trophy

#### **Category Winner Awards**

Abstract Category	S\$8,000
<ul> <li>Representational Category</li> </ul>	S\$8,000
<ul> <li>Traditional Chinese Category</li> </ul>	S\$8,000
<ul> <li>Photography Category</li> </ul>	S\$8,000

#### **Five Distinction Awards for each section**

Open Section	S\$1,000 each
Youth Section	S\$300 each
Junior Section	S\$100 each

#### **Entries Submission and Exhibition Details**

Interested participants can now collect a copy of the registration form and rules and regulations from government schools, tertiary institutions, art institutions, art and photography organisations, all UOB branches and the Esplanade. Alternatively, <u>registration forms</u> and rules and regulations can also be downloaded from UOB website at <u>www.uobgroup.com</u>.

All entries have to be submitted at Far East Square Pavilion on Sunday 3 September 2006 from 1pm to 6pm. Winners will be notified of the results by phone by Friday 8 September 2006.

Award-winning and highly commended entries will be on display at the 25th UOB Painting Of The Year Exhibition from 10 to 24 September 2006 at the Jendela at The Esplanade – Theatres on the Bay.

For more information, please visit UOB website at www.uobgroup.com.

## **About UOB Painting Of The Year Competition**

Please refer to attached fact sheet.

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