

~ May 29, 2015 ~

THE SAF SCHOOLS PRIZE 2015 RAISE BD 187,000 NEARLY HALF A MILLION DOLLARS TOWARDS SUPPORT FOR ORPHANS IN BAHRAIN

The Sovereign Art Foundation (SAF) is pleased to announce that a total of BD 187,000 has been raised in aid of The Royal Charity Organization in Bahrain through The Sovereign Art Foundation Schools Prize 2015 – a global initiative that harnesses the power of the arts towards achieving social objectives, and at the same time, celebrates the importance of art within the education system.

An art competition was held for students from across six schools in Bahrain, and the top 240 artworks were displayed at the Isa Cultural Centre, Juffair from 22nd to 29th April, 2015. Nearly 3,000 students signed up for the competition and 23 artworks were selected for a charity auction that took place during the Gala Dinner held on 3rd May, 2015.

The Gala Dinner was attended by nearly 250 people comprising leading members from the government, the diplomatic corps, the business community, educators, artistes, students and their parents. All the proceeds from the event will go towards helping 5000 Bahraini orphans under the care of The Royal Charity Organisation.

Commenting on the success of The Sovereign Art Foundation Schools Prize 2015, Chairman of The Sovereign Art Foundation, Howard Bilton said:

“The Bahrain School’s Prize gives us the opportunity to assist with the education of children by giving them an appreciation of art whilst raising money to help the poorest in Bahraini society. This has been a great success. We are pleased with the response that we received this year from the students and were amazed at the high quality of their artwork.”

Guided by the vision of His Majesty, King Hamad Bin Isa Al Khalifa, of the goals of the Royal Charity Organization, endowed by endless support of His Highness Shaikh Nasser Bin Hamad Al Khalifa, His Majesty the King's Representative for Charity Works and Youth Affairs, Chairman of the Supreme Council of Youth and Sports, President of Bahrain Olympic Committee, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Royal Charity Organization, and under the gracious patronage of His Excellency Shaikh Rashid Bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Under Secretary for Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs, Ministry of the Interior, the Honorary President of the Bahrain Arts Society, and under the supervision of His Excellency Dr. Mustafa Alsayed, The General Secretary, The Royal Charity Organization, and the efforts of our colleagues there, we are grateful to the sponsors, well-wishers and all those who purchased the artworks at the exhibition and at the charity auction.

Your support goes a long way in providing tangible support to the orphans in Bahrain. And for us at The Sovereign Group, in particular, it represents another practical initiative in giving back to the community through this joint programme with the Royal Charity Organization.

The Sovereign Art Foundation School Prize was held for the first time in Bahrain in 2014. It was organised in partnership with Ibn Khuldoon National School (IKNS) and represented the first step in The Sovereign Art Foundation’s expansion into the Middle East.

~ ENDS ~



Executive Directors:
Howard Bilton (Chairman)
Tiffany Pinkstone (Managing Director)

Non-executive Directors:
Savita Apte
Georgie Bruce
Angela McKay
Robert Morse
Peter Siembab
Vanessa Webb
William Zhao

Registered as a charity
in Hong Kong

Company No. 850 895

About Sovereign

Sovereign's core business is setting up and managing companies, trusts, pensions, insurance and other structures to meet the specific personal or business needs of its clients. Typically these needs would include tax planning, wealth protection, property ownership and facilitating cross border business.

The first Sovereign office opened in Gibraltar in 1987 and we now have offices or agents in all the major international finance centers. We have also developed a wide range of supporting services such as wealth management, specialist tax advice, yacht and aircraft registration, credit cards, fund formation, pension services, residence and citizenship applications, as well as trademark and intellectual property registration and protection.

Operating in Dubai since 1998, Sovereign is a registered agent for the free zones of Dubai, including as Al Khaimah (RAK) and Jebel Ali. We have further expanded our presence in the Gulf States by opening offices in Bahrain and Abu Dhabi. In addition to high net worth individuals and their families, our clients include professionals, expatriates, entrepreneurs and businesses of all types and sizes.

<http://www.sovereigngroup.com>

About The Sovereign Art Foundation (SAF)

The Sovereign Art Foundation is a charity founded in 2003 in Hong Kong, which is now also registered in the UK and South Africa. SAF runs the annual Sovereign Asian Art Prize with the purpose of raising money to help disadvantaged children. Since its inception, SAF has raised almost US\$5 million for charities worldwide, while the Sovereign Asian Art Prize has become the largest award for the arts across Asia. SAF funds projects using art as education, rehabilitation and therapy for disadvantaged children. The Sovereign Asian Art Prize is now in its tenth year and is the biggest, best known and most prestigious arts prize in the Asia region.

In 2012, SAF launched a The Sovereign Art Foundation Schools Prize in Hong Kong to increase public awareness of the creative talent that exists in the city's secondary education. Due to the success and impact of this prize, SAF launched The Sovereign Art Foundation IKNS Schools Prize in Bahrain in 2014. The aim of the prize is to celebrate the importance of art in the education system and recognise the quality of art that can be produced by young students in Bahrain and raise money for the Royal Charity Organisation.

www.SovereignArtFoundation.com

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