

(The clipping is 100% of the original article)

Drawing on local talent for harbour of dreams

Donald Asprey

Budding artists will descend on Harbour City today for a chance to imagine their dream waterfront at a workshop organised as part of the "My Harbour" design competition.

"We hope to stimulate people's thinking by appreciation of art and the observation of the harbour, and [get them] to express their point of view of an ideal harbour and coastal cityscape," said Suen Wai-fong, director of the Hong Kong Institute of Aesthetic Education, which is running the workshops.

"Through hands-on activities we hope to create a more in-depth understanding of the issues facing the harbour and inspire in people a sense of ownership."

The "My Harbour" Design Competition is open to all ages with five categories for students, adults and families.

Families will simulate different conditions on the harbour, for instance the difference between a wide and narrow waterway and the effects of high building density on the foreshore.

There will also be recreations of Victoria Harbour as it was in the past, before participants put pen to paper and express their vision of an ideal harbour.

The contest, organised by the Harbour Business Forum of the Business Environment Council, was launched on March 14 to provide a collection of inspirational ideas for officials and stakeholders who will shape the future design of the harbour. The deadline for entries is April 8.

The best works, be they drawings, paintings, collages or multimedia, will be displayed in shopping malls around Hong Kong in June and July.

The competition comes in the wake of a public opinion poll that showed people want a greener harbourfront with promenades and leisure activities.

Entry to the competition, workshops and ferry rides are free. For more information visit www.myharbour.hk.