

Dragon Soars above Tamkang Art Exhibition – Diverse Auspicious Dragons Greet the New Year

Campus focus

As the Year of the Dragon approaches, the Carrie Chang Fine Arts Center, led by Director Ben-Hang Chang and resident artists Jin-Ta Yuan and Zhen Shen, collaboratively organized the "Dragon Soars above Tamkang – 2024 Welcoming the Dragon Art Exhibition." Inviting over 40 artists to creatively depict the image of the dragon, the exhibition encompasses various art forms such as calligraphy, AI, e-pen, cochon ware, and a mix of traditional and contemporary paintings. Additionally, they called for chibi-styled dragon artworks from the entire school community, creating a collaborative art feast to welcome the new year. The opening ceremony took place on December 26, 2023, with the presence of President Huan-Chao Keh, Dean of the College of Education Kuo-Hua Chen, and History Department Chair Shang-Wen Kao.

During President Keh's speech, he not only expressed gratitude to the colleagues of Carrie Chang Fine Arts Center for their efforts in organizing the exhibition and fostering artistic literacy among faculty and students, but also expressed the hope that under the comprehensive promotion of "AI+SDGs= ∞ " at our school, there will be continuous enhancement of relevant innovative and sustainable practices. He also acknowledged and looked forward to the preliminary research and development results of the "Tamkang e-Pen AB Dual-Track Transformation Project," a collaborative initiative between the Carrie Chang Fine Arts Center and the College of Engineering, aiming to deepen existing e-pen technologies while innovatively incorporating AI into the development process. Jin-Ta Yuan, in addition to thanking the participating artists, highlighted the special significance of the dragon in Chinese culture. He expressed the hope that everyone can collectively strive to continue and promote this cultural symbol. He also extended special thanks to Dr. Shang-Wen Kao for providing insights into the "Origin of the Dragon," explaining the historical

connection between dragons and Chinese culture, thereby enriching the exhibition with a profound cultural background.

Ben-Hang Chang expressed gratitude for the continuous support and trust from the principal. He explained the exhibition's content, emphasizing not only the diverse presentation of traditional art but also the inclusion of works by Lin Zaixing, a renowned slipware pottery artist, and his disciples, showcasing the rich characteristics of dragons. In response to AI-generated art, the exhibition featured numerous works created with the school's distinctive e-pen calligraphy. Additionally, chibi-styled dragon artworks were selectively displayed, adding diversity and distinctive features. Principal Ge presented awards for the selected "chibi-styled Dragon Artworks," as well as certificates and prizes or cash awards for the winners of the "2023 National College Student e-Pen Calligraphy Competition" and the "Artificial Intelligence-Generated Calligraphy Creative Competition."

The closing ceremony concluded with President Keh participating in the eye-dotting ceremony for the "Dragon Soars above Tamkang," a grand painting collaboratively created by the 3 curators, marking a perfect end to the event.

The exhibition runs until February 27, open from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM on weekdays. It will be closed during the Chinese New Year holiday from January 30 to February 15. Faculty, staff, and students who are interested are warmly welcome to visit.





