

DAVID GAN CHONG JIN

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KEY PROFESSIONAL SKILLS

Facilitation & Therapeutic Engagement

Facilitate safe, reflective spaces for individual and group art-making, supporting emotional expression and meaning-making in clinical and community settings

Clinical Art Therapy Training

Training in assessment, session planning, and facilitation of art therapy with diverse populations, integrating psychological and art therapy frameworks

Arts-Based Research & Reflective Practice

Use of visual arts and poetic inquiry as qualitative research methods to explore lived experience, meaning-making, and therapeutic processes

Programme & Curriculum Development

Design and deliver curricula in art, film, and critical inquiry across educational contexts

Leadership & Programme Administration

Lead programmes from design to implementation, managing resources, partnerships, and teams across education and arts settings

Collaborative & Interdisciplinary Practice

Coordinate cross-disciplinary initiatives bridging the arts, education, and healthcare



EXPERIENCE

The Greenhouse, Aug 2025-Apr 2026
Art Therapy Intern

National Cancer Centre Singapore, Department of Psychosocial Oncology (NCCS, DPO), Jan 2025-Jun 2025
Art Therapy Intern

Hwa Chong International School, Jan 2019-Jun 2024
Coordinator, Extended Essay (EE)
Teacher, Film and Theory of Knowledge (TOK)
Supervisor, Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS

- Conducted individual and open studio art therapy sessions
- Planned and facilitated four runs of Complementary Therapies, an eight-session programme integrating art and horticultural therapy
- Delivered an introductory workshop on art therapy for student volunteers (National University of Singapore)
- Conducted individual art therapy sessions with patients and caregivers in an oncology setting
- Designed and facilitated *Art Connect*, a thrice-monthly open studio programme for patients and caregivers
- Contributed to multidisciplinary team meetings to support holistic patient care
- Co-facilitated support groups and the *EnReach Retreat*, a flagship 3-day programme for patients and families
- Delivered an introductory art therapy workshop for clinical staff
- Nominated for Outstanding Student Book Prize, SingHealth Allied Health Awards 2025
- Managed Extended Essay (EE) programme administration and delivered research and writing workshops for students and supervisor training
- Taught Film and Theory of Knowledge (TOK), and supervised student research projects (including Film EE)
- Contributed to curriculum delivery and student development within the IB Diploma Programme

brave new worlds, Dec 2017-Dec 2018 <i>Co-founder & Director</i>	Co-founded and led an arts-based school for children focused on developing critical thinking through creative practice
School of the Arts Singapore, Jun 2012-Oct 2017 <i>Coordinator, IB Career-Related Programme- Visual Arts</i> <i>Coordinator, Extended Essay</i> <i>Teacher, Visual Arts</i> <i>Supervisor, Creativity, Activity, Service (CAS)</i>	- Led the Visual Arts IBCP programme from inception, managing curriculum, staffing, and budget - Designed Career-Related Studies curriculum for the programme - Established partnerships with international institutions (e.g. Goldsmiths, Parsons, SAIC), securing advanced placement pathways - Developed internship opportunities with major arts organisations (e.g. National Gallery Singapore, STPI) - Organised masterclasses with local and international artists - Supervised student-curated exhibitions and major projects, including collaborations with community stakeholders - Designed and delivered Visual Arts and Art Theory curriculum; supervised IB coursework and Extended Essays
Clementi Woods Secondary School, Jan 2011-Mar 2012 <i>Coordinator, Art</i>	- Developed the school's Aesthetics Education Programme, incorporating project-based and student-initiated learning - Supervised GCE 'N' and 'O' Level Art coursework - Founded <i>Open Studio</i>, an after-school programme providing a safe creative space for at-risk students
Ministry of Education, Jan 2010-Dec 2010 <i>Corporate Communications Executive</i>	- Drafted speeches and press materials for ministerial announcements - Managed media relations and facilitated interviews with ministry personnel and students - Analysed local and international education-related media to inform communications strategy
Nanyang Girls High School, Jul 2007 - Dec 2009 <i>Teacher, Art Elective Programme (AEP)</i>	- Taught Drawing, Painting, Ceramics, and Art History within the Art Elective Programme - Designed curriculum modules, including art as social commentary - Co-curated major student exhibitions at NAFA Art Gallery and SMU

EDUCATION

LASALLE College of the Arts, University of the Arts Singapore | 2024 - 2026 | Masters in Art Therapy

- Student Representative, MA Art Therapy, 2025/2026 Cohort
- Writing Assistant, The Learning Centre, Aug - Dec 2024

National Institute of Education, Singapore | 2006 - 2007 | Postgraduate Diploma in Education (Secondary School)

Goldsmiths, University of London | 2003 - 2004 | Masters of Art (History of Art)

Goldsmiths, University of London | 1999 - 2003 | Bachelor of Arts (Fine Art and Art History)

VOLUNTEERING [selected]

- Open Studio Facilitator, Assisi Hospice, 9 May 2024
- Open Studio Facilitator, Methodist Welfare Services Nursing Home-Yew Tee, 15, 22 October 2024
- Art Facilitator, 'Mental Health Day 2024', Ren Ci Community Hospital, 10 October 2024
- Art Facilitator, Arty Learning @ Ang Mo Kio, 10 Sep 2024
- Art Facilitator, Ayer Rajah-Gek Goh PAssionArts Festival, 7 Sep 2024
- Art Workshop Facilitator, 'Empowerment Through Art', The Greenhouse, August 2024 - May 2025

PRESENTATIONS & PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

- Presenter, Society of Behavioural Health Singapore (SBHS) Annual Scientific Meeting 2026**

30 Jan 2026 - *Poetic transcription as an arts-based research method* — Presented as part of a plenary session on self-care in behavioural health

- **Exhibitor, Singapore Medical Humanities Conference 2025**

17 - 18 Oct 2025 - Exhibited a series of artworks as part of the conference programme on arts in healthcare and medical education

- **Moderator, The Art in Art Therapy: Arts-Based Research/Practice Symposium 2025**

24 May 2025 - Moderated conversation with Dr. Shaun McNiff, University Professor Emeritus, Lesley University. Organised by LASALLE College of the Arts Singapore. Online.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT [selected]

- **Suicide Risk & Assessment**

21 Jan 2025 – Workshop conducted by Emily Tan, senior medical social worker and art therapist, National Cancer Centre Singapore. Organised by LASALLE. Held at National Design Centre.

- **Nurturing Your Artist-Self: How to Develop and Sustain a Personal Practice as a Therapist**

10 Mar 2025 – Workshop by Kelly Reedy, art therapist. Organised by Art Therapists' Association Singapore (ATAS). Held at National Design Centre.

- **Gender Identity & Expression: Navigating Minority Stress through Art Therapy**

4 Sep 2024 – Presentation and workshop conducted by Alex Koen, art therapist, The Other Clinic. Organised by Art Therapists' Association Singapore (ATAS). Held at National Design Centre.

AWARDS

National Arts Council-University of the Arts Singapore (NAC-UAS) Scholarship, 2024

Public Service Commission (PSC) Scholarship (Overseas Specialist Award), 1999

EXHIBITIONS

To Have and to Hold, Thought Partner Studio, Singapore, 17-26 Jan 2025

Re-Submission: An Exhibition by the Visual Arts Faculty, SOTA Gallery, Singapore, 23 Jul-10 Aug 2015

PUBLICATIONS

Tan, R. K. J., Phua, K., Tan, A., **Gan, D. C. J.**, Ho, L. P., Ong, E. J., See, M. T. (2021). Exploring the role of trauma in underpinning sexualised drug use ('chemsex') among gay, bisexual and other men who have sex with men in Singapore. *International Journal of Drug Policy*, 97, 103333. <http://doi.org/10.1016/j.drugpo.2021.103333>

REFERENCES

Dr Kelly Tang

Dean of Arts, 2011-2017

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Ms Emily Tan

Master Medical Social Worker & Art Therapist

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