

## **BIOGRAPHIES OF ARTISTS**

### **PANELLIST – CARRIE TAN**

Carrie Tan is a Singaporean politician and serves as a Member of Parliament of Nee Soon GRC for Nee Soon South. Prior to joining politics, Carrie founded Daughters Of Tomorrow, a non-profit organisation which enables livelihoods and financial self-sufficiency for low-income women in Singapore. She is passionate about improving social mobility for families in poverty. Carrie is also a champion for improving labour conditions, enabling families through enhanced caregiving support, and change-making through civic participation and community collaboration.

### **PANELLIST – IZZATY ISHAK**

Izzaty Ishak is an applied theatre practitioner who believes that art allows people to empower themselves. As a full-time Community Worker at Beyond Social Services since 2013, she leads and facilitate a mixed group of youths from both rental and purchased flat communities to perform and be part of “The Community Theatre” programme. It is an interactive theatre performance that allows rental flat communities to come together and tackle social issues faced by them as a community. Her journey as a practitioner recognises the value of un-learning and re-learning each time she enters a community, acknowledging that every community is different and each of them are special in their own ways. With this, with art as an adaptable and versatile tool of engagement, art can be valued by each person differently, allowing them (the participant, beneficiary or community member) to empower themselves.

### **PANELLIST – THENUGA VIJAKUMAR**

Thenuga Vijakumar is currently the President of the Cat Welfare Society (CWS). She has been a volunteer with CWS for almost a decade. She firmly believes that CWS' work in sterilisation and mediation will create a humane society in which community cats and human beings co-exist harmoniously, and that its work in education and advocacy will allow for pet cats to be kept legally in our HDBs with penalties imposed on irresponsible caregiving and pet ownership.

### **FACILITATOR – SHIAO-YIN KUIK**

Together with two founding partners, Shiao-Yin Kuik directs The Thought Collective, whose mission is to help Singapore build up social capital. She helps people and their organisations develop the insights and social-emotional competencies they need to support cultural change.

Shiao-Yin works as a cultural change strategist, systems/organisational development consultant, process facilitator, executive coach, communicator and trainer. She loves helping large systems develop a more empowering and empathetic way of working with diverse stakeholders through complex issues and volatile times.

Shiao-Yin served as a two-time Nominated Member of Parliament. She also advises various boards, helping them shape their approach to socio-cultural values, human talent development and stakeholder engagement. She is a regular public speaker, sharing her insights on cultural narratives, the power of individuals in systems and the need for bridge-building.