



For Immediate Release

Launch of Moody's RiseUp Youth Photography Exhibition - The Eye of the I

"To grow yourself, you must know yourself" - John C. Maxwell

(Hong Kong, 25 May 2018) - **KELY Support Group (KELY)** launches the Moody's RiseUp Youth Photography Exhibition entitled 'The Eye of the I', where 35 local Chinese and non-Chinese speaking students use photography as a medium for self-expression when they view the world through the camera's lens and articulate their own unique perspectives into still images.

Themed 'The Eye of the I', the exhibition explores the inner vision of the student photographers and the process that links what one sees on the outside to what is seen by looking within. In order to grow, you must first know and understand yourself, as John C. Maxwell suggested, and we hope that students gain more knowledge of themselves along the journey with photography and are able to grow and develop with sensibility and a critical mindset. The Eye of the I is a youth photography exhibition that provides a glimpse into the lives and minds of young people in Hong Kong. Whilst celebrating the creative works of the students, the public may gain insight into their unique visions and ideas, captured in reflective and expository images.

[Moody's RiseUp](#), funded by [Moody's Foundation](#), is an integrated life skills and photography programme that KELY has run for many years. Participants have the opportunity to explore their own lived experience and connection to the world around them, and develop a creative skill using photography as a medium of self-expression. With interactive workshops on goal setting, personal values and confidence building, students could also develop their life skills, resilience and capacity. Quoted in [Our Hong Kong Foundation's research report](#) earlier in 2018, young people who took part in the programme, especially ethnic minority youth, felt empowered and were given access to voice their opinions with photography.

Excerpt from the report

Two students of ethnic minority backgrounds who participated in a photography programme indicated that they found empowerment in photography as it gave them the opportunity to express their own thoughts and deliberations, which would otherwise be scarce for non-Chinese locals such as themselves.



"Instead of using words, our thoughts and our opinions on how we see the world and society can be shown through our artwork."

Participant B, KELY Support Group

Moody's Hong Kong staff were mentors in this programme, meeting with student participants to develop positive and supportive relationships as trusted adults. Mentorship sessions focused on pre-employment training and presentation skills, aiming to enhance students' confidence levels and equip them with career aspirations, practical skills, and an understanding of their applicability in the real world.

"In this photography program, the creativity unlocked from these young people is amazing. It's an ethnically diverse group and each youth has different characters. Some are vibrant with lively imagination or quiet with reflective thoughts or visually impaired with an inquisitive mind. Their inner perception of this world and projection of the future are undergoing a process of self-individualisation. That's why it is so important to support the teenagers for reaching their potential in a non-judgemental, creative and responsible environment. Therefore, I am deeply inspired by the mission of KELY Support Group and truly grateful for this opportunity," said **Melinda Juang** at the [Yun Yoga Portraits](#), who provided photography training to students.

Participating school:

Caritas Wu Cheng-Chung Secondary School

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Date: 25 May 2018 (Friday)

Time: 2 pm - 3:30 pm

Venue: H402, Hollywood, PMQ, 35 Aberdeen Street, Central

The exhibition runs from **25 May - 6 Jun, 10am - 7pm.**

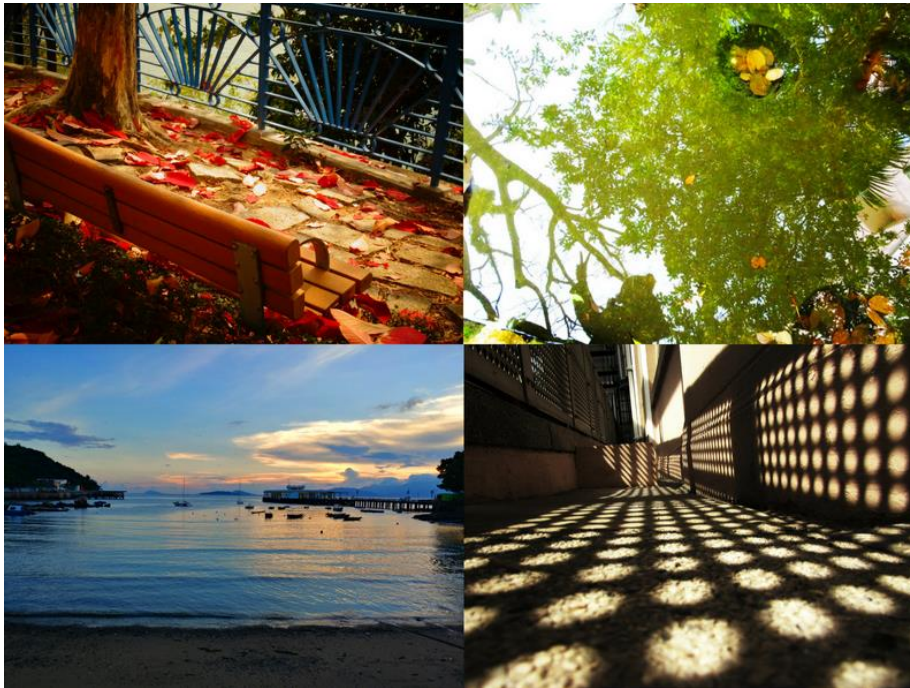
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Click [HERE](#) to see more students' works.



About KELY Support Group

KELY Support Group (KELY) is a non-government funded bilingual organisation which provides support to youth between the ages of 14 and 24 in Hong Kong from Chinese-speaking, Ethnic Minority and English-speaking backgrounds.

Our mission is to empower young people to reach their full potential.

Our programmes and services range from resistance and harm reduction around drug and alcohol misuse to positive youth development for vulnerable and disadvantaged youth. With a priority to understand young people's perspectives, we equip them with key life skills and resilience as they face various challenges growing up in Hong Kong.

KELY's 3 Core Services:

- Prevention Education & Harm Reduction
- Positive Youth Development
- Advocacy

kely.org



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