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NEW CENTRE FOR ART AND SCIENCE EDUCATION OPENS AT ARTSCIENCE MUSEUM

Launched on ArtScience Museum's 14th birthday, ArtScience Laboratory is a dedicated hub for visitors of all ages to engage in unique interdisciplinary workshops that foster creativity, curiosity and collaborative learning



ArtScience Laboratory opened its doors on the Museum's 14th birthday, with the ribbon cutting ceremony graced by Emma Lee, Honor Harger, special guest Professor David Hung and Adrian George

Singapore (17 February 2025) — ArtScience Museum marks its 14th birthday today with the opening of its landmark learning centre, which ushers in an exciting new chapter for the institution. Named ArtScience Laboratory, it occupies 320sqm at Basement 2 of the Museum, serving as a vibrant and dynamic permanent space for visitors to deepen their engagement with art, science and technology.

The Laboratory builds upon over a decade of experience and expertise in art-science education, challenging traditional classroom learning approaches to offer a fun and nurturing platform where participants can explore new ideas and new technologies. It also marks a significant expansion of ArtScience Museum's robust programmes, which have and will continue to include drop-in activities, masterclasses, talks, workshops and guided tours that complement ongoing exhibitions and seasons. To date, more than 240,000 students in Singapore, from preschools to tertiary institutions, have been hosted at ArtScience Museum.

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Through hands-on workshops which employ multi-disciplinary approaches found in STEAM education (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math), visitors of all ages from students, educators and families to members of Singapore's diverse local and international communities, can look forward to being immersed in an enriching environment that cultivates creativity and innovation.

From celebrating figures who combine art and science in their work, to exploring these topics through a mix of emerging digital technologies and more traditional hands-on practices, the activities in ArtScience Laboratory will highlight the importance of a holistic approach to learning. There will also be several workshops designed to not only introduce visitors to the art and science of wellness, but offer visitors the chance to reconnect with themselves and nature.

"Leonardo da Vinci said, 'to develop a complete mind: study the science of art; study the art of science. Learn how to see. Realize that everything connects to everything else'. This perfectly captures the spirit of ArtScience Laboratory, which reflects ArtScience Museum's unique role as a bridge between disciplines. The education programmes in ArtScience Laboratory show how art and creativity can actively assist in learning about science and technology, and how an understanding of science and technology can enrich encounters with art," said Honor Harger, Vice President of ArtScience Museum.

"The ethos of ArtScience Laboratory is to be future-focused and responsive to new ideas in education, unafraid of emerging technology, while being conscious of our role as environmental stewards and to be relentlessly committed to creativity and curiosity. Our hope is that our new permanent home for education will not only inspire schools and students in Singapore but also set a global benchmark for education at the intersection of art, science, and technology. Over time, we envision it becoming *the* place internationally for learning about what happens when where art meets science," added Harger.

Design Philosophy of ArtScience Laboratory

Taking inspiration from ArtScience Museum's location on the waterfront and its surrounding lily pond, ArtScience Laboratory has adopted a biophilic design that envisions a world hidden beneath the lily pads.

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The project is designed by renowned firm Safdie Architects, whose philosophy is rooted in using architecture to connect people to nature and create spaces that serve as catalysts for vibrant public life.



Visitors can look forward to engaging in a variety of activities across the Media Lab, Ripple Room and Launch Pad. The spaces are also versatile and dynamic, with a curtain in the centre that allows the zones to be partitioned further for various uses

Featuring three multi-purpose zones with flexible layouts, the Laboratory can host up to 90 visitors at the same time. The Launch Pad is envisioned as a starting point for visitors to participate in various activities reflecting interdisciplinary learning, while the Media Lab boasts a 13-metre by 3-metre projection space which focuses on technology-equipped learning. Additionally, the Ripple Room serves as a calm, focused space for closed-door workshops.



ArtScience Laboratory features soft modular furniture that visitors can play with, move around and sit on

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Sitting at the heart of the space is Cubebot – a large version of the iconic wooden toy robot inspired by Japanese Shinto Kumi-ki puzzles that continue to endure generations of play. Typically made from wood and elastic, Cubebot can be positioned to hold dozens of poses before being folded back into a perfect cube when it is time to rest.

Similarly, the Cubebot found at ArtScience Laboratory is made from soft materials that children can jump on and move around as a modular piece. It is placed looking up at the 'lily pads' as an embodiment of the intersection of art, science and technology. It also serves as a reminder that play is a powerful educational tool, and that many scientific and artistic breakthroughs can arise from curiosity and experimentation.

Introducing five unique programming strands

The programmes offered at ArtScience Laboratory are organised into five distinct themes incorporating inspiring workshops, creative activities, engineering explorations, sustainability initiatives and wellness sessions.

The first theme *Inspired By...*, examines the creative practices and scientific understanding of important Art-Scientists such as Olafur Eliasson, Theo Jansen and Patricia Piccinini. From colour and light to kinetics and genetics, their research, practices and projects have bridged the worlds of art and science.

Meanwhile, *Scientific Sparks* aims to ignite interest in science and engineering topics using creative play and hands-on learning. Participants are invited to put on their thinking caps and get engaged, learning about concepts such as Artificial Intelligence and Particle Physics through playful and tangible experiments. In contrast, *Creative Constructs* is a series that encourages lifelong learning in an ever-evolving world. Visitors can explore both tactile and digital skills through workshops where they will leave with new skills and an original creation.

With ArtScience Museum's deep commitment to sustainability and conservation efforts, the centre also features a series titled *Environmental Empathy*, that allows visitors to engage with pressing issues, rediscover their personal connection to nature and consider their role as environmental stewards. The activities will take visitors on an exploration of different

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spaces in and around the museum, reflecting on current challenges, and sharing knowledge and skills that will enable everyone to contribute to a more sustainable future.

Last but not least, visitors can tap into the rapidly developing field of wellness, self-care and compassionate living through creativity and deeper scientific understanding. *The Art of Being Calm* bridges the physical, cognitive and emotional, imparting knowledge on the importance of mental wellness, human psychology and well-being through tangible and accessible creative activities.

ArtScience Laboratory Programme Schedule

ArtScience Laboratory will open daily to the public, offering a varied selection of free workshops that are available for walk-ins each day. For more details on the current programme line-up during the launch period, please refer to Annex A.

For more information on ArtScience Laboratory and its programmes, please visit <https://www.marinabaysands.com/museum/events/artscience-laboratory.html>.

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About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd

Since its opening in 2010, Marina Bay Sands has stood as an architectural marvel and the crown jewel in Singapore's skyline. Home to the world's most spectacular rooftop infinity pool and approximately 1,850 rooms and suites, the integrated resort offers exceptional dining, shopping, meeting and entertainment choices, complete with a year-round calendar of signature events.

Marina Bay Sands is dedicated to being a good corporate citizen to serve its people, communities and environment. It drives social impact through its community engagement programme, Sands Cares, and leads environmental stewardship through its global sustainability programme, Sands ECO360.

For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com

About ArtScience Museum

ArtScience Museum is a major cultural institution in Singapore that explores the intersection between art, science, technology and culture. It is the cultural component of Marina Bay Sands. Since its opening in February 2011, ArtScience Museum has staged large-scale exhibitions by some

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of the world's major artists, including Leonardo da Vinci, M.C. Escher, Salvador Dalí, Andy Warhol and Vincent Van Gogh, as well as exhibitions that explore aspects of science and technology – including particle physics, big data, robotics, palaeontology, marine biology and space science. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com/museum.html

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For hi-res images, please click [\[here\]](#) (Credit as indicated in the captions)

ANNEX A

Day	Activities
Monday	11am-5pm <i>Inspired By...</i> Olafur Eliasson – Colour & Light
Tuesday	11am-5pm <i>Scientific Sparks:</i> Let's Learn Artificial Intelligence with Quick, Draw!
Wednesday	11am-5pm <i>Scientific Sparks:</i> Let's Learn Particle Physics with LEGO
Thursday	11am-5pm <i>Scientific Sparks:</i> Let's Learn Artificial Intelligence with Quick, Draw!
Friday	11am-5pm <i>Inspired By...</i> Patricia Piccinini – Genetics
Saturday	10:30am-11:30am <i>Environmental Empathy:</i> Sustainability in Design 2:00pm-3:30pm <i>Creative Constructs:</i> Make Your Own Eco-Friendly Bag All Day (11am-9pm) <i>Scientific Sparks:</i> Let's Learn Artificial Intelligence with Quick, Draw!
Sunday	All Day (11am-7pm) <i>Scientific Sparks:</i> Let's Learn Artificial Intelligence with Quick, Draw!