



Some 600 secondary school students from 56 local schools had a joyful night at the Art Museum

## Oh, What a Night!

The 'Night at the Museum' series is proving a hit with the secondary schools and museums involved and with HKU's growing team of volunteers, and it's a prime example of our commitment to knowledge exchange.

After the success of 'A Night at the Science Museum' in 2011 as part of the HKU Centenary Celebrations, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department invited HKU to stage another event at the Hong Kong Museum of Art. The result was 'A Night at the Museum of Art with Andy Warhol' (February 22 and March 8) which tied into the Museum's *Andy Warhol: 15 Minutes Eternal* exhibition.

The Science Museum night was led by Professor Paul Cheung and organised by the Faculties of Science and Engineering. For Andy Warhol, the event was produced by the Development and Alumni Affairs Office (DAAO) with various departments including the Journalism and Media Studies Centre (JMSC), Computer Science, University Museum and Art Gallery, General Education Unit, Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Sociology, History and Fine Arts, plus 100 student volunteers representing nearly every Faculty.

### Unique journey

This time some 600 secondary students from 56 local and international schools participated. Says DAAO Director Bernadette Tsui: "We wanted to create a unique journey for the students as they discover a new meaning to creativity and pop art, media and technology, culture and society. This will be their 'Night Eternal' – something they will still remember fondly when they are 50 years old."

HKU student volunteers were assigned to one of four roles: Tour Guides, who partnered with docents at the Museum; Buddies, who took care of the teens; Drivers, who ushered them from one floor to the next; and Workshop Butlers, who facilitated during workshops.

In addition to HKU representatives there were facilitators – artists, two music bands, a dance lecturer, photographers, a fashion designer, a

cinematographer and a window display expert – all running workshops to give the teenagers practical experience of how Warhol lived and worked.

"We also included a Time Capsule session," says Ms Tsui, "where students were asked to bring an item of significance to them to the event. Professor Lui Tai-lok from Sociology and Professor John Carroll from History spent time during the night studying the time capsules students made, and at dawn shared with the students their interpretations of the memorabilia." Among the many items were a diary, a class photo, a Starbucks receipt, a photo of an egg-tart, a 'Proud to be Filipino' hat...

Students from the JMSC also got their turn, reporting live on the event through the night. With the guidance of the Centre's Masato Kajimoto and Kevin Lau, they built communication platforms on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, produced video clips and broadcast multi-media reports while the event was unfolding, as well as editing a video to show participants the very next morning.

Says Mr Kajimoto: "It was an opportunity for them to experience the excitement and the pressure of live broadcasting and editing to a very tight deadline."

Future museum nights will have even more to offer HKU students. "At the last two camps the programmes were curated by HKU faculty," says Ms Tsui. "Next time the HKU students will be invited to curate the event – the opportunities for cross-collaboration are endless." ■



Students had hands-on experience in producing silkscreen prints of popular icon