

Poetry recitation excites audience

By Zhou Manzhen



The seven poets at the poetry performance Photo by Zhang Shihao

Seven poets delivered a recitation featuring their latest collection at the Red Chair Theatre in the 403 International Art Center on June 24. The poetry collection includes works by seven poets: Yu Xiuhua, Wang Dandan, Liu Nian, Zhang Ergun, Mao Zi, Zhang Changmei and Lin Dong Lin. The poets aim to spark the imagination and stimulate

further discussion with their live recitations.

Crowds gathered at the sold-out venue to see the poets in person. The activity received great enthusiasm and applause. The audience listened intently and hoped to get a photo with their favorite poets.

The activity was funded by famous poet Zhang Zhihao as part of his

personal projects in the "Yellow Crane Talent Plan." Zhang also held a solo recitation in June 2017. He thinks that poems should be open to the public and enjoyed by a wide range of people. In addition, Zhang revealed that he planned to hold a grander poetry reading session at the East Lake Greenway by the end of the year.

Wuhan painter gains popularity on Douyin

By Zhou Manzhen

A short video about an old oil painting "Portrait of Xiao Jiang" by Leng Jun, an influential Wuhan artist, went viral on the Chinese video-sharing platform Douyin, also known as Tik Tok. This short video has now received more than 3.79 million likes, 50,000 comments and 105,000 shares.

Leng specializes in details, rich colors and precision. "Portrait of Xiao Jiang," featuring a woman clad in a green sweater, is part of Leng's portrait collection created in 2011. Leng

carefully applied his techniques to create a piece that looked as realistic as possible.

When exhibited at Luo Zhongli Art Museum in the Sichuan Fine Arts Institute in April, student Li Tong was so shocked by the level of detail that he nearly mistook the painting for a photograph. He then shared the painting on Douyin. Shortly after, his post received over a million likes. Li said that giving others the chance to experience the charm of the painting made him happy.



The oil painting "Portrait of Xiao Jiang"

Bookshelves display works by Wuhan writers

By Yang Xiaoyu

A project called "Shared Bookshelves" has been launched in Jiefang Park to display books written by local Wuhan writers. Readers will soon be able to discover works by local writers and may even meet them there in person. The organizer of this program is now soliciting works from all over the city.

The bookshelves program, offered to all citizens at no cost, has been jointly sponsored by the Wuhan Municipal Bureau of Forestry, the Wuhan Writers' Association and Changjiang Daily.

Readers will be welcome to leave their comments and inquiries on public notebooks or bulletin boards in the bookshelf area, and the participating writers will be invited to have interactive workshops with readers. The designated area will also be used to host book releases, reading clubs and other relevant activities.

The bookstore will open to the public on July 8.

Art conservators gather in Wuhan

By Wan Jianhui

"Young Talents Training Class for Antique Pottery and Porcelain Repair", funded by the National Art Foundation, opened at the Hubei University of Technology on June 20. At the opening ceremony, 30 trainees from cultural and museum-related institutions and colleges had their questions answered by experts in the field.

Ji Dongge, a Palace Museum relic restoration expert who was featured in the documentary "I Repair Relics in the Imperial Palace," gave a lecture on recent developments in craft restoration. The Palace Museum has established a research institute for antique pottery and porcelain repairs that boasts professionals each with over 10 years of experience in the field. The inner structure of a piece of pottery, the length of the crack and other imperfections can be accurately detected with a specialized kind of X-ray or CT scan not used on people.

Every trainee will repair at least one antique independently in the coming month and write at least one academic paper on relevant topics in this field.