

Kanazawa Youth Dream Challenge Art Programme

The 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa opened as an art museum specializing in contemporary art with the architectural concept of “a museum open to the city like a park.” Through its exhibitions and educational programs, it has created a site where diverse viewers can experience diverse forms of contemporary artistic expression.

The basic concept of the “Kanazawa Youth Dream Challenge Art Programme” first emerged in 2006. Modeled after the method employed in “Zon Moderna,”^{*1} a program carried out for young people in their late teens by the Moderna Museet in Stockholm, it was adopted at a time when the museum was exploring ways of dealing with contemporary society through art as an educational social institution. The 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa applied this program in a unique way, considering the social problems involving young people^{*2} today

and hoping to help build their character. In 2007, we began with a project led by artist HIBINO Katsuhiko, and the basic format of the program was eventually established as an exhibition presenting a work in progress that is made in a workshop carried out over a long period of time. It became a symbolic museum program, straddling research, exhibition, and educational programs.

Participants in the program are able to associate with the artist throughout the course of the program, freely participate in all the processes related to creating the artwork, and create various encounters centered in the museum. It is not only a joint work made by the artist and the participants. Through communication with viewers and the diverse people engaged in the program, they make new discoveries about themselves and the world and continue to grow.

There are many issues that face the

contemporary art museum as a public institution as it accepts the many possibilities of artistic expression and creates a live site for their fulfillment. Presenting an unvarnished experimental site of this kind as an exhibition is an effective way for a contemporary art museum to study art and bring about results worthy of the challenge.

(HIRABAYASHI Megumi, translated by Stan ANDERSON)

- *1. An educational program carried out since 2004 for young people in their late teens in the Moderna Museet in Stockholm, Sweden. With the theme of exhibitions currently on view in the museum, high school students participate in art activities with artists. Through this project, the young people participate in various art-making processes, come in contact with new values, and gain a broader understanding of contemporary art.
- *2. The program in the 21st Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa is aimed at people from 18 to 39 years of age.