

Permintaan tinggi bagi lulusan seni

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SEMBILAN daripada 10 siswazah Maktab Seni Lasalle berjaya meraih pekerjaan manakala 87 peratus siswazah Akademi Seni Halus Nanyang (Nafa) pula berjaya mendapat pekerjaan dalam masa tiga bulan selepas menerima ijazah.

Menurut Lasalle, daripada 90 peratus siswazahnya yang telah mendapat kerja, 66 peratus bekerja sepenuh masa dan sambilan, 14 peratus bekerja sendiri manakala lagi 10 peratus pekerja bebas.

Daripada baki 10 peratus, empat peratus sedang melanjutkan pengajian dan hanya 6 peratus mencari pekerjaan.

Perangkaan tersebut, menurut Presiden Maktab Seni Lasalle Profesor Steve Dixon, selaras dengan corak pekerjaan dalam industri kreatif.

“Siswazah kami juga tidak selalunya mencari pekerjaan sepenuh masa, bekerja dari 9 pagi hingga 5 petang.

“Sebahagian mereka mengambil pelbagai bentuk projek tertentu dan

ada kalanya mereka bekerja bagi beberapa projek pada satu-satu masa,” ujarnya.

Kajian yang dijalankan lewat tahun lalu ke atas lebih 700 bekas pelajar Maktab Seni Lasalle itu merupakan yang pertama dilakukan institusi itu di sini sebagai menjejak kemajuan kerjaya pelajarnya dalam industri kreatif di Singapura dan luar negara.

Di laman web Nafa pula, ia menyatakan bahawa sehingga 1 November 2015, siswazah Nafa yang meraih ijazah dan mempunyai pekerjaan tetap sepenuh masa mampu meraih gaji permulaan median \$2,500.

Perangkaan sihat daripada kedua-dua institusi itu sejajar dengan kenyataan yang dikongsi Setiausaha Parlimen (Pendidikan merangkap Pembangunan Sosial dan Keluarga), Profesor Madya Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim, di Parlimen baru-baru ini semasa perbahasan Jawatankuasa Perbekalan

Memandangkan seni kreatif memainkan peranan dalam ekonomi negara, Kementerian Pendidikan (MOE) akan bekerjasama dengan pu-

sat pengajian seni Lasalle dan Nafa untuk meningkatkan lagi mutu program dan mempersiapkan pelajar memasuki alam pekerjaan.

Pada 2016, tambah Profesor Madya Muhammad Faishal, sekitar 6,000 pelajar memilih mengikuti kursus seni kreatif di politeknik, universiti autonomi dan institusi seni.

“Kami dapati siswazah institusi seni yang memasuki kerjaya berkaitan seni dan yang menyertai pertubuhan besar sebagai pengurus dan pegawai eksekutif keupayaan artistik mereka dapat dimanfaatkan dengan sebaiknya,” ujar Profesor Madya Muhammad Faishal.

Dalam pada itu, menurut Profesor Dixon, Maktab Seni Lasalle telah mengorak langkah bagi melengkapi pelajar dengan kemahiran jangka panjang.

“Pelajar dilatih bukan hanya dalam bidang seni kreatif, malah dalam pemikiran kreatif, penyelesaian masalah dan kolaborasi.

“Kemahiran tersebut memberikan mereka manfaat ke atas pesaing kerana majikan hari ini mahukan lebih daripada sekadar pekerja biasa,” katanya.

High demand for arts graduates

Nine out of 10 graduates of LASALLE College of the Arts are successful in finding employment while 87 percent of graduates of the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (Nafa) managed to find employment within three months after graduation.

According to LASALLE, out of the 90 percent of graduates who have obtained jobs, 66 percent work full-time and part-time, 14 percent are self-employed, while another 10 percent are freelancers.

Of the remaining 10 percent, four percent are pursuing further studies and only 6 percent are searching for employment.

These statistics, according to the President of LASALLE College of the Arts Professor Steve Dixon, are in line with the pattern of employment in the creative industries.

"Our graduates are not always looking for a full time, desk bound, nine to five job.

"Some of them take on various forms of specific projects and sometimes they work on a few projects at a time," he said.

A study conducted late last year on more than 700 former students of LASALLE College of the Arts is the first to be conducted by the institution here as a means to track the progress of its alumni's careers in the creative industries in Singapore and abroad.

Healthy statistics from both of these institutions are in line with the reality shared by the Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education & Ministry of Social and Family Development, Associate Professor Dr Muhammad Faishal Ibrahim, in Parliament during the recent Committee of Supply Debate 2017.

Given that creative arts play a role in the national economy, Ministry of Education (MOE) will work with the arts education institutions LASALLE and Nafa to improve the quality of the programmes, in preparing students to enter the working world.

In 2016, added Associate Professor Dr Muhammad Faishal, around 6,000 students pursued a course in creative arts in polytechnics, autonomous universities and art institutions.

"We found that graduates of art institutions who entered a career related to the arts and joined a large organisation as managers and executives, get to maximise their artistic abilities," said Associate Professor Dr Muhammad Faishal.

In the meantime, according to Professor Dixon, LASALLE College of the Arts has started to embark on complementing students with long-term skills.

"Students are not only trained in the creative arts but also in critical thinking, problem-solving and collaboration.

"These skills give them an edge over their competitors because today's employers recruit more than just doers," he said.