

Opening Minds-Through Art (OMA): A Multi-Generational Art Exhibition in Indonesia Celebrates Creative Connections and Bonds

Jakarta, 29 August – Opening Minds through Art (OMA), an evidence-based program dedicated to fostering creative connections and breaking down cognitive barriers for individuals living with dementia, is excited to announce its first art exhibition in Indonesia. The event will be held on **September 1 at Pasar Raya Blok M, Dapur Raya, Jakarta, from 14:00 to 17:00 p.m.** This is a public event; everyone is welcome.

This event, hosted in collaboration with Atma Jaya University's psychology department and medical school, showcases the artistic talents of individuals living with dementia alongside high school and college students, community members, caregivers, and professional artists. The expansion of OMA to Indonesia was made possible, in part, by a 2023 Fulbright Scholar Grant awarded to OMA's founder, Dr. Elizabeth "Like" Lokon.

The OMA art exhibition, held for one day only, promises to be a celebration of creativity, connection, and community. The event will feature the artwork of OMA artists from Rukun Dementia Support Program, Rukun Senior Living, and Panti Lansia Santa Anna, with additional contributions from Erudio High School students, parents, and individual artists. In total, 47 OMA artists will showcase 60+ artworks. Don't miss this inspiring event that celebrates creativity, compassion, and the power of art to bridge generations and transform lives.

OMA's mission is to build bridges across age and cognitive barriers through art, envisioning a world free of stigma for people living with dementia. The program's impact is supported by published research, demonstrating improved well-being for older adults with dementia and enhanced attitudes and communication skills for participating students.

Dr. Elizabeth "Like" Lokon, the founder and director of OMA at Miami University's Scripps Gerontology Center, launched OMA in 2007. Since then, it has expanded to over 200 communities in the USA and Canada. With support from the US Fulbright Scholar award to Indonesia, Dr. Elizabeth Lokon led a teaching project at UNIKA Atma Jaya from March to September 2023. The project, "Using Art to Teach Intergenerational Service Learning for People Living with Dementia," aimed to integrate OMA into local courses and extracurricular programs at Atma Jaya. The goal is to raise dementia awareness in local communities and enhance intergenerational relations in Indonesia. Dr. Lokon's profile is at the AMINEF website www.aminef.or.id or through this link: <https://www.aminef.or.id/elizabeth-lokon/>.

OMA in Indonesia is based at the Center for the Study of Sustainable Community at Atma Jaya University (CSSC, Pusat Studi Masyarakat Berkelanjutan, or PSMB).

About OMA: Opening Minds through Art (OMA) is an evidence-based, multi-generational art-making program for people living with dementia. OMA's mission is to build bridges across age and cognitive barriers through art, fostering a world free of stigma for people living with dementia. OMA serves people with dementia in various settings, with volunteers including high school and college students, community members, caregivers, and professionals. Founded by Dr. Elizabeth “Like” Lokon in 2007, OMA has expanded its reach to more than 200 communities in the USA, Canada, and now in Indonesia.

For more information about OMA, please visit:

- OMA's main website (USA): <https://scrippsoma.org/>
- OMA Indonesia's website: <https://cssc.carrrd.co/>
- OMA's Instagram (USA): @openingmindsthroughart
- OMA Indonesia's Instagram: @openingmindsthroughart_id

For media inquiries and further details about OMA in Indonesia, please contact:

- Dr. Christiany Suwartono
- Email: psmb@atmajaya.ac.id

Run down of Art Show:

- Opening remarks by Dr. Yuda Turana, President-elect of Atma Jaya University.
- Remarks from Mr. Alan Feinstein, Executive Director of AMINEF/Fulbright Indonesia.
- A reflection on OMA volunteer experiences by a medical student.
- Remarks by Dr. Christiany Suwartono, Director of the Center for the Study of Sustainable Community (CSSC, Pusat Studi Masyarakat Berkelanjutan, or PSMB) at Unika Atma Jaya.
- A photo montage of OMA's activities in the last six months.
- A unique fashion show featuring OMA artwork printed on fabric, with participation from older adults living with dementia and college students.
- The silent auction results will be announced at 16:30, with proceeds split equally between the artists and the CSSC/PSMB.
- Throughout the afternoon (14:00-17:00), attendees can enjoy a free OMA art-making workshop and explore an OMA merchandise table, with all funds raised to support future OMA programming at the CSSC/PSMB.



PAMERAN KARYA

**PROGRAM SENI LINTAS
GENERASI UNTUK
ORANG DENGAN
DEMENSIA**

**PANTI LANSIA
SANTA ANNA
RUKUN DEMENTIA
SUPPORT CENTER**

**OPENING
MINDS
THROUGH
ART (OMA)**
&

ERUDIO INDONESIA

01 SEPT 2023

ACARA PEMBUKAAN 15:00

**PAMERAN SEHARI
14:00-17:00**

**DAPUR RAYA
PASARAYA BLOK M**



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KARYA: IBU CAECILIA

ACARA:

"FASHION SHOW"
LELANG KARYA
BAZAAR
"MERCHANDISE"
LOKAKARYA