

---

**JANET PILLAI****Founder, Arts-ED Penang and independent project consultant, Malaysia**

Janet Pillai is a researcher, practitioner and activist in the field of arts, culture and heritage education. She specializes in the fields of creative pedagogy, cultural research, and community engagement. Her work entails programming, training and facilitation of community-engaged projects in partnership/ consultation with artists, professionals, local agencies and community. Janet founded Arts-ED, a non-profit organization which is noted for its community-based arts and culture education work with young people. Pillai was an academic at the Department of Performing Arts in University Sains Malaysia until 2013 is currently an independent project consultant/resource person in arts/culture/heritage training & programming, research & writing. She has authored 3 books and numerous articles and contributes as expert resource person in regional organizations such as UNESCO Bangkok and APCIEU Korea.

**Transitions and Transformations : What ICH Means to the Next Generation**

'Living culture' embodies both aesthetics and functionality, and generates cultural and social energy through everyday rituals, the crafting and use of domestic or personal artifacts, festivities and ceremonies etc. In today's urban setting the generation of cultural/social energy is engineered by market forces, modern education and mobility that undermines the ecological relationship of place, people and use that sustains the organic human scale transmission of cultural capital.

This paper highlights a specific approach in transmitting ICH to a younger generation, It showcases methodology and examples from **ARTS-ED Penang**, a program that provides innovative non-formal arts and heritage education for young people aged 10-18. The program helps young people retrace their cultural heritage through site-specific projects designed in collaboration with dedicated partners; local institutions, artists, community, schools, local associations government and private sector.

The 'site' and 'community' is utilised as a platform for intergenerational interaction and creative arts is used as an enabler to engage young people with living culture. Within a human scale living community, participants map cultural narratives, reflect on their cultural inheritance and communicate their learning through interpretative projects.