i Light Marina Bay Singapore

From March 9 to April 1 2018, the annual i Light Marina Bay was full-force in Singapore. Presented by the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA), this interactive art exhibit showcased 22 light art installations that promoted messages on sustainability from 14 countries around the world. This year’s art pieces used recycled materials, biodegradable products, and other energy-efficient technology to produce powerful works and narratives.

Caption: The “Chandelier of Spirits” is a light installation made up of recycled cold-brew bottles from local cafes. Created by the Thai design studio, Living Spirits, the art piece was inspired by the morning ritual drink of office workers, symbolizing the spirit of Singapore’s workforce. The “Chandelier of Spirits” interacts its visitors by shining brighter when there are more people under and around the installation.

Credit: ULI
Caption: By UK-based artist Michael Davis, “Illumaphonium” is interactive chime bar sculpture situated next to the Singapore River that encourages visitors to work with each other to create rhythmic music.
Credit: ULI

ULI Singapore had an opportunity to learn more about the background of i Light Marina Bay from URA’s Yu Ning, Chief Planner, Jason Chen, Festival Director (Place Management), and April Tan, Executive Place Manager. During the site tour, Chen shared that the goal of the festival was to encourage visitors to incorporate better environmentally-sustainable habits in their daily lives.

For all the pieces to align, the festival organizers engaged in many different partnerships and sponsors in the public and private sector. During the month of i Light, many businesses around Marina Bay dim their exterior lighting during the evenings of the festival to offset the energy costs for the art pieces. In addition, i Light collaborated with other sustainability events such as the World Wildlife Fund’s Earth Hour to coordinate messaging and reinforce the focus on protecting the environment. The URA hopes to reach even more people for next year’s festival, which will be celebrating Singapore’s bicentennial.

To learn more about how to engage in i Light Marina Bay and current 2019 Open Call, please visit their website here. To learn about the Student Award, click here.
Caption: The Hungarian artist team Limelight lit up the Art Science Museum throughout the festival with their 3D projection mapping, “Evergreen”. The art piece incorporates advance light map projection to tell narratives on the important relationship of human advancement in modern society and sustainability. Showcasing different elements of nature, “Evergreen” reminds its viewers that with even with the onset of the digital age, the importance of people’s interactions with nature should never be lost.

Credit: ULI