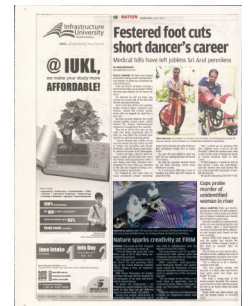


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**Inspired by nature:** SMK TTDI Jaya Shah Alam art teacher Siti Rosni Nik Mohd Zaid (left) and student M.Haffizi Harun, 19, drawing a flower during the art workshop.

## Nature sparks creativity at FRIM

**KEPONG:** Sixty-year-old K.R. Yuarajah is driven by a passion to create art.

"I love to draw and paint and what better way to do it than being surrounded by greenery.

"It is very good to see what is here in the forest," he said yesterday when met at the Forest Research Institute (FRIM) during a flora art beginners workshop.

SMK Puteri Titiwangsa art teacher Looi Chor Mei said she was inspired by the formation of the trees and leaves and its natural beauty.

"It sparks the imagination. I am bringing my school students here next week so that they can get different ideas on what to draw," she added.

Twenty-two people participated in yesterday's flora art workshop which

was held in collaboration with the National Visual Arts Gallery.

The programme is part of an eight-week course with veteran artist and retired art educator Mah Ai Ching who was on hand to guide them.

FRIM corporate communication head Norhayati Nordin said participants visited the herbarium to learn about its functions and botanical art as well as a guided tour of the surrounding area.

"We are happy to have them as we want them to appreciate and be inspired by nature. Many of the participants are first-timers (to FRIM)," she said.

FRIM, she said, was currently hosting a nature art competition which ends on May 25.