

28 February 2022



To Whom it may concern,

This is a letter of professional support and recommendation for Roman Kroke, an interdisciplinary artist and educator, who we were recently privileged to have as a speaker on occasion of our “Sustainability Day and Marine Awareness Week 2022”.

I highly recommend Roman who fully understands how to engage with students on multiple levels, to either exchange with them on zoom or, if you have the opportunity, to have him visit your school for a face-to-face workshop. Roman is able to connect with students instantly from his warmth of character and his passion for what he does and who he represents. Whether it is History, TOK, Languages, Art or the Sciences, Roman can capture the students’ attention with his breadth of subject matter, extensive knowledge and experience as well as his delivery and connection with the learners. As a former lawyer, he also has the rhetorical skills to captivate the students with a well-structured and, at the same time, dynamic presentation.

Roman has a long history with UWC: He came to Li Po Chun UWC in May 2018 to visit a French student who was selected by the French UWC National Committee and to give a lecture to our students about his diverse interdisciplinary art projects. In 2019, Roman also led an on-site workshop for students of the UWC Mostar (Bosnia-Herzegovina) about the topic “Cold War”, in its historical dimension as well as about today’s discourse concerning an “awakening” of a Cold War in a new guise; being part of a German family who had been separated by the Berlin Wall, Roman could contribute to this particular topic also on a personal biographical level. In 2022, Roman was a jury member of the national pre-selection committee of UWC France.

It was during his visit to Hong Kong in 2018 that I met Roman and was impressed with his commitment, artistic talent and deep understanding of the UWC movement. I kept in contact with Roman and was always interested in the work that he was involved in. Learning about his ongoing projects from Facebook, I thought he would be the perfect person to talk to our students at Li Po Chun UWC on occasion of this year’s “Sustainability Day and Marine Awareness Week”: With his current focus centering around the concepts of sustainable development and its complexity, linked to large scale data and environmental pollution, he set off on a Pacific Ocean crossing on board of the research vessel “Sonne” during which he worked as an artistic mediator for an international team of scientists from May to July 2019. During the zoom exchange with my students, he spoke in depth about the project illustrating and explaining it with photographs and videos. The students were fascinated with the project, Roman’s involvement and the artistic way he relayed his story, illuminating his passion for nature and the sustainability of our environment. Despite this being online on zoom, Roman captured the attention of students as he gave an exclusive behind-the-scenes dive into his art studio.

LI PO CHUN UNITED WORLD COLLEGE OF HONG KONG 香港李寶椿聯合世界書院
10 Lok Wo Sha Lane, Sai Sha Road, Ma On Shan, Sha Tin, New Territories, Hong Kong 香港新界沙田馬鞍山西沙路落禾沙里10號
Tel 電話 +852 2640 0441 Fax 傳真 +852 2643 4088 Email 電郵 office@lpcuwc.edu.hk Website 網址 www.lpcuwc.edu.hk

Patron: The Hon C Y Leung GBM GBS JP, Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People’s Republic of China
贊助人: 中華人民共和國 香港特別行政區 行政長官梁振英先生

Students were able to discover first-hand about his current interdisciplinary working processes (drawings, working materials such as water samples & ocean sediments from the pacific expedition for future extraction of colour pigments). This was appealing to students on many levels and from many subject areas, combining arts, history, environmental sciences and TOK. The students were able to actively participate, experimenting together with a capacity to discover metaphors in photos, objects, thus enriching the exchange, interest and learning process. In just 90 minutes students were able to discover:

- the value of an artistic approach to discuss these topics
- ideas for students on ways they could get involved and/or become more sustainably-minded
- how to brainstorm for future projects and ways students could get started
- plenty of time for Q/A and discussion
- appreciation for the ocean and the art of freediving
- a short excursion to his other projects evolving around the topics of history and memory, such as his recent projects at the Memorial site of the Wannsee Conference, (Berlin/Germany) and in the forests of Belarus about the Jewish Partisan movement of the Bielski Brothers.

For these reasons I am fully assured Roman would make significant and enriching contributions to any cooperation with your school, be it through a digital exchange with students on zoom or as part of an on-site workshop.

Please do not hesitate to contact me regarding the details of this letter through my email address – hayley@lpcuwc.edu.hk.

Yours sincerely,

Hayley Goldberg hayley@lpcuwc.edu.hk
Teacher of IB Language A and B
Tutor and Head of House
Li Po Chun United World College of Hong Kong
Tel (852) 2640 0446 Fax (852) 2643 4088

