

# Y FACTOR



A P U B L I C A T I O N O F Y M C A O F S I N G A P O R E

MCI (P) 004/05/2016

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## Sengkang South Little Entrepreneurs

## 盛港南小小企业家

19th March 2016 (Saturday)



### COVER STORY

P15 /

## PICKING UP ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS AT A YOUNG AGE

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Alvin Teo (Punggol Park CC Youth Executive Committee)

## YMCA LEADERS MEET IN CHIANG MAI



The 4th National General Secretaries Meeting was held at YMCA Chiang Mai on 15 February 2016 and was attended by 55 YMCA movements worldwide. It was a time for friends, old and new to come together to exchange ideas and experiences to address different issues whilst planning for the implementation of shared strategies. Rev. Johan Vilhelm Eltvik, Secretary General, World Alliance of YMCAs

welcomed all General Secretaries with an opening address. He shared the results of "One Million Voices", where nearly 20,000 youth from 60 countries aged between 15 to 24 shared their needs and thoughts in a survey conducted on employment, health and human rights which will drive the ongoing dialogue to implement future YMCA strategies to better serve the youth for the next 170 years.

To kick off the event, all participating General Secretaries gave a presentation on what the YMCA movement in their countries have done so far in terms of progress towards delivering the OUR WAY Strategy since World Council 2014. The OUR WAY Strategy focuses on Youth Empowerment, Movement Strengthening, Resource Mobilisation, Communications, and Governance with Global Citizenship as a crosscutting perspective. The attendees were also grouped according to geographical criteria to analyse and compare statistics from the different countries, which focused on the lifestyles of youth, their needs and the challenges they face.

Mr Lo Chee Wen, General Secretary, YMCA of Singapore shared that during a personal reflection, each of them had to think about their own organisation's identity and how they can apply action rather than words to nurture the hearts of their youth.

## VISIT TO YMCA GEORGE WILLIAMS COLLEGE



Mr Lo Chee Wen, General Secretary, YMCA of Singapore, visited YMCA George Williams College in London on 3 March 2016. He met with Ms Maxine Green, Principal and Chief Executive Officer of the college where she shared with Mr Lo about the college and brought him for a

tour around the building. This visit comes at a time of a potential partnership in which YMCA of Singapore and YMCA George Williams College are in talks of piloting an intergenerational study programme.



### REMEMBERING DR LEE SENG GEE 25 JUNE 1921 – 10 MAY 2016

YMCA is immensely grateful to Lee Foundation for the unwavering support over the years under the late Dr Lee Seng Gee's leadership. The Lee Foundation has been one of the most faithful benefactors of YMCA through its longstanding support and contributions towards numerous YMCA programmes and in particular the YMCA Building Fund, which was vital to the construction of the new YMCA Building in the early 1980s, enabling us to serve and impact the community more effectively. To date, YMCA of Singapore has been blessed with over \$1.5 million from the Lee Foundation.

The funds we received have enabled us to grow our programmes to bring cheer, hope and love to the less privileged. Our beneficiaries were also assured of the sustainability of the programmes which they enjoy participating in.

While we mourn the passing of Dr Lee, YMCA celebrates Dr Lee's life and his spirit of giving, which has left an indelible imprint on our hearts and minds.

*Image Source: The Straits Times © Singapore Press Holdings Limited. Edited with permission.*



## NATIONAL GENERAL SECRETARY OF YMCA INDIA VISITS YMCA OF SINGAPORE



YMCA of Singapore had the privilege of hosting YMCA India on 14 March 2016 for dinner and a tour of the building and the sharing of their activities and programmes. Mr Ch.R.P. Mani Kumar, General Secretary, YMCA India was part of the delegation. Mr Lo Chee Wen, General Secretary, and Ms Samantha Seah, Assistant General Secretary hosted YMCA India during their stay here and shared on the different aspects of YMCA of Singapore and how the organisation functions.

## WORLD SPEECH DAY SINGAPORE 2016

On 15 March 2016, citizens from 35 countries across the globe in 300 locations including Singapore participated in delivering speeches in celebration of World Speech Day (WSD), a day dedicated to celebrating speeches and speech making through a multitude of live speaking events across the globe. The theme for WSD this year was "A Better World". WSD is an event which opens up a trans-global arena for speakers who want to share their ideas on how to make the world a better place to live in.

Singapore is the first country in Asia to participate in WSD since its inception.

Ms Joan Pereira, Member of Parliament for Tanjong Pagar GRC inaugurated WSD Singapore which was held at YMCA of Singapore. A total of 90 speakers comprising individuals and representatives from civic groups spoke for over 12 hours from 9am to 9.30pm, the longest time recorded among all participating countries. In her speech, Ms Pereira mentioned that volunteering in your own way will make the world a better place, "Offer a helping hand to someone in need, or at least a comforting smile to brighten their day, we may start small, but we must always put in a conscious effort to make someone's day better. Volunteering will enable one to

appreciate better what you have, therefore I would like to encourage you to take the first step to get involved in volunteering actively."

The organising committee for WSD Singapore comprised representatives from YMCA Toastmasters Club. Through the event, they hope to encourage everyone to speak on causes which are close to their hearts



and to draw attention towards the poor, needy, the sick and underprivileged in the community. WSD Singapore also provided the ideal avenue for civic groups to share with online and live audiences on upcoming initiatives to further their cause.

### About YMCA Toastmasters Club

YMCA Toastmasters Club of Singapore was founded in 1997. It is one of the earliest established and most influential Toastmasters clubs, noted for developing and producing many successful public speakers. The club's mission is to provide a supportive and positive learning experience in which members are empowered to develop communication and leadership skills, resulting in greater self-confidence and personal growth.



## UP CLOSE WITH BIRDS OF PREY



As part of an ongoing effort to provide beneficiaries with opportunities to engage in a range of activities and excursions to places of interest, 11 YMCA volunteers brought 15 beneficiaries from the Handicaps Welfare Association (HWA) on a Y Outing session to Jurong Bird Park on 19 March 2016. They were brought on a tour around the park and enjoyed the "Kings of the Skies" show where they witnessed the strength and agility of several birds of prey.



## ALL IN GOOD COMPANY



To usher in the Lunar New Year, over 150 volunteers from CHIJ St Theresa's Convent, Citibank, Ciseern, Credit Suisse, OTIS, Singapore Polytechnic, SMU, Travel Corp and YMCA School participated in YMCA of Singapore's Project CNY to spread festive cheer to more than 410 elderly beneficiaries from 7 Voluntary Welfare Organisations (VWOs) over the period of several Project CNY sessions from 29 January to 5 February 2016. The volunteers made door-to-door visits and blessed the elderly with Lunar New Year goodies such as love letters and mandarin oranges and also spent time interacting with them through games and activities.

YMCA of Singapore would like to thank Tan Chin Tuan Foundation for supporting Project CNY.





## A CHANNEL OF BLESSING

## A NEW DAWN



There were smiles all around as 23 Y STARS, five representatives from People's Association, 17 parents and YMCA staff gathered at YMCA of Singapore on 20 February 2016 to celebrate the completion of the Y STARS' new canvas painting series named 'A New Dawn'. The arts project was a joint collaboration between YMCA of Singapore and PAssionArts Buona Vista to promote community arts in Singapore. The programme aims to make arts and culture more accessible to the community by bringing it right to the heart of every constituency. PAssionArts is established by People's Association with support of the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth.

To congratulate the Y STARS, Mr Chan Chun Sing, Minister, Prime Minister's Office and Deputy Chairman of People's Association graced the occasion as Guest-of-Honour where he viewed the paintings and interacted with the artists. He also presented Certificates of Appreciation and goodie bags to all 23 YSTARS, and even joined in for a "Lo-Hei" session.

The Y STARS (YMCA Special Talents, Arts & Recreation Society) is a group of young adults with Down's Syndrome who are gifted in visual and performing arts. Inspired by the beauty of the morning sky, the Y STARS took four months to complete the paintings. With three sessions per month, and each session spanning one and a half hours long, they painted on canvas in stages, blending different colours with either strokes or lines. Each artist added a unique skyline that held a special meaning for them here in Singapore: one can spot their HDB apartment blocks, family members' office buildings or even iconic local structures among the silhouettes of their paintings.

The colours of dawn used in each painting represent a delightful swirl of the different hues that mirror the diverse makeup of Singapore's society. It is an expression of hope that, in this new chapter of our nation's history, every individual will have the equal opportunity to shine for Singapore.

All 23 paintings are currently on display at Holland Village's MRT ventilation panels (located at Exit A) from 1 March 2016. The paintings will be on display for a period of at least 6 months.



## SCAN

to view more photos from the event and the paintings





## A CHANNEL OF BLESSING

## CHALLENGING THEIR PRECONCEIVED LIMITS

A total of 68 beneficiaries from Grace Orchard School participated in the March 2016 run of Y Camp Challenge together with 90 public volunteers. The 3 day, 2 night camp was held from 11 to 13 March at Grace Orchard School.

Themed "New Possibilities", participants went through a series of camp activities such as tent pitching, cooking outdoors, dragon boating and station games, all of which focused on team building to promote social integration between beneficiaries and the volunteers, which challenged the preconceived limits and boundaries to increase their confidence and resilience. A new initiative which took place was the usage of camp credits, where beneficiaries could use to exchange for food items. Through this, the beneficiaries could select what they wanted to have for their meals and at the same time, they were taught to manage their finances and make decisions by spending wisely.

Mr Samuel Chan, Chairman, Community Service Programmes Committee attended the campfire and gave a speech to encourage volunteers and beneficiaries. In his address, he said, "As we step into the new beginning of Y Camp Challenge, we must remember the Y Camp Challenge spirit that has been passed down over the past 10 years and counting. This fighting spirit will continue to motivate not just the

volunteers and buddies, but also to our various stakeholders in continuing to serve and provide the support required for the success of the camp."

YMCA of Singapore would like to thank NTUC FairPrice Foundation and Tan Chin Tuan Foundation for their support for the camp.





## A CHANNEL OF BLESSING

# BUILDING HOPE BEYOND BORDERS



A firm believer in the corporate social responsibility motto of 'Doing Well, Doing Good', Woh Hup (Private Limited) strives to be a good corporate citizen by providing opportunities for employees to engage in local and overseas charity work to give back to society.

Spanning over the course of eight months from August 2015 to March 2016 from planning to execution, YMCA of Singapore partnered with The Chain Reaction Group (TCRP) to connect Woh Hup and YMCA Chiang Mai in the construction of a community facility for the elderly and youth. Named "Love and Care Centre", the centre is located in the Sankhampeang District, approximately 25 kilometres from Chiang Mai city.

The construction of the centre was timely and crucial as it served as a space to run programmes and activities for the elderly where it improved their quality of life.

The official opening ceremony took place on 25 March 2016 and was officiated by Ms Suphanimitr, Mayor of Sankhamphaeng, Mr Ngiam Siew Kim, Executive Director of Woh Hup Private Limited, Mr Rachan Maneekarn, National General Secretary of Thailand & General Secretary, YMCA of Chiang Mai, Thailand. Ms Samantha Seah, Assistant General Secretary (Programmes) and Mr Andrew Leo, Assistant General Manager, Programmes represented YMCA of Singapore at the ceremony. In groups of 50, staff volunteers from Woh Hup worked alongside the local workers over four weeks in the month of March 2016 to build the "Love & Care Centre". But it was not all work and no play, as the volunteers also interacted with the elderly beneficiaries through games, learnt how to cook traditional Thai dishes and had their meals together with the locals. This avenue of interaction allowed both the volunteers and the beneficiaries to communicate and learn more about each other through actions rather than words.



Mr Rachan Maneekarn said, "I would like to express my sincere thanks to YMCA of Singapore for your generosity, kind coordination and preparation in ensuring the smooth completion of the "Love and Care Centre". We will use this building as a training centre for intergenerational bonding for the elderly and youth in the Sankamphaeng district."

The centre aims to be a community facility which will run programmes and activities for the elderly and provide opportunities for the youths living in the village to volunteer during the weekends. YMCA of Singapore and the partners in this project hopes that this will encourage the development of a volunteering mind-set among the youths in the village and let them become more attuned to the needs of the less privileged in their community, to "love and care", and to pass it on.

*Photo Credit:  
The Chain Reaction Project*



SCAN  
to watch highlights  
from the YMCA &  
Woh Hup - Love &  
Care Community  
Project Chiang Mai



**YMCA**  
FLAG DAY  
15 JUNE 2016



# **GIVE** a day and get **HANDS ON!**

## **WHAT**

**Be a fundraiser for YMCA Flag Day 2016**

*Funds raised will go towards YMCA Silver Fiesta, an event that promotes intergenerational bonding and active-ageing lifestyle amongst the elderly.*

## **WHEN**

Wednesday 15 June 2016  
11am to 3pm | 2pm to 6pm

## **WHERE**

Islandwide

*Reporting Centres located at following venues:*

*YMCA of Singapore | Junction 8 Shopping Mall | Jurong East MRT Station | Tampines Mall*

## **HOW**

To volunteer\* or donate, visit [www.ymca.org.sg/flagday2016](http://www.ymca.org.sg/flagday2016)

*\* At least 15 years old and above*

## **ENQUIRIES**

☎ 6586 2349 | ✉ [flagday@ymca.org.sg](mailto:flagday@ymca.org.sg)



Scan for Silver Fiesta  
2015 video



## A CULTURAL EXCHANGE WITH UNI-Y OSAKA



Uni-Y Singapore was privileged to be able to host their counterparts from Osaka YMCA, allowing them to experience a different culture from their own as they visited Singapore from 23 to 26 March 2016. During their first day in Singapore, they met Mr Lo Chee Wen, General Secretary, YMCA of Singapore, who welcomed them. Mr Victor Poh, Senior Manager, Community Service Programmes & Project Bridge and Ms Sharon Chan, Assistant Manager, Youth Development Programmes gave an overview of YMCA's work in Singapore in the areas of Community Service and Youth Empowerment.

Uni-Y Osaka visited the campuses of Uni-Y NTU, NUS and SMU where the Uni-Y Singapore students shared with them how Uni-Y is run and led in Singapore. Uni-Y Osaka commented that the University campuses in Singapore were much larger than expected, and they were impressed by the provision of shuttle buses within the university grounds such as NUS and NTU. There were lively exchanges between Uni-Y Osaka and Uni-Y Singapore students as they shared ideas on the different executive committee structures in Uni-Y Singapore as well as its social enterprises, Stage @ Jericho's, a platform where local bands can showcase their talents and Sidewalk Gallery Café, where the intellectually disabled are provided with working experience in the service industry.

Uni-Y Osaka also taught the Uni-Y Singapore students Japanese Origami and were brought to places of interest such as Chinatown, Gardens by the Bay, Singapore Zoological Gardens and the Marina Bay Sands SkyPark Observation Deck.

## MAKING AN IMPACT AT UNI-Y SINGAPORE



Structured interactive experiences, facilitation discussions, reflective activities and different leadership models that can be applied during their Executive Committee term were some of the things which the Executive Committee members from Uni-Y NTU, NUS, SMU, Y Community Service Club SUTD and 2016 Uni-Y Community Champions Programme participants were taught by YMCA Youth Development Programme staff. The two-day workshop took place on 23 and 30 January at YMCA of Singapore.

Uni-Y IMP(ACT) Training is an experiential leadership workshop conducted by the YMCA of Singapore on how to lead and work effectively in a team. As the name suggests, this training aims to IMPACT the participants positively and in turn, challenge participants to ACT and pass on this knowledge to the rest of their ExCo/subcommittees, either through conducting a similar training or through facilitation during ExCo meetings.

At the end of the training, participants were able to effectively apply leadership frameworks in projects and identify the different roles people play in a group to capitalise on the group's strengths and bolster the group's weaknesses.



## NURTURING COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

# BUILDING EACH OTHER UP AT UNIYTE 2016

A total of 126 guests comprising University-YMCA NUS, NTU, SMU members, executive committee members, parents, school staff and YMCA staff came together for UNIyte 2016, University-YMCA's Annual General Meeting on 16 January at the YMCA of Singapore. The Annual General Meeting is a time for members to come together to be aligned with the club's direction for the new year as they move ahead, united in purpose and mission. Mr Chew Kwee San, President of YMCA of Singapore and Mr Teo Zi-Ming, Chairman of YMCA's Youth and Volunteer Development Committee graced the occasion.

The theme for UNIyte and Uni-Y 2016 is "Building Each Other Up."

Founded in 2005, University-YMCA (Uni-Y) Singapore is the university service club of YMCA of Singapore with the aim to develop and empower youth to be servant leaders who impact local and international communities. They fulfil their mission through community service and social enterprise programmes, and delivery of personal and leadership development programmes to holistically nurture its members and volunteers.

In his opening address, Mr Teo Zi-Ming, founder of the Uni-Y movement, shared that he was very pleased to see how far all three student chapters have come.



He said, "Never in my wildest dreams would I have imagined that Uni-Y would one day become a movement with almost 300 new members every year in three universities, winning multiple awards at the university, national as well as the regional level." He added, "But while we would never have foreseen how Uni-Y would be, back in 2005, what we understood was the potential of youth, if harnessed, could impact the world in positive ways. What we knew was that we wanted to groom servant leaders – not to promote just any brand of leadership that leadership gurus and top corporate management brass would espouse today, but leadership that embodies Compassion, Honesty, Accountability, Respect and Excellence."

Ms Chen Siru, the outgoing Chairperson of Council of Uni-Y 2015 and President of Uni-Y SMU gave a testimony of her volunteering journey with Uni-Y. She was thankful for her peers who served alongside her in the executive committee and was proud to have "run a good race because of the support given by the Uni-Y family." She added, "My call to action in 2015 was for everyone to be fearless and create an infinite impact. Today, I am extremely grateful that all of us have served fearlessly to the best of our abilities. My experience in Uni-Y has bettered me, and many others seated here, to be more ready facing future challenges. Being an executive committee member, seeds have been sown in you for greater things. May you continue to serve, be it in Uni-Y or elsewhere, and grow these seeds."

All Uni-Y Executive Committee 2015 members were recognised for their contributions to the success of Uni-Y in the past year and received certificates of appreciation from Mr Chew Kwee San and Mr Teo Zi-Ming.

Another highlight of UNIyte included an award presentation to two Uni-Y NUS and four Uni-Y SMU members for completing the Uni-Y Community Champions Programme. The Programme is a year-long endeavour which sees participants embarking on a journey of advocating change through research and development and personal development, with both local and overseas exposure.

In addition, there was also a recital of the Uni-Y pledge led by Mr Tan Jing Qun, the incoming President of Uni-Y NUS, and Chairman of Council of Uni-Y 2016. The pledge signified the importance of the 2016 executive committee members and leaders of the clubs. Before the event concluded, the outgoing 2015 Presidents from all three chapters handed over the reins of each club to the incoming Presidents by passing on an encased plaque which represented the continuation Uni-Y's work – to develop and empower youth to be servant leaders who impact local and international communities. In addition, the incoming Presidents also received their letters of appointment from Mr Teo.

Guests were each given a puzzle piece where they went on stage to form a Uni-Y collage, which also signified a commitment to build each other up in the year ahead.





## NURTURING COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

# UNI-Y SMU WINS EXCELLENCE AWARD



For their outstanding contributions to the development of student leadership and community integration in SMU, Uni-Y SMU was conferred the SMU Excellence Award in Student Life Silver Award (Group). Ms Chen Siru, President of Uni-Y SMU (2015) represented the club to receive the award from SMU President Professor Arnoud De Meyer on 23 March 2016 during the 2016 University Student Life Awards at the Ngee Ann Kongsi Auditorium. She said, "This award is

only possible with the hardwork of batches of Uni-Y members and volunteers. It is my hope that Uni-Y will continue to grow and impact the community."

The University Student Life Awards (USLA) is an annual event honouring student, faculty and staff contributors for their support of co-curriculum activities (CCAs) and significant contribution towards a rich and vibrant campus life in SMU. Uni-Y SMU served the local and international communities through Social Impact and Holistic Enrichment Programmes. For example, they brought joy to the elderly and underprivileged children through baking handmade delicacies during Y Food of Love and helped the elderly living alone to clean their homes at a Y Spring Clean session. The club also served the SMU community through the bi-annual welfare drive #shareyourmile where they provided snacks and wrote a note to their friends for encouragement during the exam period.

This is the second consecutive win of the SMU Excellence Award in Student Life for Uni-Y SMU.

## About Uni-Y Singapore

Founded in 2005, University-YMCA (Uni-Y) Singapore is the university service club of YMCA of Singapore. Uni-Y aims to develop and empower youth to be servant leaders who will impact our local and international communities. It fulfils its mission through community service and social enterprise programmes, and delivery of personal and leadership development programmes to holistically nurture its members and volunteers. Uni-Y has student chapters in National university of Singapore (NUS), Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and Singapore Management University (SMU).



# UNI-Y SINGAPORE STUDY MISSION TO HONG KONG

A Uni-Y Singapore Study Mission was held from 19 to 22 February 2016 at the Chinese YMCA of Hong Kong (CYMCA). A total of 12 participating students comprising Presidents, Vice-Presidents and selected directors from Uni-Y NTU, Uni-Y NUS and Uni-Y SMU were accompanied by two Youth Development Programmes staff from the YMCA of Singapore. The students visited Hong Kong University (HKU) where they interacted with current and past Uni-Y HKU executive committee members, and went for a campus tour. While they were there, the students visited a Graffiti workshop conducted by the Personal Development Department of Uni-Y of HKU. This workshop taught Uni-Y



members to learn about making useful graffiti, and at the same time, it helped to raise awareness on developing good mental health.

The Uni-Y Singapore students also visited CYMA's social enterprise programme at the New Territories Depot centre, a recreational centre open to members of CYMCA, where jobs are provided to people with special needs. They also learnt the basics in a YM (Young Men's) balloon programme, a social enterprise of CYMCA which employs individuals with hearing disabilities to provide quality balloon sculpting works for events.

“ The Personal Development programmes from Uni-Y of Hong Kong University seemed very well planned and piqued the interest of the students. Through their PD programmes, they managed to raise awareness in a way that is different from volunteering through community programmes. It is definitely something we can explore to raise awareness of certain issues through this manner. ”

- Annabelle Ong,  
Director, Personal Development,  
Uni-Y NTU





*We make a living by what we get,  
we make a life by what we give.*  
- Winston Churchill

**Invest in a worthy cause this season.  
Priceless returns guaranteed!**

Make a small corporate contribution\* and rally staff to bear the standard of corporate citizenship for your organisation by volunteering for a day.

**Event Details:**

**YMCA Proms @ the Park**  
**Date:** Saturday, 16 July 2016  
**Venue:** Victoria Theatre Hall,  
Empress Lawn

**Guest-of-Honour:**

President of the Republic of Singapore,  
Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam

**For more information, please visit [www.ymca.org.sg/promsatthepark](http://www.ymca.org.sg/promsatthepark)  
or email [henrytie@ymca.org.sg](mailto:henrytie@ymca.org.sg)**

Organised by



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An Event of



\*YMCA of Singapore is an approved Institution of a Public Character (IPC). All cash donations of \$50 and above are eligible for a tax relief of 250% the amount of donation made. For example, a donation of \$10,000 will attract a tax deduction of \$25,000.



# FUN WITH CRAYONS



Level for all the students to reach their fullest potential.

For the Foundational Level programme, teachers were encouraged to create differentiated learning between lower and upper primary classes. 'My Fun Crayons' provided students with the foundational knowledge of art theory in the elements of Art and equipped them with basic colour rendering skill sets. Students worked on a different theme each week including 'Cupcakes', 'Ice-Cream' and 'Ice-Kachang'.

Through the foundational level programme, YMCA aims to nurture the children into confident learners who can freely express their ideas and passions in life creatively through art. Teachers saw their efforts come into fruition as Cherelle Wong, a Primary 3 participant from YMCA SCC @ St Margaret's said, "I like 'My Fun Crayons' because it helps me to be more creative, imaginative and confident. This programme has made me more interested in art. It has taught me the proper way of blending, the elements of art and how to choose matching colours. I am thankful that YMCA has introduced this programme to me and my friends. I am now able to complete an art piece beautifully and confidently."

The Advanced Level programme for Primary 2 to Primary 6 students aims to instil values such as responsibility and compassion to nurture students into caring individuals in society. Using crayons as a medium, the students look at the world from the perspectives of different artists, learn about their artistic intentions and proceed to create artworks which convey their dreams and aspirations through the artist's signature art style.

For instance, one of the themes the students were given was 'The Future Me'. Prior to creating their masterpieces, the teachers shared a story about how world renowned painter Pablo Picasso encouraged a girl to never give up on her dreams. This encouraged the students to think about what they wanted to achieve in the future and they drew their future self with the element of Cubism as a reference to Picasso. Students' depictions of themselves range from becoming a baker, dance teacher to even becoming a boss of a fast food chain!

Dana Leong, a Primary 2 participant said, "I like My Fun Crayons because it teaches us how to be creative and if you make a mistake they will teach you how to turn the mistake into a beautiful thing." Shayna Chua, a Primary 6 participant added, "In every advanced lesson, the YMCA teachers showed us slideshows of artists which let me learn more about them. When I want to give up on my art piece, the teachers convinced me to continue and not redo my artwork. I hope this programme continues."

A total of 134 crayon art pieces by students of YMCA Student Care Centre (SCC) @ St Margaret's were on display at the PASSionArts Community Art Gallery at Holland-Bukit Panjang Town Council.

Featuring the works of some 120 Primary 1 to Primary 6 students, the A4-sized art pieces were made under the YMCA SCC's 'My Fun Crayons' programme over the course of one school term.

Revolving around a different theme each week, the programme comprises a Foundational Level and an Advanced

PASSionArts Community Art Gallery is a PASSionArts Programme by PA Community Arts & Culture Clubs. This programme invites residents and community artists to display and share their art works at community places for residents to appreciate art at their doorstep. PASSionArts is established by People's Association with support of the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth.



## PICKING UP ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS AT A YOUNG AGE

To ignite their entrepreneurial spirit, 45 students from 6 YMCA Student Care Centres (SCC) at East View Primary, Hougang Primary, Oasis Primary, Sengkang Green Primary, Springdale Primary and Yio Chu Kang Primary participated in the Sengkang South Little Entrepreneurs Bazaar at Hougang Marquee N6 on 19 March 2016. Mr Gan Thiam Poh, Member of Parliament graced the event as the Guest-of-Honour. Mr Lo Chee Wen, General Secretary, YMCA of Singapore and Ms Lynette Yeo, Assistant General Secretary (Social Enterprises) were also present at the event. Together with Mr Gan, they visited the students' booths and checked out the students' handmade creations for sale.

Prior to the event, ticket vouchers were sold to residents and parents at \$10 each. Each ticket consisted of food and drink stubs, game booth tickets, and currency coupons for them to exchange for crafts handmade by the students. Each school had their own unique items for sale, such as handmade roses, pen holders, and decorative pieces using recycled items. To generate sales, students had to come up with unique marketing strategies to engage residents. For example, students from YMCA SCC @ Sengkang Green created an advertising board listing down the items they had for sale while walking around with it.

To engage the public at the event, students from YMCA SCC @ Hougang designed a cardboard bus prop and 'drove' around the venue to sell their handmade hairbands and bracelets



created with using recycled items. Through the event, the students learnt the value of cultivating an entrepreneurial mindset from a non-financial point of view and are given early informal training into the world of business.

Students from YMCA SCC @ Sengkang Green were quick to express their positive experiences about the event. Goh Guan Rui, 10, said, "I liked (this event) because I experienced how to be a store owner and learnt how to attract customers to my booth." Anya Yeo, 10, added, "I like the JEP programme because I (am able to) help the teachers in doing up the recycled craft. I liked the rides (at the bazaar), it was crowded but I had fun."

All proceeds from the Sengkang South Little Entrepreneurs Bazaar went towards purchasing of Popular Bookstore vouchers for distribution to less privileged students from the 6 schools.

Organised by P2ark Youths, the managing organiser of a wide range of activities and projects for Punggol Park Community Club, the top performing teams received prizes for their efforts.

The prize winners are:

### Best Sales Award

1st Prize: YMCA SCC @ Sengkang Green  
2nd Prize: YMCA SCC @ Hougang  
3rd Prize: YMCA SCC @ Oasis

### Best Marketing Award

YMCA SCC @ Hougang

### Most Hardworking Student

Zaria Ng, YMCA SCC @ Hougang

As part of the students' curriculum, the Junior Entrepreneur Programme (JEP) was implemented across all YMCA SCCs since 2013. Students plan, craft and sell handmade items using recycled materials to raise funds internally for the needy students in their schools. This is the first time the 6 centres in the vicinity of Hougang put their business skills to the test as they sold their items outside of school quarters.



## SCAN

to view  
more photos  
of the event



# LUNAR NEW YEAR WITH YMCA SCHOOL



The YMCA School Lunar New Year celebration was held on 5 February at the Lee Kong Chian auditorium in YMCA to allow students and teachers a chance to fellowship with one another outside the classroom. The 120 students and 22 YMCA teachers and staff enjoyed song and dance performances by some YMCA School students. Students also played 'Guess the Riddle' in Mandarin and red packets containing Lunar New Year well wishes were given to students with the correct answers. Mr Lo Chee Wen, General Secretary and Ms Lynette Yeo, Assistant General Secretary, (Social Enterprises) were among the invited guests to the festive celebration.





## CHAMPIONING VOLUNTEERISM

# OVER 140 HONoured AT YMCA AWARDS 2016



It was a night dedicated to recognise outstanding volunteerism and philanthropy as YMCA of Singapore honoured over 140 individuals, educational institutions and corporations at the YMCA Awards 2016. Mr Chew Kwee San, President, YMCA of Singapore, hosted the event and met volunteers and donors who had given their time, effort and financial support to touch lives and lift spirits of the less privileged.

"The spirit of volunteering is the vital key to a strong civil society. We've been inspired by the stories of service we've seen throughout the past year and hope their example will encourage others to lead and serve the communities too. We would like to thank all volunteers, donors and partners for sharing in our mission," said Mr Chew.

Outstanding Volunteer Award Winner, Ms Tan Hui Ping was 20 years old when she first set foot in Sichuan, China in April 2013. A final year student at Temasek Polytechnic, she was encouraged by a schoolmate and lecturer to join them for an overseas community trip to help rebuild lives of the Sichuan earthquake survivors. Expecting to change the lives of people she helped, she never once thought that her life would be changed too.

"Spending one week at Sichuan gave me experiences which have undoubtedly changed me for the better. I remember meeting an earthquake survivor who lost all her family members to the Sichuan earthquake. Despite that, she turned

her grief into helping other earthquake survivors by setting up homes to provide shelter and food for the children, and a skills centre to help adults who lost their limbs. At that moment I truly understood the fragility of life, and told myself that so long as it is within my means, I will try my best to reach out and help those in need," said Hui Ping.

Another award recipient is Sean Ng, who devotes his time to plan and execute confidence building activities at Y Camp Challenge, a quarterly outdoor adventure camps for intellectually and physically challenged individuals organised by YMCA. Eddy Han who participated in YMCA'S International Service Programme, leading teams of volunteers to Cambodia and Indonesia to help improve healthcare, education and infrastructures will also be receiving the award. All three individuals were chosen for making contributions beyond their volunteer job description and inspiring others through their voluntary work.

Besides the Outstanding Volunteer Award, nine other awards – which include Individual Special Mention Award, Corporate Special

Mention Award, Sustained Volunteerism Award, Sustained Corporate Volunteerism Award, Team Award, Educational Institution Appreciation Award, Benefactor Award, Outstanding Volunteer Award and Outstanding Corporate Award were presented.

YMCA of Singapore aims to promote volunteerism and develop volunteer capability through the YMCA-LIM Kim San Volunteers Programme. The Programme aims to build a well-trained and sustainable community of volunteers to deliver community service programmes with excellence. It also aims to recognise volunteers who sacrifice time and effort to serve the less-privileged and facilitates corporations in giving back to the community.



## SCAN

to view the full list of the Award Recipients of YMCA Awards 2016



## CHAMPIONING VOLUNTEERISM

# VOLUNTEER LEADERS AND VWO STAFF CELEBRATE VSMP COMPLETION



It was a celebratory occasion as 50 graduates from the YMCA-NUS Business School Volunteer Service Management Programme 2015 received their certificates during the commencement ceremony at YMCA of Singapore on 11 March 2016. Mrs Mildred Tan, Chairman Of National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre and Advisory Council Member of YMCA of Singapore graced the occasion as the Guest-of-Honour.

In her address, Mrs Tan shared that the YMCA-NUS Business School Volunteer Service Management Programme (VSMP) is a good training programme to help lay the foundation for volunteers and staff in the social service sector to enhance their professional skills and experiences so that they are better equipped to serve.

She said, "As an integral part of all community initiatives, volunteers help to meet social and community needs. They are a complementary resource that works alongside social service staff to build the community. With the VSMP training, volunteers and staff can create sustainable improvements and grow in their respective roles."

Introduced in 2007, the VSMP is the first comprehensive management certification course in Singapore that equips volunteers and staff in the social service sector with the skills and knowledge to execute their projects successfully. Participants of Citi-YMCA Youth For Causes (YFC) are given the option of signing up for the VSMP to learn skills for their fundraising projects.

Mr Leslie Wong, Vice President, YMCA of Singapore, shared that to date, the programme has trained over 250 volunteers and staff from more than 100 non-profit organisations and over 370 youths from Citi-YMCA Youth For Causes. "I'm heartened to share that the VSMP has been well received by participants, who expressed appreciation for a platform that enabled them to learn from the experienced trainers, and also share experiences and exchange ideas with others in the social service sector. For instance, participants from YFC managed to use the fundraising and financial management skills they learnt to successfully execute their projects and raise awareness and funds for the voluntary welfare organisations of their choice. Such feedback and results have encouraged the YMCA to continue offering the VSMP to train and develop the capability of participants to more effectively serve the social service sector."

The next run of VSMP will be held in September 2016 for volunteers and staff from Voluntary Welfare Organisations. Should you wish to find out more about the programme, please contact Li Chye at [lichye@ymca.org.sg](mailto:lichye@ymca.org.sg).





# YMCA

## MERCHANDISE



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U.P \$15.00 NOW \$12.00



**COLLAR PIN**  
U.P \$3.50 NOW \$2.50



**CUFFLINK - PAIR**  
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**3D FOOD MAGNET**  
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**MERLION MINI PEN - \$4.30**  
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**KEYRINGS**  
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**YMCA MEMBER SERVICES, LEVEL 1**  
**MONDAYS - FRIDAYS, 9AM - 9PM**  
**SATURDAYS, 9AM - 6PM**  
(Closed on Sundays and Public Holidays)

members@ymca.org.sg  
Tel: 6586 2255 / 56  
Web: www.ymca.org.sg

**WHILE STOCKS LAST!**



\*No exchange and refunds\*

# YMCA - TAN CHIN TUAN COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMMES

June 2016

## WEEK 1 (01.06.16 – 04.06.16)

### Y CAMP CHALLENGE JUNE 2016

APSN CFA, AWWA School,  
Christian Outreach to the  
Handicapped, MINDS Me Too! Club,  
MINDS Towner, MINDSville @  
Napiri, Mountbatten Vocational  
School & Y STARS

Date: Thursday – Sunday  
2 Jun 16 – 5 Jun 16

Time: 4 Days 3 Nights

Venue: Pioneer Primary School

### Y READING CLUB

Bizlink Centre

Date: Friday 3 Jun 16

Time: 2.00pm – 5.00pm

Venue: Blk 512 Chai Chee Lane

### Y FOOD OF LOVE

THK SAC @ AMK 645

Date: Saturday 4 Jun 16

Time: 8.30am – 1.30pm

Venue: Blk 645 Ang Mo Kio Ave 6

### Y SPRING CLEAN @

#### TELOK BLANGAH CRESCENT

THK SAC @ Telok Blangah Crescent

Date: Saturday 4 Jun 16

Time: 9.00am – 12.30pm

Venue: Blk 3 Telok Blangah Crescent

### Y ARTS CHALLENGE @ Y STARS (VISUAL ARTS)

Y STARS

Date: Saturday 4 Jun 16

Time: 11.00am – 1.00pm

Venue: YMCA of Singapore

## WEEK 2 (06.06.16 – 11.06.16)

### Y OUTING @ FOO KON TAN

Care Corner -

Teck Ghee Youth Centre

Date: Saturday 11 Jun 16

Time: 9.00am – 2.00pm

Venue: Farm Visit

### Y ARTS CHALLENGE @ Y STARS (VISUAL ARTS)

Y STARS

Date: Saturday 11 Jun 16

Time: 11.00am – 1.00pm

Venue: YMCA of Singapore

## WEEK 3 (13.06.16 – 18.06.16)

### YMCA FLAG DAY 2016

Date: Wednesday 15 Jun 16

Time: 11.00am – 8.00pm

(4hrs shifts)

Venue: Island-wide

### Y SPORTS

MINDS Clementi

Date: Friday 17 Jun 16

Time: 1.00pm – 3.00pm

Venue: Blk 304 Clementi Avenue 4

### Y READING CLUB

Bizlink Centre

Date: Friday 17 Jun 16

Time: 2.00pm – 5.00pm

Venue: Blk 512 Chai Chee Lane

### Y SPRING CLEAN @

#### JALAN BUKIT MERAH

Sarah SAC @ Jalan Bukit Merah

Date: Saturday 18 Jun 16

Time: 9.00am – 12.30pm

Venue: Blk 105 Jalan Bukit Merah

### Y OUTING @ Y STARS

Y STARS

Date: Saturday 18 Jun 16

Time: 9.00am – 1.00pm

Venue: TBC

### Y PHOTO CLUB

APSN Tanglin School &  
APSN CFA

Date: Saturday 18 Jun 16

Time: 9.00am – 2.00pm

Venue: TBC

### Y MAKAN FELLOWSHIP

Fei Yue Senior Activity Centre  
(Holland Close)

SilverAce @ Telok Blangah

Date: Saturday 18 Jun 16

Time: 8.30am – 1.30pm

Venue: YMCA of Singapore

## WEEK 4 (20.06.16 – 25.06.16)

### Y OUTING (WITH REN CI)

Ren Ci Nursing Home Bukit Batok

Date: Tuesday 21 Jun 16

Time: 1.00pm – 4.30pm

Venue: TBC

### Y OUTING @ BLUE CROSS

Blue Cross Thong Kheng Home

Date: Saturday 25 Jun 16

Time: 8.00am – 2.00pm

Venue: TBC

### Y SPRING CLEAN @ ANG MO KIO

Comnet FSC @ Ang Mo Kio

Date: Saturday 25 Jun 16

Time: 9.00am – 12.30pm

Venue: Blk 420 Ang Mo Kio Ave 10

### Y ARTS CHALLENGE @ Y STARS (VISUAL ARTS)

Y STARS

Date: Saturday 25 Jun 16

Time: 11.00am – 1.00pm

Venue: YMCA of Singapore

## WEEK 5 (27.06.16 – 30.06.16)

### Y OUTING @ SARAH SAC

SARAH SAC

Date: Tuesday 28 Jun 16

Time: 1.00pm – 4.00pm

Venue: TBC

To volunteer,  
contact Henry at **+65 6586 2351** or  
email to **volunteer@ymca.org.sg**

