YMCA SINGAPORE SINGE 1909



SINGAPORE

MCI (P) 112/04/2017



CONTENTS

APR - SEP 2017

COVER STORY





REMINISCING THE GOOD **OLD DAYS**



CITI-YMCA YOUTH FOR **CAUSES CELEBRATES 15 YEARS**



TAKING THEIR LOVE OF GOLF TO THE NEXT LEVEL



GIVING YOUTH AN ALTERNATE PATH





General Secretary: Mr Lo Chee Wen Editorial team: Ms Wang Xiaojia & Ms Tan Yee Lynn

YMCA of Singapore

1 Orchard Road Singapore 238824 Tel : (65) 6336 6000 Fax : (65) 6336 8003 Email : members@ymca.org.sg Website : www.ymca.org.sg

Y Hub Portal: https://yhub.ymca.org.sg

Social Media: www.facebook.com/YMCA.Singapore

www.youtube.com/YMCAofSingapore

This is a publication of YMCA of Singapore, a non-profit organisation. The publication is distributed free to its members and has no subscription or newsstand price.

No part of this publication may be produced in whole or part without prior written permission. All information, dates and prices are correct at time of printing. Please note that all prices are shown in Singapore Dollars (S\$).

Cover Image Photo:

Participants of the YMCA Corporate Challenge: Fuji-san climb. This is a new YMCA fundraising activity which supports the YMCA Community Service Programmes.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

Dear Members and Friends.

We thank the good Lord for showering His rich blessings upon the YMCA through the many events (such as the annual YMCA Charity Golf and YMCA Proms @ the Park) over the past six months, and are grateful that many corporates, VWOs and volunteers have stepped forward willingly to join us in making a difference to our community.

In this second issue of Y Factor 2017, you will read about our new fundraising initiative – the YMCA Corporate Adventure Challenge. Donors from various companies supported this initiative by donating and scaling Mt Fuji to enable children and youth with special needs to acquire life skills at Y Camp Challenge, an outdoor adventure camp with specially curated basic life skills' activities to help increase their level of independence and allowing them to experience independent living away from their caregivers for a few days.

The annual YMCA Plain English-Speaking Awards and YMCA Mandarin Speaking Awards successfully completed its 31st and 11th run in May and September respectively. To encourage our youths' involvement in civic and social activities, the semi-finalists embarked on an experiential learning trip where they volunteered and engaged with our beneficiaries through programmes such as Y Arts Challenge and Y Spring Clean. These memorable engagements inspired the participants to articulate their experiences in their heart-warming speeches.

At the education front, it has also been a busy yet fulfilling period. As we strive to provide a holistic education to nurture values such as compassion, honesty and responsibility, several activities such as the YMCA School Adventure Camp 2017 for character development and YMCA Junior Entrepreneurship Programme for community engagement were organised for our students.

Finally, I like to thank all staff and volunteers who worked tirelessly and selflessly to make these events an enjoyable experience for all! May all glory be to God!

Do follow us on Facebook (@YMCA.Singapore) and LinkedIn (YMCA of Singapore) for the latest updates, happenings and photos from our events.



light has come, and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.

Isaiah 60:1





CLIMBING FOR A CAUSE

The inaugural YMCA Corporate Challenge: Fuji-san saw a team of nine scale Japan's highest peak on 30 August 2017. Organised by YMCA of Singapore in partnership with YMCA Tozanso, the adventure fundraiser is in support of Y Camp Challenge, a quarterly outdoor adventure camp for persons with special needs.



COVER STORY

Amongst the climbers was 68-year-old Tham Chee Kheen Kenneth, climbing Mount Fuji for the second time. He was pleasantly surprised at how smooth the climb was this time round. "This trip was especially memorable as it allowed me to help and contribute to the less fortunate, especially to persons with special needs," said Kenneth.

Another individual, Benny Kong Chong Jee, representing MyLaoHome said, "The entire process of hiking to the top was smooth-sailing. We were blessed with good weather and a professional YMCA guide who was well-trained and thorough in his briefing and inspection of gears. Overall, it was a comfortable hike."

Every year, YMCA serves the less-privileged through the YMCA-Tan Chin Tuan Community Service Programmes. YMCA hopes to organise more of such Outdoor & Adventure fundraising events to fund these programmes, which include Y Camp Challenge.







YMCA of Singapore would like to thank the following corporates and individuals for supporting the YMCA Corporate Challenge: Fuji-san:

- ADL Enterprise Pte Ltd
- Benny Kong Chong Jee representing MyLaoHome
- Chan Chee Meng
- Chan Keng Hak (Sunny)
- Cheng Soh Hwang Susan
- Koh Puay Heng

- Leong Jia Yun (Emma)
- Oh Soh Khim Janice
- Sim Chee Boon representing Access World Logistics (Singapore) Pte Ltd
- Sin Jean Yee
- Tham Chee Kheen Kenneth
- Yap Liew Yee Agnes

Keen on joining us for the next corporate challenge? Mark your calendar for the next edition of YMCA Corporate Challenge: Fuji-san which will take place from 22 to 25 August 2018. Stay tuned for more updates.



AT A GLANCE

10
PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS

160
BENEFICIARIES
FROM 10 VWOS

600 ATTENDEES

On 22 July 2017, volunteers from 10 corporations, organisations and schools met with over 160 beneficiaries from 10 Voluntary Welfare Organisations (VWOs) to enjoy a concert and carnival at the Asian Civilisations Museum. Organised by YMCA of Singapore, YMCA Proms @ the Park 2017 attracted some 600 people to the event, including members of public. Deputy Prime Minister & Coordinating Minister for National Security, Mr Teo Chee Hean, was the Guest-of-Honour at the event.

Besides participating in the carnival games and concert, the beneficiaries got to marvel at the city's beautiful scenery and skyline as they travelled past iconic sights on a bumboat ride. The beneficiaries also went on a guided tour of Asian Civilisations Museum, which was led by volunteers in a bid to encourage social bonding and enhance their social skills through a shared heritage. The volunteers were trained and equipped by National Heritage Board with the necessary knowledge and skillsets to facilitate the programme, which was specially tailored to the needs of the beneficiaries.

YMCA Proms @ the Park is in support of the President's Challenge Volunteer Drive 2017.

YMCA of Singapore would like to thank our Guest-of-Honour, Mr Teo Chee Hean, Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security and all participating corporations, partners, WWOs and volunteers for their support at YMCA Proms @ the Park 2017.



Events like today's, bring together people from all walks of life for a meaningful cause to spread cheer to those who are less fortunate. We can contribute in different capacities, care for one another and contribute to a more caring Singapore.

Mr Teo Chee Hean

Deputy Prime Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security







PARTICIPATING ORGANISATIONS

- ARA Asset Management
- Barclays
- Credit Suisse
- DHL
- Esri Singapore
- ITE College West
- Nordic Group
- PwC
- Singapore Polytechnic
- Yeo's
- YMCA School

PARTICIPATING VWOS

- Acacia Home
- Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN)
 - Centre for Adults
 - Tanglin School
- Bishan Home for the Intellectually Disabled
- Blue Cross Thong Kheng Home
- NCC University Church Group Christian Outreach to the Handicapped
 - Tampines
 - Toa Payoh
 - Handicaps Welfare Association

- Parkinson Society Singapore
- Thye Hua Kwan Moral Charities
 - Seniors Activity Centre @ Blk 257 Ang Mo Kio Ave 4
 - Seniors Activity Centre @ Blk 118 Bukit Merah View





Look back at some of the highlights from YMCA Proms @ the Park 2017

























TAKING THEIR LOVE OF GOLF TO THE NEXT LEVEL

The 18th YMCA Charity Golf 2017 saw more than 140 avid golfers teeing off at Singapore Island Country Club on 5 May 2017 in support of volunteerism. The event drew strong support from corporates and individuals who contributed generously to the fundraising effort, helping to raise \$302,000 for the YMCA-Lim Kim San Volunteers Programme.

Since 2000, the YMCA Charity Golf event has a staple in the fundraising calendar of YMCA of Singapore, providing golf enthusiasts and the business community the chance to bond over a game of golf while doing their part for charity.

NTUC Fairprice Foundation was the Presenting Sponsor for the event.











Over the past 18 years, the YMCA Charity Golf has raised significant funds which have been channeled to fund the YMCA-Lim Kim San Volunteers Programme. The success of our annual charity event is evident in the commitment and support from our partners in consistently achieving our fundraising goals year on year. Not only was the day about raising much needed funds to boost the Volunteers Programme's ability of developing and recognising volunteers, and promoting corporate volunteerism, it was also a great opportunity to raise awareness on the work of our volunteers.

Mr Eric Teng

Former President, YMCA of Singapore



YMCA would like to express our deepest appreciation to the following sponsors and partners for their contributions:

Presenting Sponsor

Main Sponsor

Hole-in-One Sponsors













Corporate Donors























Product Sponsors



















































































One car. Endless possibilities.

The C-Class surpasses all expectations with its impeccable interior and sporty appearance. To bring you an unparalleled experience, the 9G-TRONIC transmission offers a high level of agility and ride comfort. While the DYNAMIC SELECT system personalises your driving style with a simple switch. Powerful yet composed beyond compare, the C-Class is a resolute expression of sporty elegance. www.mercedes-benz.com.sg

Mercedes-Benz

The best or nothing.



FROM GENERATION TO GENERATION

AT A GLANCE





"

Yvonne could barely read when her brother joined YMCA PESA in 2014. But after seeing her brother practice time and again, she surprised us by delivering the same speech, injected with her own anecdotes.

Mrs Patricia Inglin

Champion of the first Plain English Speaking Awards (PESA) in 1987

Yvonne Swee-Neo Inglin was only six years old when her brother participated in the YMCA Plain English Speaking Awards (PESA) three years ago. But watching him practice so many times enabled her to deliver the same speech just as well but with her personal anecdotes. Public speaking came as a natural progression for Yvonne Swee-Neo Inglin, who was the first runner-up for the Lower Primary Category at YMCA PESA 2017.



Similarly for nine-year-old Jasdave Singh Sidhu, he was inspired to follow his brother's footsteps after watching him participate in YMCA PESA for the past two years. He believes that public speaking is about sharing his true voice, and was glad for the opportunity to share passionately about cruelty against animals and the need to be kind towards them, a topic close to his heart.



Both Yvonne and Jasdave were among 61 award recipients who received their awards at the 31st YMCA Plain English Speaking Awards 2017 Prize Presentation Ceremony, which saw over 200 guests gather at Khoo Auditorium, Singapore Chinese Girls' School on 29 September 2017.

To encourage volunteerism, semi-finalists from the secondary and tertiary category volunteered at YMCA Community Service Programmes – Y Spring Clean, Y Arts Challenge and Y Photo Club. They then crafted their speeches for the semi-finals round based on their volunteering experience.

Category	Champion	1st Runner-Up	2nd Runner-Up
Pre-School	Lucas Huang Dongsheng Far Eastern Kindergarten	Lim Jia Zhi PCF Sparkletots Preschool @ Bishan North Blk 219	Emilia Ngiam Yu Cen Chatsworth Kindergarten
Lower Primary	Jasdave Singh Sidhu St. Joseph's Institution Junior	Yvonne Swee-Neo Inglin CHIJ Katong (Primary)	Ryan Ng Yiheng Anderson Primary School
Upper Primary	Aditi Venkatesh Anchor Green Primary School	Gabrielle Angela Anderson Haig Girls School	Sameeyullah Mujibullah Radin Mas Primary
Lower Secondary	Hannah Lucia Valencia Anasco Temasek Junior College	Hilton Augusta Parker Rogers Nanyang Girls' High School	Ju Ke Rui Rebecca Nanyang Girls' High School
Upper Secondary	Kenneth Poh Wen Qiang Raffles Institution	Lauren Tse Yi Methodist Girls' School (Secondary)	Grace Sui-ying Wiggins Bowen Secondary School
JC/CI/ITE/POLY	Ow Zhi Ning Christine River Valley High School	Muhammad Shazuan Bin Shiraj Abdullah Institute of Technical Education, College East	Lee Jie Ying River Valley High School

11TH YMCA MANDARIN SPEAKING AWARDS



AT A GLANCE

277
PARTICIPANTS

76
schools

The annual YMCA Mandarin Speaking Awards (MSA) is a national level public speaking competition supported by the Ministry of Education and the Promote Mandarin Council. In a bid to enrich and inspire more participants towards community service, the semi-finalists in the Secondary category volunteered at Y Arts Challenge where they engaged the beneficiaries through a session of art and craft;

or at Bizlink Centre, bringing cheer by befriending them and participating in their classroom activities. They then drafted their speeches for the semi-finals based on their volunteering experience.

Guest-of-Honour, Mr Baey Yam Keng, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth delivered a speech and presented the prizes to the top three winners during the prize award ceremony at Woodlands Regional Library. This competition was initiated with the aim of sharpening Mandarin speaking skills and building self-confidence among the youths.

	学前	小学-低年段	小学-高年段	中学-低年段	中学-高年段
冠军	恺杰	刘翊恒	王祎宁	洪艳琦	郭心宇
	远东幼稚园	圣希尔达小学	道南学校	圣尼格拉女校	南华中学
亚军	郑凱乐	谢恩蕊	杨晴雅	黎芷君	赵世博
	远东幼稚园	光华学校	康伟小学	德明政府中学	维多利亚学校
季军	沈爱	陈易瑾	陈娟	陈慧颖	郑得能
	远东幼稚园	光华学校	圣婴女校和平之后	德明政府中学	维多利亚学校





As Citi and YMCA celebrate our 115th year of presence in Singapore, we are pleased to launch the 15th edition of Youth For Causes to empower young people with a social entrepreneurial mind-set and create a sense of community consciousness amongst them. YFC has developed into a key Citi Foundation programme under its Pathways to Progress global initiative that aims to make youths career-ready through leadership and entrepreneurship training, while at the same time providing Citibankers an opportunity to volunteer and make a positive impact on the youths.

Mr Amol Gupte

Head of ASEAN and Citi Country Officer (CCO) for Singapore



CITI-YMCA YOUTH FOR CAUSES CELEBRATES 15 YEARS OF PROMOTING SOCIAL ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT IN YOUTHS

Citi-YMCA Youth For Causes 2017 (YFC) was launched on 16 May 2017 with Dr Tony Tan Keng Yam, 7th President of the Republic of Singapore, Former Patron-in-Chief, YMCA of Singapore gracing the event as the Guest-Of-Honour. To symbolise a flying start by the participants, over 600 attendees released spin-tops into the air at the launch ceremony.

This year, 100 teams of four youths each raised funds for their chosen voluntary welfare organisation (VWO) for a period of 15 weeks from 16 May to 31 August 2017. Teams were assigned mentors from the business or social sector who imparted advice, creative inputs and provide project management supervision. Their projects included an art shower where participants would freely splash or shoot paint onto canvas as a liberating experience, helping them to experience and understand the therapeutic qualities of creating art.









YFC SELECTION INTERVIEW





On 29 April 2017, youths aged between 15 and 25 gathered in teams of four to pitch their project ideas to the panel of judges at the YFC Selection Interview in hope of being shortlisted as one of 100 YFC teams to champion the social causes of their choice. A total of 111 proposal submissions were received and the top 100 teams who had compelling, creative and feasible proposals were eventually chosen to embark on the YFC journey. It was also a heart-warming sight to witness the support from the teachers as their students were making their pitch.

AT A GLANCE







YMCA of Singapore has partnered Barclays through the "Connect with Work" Programme that kicked off in July 2017 with an aim to provide assistance to youths who are looking to get a stable start into employment. Sharing similar values and visions in equipping youths at risk and out of school youths with certified vocational training and inculcating positive work attitudes, the collaboration brings a synergy which addresses a societal need, improving the lives of the people in the communities YMCA and Barclays serve.

Under the programme, the Barclays volunteers imparted knowledge in financial management and job interviewing expertise to the youths. This is especially important in effectively transforming the youths and preparing them for vocational trainings and future job challenges. The Barclays volunteers have also mentored the youths during their vocational training, engaging and encouraging them while their refine their craft. To date, Barclays has mobilised a total of 56 staff and contributed more than 150 hours of voluntary service.

YMCA of Singapore would like to thank Barclays for their contributions, which have made a positive difference and presence with our youths.







66

I hated school because I cannot cope with the pressure, I couldn't understand why I was always failing and I didn't like to study. In the Vocational and Soft Skills Training Programme, I found the trainers and social workers different from school. They respected me for myself and that encouraged me to work harder. Also, I met friends from Barclays who were very accepting and encouraging.

Felicia Ng, 15 VaSSP participant





46

Before the training I was very unsure about myself, like what am I capable of doing. The programme helps me in the future because with an open mind, I can really go far in life.

Putri Nurul Balqish, 16 VaSSP participant

60

I enjoyed chatting with the students, understanding their backgrounds and seeing them smile shyly when they are being encouraged by uplifting words of praise on their effort during the baking process.

Emily TanBarclays volunteer





"

SNAPSHOTS



#Shareyoursmile

Understanding how stressful projects and final examinations can be, student leaders from YCS SUTD, Uni-Y SMU, Uni-Y NTU and Uni-Y NUS went around the campus on an encouragement drive to bless fellow students with badges, exam welfare packs and encouragement stickers during the crunch season.



ACE Futsalympics 2017

After months of tears and sweat, the YMCA Project Bridge Football Club emerged as the overall champion for the Under-15 team category and first runner-up for the Under-19 team category at the ACE Futsalympics 2017, which took place between the months of April and August 2017.





YMCA School Adventure Camp 2017

More than 65 YMCA students participated in the YMCA School Adventure Camp 2017 which was held at Camp Challenge Sembawang Campsite from 5 to 7 April 2017. Apart from the usual outdoor programmes like high elements and kayaking, new activities such as archery tag and laser combat were incorporated for a fresh experience. It was a heartening sight to witness the students display strong resilience and love for one another as they conquered the challenges together.



Learning Journey at Changi Point Coastal Walk

On 21 April 2017, 65 YMCA School students embarked on an ecological cum nature appreciation learning Journey to Changi Point Coastal Walk where they snapped photos of interesting sights and picked up litter along the way. The event concluded with a food competition, which saw the students sample some of the best food from Singapore's multi-jultural heritage.

112 freshmen from NUS and SMU participated in the 2017 Uni-Y Step Up which took place in the months of July and August 2017. Through games and activities, they gained a better understanding of different societal issues in Singapore. The students also volunteered in the YMCA Community Service Programmes, giving them the opportunity to build meaningful relationships with the beneficiaries.



YMCA Student Care Centres visits Army Open House 2017
72 students from seven YMCA Student Care Centres got up close with the army's latest vehicles and weaponry when they visited the Army Open House 2017 on 24 and 25 May. The event featured an awesome showcase of military hardware and action-packed activities, making it an adrenaline-filled day for the students.



YMCA Junior Entrepreneurship Programme
In conjunction with the Sengkang South Little
Entrepreneurs & Family Carnival 2017, 70 students from
eight YMCA Student Care Centres sold handmade items
such as tissue holders and artificial terrariums. Through the
event, the students learnt the importance of teamwork and
the value of cultivating an entrepreneurial mindset and were





YMCA CDC @ Zhenghua awarded SPARK Certification

YMCA CDC @ Zhenghua was awarded the SPARK Certification on 16 June 2017, which demonstrates a commitment in providing a conducive environment for the children's holistic development, and help each child reach their full potential.



SNAPSHOTS



Hari Raya & Youth Day Celebrations

32 youths and 9 volunteers from YMCA Project Bridge gathered to celebrate Hari Raya and Youth Day on 3 July 2017 at the YMCA Project Bridge Youth Centre. During the event, the youths showcased their talents through band and dance performances. Special thanks to NUS Dance Blast! for conducting the workshops for our youths.



A Race for Good

Pint-sized Batman, Superman and Wonder Woman, along with a plethora of other superheroes from YMCA CDC @ Bukit Batok flagged off the 2017 Race Against Cancer on 30 July with Guest-of-Honour Mr Tan Chuan-Jin, Minister for Social and Family Development.

YMCA CDC @ Woodlands performs at YMCA Proms @ the Park 2017

On 22 July, 20 kindergarten children from YMCA CDC @ Woodlands took centre stage at YMCA Proms @ the Park 2017 when they put up a song and dance performance for the





YMCA Project Bridge youths all revved up for F1

On 15 September, 15 youths from YMCA Project Bridge Youth Centre got an exclusive glimpse into the fascinating world of Formula One at the 2017 Singapore Grand Prix, made possible through the generosity of an individual sponsor. The youths were selected based on leadership potential shown through their







Engaging, equipping and empowering youths through ELEVATE Programme

Students from ITE College West participated in an orientation camp from 29 to 30 June 2017 as part of the Elevate Programme where they were introduced to service learning, and how they could employ their skills to benefit the disadvantaged groups in the community. They also went on a company site visit to YMCA and Barclays Singapore and picked up information on the buildings' air-conditioning systems, building management system and firefighting protection system, which was based on their vocational skills in Facility Technology.

SNAPSHOTS

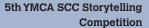
Republic Polytechnic Children's Day Sports Carnival

50 students from five YMCA Student Care Centres displayed sportsmanship and leadership as they participated in a series of outdoor games organised by students from Republic Polytechnic's Alumni Soccer Team on 16 September 2017.



YDP Leadership and Management Programme (LAMP)

Potential Exco members of Uni-Y
Singapore attended a 2-day workshop
from 16 to 17 September 2017 where they
were introduced to YMCA of Singapore
and Uni-Y Singapore. Through experiential
learning and videos, they understood more
about servant leadership and put their
critical thinking skills into action as they
discussed and shared about existing
problems and viable solutions.



A total of 51 contestants from 21 YMCA Student Care Centres took part in the 5th YMCA SCC Storytelling Competition. The event was held on 6 September 2017 at the YMCA Lee Kong Chian Auditorium, with "Kindness" as the theme. The annual storytelling competition aims to instil a love of reading and help students build confidence.



Serving from the Heart

Our heartiest congratulations to Joyce Yu, Manager of YMCA International Programmes (ISP), Tan Shu Ling, a former ISP staff, and 4 YMCA volunteer leaders for receiving the Dedication award at the launch of "Many Lenses, One YEP" Exhibition on 16 July 2017.



Supporting International Volunteerism

Between May to July 2017, under the facilitation of YMCA of Singapore and YMCA of Pangasinan, teams from NTU participated in a community service project in Philippines where they helped construct a multi-purpose centre in Antipangol and conducted surveys for the vocational training programmes.

YMCA International Service Programmes



Impacting Lives, Nurturing Community Champions



Open Team

Myanmar, Maubin 28 April - 6 May 2018

The information session will be held on

16 Jan, 7pm @ YMCA L4 Boardroom

Register for it via https://tinyurl.com/ispopenteam18

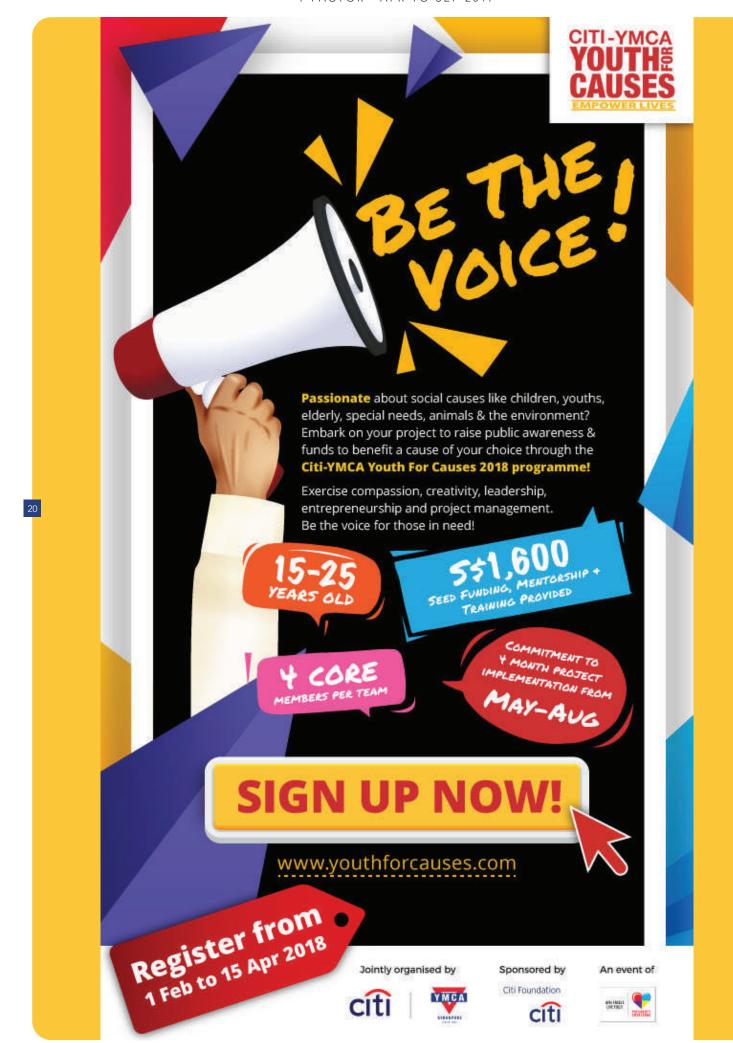


Organised by:











Youth Exchange Programme in partnership with Chuncheon YMCA

2 Full days of Ski / Snowboard lessons

Peace Forum and Career Experience Mission Challenge games

PyeongChang Olympic Stadium visit for Winter Olympics

Authentic Korean Homestay experience

Gangwon-do, South Korea

BRIEF PROGRAMME

DATE / DURATION

7D6N 5 - 11 FEBRUARY 2018

GROUP SIZE

Minimum 10 pax

LAND FEE

SGD 955.00 Not inclusive of airfare

ACCOMMODATION

Ski Resort Korean Homestay

AGE REQUIREMENT Between 14 - 20 years old

DIFFICULTY



This is a youth exchange and interaction programme in partnership with Chuncheon YMCA.

This programme also hones the technical skills of participants. Package includes ski lessons and equipment. Ski jackets are available for rental at an additional fee.

Participants are to bring along own winter clothing.

Scan this QR Code

† YMCA Outdoor and Adventure



to sign up now. or email Gladys Cheong at gladyscheong@ymca.org.sg for more info.



9+ https://goo.gl/smIOWA





Craft, fashion, food, lifestyle and more!

Free admission.
Walk in for an ultimate shopping experience!

Connect With Us On Y Hub Portal https://yhub.ymca.org.sg





Follow us on social media!









