

SP's perfumery & cosmetic science students create unique scent

Fancy smelling like a mangrove swamp?

Report & photo by TAN TAM MEI

tantam@sph.com.sg

Smelling like a mangrove swamp is probably the last thing you would want.

But this scent was the fragrance a group of former Singapore Polytechnic (SP) students came up with in 2012.

And it was what the client wanted: A fragrance that represented Singapore, said Ms Jessie Tong, 40, course manager of the diploma in perfumery and cosmetic science (DPCS) at SP.

She added: "The client felt that the mangrove swamp scent represented Singapore because of our past as a little island surrounded by mangroves.

"So the students had to create a scent with these elements, but which was also still pleasant smelling."

Even more creative scents might be in the works with the opening of the Perfumery and Cosmetic Science Centre at SP, where DPCS students can freely ex-



SPECIAL: The mangrove swamp fragrance.

periment and innovate.

The million-dollar state-of-the-art facility was conceptualised in 2011 and officially opened yesterday.

The DPCS is the only local diploma programme that offers training in areas of chemistry, perfumery and cosmetic science.

FACILITIES

The centre will give students hands-on opportunities, with industry-standard machinery and facilities.

Equipped with wash basins, showers and washing machines, the centre also has a corner which allows students to recreate everyday consumer experiences such as doing the laundry or taking a shower to test their created products.

Final-year DPCS student Amanda Teng, 20, said: "My favourite part of the centre is the user-empathy corner as it gives us a first-hand experience of what consumers will face when they use our products."