

# SP *irit*

With **SP**, it's So Possible



**P.02** FEATURE *Story*  
**TOP GRADS OF 2017**  
Meet the charming  
top graduates from  
the **Class of 2017!**

**P.40** JUST FOR *Fun*  
**CAMPUS FOOD TRAIL**  
Satisfy your cravings  
with the help of our **SP**  
**Makan Map**

**P.34** JUST FOR *Fun*  
**THE A TO Z GUIDE**  
**TO SP**  
**SP in a nutshell**



# KEEP CALM & SURE PASS

Voting ends:  
7 July 2017  
Results released:  
14 July 2017

## Calling all 'O' & 'N' Level students!

We know #ExamPains and we feel for you! We have put together the SP Sure Pass Kit filled with awesome gifts and exam tips that'll help you ace your exams!

To win the kit, all you have to do is..

**VOTE NOW!**  
@singaporepoly

...with your school name. The school with the most votes will win an additional mystery item in their kit!

**Plus!**  
A Milo van will also make a special visit to your school!

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## The SPirit Team

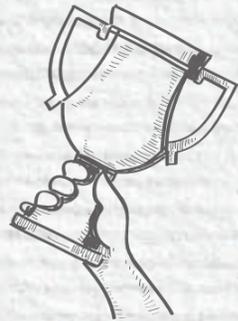
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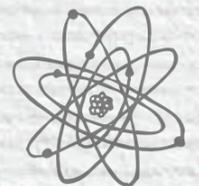
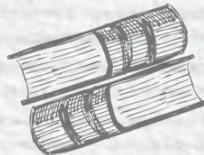
FEATURE *Story*

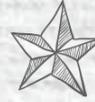
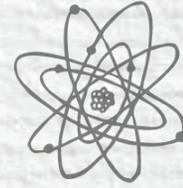
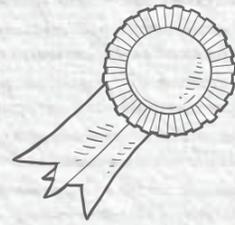


STAR STUDENTS OF

# 2017

Far from reaching the end of their academic journey, these top graduates are just warming up for the next exciting stage in life. But their path to graduation hasn't been all that smooth-sailing, as some struggled with poor health and personal obstacles. In the nature of star performers, these eight graduates put in their best during their time at SP. Besides maintaining excellent grades, they also found the time to pick up real-world skills, give back to the community, juggle a busy CCA schedule, and serve as role models to their SP juniors. SPirit proudly recognises these eight Institutional Medallists of the Class of 2017!





## LIEW ZHENG JIE

DIPLOMA IN CHEMICAL ENGINEERING (DCHE)  
ALUMNUS OF UNITY SECONDARY SCHOOL

### AWARDS

- ★ LEE KUAN YEW AWARD
- ★ EXXONMOBIL GOLD MEDAL
- ★ ALFRED ROBERT EDIS PRIZE
- ★ OCBC PRIZE
- ★ THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS GOLD MEDAL AWARD



### FROM TROUBLE TO MODEL STUDENT

Far from being a model student in his primary and secondary school days, Zheng Jie frequently played truant and was caned. However, it all changed in upper secondary when his English teacher nominated him as class representative. This responsibility helped him to better respect and appreciate his teachers and peers.

It also motivated him to study harder and led him to discover his strength in science and technology subjects. Keen to pursue a course that combined both science and applied theory, Zheng Jie enrolled in SP's **Diploma in Chemical Engineering** course as part of the Polytechnic Foundation Programme's pioneer batch.

While at SP, Zheng Jie had the opportunity to embark on a six-week attachment in New Zealand, where he understudied a professor at the chemical engineering department in the University of Canterbury. He found the attachment meaningful and was inspired to consider a career in research, as he saw how it could benefit the environment.

He also made time to serve the community, and under the SP Outstanding Talent Programme, Zheng Jie developed himself holistically through leadership camps and team-bonding activities.

The future certainly looks bright for this SP scholar and Model Student Award recipient, whose efforts in the chemical engineering industry are already being recognised. Zheng Jie has applied to study Chemical Engineering under the Global Merit Scholarship at the National University of Singapore. He hopes to become an industry researcher and develop new sources of clean energy.

### CURIOSITY + PASSION + PERSEVERANCE = SUCCESS

As young as four, Benedict was already taking apart plugs and rewiring them under the guidance of his engineer father. Despite the blackouts, minor electrical fires, and a nasty electric shock once, Benedict remained curious and continued to take apart gadgets to see how they worked.

In Secondary One, he successfully built his first computer from scavenged parts, which further spurred his passion for computer engineering. After his GCE O-Levels, Benedict applied for SP's **Diploma in Computer Engineering** course as his first choice because of the polytechnic's strong tradition of excellence in Engineering.

During his time in SP, Benedict discovered his love for the community. His electrical engineering skills and programming knowledge saw him repairing discarded laptops to give to less fortunate students. He also started various initiatives to improve the living conditions of the elderly. For his excellent leadership skills and contribution to the community, Benedict received the SP Model Student Award.

A recipient of the Defence Science Organisation (DSO) Diploma Scholarship, he completed a 6-week internship at the DSO National Laboratories. Here, he had the unique opportunity to be involved in research related to computer network systems and cybersecurity, and the experience shaped his resolve to consider a career in cybersecurity.

Benedict is proof that passion and hard work can take one far. He will be pursuing a Computer Engineering degree at Nanyang Technological University after serving his national service.

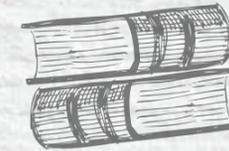
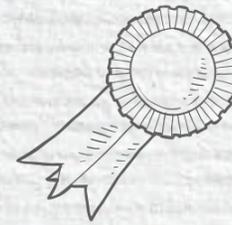


## LEE WEI ZHENG BENEDICT

DIPLOMA IN COMPUTER ENGINEERING (DCPE)  
ALUMNUS OF ASSUMPTION ENGLISH SCHOOL

### AWARDS

- ★ LEE KUAN YEW AWARD
- ★ CISCO SYSTEMS GOLD MEDAL
- ★ OCBC PRIZE
- ★ THE INSTITUTION OF ENGINEERS GOLD MEDAL AWARD



## DON LOI XU

DIPLOMA IN BIOTECHNOLOGY (DBT)  
ALUMNUS OF CLEMENTI TOWN  
SECONDARY SCHOOL

**AWARDS**

- ★ LEE KUAN YEW AWARD
- ★ YAKULT (SINGAPORE) GOLD MEDAL
- ★ OCBC PRIZE



### HAVING THE HEART FOR MEDICINE

As a kid, Don was already interested in biology. His favourite movies included Jurassic Park and Spiderman as the scientific aspects really fascinated him. After receiving his GCE O-Levels results, Don decided to enrol in SP's **Diploma in Biotechnology** course. Don believed that SP would equip him with the necessary knowledge and skills that can be applied for the greater good.

Besides their academic pursuits, Don and his classmates initiated a community project called "Kids Read" where they collected donated books for primary school children to inculcate the importance of reading. This meaningful project deepened his passion of community work, and mentoring at Queenstown Primary School has since become a weekly affair for this Model Student Award recipient.

However, tragedy struck during his final year. Just a month before he was to begin his internship at the Agency for Science, Technology And Research (A\*STAR), Don's mother passed away from a sudden cardiac arrest. This loss proved especially devastating as Mum was his pillar in life, but Don was determined to focus on his internship because he wanted to do his late Mum proud.

While his internship was arduous, Don's good work ethic and attitude impressed his supervisors, and he was offered the prestigious A\*STAR MBBS-PhD National Science Scholarship. Aspiring to be a clinician scientist, Don is currently applying to the National University of Singapore Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine. He hopes to study cardiovascular diseases to prevent others from prematurely losing their loved ones.

### MAKING IT HAPPEN

While most kids were still learning to dress themselves, young Azeem found joy in tapping away on the keyboard. His interest in computers and Information Technology (IT) only grew stronger over the years as he picked up programming skills on his own and developed several computer applications.

After his GCE O-Levels, Azeem wanted to take up Computer Science under the International Baccalaureate programme. However, his O-Levels score did not meet the mark, so Azeem decided to enrol into the **Diploma in Information Technology** course at SP. He chose SP as it is Singapore's first polytechnic, and offered a comprehensive curriculum and conducive learning environment.

At SP, Azeem had opportunities to participate in various hackathons and competitions, including the prestigious Microsoft Imagine Cup where he led his team to win in the Innovation category. It was also at SP that Azeem caught a glimpse of his future career. His 17-week internship with Accenture saw him creating prototypes for Smart Businesses. The exposure to new and exciting technologies reaffirmed Azeem's belief in creating IT solutions to help people and improve lives.

This Integrated Infocomm Scholarship recipient has received offers from the National University of Singapore and the Singapore Management University. Azeem also intends to apply for the National Infocomm Scholarship, and to prominent universities abroad including the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Stanford University.



## AZEEM ARSHAD VASANWALA

DIPLOMA IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DIT)  
ALUMNUS OF SCHOOL OF SCIENCE AND  
TECHNOLOGY, SINGAPORE

**AWARDS**

- ★ TOH CHIN CHYE GOLD MEDAL
- ★ IMDA GOLD MEDAL
- ★ MICROSOFT SINGAPORE AWARD



## CHONG HAN LYN

DIPLOMA IN MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION (DMC)  
ALUMNA OF ZHONGHUA SECONDARY SCHOOL

- AWARDS
- ★ LOW GUAN ONN GOLD MEDAL
  - ★ ASIA FUND SPACE GOLD MEDAL



### COMMUNICATING HER TRUE PASSION

Enrolling in SP's **Diploma in Media and Communication** course was never Han Lyn's original plan. She had initially taken up a life sciences diploma at another polytechnic, but soon realised that a career in science was not for her. Reviewing past achievements, it struck Han Lyn that her strength lies in communications.

At the SP Open House, Han Lyn was impressed by the facilities as well as the friendly lecturers and seniors. Spurred on by the thought of expressing herself on different platforms, she chose this course for its integrated communications approach.

Han Lyn's time in SP saw her working on several projects, including Chance, a short film for the Temasek 20/20 Short Film Project, and a month-long social media campaign in partnership with the Migrant Workers' Centre to raise awareness of migrant workers.

This SP scholar also grew holistically, representing SP in the POL-ITE Women's Squash Games and receiving the SP Excellence Awards (Sports) for all three years. Making the most of her abilities, she served as publicity head for the SP Outstanding Talent (SPOT) programme during her second year.

During her four-month internship at a leading media agency Starcom, Han Lyn's attention to detail and eagerness to learn were recognised, and she was offered a full-time position before her internship ended. Accepting the role of media executive, she hopes to build a successful personal brand and create a well-known platform for sharing her ideas for the greater good.

### WHEN THERE'S A WHEEL, THERE'S A WAY

Born with brittle bone disease, Najulah has had to move about in a wheelchair for his safety after a bad fall when he was in Primary Five. By the time he was in Secondary Four, Najulah had already undergone several operations to either strengthen his bones or mend injuries from falls.

Despite these challenges, he has always wanted to contribute to society as much as any able-bodied person. Najulah chose SP's **Diploma in Business Information Technology** course to achieve this aspiration, because he was keen to explore how Information Technology (IT) can be used to improve lives.

To gain programming knowledge while testing his skills against his peers, Najulah took part in competitions such as the Data-Driven Innovation Challenge by the Info-communications Media Development Authority and the Transport and Youth Hackathon by the Land Transport Authority.

In both competitions, Najulah and his teammates developed "Happy Wheel", an application that tapped on publicly available data to suggest wheelchair-friendly paths to various locations. The team's efforts were even lauded by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong in a Facebook post!

For his efforts, Najulah was awarded the Microsoft Youthspark Scholarship which supports promising youths with disabilities in IT-related fields. With a growing passion for programming, he was also given the opportunity to represent SP at the WorldSkills Singapore 2016 competition.

Looking ahead, Najulah will be pursuing an Information Systems degree at Singapore Management University and aspires to be a software developer, using his skills and knowledge to improve the quality of life for the community.



## MOHAMED NAJULAH

DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DBIT)  
ALUMNUS OF QUEENSWAY SECONDARY SCHOOL

- AWARDS
- ★ CHUA CHOR TECK GOLD MEDAL
  - ★ IMDA GOLD MEDAL



## TAN HUI TIAN ESTHER

DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE WRITING FOR TV AND NEW MEDIA (DTVM)  
ALUMNA OF JURONG SECONDARY SCHOOL

### AWARDS

- ★ TAN KAY YONG GOLD MEDAL
- ★ SINGAPORE PRESS CLUB GOLD MEDAL
- ★ THE DIPLOMA-PLUS BOOK PRIZE



### WRITING HER WAY TO SUCCESS

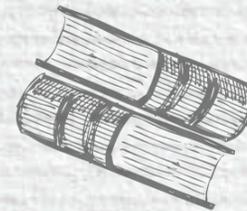
Back in secondary school, Esther was already passionate about writing. When she learnt about SP's **Diploma in Creative Writing for TV and New Media** course, she knew she found her dream course. But family and societal pressures made Esther choose the Junior College route instead.

Unfortunately, Esther did not do well enough to enrol into a local university to pursue her interest in writing. Undeterred, she retook her A-Levels as a private candidate and failed again.

While deliberating her options, she visited the SP Open House where she met friendly and reassuring lecturers, giving her the push to pursue her dream course. At SP, the conducive learning environment and wonderful friends soon laid to rest Esther's initial worries of being older than her peers and being labelled an 'A-Levels failure'.

Esther bloomed as a writer at SP. Her documentary Heartware, which explores the subject of Singapore's ageing population, was nominated for various categories at the National Youth Film Awards. Her documentary even made it to two international film festivals!

One highlight of Esther's polytechnic journey was her 22-week internship with Big 3 Media, where she was assigned the role of 1st Assistant Director—a first for an intern!—and assisted with the writing and filming of SP's very own web series, The Leon Theory. Esther's passion for her work shone through, leading her supervisors to offer a full-time position which she gladly accepted. She hopes to accumulate hands-on experience in the media industry before pursuing further studies.



## FEATURE Story

### JUST KEEP SWIMMING

Known as Fish to his friends, Alfiz admitted that education was never a priority during his teen years. He attributed this disinterest to bad company and an unhappy home life where fights were common around the house.

After his GCE 'O' Levels, Alfiz took a two-year break from studies to work before serving national service as a firefighter and working for another year at a friend's coffee shop. Harbours a passion to create things, he subsequently enrolled in the Higher Nitec course in Event Management at ITE College Central, which he graduated from with a perfect GPA.

Before entering polytechnic, Alfiz lost his father to an illness. However, his determination didn't waver and he enrolled in SP's Diploma in Events and Project Management course. Alfiz put in 100 per cent at SP and credits his success to support from his lecturers.

He also had various opportunities to apply his events management skills and knowledge to real-life situations. Alfiz was involved in various planning organisations and committees in SP, including the Rockmasters rock-climbing competition and the Freshman Orientation Programme.

Not forgetting his challenging past, Alfiz volunteered with the Care Singapore YouthCare Centre, where he helped to counsel and support at-risk youths. He recalled how he managed to engage a young delinquent when no one else could.

Alfiz's unwavering perseverance and go-getter attitude proves that one is never too old to learn. Even with offers from National University of Singapore and Singapore Management University, Alfiz plans to work first before pursuing further studies. Inspired by his lecturers, he hopes to follow in their footsteps and make a difference in the lives of students.

## MUHAMMAD ALFIZ BIN KAMBALI

DIPLOMA IN INTEGRATED EVENTS AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT (DEPM)  
ALUMNUS OF BEDOK SOUTH SECONDARY SCHOOL

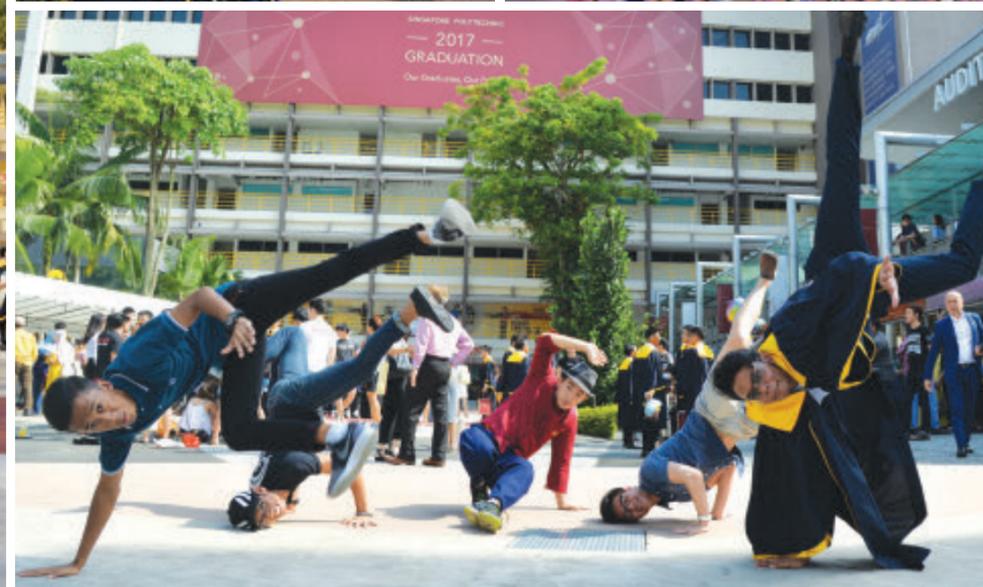
### AWARDS

- ★ TAY ENG SOON AWARD
- ★ CITYNEON EVENTS GOLD MEDAL



# CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2017

In the twinkling of an eye, they have gone from freshmen to graduates of SP. During these transformative years, some have blossomed into confident young adults ready to take on the world, and some have discovered what they love and excel at. Hardships may have been aplenty, but this has not stopped many from achieving top grades and accolades, giving back to society, and managing a packed CCA schedule on top of it all! Congratulations to the Class of 2017!



*What feels like the end is a new beginning*



*Good times, good memories*



*We did it!*





Ready to  
take  
on the world

FEATURE *Story*

And so the  
adventure  
begins



On to  
new things



Be fearless  
in the pursuit  
of what sets your  
heart on fire



# GRADVENTURES

Between graduation and the 'real world', there exists a magical time of total freedom where graduands can travel the world and have a well-deserved, 'Insta-worthy' adventure. Check out where these SP kids from the Class of 2017 ventured to for their graduation trip!



Darren Chng (left), from the Diploma in Experience and Product Design, did a customary jump shot with a friend at Surfers Paradise Beach, Australia.



Gabriel Su, from the Diploma in Applied Chemistry with Material Science, made sure to snap a picture with the iconic Hungarian Parliament Building in Budapest, Hungary.



Mabel Khaw (third from left), from the Diploma in Architecture, visited the Tiger Cave Temple in Krabi, Thailand with a group of friends. Can we say, #squadgoals?



Chia Pei Ting, from the Diploma in Applied Chemistry with Pharmaceutical Science, visited Taiwan with friends and even set off a lantern for good luck.



Lee Si Yuan, from the Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering, wandered through the Arashiyama Bamboo Grove in Japan with his friends.



# CREATIVITY COMES ALIVE

Think school projects are boring? Not for the students from the School of Digital Media and Infocomm Technology (DMIT). These tech-savvy youths broke new ground through animations, films, songs as well as mobile and web apps that can make a world of difference to users. SPirit highlights some of the coolest final-year projects by DMIT students at the Holler 2017 graduation showcase. Check out [holler.sp.edu.sg](http://holler.sp.edu.sg) for a closer look at each project!



**DIPLOMA IN MUSIC AND AUDIO TECHNOLOGY (DMAT)**

**Rock the Beat**

Taking the stage for the first time as fully-fledged musicians, the DMAT graduates held their very own concert where they performed their best original songs and entranced the audience with heartfelt performances, from heart-pounding rock tunes to soulful ballads. Check out a selection of their show-stopping tunes on Spotify: <https://tinyurl.com/DMAT2017>



**DIPLOMA IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DIT)**

**Mysteries of Grindewald**

Inspired by popular role-playing games such as Diablo and World of Warcraft, the team created a game set in the fantasy town of Grindewald where the player takes on the role of an adventurer seeking treasure in caves and dungeons, while wielding magic to battle monsters.

Back row, left to right: Samuel Tan, You Zhimin, Mark Tan, and Benjamin Goh. Front: Hang Xingjian.



**Temperature Monitoring with IoT**

Collaborating with A\*STAR's Singapore Institute of Manufacturing Technology (SIMTech), the team explored the feasibility of easily-accessible and low-cost sensors that can monitor temperature in a server room. The result is a system that alerts staff in charge through buzzer alarms that go off when temperatures in the server room exceed threshold values.

Back row, left to right: Tan Yuan Cai, Chan Qian Lin, and Koh Wee Heng. Front row, left to right: Wilson Leow and Eric Fernandez.



**DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DBIT)**

**InstAssist**

An Android mobile app specially designed and developed for the Ministry of Social and Family Development (MSF) staff, InstAssist provides MSF staff with access to help from their supervisor in times of need.

Left to right: Ronald Koh, Adeel Bin Kasban, and Frank Xiao. Not pictured: Sangeetha Rajagopal.



Left to right: Koh Tar Yen, Aloysius Lee, Chew Tian-Le, Yea Jie Xuan, and Benjamin Khong.



Left to right: Koh Tar Yen, Aloysius Lee, Chew Tian-Le, Yea Jie Xuan, and Benjamin Khong.



Back row, left to right: Dexter Chiang (in the bear suit), Oscar Dave Padilla Aquino, and Muhammad Ashraf Bin Arshad. Front: Mavis Ng Li Hui.

**OneKeppel**

Developed to engage and help Keppel employees to better understand the company's various business units, the OneKeppel mobile app features mini games, quizzes, and a gift redemption system. Designing the app proved a challenge for the first-time app developers, but with hard work and help from their lecturer, the team launched it in just a few months!

Left to right: Loo Eu Gene, Agnes Lam, Azlinda Jumahat, and Sunny Pek.



**DIPLOMA IN INFOCOMM SECURITY MANAGEMENT (DISM)**

**Honeypots and Game Theory**

As cyber attacks are on the rise, understanding the attackers' behaviour becomes key to preventing future attacks. The DISM team set up computer systems as decoys to lure cyber attackers, called 'honeypots', and used them to observe the attackers' behaviour.

**DIPLOMA IN DIGITAL ANIMATION (DDA)**

**Okaa-san**

Okaa-san tells the story of Sachiko, a mother who comes into heated conflict with her estranged husband over throwing a birthday party for their young son. In creating this thrilling animated short film, the team of six storyboarded, designed and animated the characters and environment in 3D, and even collaborated with a Japanese voice-acting school.

**DIPLOMA IN VISUAL EFFECTS AND MOTION GRAPHICS (DVEMG)**

**Forest**

Making a music video is harder than it looks, especially one about a girl, a bear-like creature and an attempt to escape an unhealthy relationship. To create this visually alluring video for a song by Amberhill (a band formed by Diploma in Music and Audio Technology graduates), the team went through rounds of storyboarding, auditions, test shoots, and post-editing work.

# CAPTIVATING STORYTELLERS

Proving the adage that the pen is indeed mightier than the sword, students from the School of Communication, Arts and Social Sciences (CASS) wield words to masterful effect. *SP*irit takes a look at some of the exciting projects by CASS students at the Holler 2017 graduation showcase. Check out [holler.sp.edu.sg](http://holler.sp.edu.sg) for a closer look at each project!



## DIPLOMA IN APPLIED DRAMA AND PSYCHOLOGY (DADP)

### Ex-Convicts

BY TAN YAN YING, DOROTHY LIM, NGOH WENXIN, A. YUVARAJ, SHERIANN HENG, JERRELL KWAN, FELICIA CHOW

It isn't easy to throw off the stigma of incarceration. This is why the team came up with "Ex-Convicts", a theatre-in-education programme that aims to educate the public about the challenges and discrimination faced by the families of ex-offenders. The triple-bill performance was inspired by real-life events, and a post-show segment allowed participants to explore these challenges through drama activities.



## DIPLOMA IN MEDIA AND COMMUNICATION (DMC)

### Hidden Heroes

BY PEI XIN YI, THO JINWEN, ONG JIA MIN, HERLIYANA SARAH PUA, NUR FAZIRA BINTE HUSSIN, NUR FIKHA BINTE YAHYA

How do you spread the word about something that most are unaware of? Titled "Hidden Heroes", the campaign aims to raise public awareness of SCBB's public cord blood inventory, which aids cord blood transplants and encourages cord blood donation. A carnival was planned, and online contests were held to engage expecting parents.

## Our Trash Talks

BY NATASHA TAN, GLENDA TAN, CASSANDRA CHAN, THNG HUI TENG, CHONG JOO XUAN, HO JONE LUM

When people gather, littering occurs. To highlight this issue, the team came up with "Our Trash Talks", a campaign to help youths realise that their behavior reflects on their self-image. Inspired by local YouTubers and environmental campaigns, the team used light-hearted and localised copy with plenty of puns to connect with the younger crowd.



## BEST DOCUMENTARY

## DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE WRITING FOR TV AND NEW MEDIA (DTVM)

### HeartWare

BY ESTHER TAN, CLAIRE LOW, CHENG SI EN, ARVIN S/O VENUGOPAL

When it comes to the dating scene, youth today have it easy what with online dating websites and mobile apps. But how would a lonely old man find love? As part of the documentary-making module in their second year, the team produced HeartWare, which explores the theme of loneliness among Singapore's ageing population, through the story of karang guni Mr Chan and his unconventional search for love. The documentary certainly tugged at the heartstrings; it was nominated for Best Documentary at the National Youth Film Awards 2016 and Best SEA Documentary at Freedom Film Fest Singapore 2016.



## BEST TRANSMEDIA

## DIPLOMA IN CREATIVE WRITING FOR TV AND NEW MEDIA (DTVM)

### MisPrints

BY MOHAMED FIRDAUS BIN AL-AMIN, EUNICE TAN, NG QIAO YIN, CHENG SI EN, NURUL UBAlDAH BTE MOHD IZAM, BRENDA WONG

It began as a television comedy show about a bookworm who starts a book club with a group of oddball personalities for members. But the team further expanded the television show to include a secret blog and YouTube channel featuring content by the various characters, and even developed a website to promote the show.



## DIPLOMA IN APPLIED DRAMA AND PSYCHOLOGY (DADP)

### Heroes in Action

BY EVELYN NG, JANICE TAN, SYLVIA LOW, HANNAH TAY

Targeted at preschool children, "Heroes in Action" is a Process Drama workshop that aims to teach kindness and pro-social behaviour. The team held the workshop at Our Juniors' Schoolhouse, and through various drama strategies helped the children learn the importance of being kind to the people around them.

# Engineering Excellence

**Innovation takes to the skies this year with a solar car, a rocket and flying machines galore. Check out what the brilliant, tinkering minds of SP engineering students have come up with!**

The Engineering Show is an annual showcase of our engineering students' creative innovations and solutions to real-life problems. Tackling various concerns from renewable energy to the autonomous use of drones, some of these engineering projects have gone commercial. This was also the first time FabLab@SP participated to boost awareness of its fabrication capabilities.

**Vertical Ballistic Accelerator Device**  
Dubbed V.BAD, this bad boy is a rapid ascent vehicle (read: rocket) that is propelled by common fluids. No combustibles, pyrotechnics and electricity mean enhanced user safety and stealth capabilities.



**Urban Farming Kit**  
To further cultivate a trend of urban farming in land-scarce Singapore, this low-cost and user-friendly farming kit was designed and built for resident green thumbs in HDB housing estates.

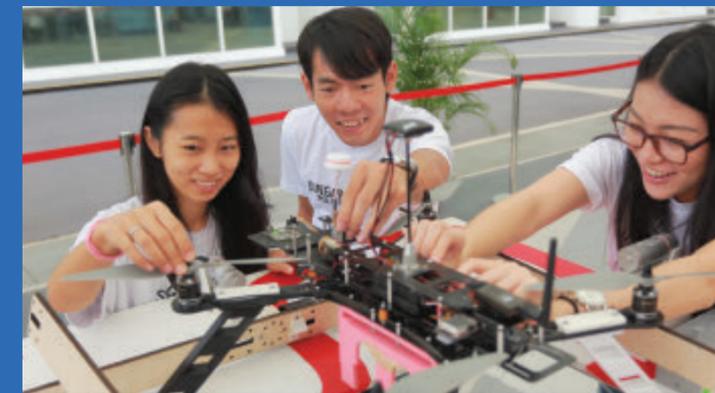


**Smart Bike Alarm**  
Bicycle security goes digital with the use of a 3-axis sensor, loud buzzer, microcontroller, mobile app, and wireless communication technologies.

**Autonomous Flying Machines and Battery Swapping System**  
The project saw the development of a drone capable of flight, target search, and payload drop—all unmanned, and another quadcopter capable of indoor flight. Also developed in this project was an automatic battery swapping system for multicopters.



INSIDE **Sp**  
**Spherical Shaped UAV**  
Designed for visual inspection of structures, this modular drone features live-streaming capabilities and a collision-resistant cage to protect itself and personnel from damage.



**Interactive e-Learning**  
A team member guides the demonstration of their prototype 3D Virtual Reality learning/training application for aircrafts, developed using HTC Vive and a virtual driving system.



**Automobile Design**  
It took team effort to construct this stripped-down vehicle with just the basics: drive unit, suspension system, directional change capability, and brakes.



**Table-top Draw Loom**  
A traditional cloth-weaving loom is given an electronic upgrade. This compact table-top version has ease-of-use features such as a motorised heddle lifter and automated electronic control.



# BUILDING ON OUR FUTURE

What do you get when creative minds meet the possibilities of space? Transformation, of course! SPIrit checks out the unconventional workspaces and green communal spaces at the Stretto and Interlude exhibitions, which showcased final-year projects by graduates from the School of Architecture and the Built Environment.

Final-year students from the Diploma in Architecture (DARCH) designed future workspaces for millennials, while their counterparts from the Diploma in Landscape Architecture (DLA) proposed design plans to transform the historical Tanjong Pagar Railway Station into a green communal space.

## RAILWAY RELATIONS

BY CHARLESTON CHAN

A place that holds fond childhood memories for him, Charleston wanted Tanjong Pagar Railway to come to life and be more than just a train station. His proposal involved bringing the railway station's interior to the exterior, such as benches designed to replicate the feeling of sitting on railway tracks.



## DATUM

BY SITI NASYITAH

Datum is a design concept that embraces the back alleys of shophouses, and the hustle and bustle of the Chinatown area. Siti integrates both characteristics to bring together the liveliness of millennial culture and the rustic feel of old Chinatown.

## THE HIDDEN CITY

BY LIM WEI

Targeted at fashion designers and graphic designers, Lim Wei's concept focuses on creating the right atmosphere in the workspace by incorporating many green elements and shadow play to inspire creativity in its occupants.



## BAUEN

BY ADRIAN HAN

Adrian's concept challenges the fast-paced and hectic notion of today's offices by proposing a workspace that embraces uncommon work ethics such as contemplation and slow living. Designed for freelance writers, his model features a quiet space on the top floor for indulging in creative thinking, while the ground floor allows mingling and sharing of ideas.



## NEXUS

BY SEAH XIE LIANG

With the aim to create an interconnected and active community with rich biodiversity, Xie Liang's project combines the segregated areas of existing housing estates and encourage more interaction between residents. His design also takes sustainability into account and includes habitats which allow for a thriving biodiversity of flora and fauna.



## LIFE'S SYNTHESIS

BY MOHAMAD ARIF

Drawing inspiration from The Green Corridor and feedback from residents, Arif came up with a concept for Tanjong Pagar Railway that focuses on sustainability and the kampong spirit. His design introduces greenery and public spaces to foster community bonding.



## CONTINUITY

BY MOHD AMIRUL

Focused on bringing the community together, Amirul's design aimed to create a space for people of all ages. By replacing the flat landscape with undulating typography and incorporating a chef's garden for dining in, his project allows various events to be held in multi-functional spaces which promote the mingling of different communities.

# UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES

We're surrounded by design in our day-to-day living, but we don't give much thought to the creative thinking behind many of the designs. It's a good thing that these bright kids do! SPirit takes a look at the projects by final-year students from the SP Design School in their graduation showcase, Unlimited.



Ms Tang Soo Yin, Director of the SP Design School, thanked students for their hard work in contributing to the school's graduation showcase.

## DIPLOMA IN VISUAL COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA DESIGN (DVMD)



Most of us shun the topic of death. Tackling this taboo subject with their integrated brand experience, "The Funeral Experience", DVMD graduates Choy Yi Jing and Lim Pei Qin worked with a funeral parlour on their rebranding to create a more user-friendly experience.



## DIPLOMA IN INTERIOR DESIGN (DID)

In his final-year project, interior design student Wu Hao explored how interior spaces affect human behaviour both psychologically and physically.



## DIPLOMA IN GAMES DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT (DGDD)

The brainchild of PlayTeaPlus Studio, Jade Oasis is a First Person Assassination puzzle game set in oriental-inspired world where players can revel in crafty gameplay and quality visuals. PlayTeaPlus Studios is formed by DGDD students Chong Jun Yi, Sherman Pang, Eileen Liu, Cheong Ming, and Lim Hui Shan.



Recognising that soda companies often tie in with dining chains to encourage consumers to increase their soda intake, DVMD students Hafizah and Zhong Wei worked on their project, "Sinful Water". Their project aims to raise awareness of the negative health impacts of soda and encourage greater responsibility in its consumption.



After learning about stateless people in Singapore, DVMD students Grace Wong and Mavis Loke worked on a project to raise awareness and garner help for this group of people. In their advertising campaign, "Almost Home", the two friends came up with print ads, a website, and three films based on true stories of stateless individuals.

## DIPLOMA IN EXPERIENCE AND PRODUCT DESIGN (DXPD)



Posing with her handmade creation, Connesione, DXPD student Shangkari D/O Jaya Raman shares that the detachable pouch will allow users to store and carry small everyday objects such as make-up and stationery.



DXPD graduate Kimberly Yang wields her project, Tramatarsi, which she explains is a portable lighting device that can morph from a light rod—almost like a lightsaber—to a glowing orb of many little lights.

# SETTING OUR SCHOLARS ON THE COURSE FOR SUCCESS

**While excellent grades do count towards making a scholar, the SP scholar brings something that matters more to the playing field. An active and curious mind, a big heart for community work, a keen pursuit of some passion and a spirited approach to challenges.**

It differs from one scholar to another. But like master acrobats, SP scholars juggle doing all the above, on top of keeping their grades up.

This year, more than 70 students were awarded scholarships, such as the SP Scholarship, SP Engineering Scholarship, SP Arts Scholarship and SP Sports Scholarship. Hailing from diverse backgrounds, these high-calibre individuals were nominated by their respective schools and interviewed for the scholarships before being awarded. The journey to higher education hasn't been exactly smooth-sailing for some of these scholars, as they frankly share.

SPirit catches up with three SP scholars who overcame the odds in life and managed to excel in their studies.



The future looks bright for our SP Scholars!

After his 'O's, Sean enrolled into Anglo-Chinese Junior College but found himself struggling with his studies that he felt burnt out. At that point, he couldn't even make it past a simple two-page assignment. This prompted Sean to make the switch to SP to pursue his passion in computer engineering. His strong interest, together with support from his parents, soon gave him newfound confidence. Now, Sean tutors fellow schoolmates who are struggling with their studies. **"Initially, I couldn't come to terms with quitting junior college, but it helped that I was studying what I was interested in — computer engineering. My little victories at school and the support from my parents really keep me going!"**

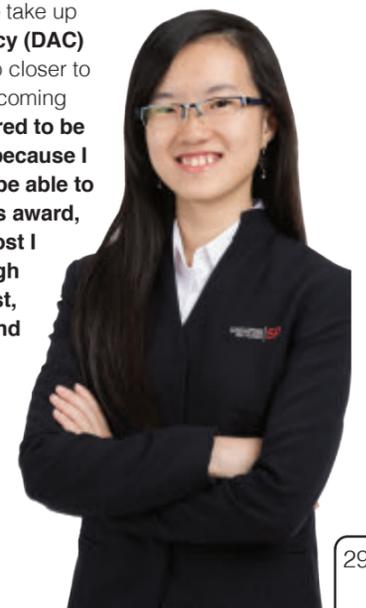
**SEAN TIN**  
Year 2, Diploma in  
Computer Engineering,  
SP Engineering Scholar



**QUEK JUN HUI**  
Year 2, Diploma in Maritime  
Business, SP Scholar

Before making the big switch to study in SP, Jwee Yu was a student at Meridian Junior College. She found herself unable to cope with the curriculum and was uninterested in studying subjects such as biology and chemistry. After speaking with family and friends, Jwee Yu decided to take up the **Diploma in Accountancy (DAC)** course. She is now one step closer to achieving her dreams of becoming an accountant. **"I'm honoured to be awarded the scholarship because I never expected myself to be able to achieve such a prestigious award, given how hopeless and lost I previously felt. Even though things didn't go well at first, I'm glad I kept an open mind when I came to SP!"**

**LEE JWEE YU**  
Year 2, Diploma in  
Accountancy, SP Scholar



# FROM STUMBLING BLOCKS TO STEPPING STONES

Daryl's path in life has not been an easy one to find. Faced with uncertainty about his academic future and grappling with his father's ill health, this SP scholar chose to turn his obstacles into opportunities, and discover his true calling. SPirit traces the journey of this aspiring physiotherapist.

"You are what you overcome"—this sentiment certainly holds true for Daryl Lim, who was one of 74 students recently awarded the SP Scholarship. Currently a Year 1 student in the **Diploma in Nutrition, Health and Wellness (DNHW)** course, Daryl's journey to SP was one fraught with obstacles.

Daryl first enrolled into the science stream at Pioneer Junior College, thinking it was the best option. Admitting that he had no goals back then, he was not motivated and ended up being retained in his first year.

Daryl then decided to switch to the arts stream after realising he had done better in his humanities subjects. As he had always been interested in dance, he took up ballet and even entertained the idea of becoming a professional dancer. But he was unable to meet the conditions to be promoted to the second year and had to drop out.

"I felt confused and demoralised because I wasn't sure of what I could excel in academically," Daryl says about this low point in life. Then while serving his national service and pondering his next step, life threw him another curveball. His father, who was already battling colorectal cancer, had to undergo surgery to remove tumours.

Yet, every cloud has its silver lining. Daryl had the opportunity to observe the skills and dedication of the healthcare professionals who cared for his father. He recalls: "They were so professional in their work, but had so much empathy for my family. They forged friendships with us and I felt like they really went beyond their call of duty. I had never seen anything like that before."

This experience inspired Daryl to pursue a career in healthcare, specifically as a physiotherapist for dancers. "Being passionate about dance myself, I understand that dancers can sustain quite a number of injuries while pursuing their passion," he shares. "By giving them more treatment options, I hope I can encourage people to dance without fear of injury."

The physiotherapy hopeful feels that enrolling into the DNHW course in SP is the right choice. Daryl has also risen to be one of the top students in his cohort in less than a year at SP. He attributes his achievements to hard work and the determination to work towards his goals, saying: "I have more motivation in what I do because I have a clear direction now."



Passionate about dance, Daryl wants to encourage people to dance without fear of injury.

# ROUGH SEAS MAKE FOR A TOUGHER SPIRIT

While most teenagers are still unsure about who they are, much less what they want to do, Raphael had his mind made up at the tender age of 15. This marine engineer in the making shares his story with SPirit.



Following in his father's footsteps, Raphael aspires to be a marine engineer when he graduates.

Growing up, Raphael recalls living with the barest necessities. He had no bed or fan at home, and Dad was the sole breadwinner since Mum was diagnosed with a muscular disorder. But it was still a life full of love. His father served as his role model, friend and counsellor. Dad was the pillar of strength who held the whole family together in tough times, and to young Raphael, this was an amazing feat.

So it came as a shock to him when one day, his father broke down and gave vent to the emotional and physical stress that he was going through to keep their family of five together. The episode was a wake-up call to Raphael, who then resolved to study harder in Secondary 3 and 4. He saw this as the only way to help shoulder Dad's burden.

With a marine engineer for a father, it is no surprise that Raphael shares the same love for

marine engineering. Even as a kid, he would wonder how ships stayed afloat. Hence, it was only natural for this **Diploma in Marine Engineering (DME)** student to follow in the footsteps of his successful father.

Charting his course for the future, the aspiring marine engineer chose to enrol in SP's **Polytechnic Foundation Programme (PFP)**. He felt that the way the foundation year was structured would help him in his weaker subjects like mathematics. With the whole class feeling like a tight-knit family, Raphael found the PFP experience a most memorable one.

"I made many new friends and some lifelong buddies," Raphael happily recounts. "A majority of my PFP course mates were girls, but the so-called 'barrier' never existed. We hung out together. We were always helping and encouraging one another, spurring each other

on by having friendly challenges to improve ourselves—in fact, it still happens between a friend and I now in the DME course!"

Raphael also attributes his great PFP experience to the lecturers. Besides making lessons fun and engaging, his lecturers would also take the extra step to build rapport with the students. "To describe our relationship with the lecturers, it would be more of a friendship than a student-teacher relationship," Raphael shares.

But it wasn't all fun and games for this hardworking young man, as his efforts were rewarded by a SP scholarship. To aspiring SP scholars and marine engineering students, Raphael says: "Do everything and anything with the best of your efforts, and you'll have no regrets."

# CATCHING THE WINDS OF VICTORY IN MY SAILS

Diploma in Biotechnology student Candice Lee is the current captain of the SP Fencing Team. She's training hard to qualify for the Asian Games 2018!

## THE WINNING STRIKE



**Ask Jevyn Ong how he came to pursue his studies at SP and he will tell you that he sailed into it—literally. But smooth seas don't make good sailors, as the two-time Sportsman of the Year shares.**

voluntarily coach the SP Sailing team whenever I can or if I'm needed to. SP Sailing has been very supportive of my education and would try their best to help me in any possible way. They would give me time off school training for competitions and national training.

**You've been named Sportsman of the Year for the second year running! Tell us how you feel.**

It's definitely a great honour to win such a prestigious award twice. It feels pretty good to be recognised for my efforts and hard work over the years. SP has been incredibly supportive of my sporting endeavours.

**Did you face any challenges while pursuing your studies, sailing, and national training? Who helped you overcome these challenges?**

Throughout my diploma, my main challenge was juggling between my studies and sailing. The frequent and numerous competitions overseas meant that I would miss school a lot each semester. This left me struggling to stay afloat at times. Fortunately my lecturers would help me catch up with work. And where possible, they even moved my presentations and submission dates to suit my travelling and training schedule! I feel that many of them genuinely cared for me.

**Why SP Sailing and how did you come to join them?**

Given that I'm a national sailor outside school, it was only natural for me to join SP Sailing. In fact, it was SP Sailing that helped me with my Joint Polytechnic Special Admissions Exercise (JPSAE) application, which was how I got into SP.

**What are your plans after graduation? Anything that you are looking forward to in sailing?**

Well, I'm still waiting for my enlistment letter, but I hope to go for the SEA Games later this year. I just got back from a sailing trip at the SEA Games venue in Malaysia. After serving NS, I will be pursuing a double degree in Accountancy and Business.

**How involved are you in the club? What do you enjoy about being part of your CCA?**

Because I have commitments to the National Team, I can't get too involved with the club, so I'm currently just an ordinary member. But I do

**It isn't easy keeping up with the fast-paced life of a poly student. Good thing Candice Lee has the perfect way to combat stress—poking and slashing at others with a pointy sabre. SPirit goes en garde to speak to this Sportswoman of the Year about her achievements.**

competitions. Together with our coach, I come up with training plans as well as organise events such as our very own nationwide competition, SP Fencing Invitational.

**Congrats on being named Sportswoman of the Year! How do you feel about this accolade?**

To be honest, I never expected to receive such a title, and I'm very honoured to be awarded! Being chosen Sportswoman of the Year is something every SP athlete aspires to. This will be my motivation to work even harder from now on!

Besides training with SP Fencing, I also train with the national team, so my total training adds up to 6 days a week. But I never feel obligated to train because SP Fencing is like home—it's always comfortable and enjoyable to train with our fencers.

**Tell us how you came to join SP Fencing.**

It's actually one of the reasons why I chose the polytechnic route instead of JC. Fencing was my CCA in secondary school and I wanted to continue pursuing it. So when I heard that SP has fencing as a CCA, of course I decided to join! What's more, I knew a couple of seniors who were in SP Fencing at that time. They invited me to a few training sessions where I also got to spar, which encouraged me to join the club.

**What were some of the challenges you faced while juggling academic life and your intense training regime? Who was your support group?**

My first year in SP, I was unable to adapt to the fast pace of poly life. There was group work on top of graded assignments, which all piled up. I scored a GPA of 2.8 in the 2nd semester, and it made me determined to do better. I really depended on my friends to help me catch up on school work when I was away competing. In between trainings, I spent my free time revising and hardcore mugging. Thankfully, my efforts paid off with a 4.0 GPA for two semesters running.

**Besides training for competitions, what else do you enjoy doing at your CCA?**

I'm currently the captain of the team and have led our fencers to multiple

**Do you have any plans or interesting opportunities lined up for the future?**

Studies wise, I have applied for science degree programmes at NUS and NTU, as well as SIT's pharmaceutical engineering course. As for fencing, I'm aiming to participate in the Asian Games 2018. It's a high possibility based on my current national ranking, but I will continue to train hard and improve myself so I can do my country proud!



Diploma in Business Innovation and Design student Jevyn Ong has been named Sportsman of the Year for the 2nd year running!

# THE A TO Z

## Guide to SP

It is quite impossible to describe what Singapore Polytechnic has to offer in so few words, but we will give it a go. From our scenic hilltop to spiffy new buildings and enviable facilities, here's the A to Z guide to SP.



**AeroHub**  
Our state-of-the-art AeroHub is equipped with facilities for **Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering (DARE)** and **Diploma in Aerospace Engineering (DASE)** students. It houses an A4SU Super Skyhawk and the UH1H Huey Helicopter, and more!

**ASF at SP**  
The Newtrition Lab Asia Pacific is the first ever to be set up by BASF in a Singaporean tertiary institution. Third-year students from the **Diploma in Food Science and Technology (DFST)** and **Diploma in Nutrition Health and Wellness (DNHW)** will have the opportunity to intern there.



**Cyber Wargame Centre**  
Tired of classrooms? For **Diploma in Infocomm Security Management (DISM)** students, there is the Cyber Wargame Centre, where they are trained in setting up network defences, launching attacks, conducting forensics investigation and performing malware analysis.

**D**esign Thinking  
Unique to SP, Design Thinking helps our students conceive innovative solutions based on real user needs. Eager to solve challenging problems in the 21st century? We will teach you the ropes.

**E**ngineering  
If you didn't know this, SP is Singapore's first engineering school. With a strong focus on practical application, our engineering students perfect their know-how in our various laboratories, workshops and simulated work environments.

**F**ood  
Six food courts, Long John Silver's, KFC, McDonald's, Starbucks, Ya Kun, Subway, the list goes on and on. No matter the craving, there will be something to satisfy you.

**G**raduates  
Singapore Polytechnic traces its beginnings back to 1954. Since then, more than 195,000 graduates have passed through our doors. Some of our notable alumni are Tanya Chua and Shih Choon Fong, the former President of National University of Singapore.

**H**ectares  
Spanning 38 hectares, SP is about the size of 40 football fields. Don't worry, there is the SP Mobile app to help you find your way.

**I**nternships  
Want to make your dream of working at big brand companies a reality? At SP, our students are offered the chance of a lifetime to embark on internships locally or abroad.

**J**obs  
Life Ready. Work Ready. World Ready. That's not just SP's mission, it is how our graduates describe themselves too. You are set to conquer the world as a Singapore Polytechnic graduate.

**K**rav Maga  
The term was derived from Hebrew, which means 'Contact Combat'. Krav Maga is a life-saving self-defense system - also a club in SP!

**L**ife@SP  
With more than 100 CCA clubs, Life@SP is a smorgasbord of new experiences. If that's not enough, there are annual events like Arts Fiesta and CCA Carnival. There is never a dull moment at SP.

**M**RT  
Easily accessible from anywhere in Singapore, Dover MRT is right at our doorstep. Getting to your class on time will be a breeze.



**N**umber of Diplomas  
Here at SP, we offer 46 diploma courses so there is surely something for everyone. Whether your interest is in landscape architecture or drama and psychology, we have it all. Spoilt for choice, am I right?

**O**verseas Opportunities  
Broaden your horizons at SP and see the world with us. Sign up for the Overseas Social Innovation Programme (OSIP) or intern abroad under our Overseas Industrial Training Programme (OITP).

**P**erfumery and Cosmetics Science  
SP's **Diploma in Perfumery and Cosmetic Science** is the only local diploma programme that provides training in chemistry with applications in perfumery and cosmetic science. Sharpen your senses and you will realise that beauty is not only skin deep.

**Q**uality Education  
Have we mentioned that the education you will receive in SP is world-class? Our friendly lecturers, not mention caring too, are industry experts with years of experience under their belts!

**R**ecreational Facilities  
An Olympic-sized pool, a bouldering wall, squash courts, tennis courts, a bowling alley, and many more amenities are open to all SP students.

**S**EN Centre  
First of its kind among institutes of higher learning, SP's Special Education Needs (SEN) Centre is equipped with a rest area and assistive technology devices to empower students with special needs.



**T**utor  
We strongly believe in mentorship, so at SP all of our students are assigned a Personal Tutor (PT). He or she will be a lecturer, and you may approach your PT for their assistance with your studies or personal problems.

**U**niversity after SP  
Many doors will be open to you after getting your diploma at SP. You will be well-prepared for university should you choose that route, if you don't believe us, ask the seniors.

**Z**enith  
Zenith, which refers to the time at which something is at its most powerful or successful, can be another word to describe your achievements at SP. Discover who you are and where your passions lie at SP.

**V**olunteering  
Our students are big on giving back to society, both here and abroad. Leo Club and GoServe are some of SP's student organisations and programs that are full of heart.

**W**elfare  
You'd notice that study areas are open for longer periods before exams for students to spend more time revising. Look out for SP Students' Union (SPSU) handing out sweet treats and goodies to boost motivation!

**X**-change  
Suffer no more from wanderlust and hop onto a plane for the exchange trip that you have always dreamt of. Grab the opportunity to learn about a new culture and widen your perspectives.



**Y**oung Talents  
Enterprising, innovative, creative, unafraid to break new ground, original, imaginative...there are so many ways to describe SP students.

# SAY YES TO NEW ADVENTURES

Book a ticket, pack a bag, jump on a plane and see the world just like these SP students have done on their Overseas Industrial Training Programme (OITP), Overseas Social Innovation Programme (OSIP), and Learning Express (LeX) journeys.

JUST FOR Fun



SP singaporepoly  
 Liked by 500 others  
 Pose like a rock star! Our School of Mechanical & Aeronautical Engineering (MAE) students on their OITP in Beijing sure know how to enjoy themselves while staying #ontopoftheirgame.



SP singaporepoly  
 Liked by 893 others  
 Feeling right at home in front of the Sydney Opera House is Diploma in Architecture (DARCH) student, Mabel Khaw. Visiting Australia for an architecture master class during the holidays, Mabel met award-winning architects who inspired her to pursue greater heights in this industry. #singaporepoly #speye #spdarch



SP  
 Liked by 601 others  
 Who says that one cannot mix business with pleasure? Magdalene Tan, a Diploma in Food Science and Technology (DFST) student, interned at Massey University in Wellington, New Zealand where she assisted food researchers. As part of her "research", she also visited nearly every farmers' market in Auckland. 🍌🍌



SP  
 Liked by 677 others  
 #Squadgoals in Taipei with our School of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering students on their OITP. SP's Diploma in Mechatronics and Robotics (DMRO) student, Lee Wai Seng, on the right, sure soaked up the sights and history of lovely Taiwan with his friends. #speye #singaporepoly #spengineering



SP singaporepoly  
 Liked by 544 others  
 Surrounded by paddy fields instead of skyscrapers are SP's Diploma in Electrical and Electronic Engineering (DEEE) student Kelvin Yong, on the right, and his buds from a whole bunch of SP Diploma courses in Danang, Vietnam! On their LeX adventure, they improved rice paper production processes. #tbt



SP  
 Liked by 730 others  
 Cheryl Lai, SP's Diploma in Accountancy (DAC) graduand and globetrotter, embarked on an early morning expedition to Mount Bromo, Indonesia to catch the sunrise! For this adventurer on her OSIP, there is no such thing as #FOMO. #singaporepoly #speye



SP singaporepoly  
 Liked by 865 others  
 Jump for the skies like our Mechanical & Aeronautical Engineering (MAE) students on their overseas internship in Changchun, China. Watch them reach new heights with SP!



SP singaporepoly  
 Liked by 685 others  
 Muhammad Haziq and Hans Elias were at the Pratt and Whitney Training Center in Beijing, China doing what they do best - Aeronautical Engineering. Chasing down big dreams of working on big flying machines, they have sure come far!



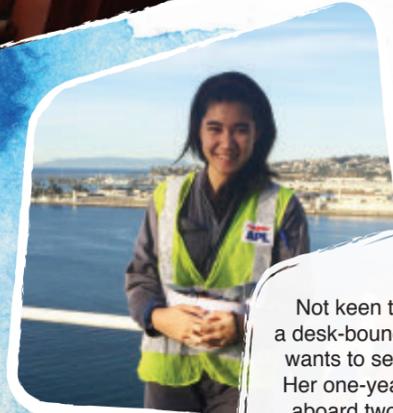
SP singaporepoly  
 Liked by 846 others  
 Talk about an eye-opening Learning Express (LeX) trip to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. A group of Diploma in Chemical Engineering (DCHC) and Diploma in Perfumery and Cosmetics (DPCS) students worked on a prototype to help salt farmers ease their heavy loads during harvests. Go #teamSP! #singaporepoly #speye 🍌

# ANCHORS AWAY ON THE ADVENTURE OF A LIFETIME

While she hasn't quite sailed all seven seas, Amelia tells SPirot about seeing the world on her nautical adventures during her year-long internship aboard two cargo ships.



A ship mate's life ain't easy! Amelia's daily duties included monitoring cargo, navigational watch, and area cleaning.



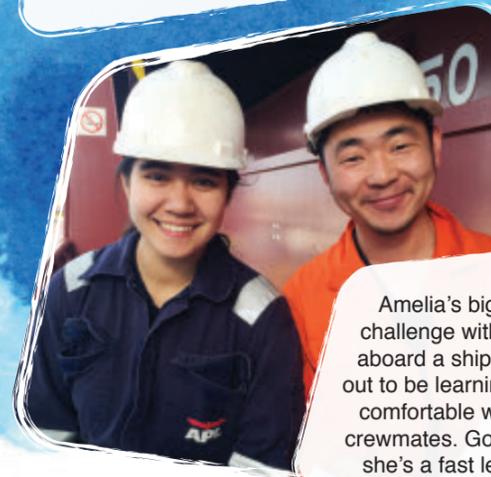
Not keen to settle for a desk-bound job, Amelia wants to see the world. Her one-year internship aboard two ships with international shipping firm APL allowed her to explore various countries.



Initially a shy girl, supportive lecturers and the friends she made in SP helped Amelia to open up and be more confident.



Her internship with APL saw Amelia travelling to America, Spain, Italy, France, Taiwan, South Korea, and even parts of the Middle East and China!



Amelia's biggest challenge with living aboard a ship turned out to be learning to get comfortable with her crewmates. Good thing she's a fast learner!



Visit exotic countries! Meet interesting people! Make money travelling!

What sounds like a dream job to most of us is actually a dream come true for **Diploma in Nautical Studies (DNS)** student, Amelia Sue Pickering. Harboring ambitions of an adventurous career that would allow her to travel and see the world, she was eager to pursue her diploma studies at SP because she figured there would be more job opportunities readily available upon graduation.

Amelia also did not have to look too far for inspiration and advice on her nautical pursuits, as her father himself is in the maritime industry. No stranger to water, the life of a seafarer comes easily to Amelia. After all, she was an avid paddler as part of SP Canoe Sprint and has won several medals at various canoeing championships as well as the POL-ITE Games in 2013 and 2014.

With support from her parents and tuition fees sponsored by PSA Marine, it was full speed ahead for Amelia's career in the high seas. From February 2015 to April 2016, she got to test her sea legs on a year-long internship with shipping firm, APL. Amelia's internship saw her working as a crew mate and learning the ins and outs of running a ship. Of course, the best part about this experience was getting to travel around the world! She recalls travelling to: "Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle in America; Barcelona and Valencia in Spain; Genova in Italy; Fos-sur-Mer in France; Kaohsiung in Taiwan; Busan and Gwangyang in Korea; and parts of the Middle East and China!" Quite the globetrotter, isn't she?

But, this aspiring mariner earned her keep well. Her daily duties aboard the ship included navigational watch four hours in the day and

four hours at night, checking the temperatures of reefer containers, measuring water levels in tanks and bilges, and recording every little detail into logbooks. In between her duties, she also helped out with various other jobs such as deck work, cargo watches, and mooring operations.

Asked about her most interesting or favourite moments, she says: "The chance to visit other countries! It may not be for a long duration, but at least I've been able to wander around and explore some of the cities. In Europe and America, I went sightseeing and visited touristy places, but in China, I mostly hit the shops!"

And while life on board a cargo ship may seem tough to most girls, Amelia's biggest challenge was actually learning to get comfortable with her crew mates. "On my first ship, APL Barcelona, it felt kind of strange to just be suddenly living with a group of strangers. But I did manage to adapt pretty quickly. My second ship, APL Miami, was much easier on me," she shares.

Describing it as the major highlight of her time in SP, Amelia is grateful that the opportunities afforded to her by SP have helped her to flourish from a shy secondary school girl to the confident young woman she is today. During her fulfilling three years in SP, she made many close friends and received support from encouraging lecturers, including SMA lecturer Mr Peter Lee, who put in the effort to make sure his students understand his lessons.

In parting words of advice to all aspiring lady mariners out there, Amelia mentions: "Don't worry too much about what the crew thinks of you. Just do what you're supposed to do, work hard, and it'll all be fine."

JUST FOR Fun

# THE SP MAKAN MAP

JUST FOR Fun

Out on the prowl for the best noms on campus? Well, hold on tight to this map that'll show you SP's food gems!

## Food Court 4 (FC4)

If you're stopping by FC4 (aka Koufu), don't forget to try the wonton noodles stall. For the health conscious, you can also build your own healthy bowl of greens at the salad stall!



Dover  
MRT



## Food Court 2 (FC2)

FC2 is most renowned for its ridiculously affordable food and famous Yong Tau Foo stall. We also have Ya Kun Kaya Toast located here, which opens at 7.30am – the perfect place to grab your morning kopi before class.



PACE  
Academy



## Food Court 5 (FC5)

If you're a big fan of Starbucks, swing by FC 5. On Wednesdays, you'll also get to share the joy of your favourite cuppa with their 1-for-1 deal! Other residents of FC 5 include Subway and KFC.



Basketball  
Court



## Food Court 1 (FC1)

Our FC1 is newly opened earlier this year, with a large variety of international food options! Fancy some Korean ramen? How about Japanese curry rice with delicious bites of fried chicken? Or perhaps some savoury mee rebus to suit your palate? Head over to FC1 to try these goodies now! Psst, we heard that the Thai green curry is #ftw.

## Food Court 3 (FC3)

Home to Long John Silver's and the ever-popular Mini Wok, FC3 has also welcomed some new residents including a new Ma La Xiang Guo for the spice lovers.

MAIN  
LIBRARY



THE  
SANCTUARY

ADMIN



MULTI  
PURPOSE  
FIELD

SPORTS  
ARENA

SPORTS  
COMPLEX

SP  
GRADUATES  
GUILD  
CLUB HOUSE

BUSINESS  
SCHOOL

Aerohub

EW22

DOVER

# COMMUNITY AT HEART

At SP, we strive to serve the community, and do so from our heart. Through SP Go Serve, our students get the opportunity to go on regular community service programmes to ASEAN countries during the March and September vacation periods. They offer help and assistance in various areas – from teaching languages to building schools. Read on to learn more about their experiences!



Chanel Tan Shi Jia (right in picture), Diploma in Integrated Events & Project Management (DEPM), playing with a child in Chengdu, China

“The passion, patience and perseverance my participants had towards the beneficiaries were far more than what I had expected. In fact, I learned a lot from each individual. They taught me how to be a better leader.”  
- Chanel Tan

Chanel Tan Shi Jia (right in picture) first visited Jin Tang in Chengdu, China, on an SP Go Serve trip as a participant. The trip left a lasting impression on her and a year later, she was back in Jin Tang as a Youth Community Leader (YCL). As one of the YCLs, she had to guide the team on the pre-project planning, team dynamics, facilitate reflections daily during the trip to help participants learn.

## YOUTH EXPEDITION PROJECT (YEP) TO SHANGRI LA, CHINA



Teo Tze Siang, Diploma in Banking and Finance (DBKF), helping to lay cement and concrete during building construction

“Through this trip, I was able to get a clearer view of what my strengths and weaknesses are. One of my weaknesses definitely was (and probably still is) the lack of confidence in leading the team. However, I was encouraged by many (and)... this really impacted me as I’ve never considered myself to be someone that is good enough to lead others. Encouragement like these really inspire me to work harder to become a better person.”-Yong Zi Ying

JUST FOR Fun



Yong Zi Ying, Diploma in Aerospace Electronics (DASE), a YCL who helped facilitate the Shangri La trip

## YOUTH EXPEDITION PROJECT (YEP) TO PRIGEN, INDONESIA



Willis Tay, Diploma in Maritime Business (DMB), engaging and teaching the students in the village

“From this teaching experience, I started to realise the hard work and dedication our teachers have done to groom us. Teaching in a foreign country is not easy. However, here is nothing more satisfying than seeing bright smiles on the faces of our students. It is fulfilling to know that our lessons will impact their lives in one way or another.”- Willis Tay



Bryan Neo (DMB) was a YCL during this trip and it has allowed him to improve his leadership and time management skills



Lim Jia Jie (DMB) was a participant in the trip and was especially thankful for the opportunity to experience a homestay

## YOUTH EXPEDITION PROJECT (YEP) TO MAUBIN



Sett Paing Htoo Leo, Diploma in Engineering with Business (DEB), teaching English to a classroom of students



Edward Ong Wei Ming, Diploma in Food Science and Technology (DFST), helping out with building construction

“The students’ attitudes towards learning is every teacher’s dream attitude. They are enthusiastic and eager to learn – to the point of coming to class an hour earlier! It makes me think about how I should have the same hunger for learning and be more proactive in my quest to gain knowledge.” - May Su Paing



May Su Paing, Diploma in Media and Communication (DMC) teaching a class of students

# PURSUING YOUR PASSION WITH EAE

The Early Admissions Exercise, or EAE, is an admissions exercise that allows current O-Level students with a strong passion or aptitude for a polytechnic course to secure a spot even before they sit for their exams. Students who are accepted via EAE will be given a conditional offer of acceptance into poly.

If you're clueless and don't know where to start, fret not because we've compiled a list of top 5 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) to help answer your queries!

## 1. Am I eligible to apply?

EAE is available to the following:

- Singapore Citizens and Permanent Residents who have registered to sit for their O-Level exams in the year of EAE application;
- International Students enrolled in government, government-aided and Independent Schools who have registered to sit for the O-Level exams in the year of EAE application.

## 2. How do I apply?

Head on over to the Joint Portal of the Polytechnics in Singapore at [www.polytechnic.edu.sg](http://www.polytechnic.edu.sg) to start your application process!

## 3. How will I be assessed for admission through EAE?

Once you are logged on, you will be asked to fill in your personal particulars. Most importantly, you'll be asked to submit a 600-character (not words!) write-up to express your passion and aptitude for the course you are applying for. This will be your chance to show why you're keen on joining the course.

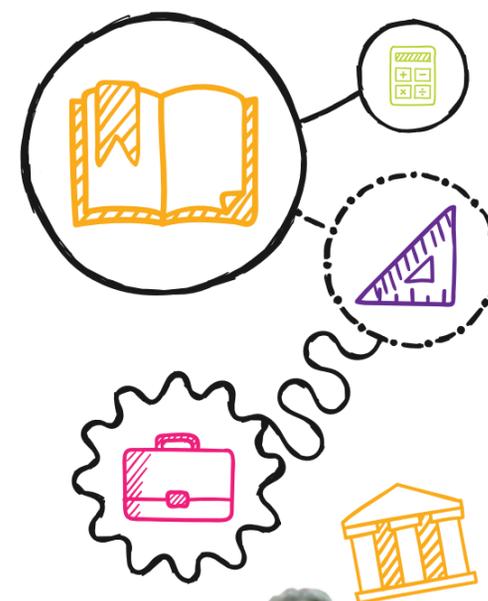
You'll be selected and assessed based on your portfolios, interviews and aptitude tests. This will vary according to the requirements of the diploma. Participation in relevant CCAs, Advanced Elective Modules (AEMs) and Applied Graded Subjects (AGS), work attachments, project involvement relevant to the course and outstanding achievements in areas like sports, arts, leadership, entrepreneurship and community service may also be considered.

## 4. Are all the courses offered by SP suitable for selection under EAE?

Yes! There are no restrictions to the courses you can apply for. Visit [www.sp.edu.sg/courses](http://www.sp.edu.sg/courses) for the list of courses offered by SP.

## 5. What are the admissions criteria that I have to meet?

- Your final O-Level scores need to be at least 26 points and below.
- You must meet the Minimum Entry Requirements (MER) for your selected course. You can find the MERs on our website at [www.sp.edu.sg/courses](http://www.sp.edu.sg/courses).
- Note that if you fail to meet the admissions criteria, your EAE offer will be revoked. However, you can still apply for admission to a poly through the Joint Admissions Exercise (JAE) using your O-Level results.



**YOUTH EXPEDITION PROJECT (YEP) TO LI JIANG, CHINA**

Chuah Yu Song, Diploma in Biotechnology (DBT) teaching basic Mandarin to children in Li Jiang

Nur Syairah binte Selamat, Diploma in Applied Chemistry with Pharmaceutical Science, now known as Diploma in Applied Chemistry (DAPC), playing with children at the school

"As someone who is non-Chinese, I thought I could never interact with the kids like how my teammates can. However, the experience with these 37 kids in my class changed me. Despite me looking different appearance wise and my zero speaking ability, the kids still took effort to talk to me and ask me questions!" - Nur Syairah

**YOUTH EXPEDITION PROJECT (YEP) TO LAM DONG, VIETNAM**

Daniel Jeremy Jafferdeen, Diploma in Tourism and Resort Management (DTRM), playing musical instruments with the children

"I feel like the kids teach us more than we teach them! Sometimes we just forget to be in the moment and have a childlike attitude towards life. We tend to rush but rarely take the time to be fully immersed in the moment." - Daniel Jeremy

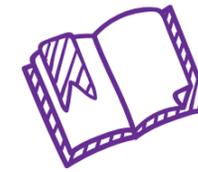
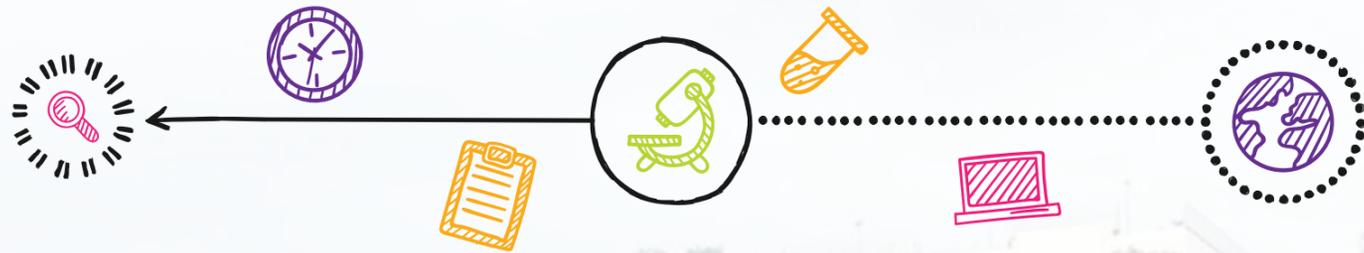
Ng Poh Yee, Diploma in Civil Engineering with Business (DCEB), teaching the English alphabet to children in Lam Dong

Ian Tan Jia Ming (DASE), bonding with one of the children by giving him a piggyback

# EARLY ADMISSIONS EXERCISE IS OPEN!

If you already know which course you wish to pursue via the polytechnic route, come try out for SP's **Early Admissions Exercise (EAE)**! EAE, formerly known as **Direct Polytechnic Admissions (DPA)**, is an admissions exercise for students to apply and receive conditional offers for admission into polytechnic based on their aptitudes and interests, even before they sit for their O-level exams.

Sounds awesome? Let 3 SP students who entered via EAE share their application process and valuable tips!



**TIP:** Take time to really understand your aptitudes and interests. This will help you determine the most suitable course for you, and allow you to better convey your passion to your interviewers.



Marc Wong from DARE

Marc Wong's first exposure to the aeronautical industry was at six years old. The St. Patrick's School alumnus visited his first RSAF Air Show then and remembers being amazed by the different types of aircraft. Since then, he knew he wanted to become an aerospace engineer.

When he visited SP's Parents' Forum with his parents during his O-level year, his sights were already set on the **Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering (DARE)** course as he knew that it would bring him one step closer to his dream. It was also during the event that he learnt of EAE and decided to apply for it.

During the EAE process, Marc had to sit for a general knowledge MCQ test about Aerospace and was further shortlisted for an interview. Despite being well-prepared, Marc was still worried about the outcome and couldn't stop thinking about it for the whole 2-month period! All his worries were put to rest when he saw the conditional acceptance offer.



Tay Zhi Zhong (third from the left) from DADP with his course mates at the Freshman Orientation Programme!

Zhi Zhong learnt of SP's **Diploma in Applied Drama and Psychology (DADP)** from his seniors and was encouraged to apply via EAE given his drama background. The Jurongville Secondary School alumnus wanted to continue pursuing his secondary school passion – drama – and apply it in society. He admits being sceptical at first about the odds of being successfully accepted, as people from 'prestigious' secondary schools were also going through the process. But with the encouragement of his teachers and peers, he persevered.

As part of the assessment requirement for DADP, he did up a 1-minute self-introduction video. He was further shortlisted for an interview and was thrilled when he was eventually accepted!

**TIP:** Make sure you give yourself time to prepare your portfolio and for your interview. Remember that a little effort goes a long way!



Teo Pei Xuan (second from the left, standing) and her DFST course mates!

Teo Pei Xuan has always loved food. The CHIJ St Theresa's Convent alumna remembers wondering about the origins of different food products as a kid, and marvelling at how a single type of food can be available in so many different forms. When she learnt of the **Diploma in Food Science and Technology (DFST)** course in SP, she knew it was just the course for her.

After much research about the course, its demands and future job prospects, Pei Xuan went for the EAE interview and the rest is history.

**TIP:** Make sure you rank your choices well. Also be prepared for 2 rounds of selection!

EAE applications start in July, and selection and assessment for EAE will be based on submission of portfolios, interviews and aptitude tests where appropriate. Do log on to the SP website at [www.sp.edu.sg/courses](http://www.sp.edu.sg/courses) to find out more!

# AHEAD OF THE PACK

Reaching for the skies, these individuals have surpassed themselves. Winning titles and awards, their hard work and genius have not gone unrecognised. SPirit turns the spotlight on some of our SP students and graduates whom have recently achieved impressive feats.

**1** At the WEDESIGN 2016 competition, SP's **Diploma in Visual Communication and Media Design (DVMD)** students, Eunice Yip, Chong Kai Xin and Herman Loh, emerged as winners. Their designs for Disney Tsum Tsum will decorate tote bags and pencil cases that will be retailed in Singapore. These up and coming local design talents have made quite a splash!



**2** Team Lumos, consisting of Leong Hei Mern, Leong Hei Kern and Chernis Low Guai Mun, won in the Tech Challenge category for L'Oréal Brandstorm Singapore 2017. Hei Mern and Chernis were Diploma in Perfumery and Cosmetic Science (DPCS) students, while Hei Kern was a SP **Diploma in Mechanical Engineering (DME)** Gold Medallist in 2013. Competing against more than 100 teams from NUS, NTU and SMU, the team impressed the judges with their innovative idea of a credit card-sized personal care product for men.



**3** Two short films, "I Love You More" and "Lift Me Alone" directed by Sherlyn Goh and Low Zi Qi respectively from SP's **Diploma in Creative Writing for TV and New Media (DTVM)** were selected to be screened at the All In! Young Short Filmmakers Exhibition 2017. What an honour it has been for them!



**4** At the Asian Festival of Children's Content (AFCC) organised by the National Book Development Council of Singapore, **Diploma in Creative Writing for TV and New Media (DTVM)** students, Shona Adisri Menon, Melodie Edith James, Ho Jia En, Sabrina Ong and Wong Shu Jing, emerged winners of the biennial Scholastic Picture Book Award. Their illustrated book, "The Little Durian Tree", was chosen from 137 entries across Asia and will be published by Scholastic. The students are seen here with the Course Chair of DTVM Ms Mary Chin.

**6** Taking on the global arena, the champions of the nationwide MICE Challenge 2016, **Diploma in Integrated Events & Project Management (DEPM)** students Ferry Maulana, Denice Poon, Qiqi Leow and Samuel Yat attended the Professional Convention Management Association (PCMA) Convening Leaders Convention in Austin, USA. Fully sponsored by PCMA, they presented their winning proposal to local university students, and also spoke at Global Lab during a session that consisted of international partners from global businesses.



**5** Students from SP's **Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering (DARE)**, Jamie Voon, Lai Zhou Yan and Navin Ganesh, put their knowledge and skills to the test by co-creating an out-of-the-world Unmanned Aerial Vehicle for LEGO's video campaign. Watch them turn plastic blocks into an engineering feat by scanning the QR code below!



# Stirring hearts on the silver screen

So you want to be the next hotshot director and live the red carpet dream. But there's more to making movie magic than just looking through the lens and calling the shots, as SP graduate and award-winning filmmaker Alvin Lee tells SPirit.



To Alvin Lee, it has always been about the “pull” that films have, “a mesmerising charm that deeply captivates” as he poetically describes. From a young age, Alvin has loved movies and the way that the stories tug at one’s heartstrings. He even recalls one of his earliest impressions was of being overwhelmed with sadness after Mufasa’s sacrifice in Disney’s *The Lion King*.

Chasing an aspiration to see his own stories on the silver screen, Alvin chose to pursue the **Diploma in Digital Media** course at SP to further his knowledge and hone his skills. Over the next three years, he picked up the basics of filmmaking and broadened his horizons at various film festivals and seminars. His time at SP provided him with the necessary foundation to then set his sights on the next stepping stone—a place in the prestigious Beijing Film Academy (BFA).

Note: The **Diploma in Digital Media** has been renamed the **Diploma in Visual Effects and Motion Graphics (DVEMG)**.

BFA, which counts renowned film directors Zhang Yimou and Chen Kaige as alumni, was Alvin’s “first and only choice”. Remarking on his decision, he says: “Besides Hollywood, China has the biggest movie industry market and is catching up quickly. It’s a good time to be here, as it may provide me with more opportunities in the future.”

So after graduation, it was off to Beijing for Alvin, then 21, to take the entrance examinations which lasted two weeks. Describing it as a nerve-racking experience, he went through six rounds of interviews that narrowed down the original 1,470 applicants. At the end of it, Alvin was one of 26 students accepted into the Bachelor of Film Directing degree programme.

Shedding light on the life of a film student, Alvin shares that BFA students are expected to learn skills beyond filmmaking, including poetry, painting, music, literature, and even Chinese opera! And if his long schooling hours and varied types of lessons weren’t enough of an experience, Alvin also finds time to be the vice-chairman of the mixed martial arts (MMA) club at his school.

Of course, his foray into filmmaking wouldn’t have been possible without his family’s support. “Their support has given me a lot of freedom to make my films without any worries, and even as I look back now, I see the influence they have had on my filmmaking,” Alvin professes. After all, most of Alvin’s films revolve around the theme of family. His style of filmmaking often explores human relationships and incorporates elements of the past because of his fondness for the rustic and the traditional, enthusing that “every scratch and imperfection has a story behind it”.

Alvin has thus far won awards at the Very Short International Film Festival 2012 for his film *Timeline* and at the Singapore Short Film Awards 2015 for *Bon Voyage*. Currently in the third year of his studies and not content to rest on his laurels, he has recently scored another win for his latest effort titled *Seed*. Beating out 10,000 other submissions, his short film about organ donation won him the Best New Director Award at the China Short Film Golden Hummingbird Awards.

Alvin also shares that, upon graduation in 2018, he plans to start work on a feature film. Meanwhile, check out his YouTube channel here: <https://www.youtube.com/user/alvinlee91video>



It's all smiles before getting down to the serious business for this award-winning filmmaker.



Apparently the odds of meeting a celebrity like Matt Damon on your campus are quite high when you're a Beijing Film Academy student!



Filmmakers don't just stay behind the lens. As part of his curriculum in the Beijing Film Academy, Alvin has to take up acting lessons too!

# GOING WHERE THERE IS NO PATH

It has been a bumpy ride for Muhammad Alfiz with his teen years being especially turbulent. But in times of adversity, he discovers his mettle and sets out to chart a path of his very own, as he shares with SPirit.



With perfect frankness that describes his character, **Diploma in Integrated Events and Project Management (DEPM)** student Alfiz admits that education was never a priority during his teenage years. In fact, he didn't even bother to bring a calculator when he sat for his 'O' Level mathematics paper. With a troubled family life, Alfiz would often escape the tense atmosphere at home and soon fell into bad company.

A far cry from his current friendly and easygoing demeanour, Alfiz confessed to getting into physical fights as a means to channel his anger. It was after his 'O's that Alfiz, also known as Fish to his friends, decided to turn over a new leaf and enrolled into Higher Nitec in Event Management at ITE College Central. There, he encountered lecturers whose teaching methods worked for him and "really made a difference" as he shares. His newfound motivation enabled him to achieve a 4.0 GPA, which meant he could enter poly.

However, before entering poly, Fish lost his father to an illness. Although this presented some financial problems at home, he was unwavering in his determination to do well in his studies. At 25 years old, Fish enrolled into SP's DEPM, and gave it his all.

Besides focusing on his academic efforts, Fish was also involved in various school activities and clubs in school — SP RockMaster, School of Architecture and the Built Environment (ABE) club during Freshman Orientation Programme (FOP), ABE Dinner & Dance, to name a few. In a cause close to his heart, he even volunteered at CARE Singapore's YOUTH CARE Centre where he helped to lend support to at-risk youths. He recalls being able to engage a delinquent Secondary One student when no one else could.

In his third year at SP, Fish was offered a scholarship from design consultancy E Three 5, which could have helped to offset his tuition fees. He did not accept the scholarship, but was presented with a cheque anyway. To 'return the favour', Fish then did his internship at the company as an Events Executive.

As for his defining years in SP, Fish has three lecturers to thank for making an impact on his SP journey. The first is his ABE lecturer Mr Fan Ay Deng, who kept encouraging Fish and convinced him to take part in the MICE Destination Marketing Contest 2016. Fish's team clinched second place in the challenge while scoring the most awards at five. Fish is also grateful for Mr Enzo Tang "for always being open and empathetic with us", and Mr Ong Kung Yew "for always taking care of his students".

Looking back, Fish feels that SP has really helped him build his character and open up to people. His advice to students who feel overwhelmed by challenges at home? "Be open-minded. Try to accept and adapt," he counsels. "If you're going through a tough time at home, remember that you're not the only one going through such a situation. Also, actively seek out opportunities instead of simply waiting. Do not be afraid."

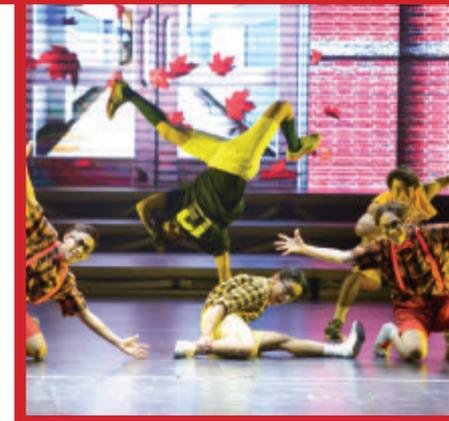
**“Actively seek out opportunities instead of simply waiting. Do not be afraid.”**



Mr Fan Ay Deng in a wifie with Alfiz and a few other lecturers and alumni from the School of Architecture and the Built Environment (ABE).

# CCAs@ SP

With a vibrant campus culture and more than 100 CCAs to choose from, you'll never have a dull day in SP!



**SP STRICTLY DANCE ZONE**



**SP DANCE SPORT**



**SP SHOOTING**



**SP MMA**

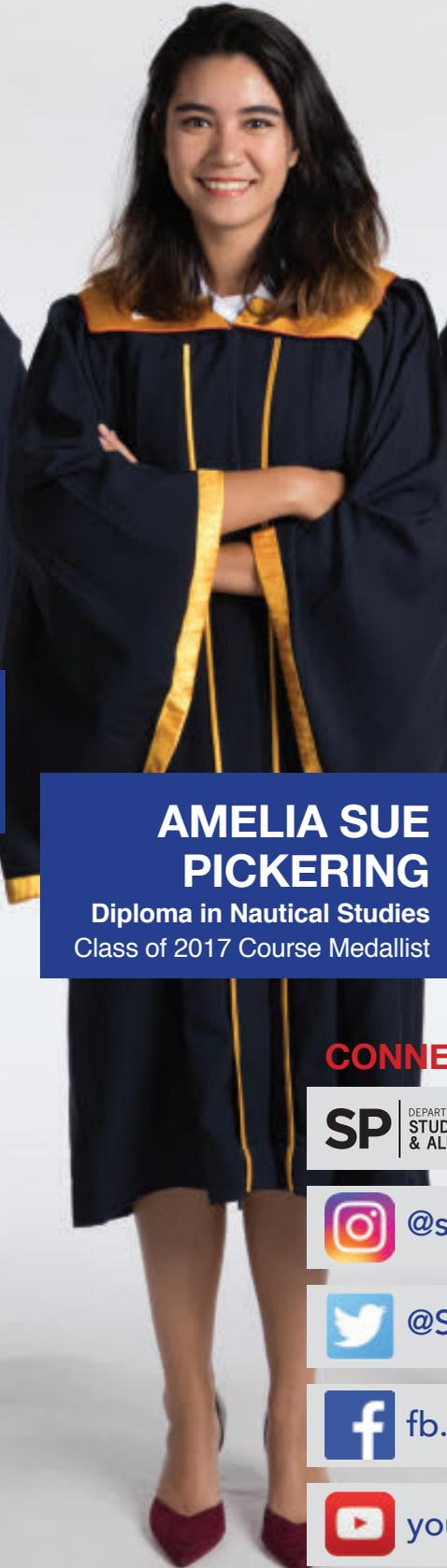
# SPIRIT

SINGAPORE  
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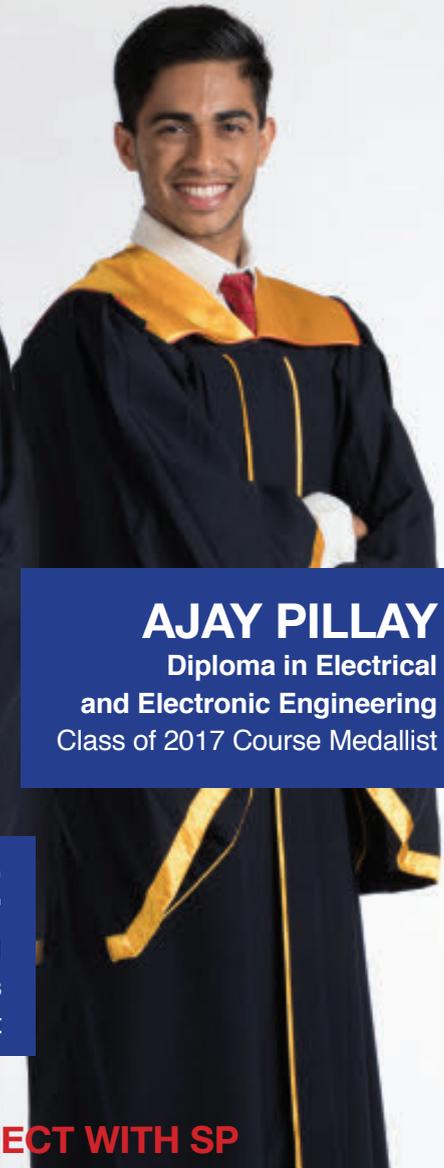
GIVES ITS HEARTIEST CONGRATULATIONS  
TO THE GRADUATES OF **2017!**



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Diploma in Architecture  
Class of 2017 Course Medallist



**AMELIA SUE  
PICKERING**  
Diploma in Nautical Studies  
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