SUPER 8

TOP GRADS OF 2012

THE BEST SHOW: Birth & Render 2012.

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MUHAMMAD DZAFIR
2nd Year Diploma in Mechanical Engineering and SP Scholar
Hello ☺

The annual Graduation Ceremony has just ended with slightly more than 5,000 graduates from 46 diploma courses. Under the watchful eyes of their parents, siblings, relatives and friends, the teenagers who joined SP three years ago, overnight, seemed to have morphed into confident young adults as they stepped onto the stage to receive their diploma scroll. In the words of the valedictorian speakers, they did it!

It was with happiness and pride that I looked at them happily taking pictures with their family members, course mates and lecturers at the Open Plaza. When the dust settled and everyone had gone home, the sentiments began to set in.

The fresh graduates posted fast and furious about their SP journey in Facebook and Blogs. Many had been looking forward to their graduation day but when the day came, they wished it did not come so soon. One graduate wrote: “After the graduation ceremony, I felt empty and when I was on my way home, I cried in my dad’s taxi. I couldn’t figure out the reason why I cried initially I thought I was just being silly. When I reached home, I looked at the graduation gifts, opened the letters and read them. I cried again. Then I realised I really hate to leave SP, I freaking miss those SP times we had.”

It was touching reading their posts and knowing that the SP experience has made a difference in their lives. Graduation marks a new beginning. The guys get ready for national service. The girls embark on their new careers or university education. Be it national service, work or further studies, I believe the SP experience would hold them in good stead.

Some graduates have found jobs even before their graduation. It was their impressive portfolio of projects that helped them to clinch good jobs. More good news pour in day after day about our graduates being admitted to universities and receiving scholarships. We have several who have started their undergraduate programmes at the newly set-up Singapore University of Technology and Design, which was reported to set high admission standards.

I had the opportunity to visit England recently and caught up with some recent graduates who are now studying in universities like Imperial College, Architecture Association and The Bartlett. It’s great to know that they are coping well and enjoying the university experience. Like our fresh graduates, they too miss their time in SP even after so many years. And I am glad that they still keep themselves updated about what’s happening in SP.

For all of you now taking the SP journey, your turn will come in the next three years. Make the most out of your learning journey. While you strive for academic excellence, take some time to pursue a hobby, a sport, an interest or to serve the lesser communities in Singapore or overseas, for a complete SP experience.

When it is your time to graduate, you will become a better person and ready to take on the world. Always remember, with SP, it’s So Possible!

Tan Hang Cheong
Principal, Singapore Polytechnic
THE SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC
GRADUATES’ GUILD

Welcoming You Home to a World of Facilities!

Here is where you Unwind, Have Sporting Fun, Seek Inspiration to Excel in your Studies, Network & Propel Your Career Forward.
Inviting you to a oasis of calm amongst the sprawling metropolis in your own and only clubhouses for all SPG Graduates – the Singapore Polytechnic Graduates’ Guild.

Located at SP Gate 4, just next to the SP Sports Complex, SPGG is your balance between study and play, offering a myriad of sports and recreational facilities from its luxurious spin to the sweeping tennis courts, the 10-lane bowling alley to the free-form swimming pool.

WHY JOIN SPGG

- New $214 (usual price: $2000 after graduation)
- You get a FREE gift worth up to $399.
- No monthly subscription to pay when you are a student.

Upon graduation, your Student Membership is automatically converted into an Ordinary (transferable) membership.

- You will then enjoy subscription at just $50 per month for the next 3 years and will have access to all SPGG facilities, including the Lounge, Mahjong and Jackpot rooms.
- You get to enjoy the facilities of other local and foreign clubs, and also university alumni bodies.
- You get the opportunity to participate in a wide range of sports/lifestyle/wellness activities.
- You save $55 when you shop at SPGG’s participating retail merchant outlets.
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- You save $55 when you shop at SPGG’s participating retail merchant outlets.

What’s more, a wider choice of club facilities and networking platforms await you! SPGG has recently established several reciprocal affiliation arrangements with local and foreign clubs!

OUR LOCAL TIE-UPS

SIA Group Sports Club, Alpina Aqua Club, Nationalist Club and SP Malbary.

OUR FOREIGN TIE-UPS

Monaco University Club, The University Club of Western Australia, Faculty Club of University of California, Trinity Santana Golf Club, Tenma Matsko Golf & Country Club and Royal Sanger Upping Club.

The list of clubs keeps growing and may vary from time to time as SPGG works on its goal to become a global club.

Sign up now as our student member and discover a wholesome, holistic range of benefits!
We Did It

Yes they did it!
More than 5,000 of them from across 46 diploma courses, all proud SP graduands from the class of 2012. After taking the unique SP journey, they are now work ready, world ready and world ready.

The Graduation Ceremony is not an end but a new beginning for them. Whether it is work, further education or national service, the SP Experience has prepared them well for the next move.

SPirit brings to you in pictures all the joy, excitement and jubilation of the five-day ceremony.
Twelve graduates were picked to deliver the valedictory speeches at Graduation 2012. It was by no means an easy feat to deliver a speech that could encapsulate a three-year experience and resonate with their fellow graduates. But they all did it. And very well indeed! We bring you excerpts from their emotional deliveries.

Special Moments

Nurulzahidah Binte Mohamed Yusoff from the Diploma in Aerospace Engineering

Ever since that moment I chose SP, I have never regretted that decision. My fears were unfounded. SP has shown me that its prestige was gained through a long history of hard work and achievements, and not through its name. It is the hard work of the lecturers and students like us that makes SP the BEST polytropic.

Richard Goh

Diploma in Maritime Transportation Management

“I am sure of my future first you remember your first day in school. It is always frightening to be in a totally new environment and even more so, to initiate a conversation with a stranger. But it wasn’t long before my nerves calmed and I felt a sense of belonging. SP has become a Special Place, a place that has left me with many vivid memories.”

Trinit Ang (Diploma in Hotel & Catering Management) and Mei Ling (Diploma in Interior Design)

“I remember a study trip to Hong Kong for my Final Year Project. During our short one-week stay there, my team and I saw a side of Hong Kong that few tourists would get to see. We visited some cage-like homes and saw the terrible living conditions there. Disturbed by the plight of these people, we stayed up till the last hours of the morning to decide to make a difference to the living conditions of these people. We redesigned urban artifacts – like beaches and pavilions – to enhance their daily activities.”

Mary SP alumni returned to witness their siblings graduating. Among them is Lim Hui Hui, the Lee Kuan You Award recipient in 2011 who attended the Diploma in Interior Design. Her proud siblings were delighted to see her receive her prize from SP’s Board of Governors and hopes to become a successful interior designer.

Amanda Yeo from the Diploma in Architecture is the first recipient of the Tan Kong Yong Gold Medal, awarded to an outstanding student from a design or creative arts course. She is now pursuing her degree at the Singapore University of Technology and Design.

The extended SP family. Mr and Mrs Sam Ko, together with son Cedric Ko, are all graduates from SP’s Diploma in Civil Engineering. Younger son Alex is a current SP diploma student, also from the same course!

From the invitation cards to the outdoor décor and the grand stage inside SP Convention Centre, the creations for Graduation 2012 were designed by the Design and Graphic Design students.

Nurulzahidah Binte Yusoff from the Diploma in Chemical and Biological Engineering was one of the 12 graduates who delivered emotional valedictory speeches. Many in the audience were moved to tears by her delivery.

Vincent Lot

Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering

“Four times is limited, so don’t waste it living someone else’s life. Sound familiar? This was what the late Steve Jobs said during his famous commencement speech in Stanford University and I’m glad I heed his words. My passion is in Architecture and I owe SP an immense debt for giving me the key to living life to the fullest, the moment I was accepted into my dream course.”

Nicholas Tang

Diploma in Creative Writing

“Our teachers had all worked as writers, reporters, directors and more. Classes were about writing stories, crafting characters and analysing TV shows and movies. It was honestly, a dream come true for me. I still remember what the teachers told us on our first day. “After you join SP, you will never watch TV and Movies the same way again.” I laughed initially, but man, were they right. It was like learning the secrets behind a magic trick.”

The extended SP family.

With determination and grit, Esther Soon graduated at Silver Medalist from the Diploma in Creative Writing and New Media. She is soon to be receiving her prize from Anchor Cheong, SP’s Board of Governor and hopes to become a novelist or copy editor.

Nurulzahidah Binte Yusoff from the Diploma in Aerospace Engineering delivered the valedictory speeches.

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SPontaneous Moments

She got flowers.

He got flowers.

She got the flower on the head.

She got flowers + balloon.

A handshake.

A hug!

A kiss!

Attached!

So emo...

So happy....

So busy...

So freeeeeeee.....

I got a cat.

I got a (real) dog!

I got cupcakes.

I got a guitar.

That's my child!

That's me!

That's us!

That's my Principal!

Nice camera.

Nice frame.

Nice magazine.

I got small bears.

I got a big bear.

I bear flowers!

He ran away with the bear.

She jumped!

He jumped!

They jumped!

They were the last one!

I got a cat.

I got a (real) dog!

I got cupcakes.

I got a guitar.

That's my child!

That's me!

That's us!

That's my Principal!

Nice camera.

Nice frame.

Nice magazine.

Nice possibilities!
Crème de la crème.

They are the top graduates of Singapore Polytechnic’s Class of 2012. For all eight of them, they aspire to be what they want to be and have the passion to work towards their dreams. More importantly, all of them have a heart to serve. The SP experience for them goes beyond scoring excellent results. SPIRIT finds out more about these super-achievers and things that we don’t know about them.
Koh Shi Min
Diploma in Biomedical Science
SP Scholar and Alumna from Pei Hwa Secondary School

★ WHO AM I?
✔ I love Biology and Biomedical Science was my dream course.
✔ I was in Vietnam to teach hygiene and English to the children.
✔ I might be small-sized but I am strong enough to build toilets for village folks in China.
✔ I did my internship at the National Healthcare Group; they offered me a locum medical technician position after that because I have a Diploma Plus in Phlebotomy.
✔ I conduct health checks for senior citizens during the Health Mapping Exercise.
✔ I self-supported myself throughout my SP days and did not take any pocket money from my parents. I’m really proud of myself, so are my parents!!
✔ I hope I can be a doctor or a geriatrician.

★ MY NEXT STOP
✔ I hope to enrol in a medical school and work towards becoming a doctor.

★ MY AWARDS
✔ Lee Kuan Yew Award
✔ Shell Companies in Singapore Prize
✔ Alfred Robert Edis Prize
✔ Health Sciences Authority Award
✔ Biomed Diagnostics Gold Medal
✔ OCBC Prize

Goh Si Kai
Diploma in Music and Audio Technology
SP Scholar and Alumnus from Anderson Secondary School

★ WHO AM I?
✔ I cannot live without music. I can play the piano, guitar and drums.
✔ Since I love music so much, it would be dumb of me not to choose the Diploma in Music and Audio Technology.
✔ My friends listen to Lady Gaga. I listen to dead musicians like Ella Fitzgerald and Miles Davis.
✔ In secondary school, I was the drum major. In SP, I became President of the Jazz Band.
✔ The Jazz Band is very proud to have staged our annual concert Improvise IV at The Esplanade.
✔ I went to China to learn more about Chinese music culture and a little bit about their art.
✔ I would like to thank Johnny Ong (staff at Department of Student Development). With him, the show will go on.
✔ If I can change anything, I would change the music we hear today into golden classics.

★ MY NEXT STOP
✔ I hope to get a National Arts Council Scholarship to study music at the Berklee College of Music in the USA.
✔ I will work towards my dream to become an accomplished jazz musician.

★ MY AWARDS
✔ Lee Kuan Yew Award
✔ Shell Companies In Singapore Prize
✔ Media Development Authority Gold Medal
✔ OCBC Prize
✔ IMS Mahajak Pro Audio Award
Ong Yong Lin
Diploma in Engineering with Business
SP Scholar and Alumnus from Riverside Secondary School

WHO AM I?
✔ It’s nice to be first. I belong to the first batch of graduates from the Diploma in Engineering with Business.
✔ I enjoy developing phone apps. My app for buying and selling used textbooks won the first prize in the SP Mobile Festival 2011. I hope to publish it on App Store this year.
✔ I joined Motorola Mobility for my internship. It was really fun as I got to play with the latest gadgets.
Together with other students from the SP Outstanding Talent programme, we produced a book to raise funds for charity.
✔ My community service in the Philippines has humbled me.
Mobile devices have in some ways destroyed human interaction. I hope to invent ways to improve communication between humans using technology.
 Few people know that I was a gymnast during my secondary school days 😊.

MY NEXT STOP
✔ I’m offered places in NUS and NTU to study Computer Science but I hope to clinch a scholarship to study in the United States.
✔ My biggest dream now is to start my own technology business.

MY AWARDS
Lee Kuan Yew Award
Shell Companies in Singapore Prize
Motorola Prize
EMRT Gold Medal
DBS Prize
My Next International Prize

Jessica Lee Meng Hui
Diploma in Accountancy
SP Scholar and Alumna from Tanjong Katong Girls’ School

WHO AM I?
✔ My mother is an accountant, so I get free tuition at home 😊.
✔ I fell in love with archery after joining SP. It helps me to focus and is therapeutic too. I even won medals at the POL-ITE Games.
✔ I went to Mongolia for a community involvement programme. The experience made me appreciate the environment even more.
 I participated in several community events through the Leo Club.
✔ I’m learning Korean. Yes, I’m a K-pop fan! My motto is “never regret”. I don’t regret my decisions because I always think through carefully before making them.
 If I can change the world, I hope to change people’s perception of happiness which should come from within and not material gains.

MY NEXT STOP
✔ I’m offered the Nanyang Scholarship by NTU and also a place in NUS. Will decide on where to go soon.
✔ I hope to become a Chief Financial Officer in ten years’ time.

MY AWARDS
Low Guan Onn Gold Medal
Shell Companies in Singapore Prize
Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Singapore Gold Medal
AGD Merit Award
Song Shang Qian

Diploma in Nutrition, Health and Wellness
SP Scholar and Alumnus from Woodlands Ring Secondary School

★ WHO AM I? ★
✔ My mother didn’t allow me to eat fast food until secondary school. By then, I’ve grown to dislike them.
✔ The healthy eating habits at home influenced me to take up the Diploma in Nutrition, Health and Wellness.
✔ I was in Cambodia for community service and taught the kids there English. They were inquisitive and really touched me with their willingness to learn.
✔ Getting 9As for my ‘O’ levels and completing my first 10km marathon are two major achievements in my life.
✔ I was a Teaching Intern at Dunearn Secondary and taught Food and Nutrition and Home Economics. I think I’m suitable to be a teacher.
✔ I went to Massey University in New Zealand for my overseas internship.
✔ I was working almost every weekend as a ferry agent at Tanah Merah Ferry Terminal during my SP days so I could self-support myself. I didn’t want to burden my parents.
✔ When I’m stressed, I like to sing!

★ MY NEXT STOP ★
✔ I would be pursuing a degree in dietetics overseas under a scholarship from the Ministry of Health.
✔ I want to get a PhD!
✔ I hope to be a teacher or a health advocate specialising in child nutrition.

★ MY AWARDS ★
✔ Chua Chor Teck Gold Medal
✔ Shell Companies in Singapore Prize
✔ Singapore Food Manufacturers’ Association Gold Medal

Wong Yan Ting

Diploma in Media and Communication
SP Scholar and Alumna from Ngee Ann Secondary School

★ WHO AM I? ★
✔ I stay in the East but SP was my first choice. Why? Because the Diploma in Media and Communication was the most attractive choice for me!
✔ I was the President of the Student Exchange Club.
✔ I had a very enriching experience in SP. I went to Bangladesh for community service, Japan for cultural exchange and Princeton University in USA for the United Nations Model Conference.
✔ Together with my course mates, we did a comprehensive research on online and cyber bullying and presented the findings to the media at a press conference. No joke, media like The Straits Times, ChannelNewsAsia and Yahoo were there!
✔ I interned with a really fun-loving event company and had clients like H&M, Topshop, Clarke Quay, Gatsby and Nokia.
✔ I was a team member that executed the marketing and communications for Halloween Horrors in 2010.
✔ If I start to read a book, it would be hard for me to put it down.
✔ Most people don’t know that I can sing!

★ MY NEXT STOP ★
✔ I want to get a degree in communication studies or marketing. I am offered the Nanyang Scholarship by NTU. The University of Liverpool and NUS have also accepted me.
✔ I hope to start my own events and communications company in future.

★ MY AWARDS ★
✔ Toh Chin Chya Gold Medal
✔ Media Development Authority Gold Medal
✔ Shell Companies in Singapore Prize
Amanda Yeo Qian Yu
Diploma in Architecture
SP Scholar and Alumna from Siglap Secondary School

**WHO AM I?**
- I chose to study Architecture because it combines design with science.
- I took part in the Green Desert Project in Mongolia while in SP and I’m still continuing with the project because it is so meaningful.
- I’m especially enchanted by buildings that make use of natural elements, for example the Church of The Light by Japanese architect Tadao Ando.
- I interned at well-renowned architectural firms like Arc Studio which designed the Pinnacle at Duxton. Working for them was an eye-opener.
- I went overseas seven times during my SP days. I was in China, Indonesia and Malaysia for different overseas programmes.
- I’m especially enchanted by buildings that make use of natural elements, for example the Church of The Light by Japanese architect Tadao Ando.
- I went overseas seven times during my SP days. I was in China, Indonesia and Malaysia for different overseas programmes.
- Coming from a single-parent family, my mother worked very hard to support me and my brother. I want to do well and give her a good retirement life.
- My biggest hobby is reading manga! That’s how I got myself interested in art.

**MY NEXT STOP**
- I have just started my degree in Architecture and Sustainable Design at the Singapore University of Technology and Design with a scholarship.
- I hope to start my own architectural studio.

**MY AWARDS**
- Tan Kay Yong Gold Medal
- DP Architects Prize

Alan Yeo Jun Xiong
Diploma in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
Alumnus from ITE College Central and Montfort Secondary School

**WHO AM I?**
- I was an express student in a secondary school but dropped out because I was too naughty.
- I made good what I lost. I was the Top Graduate in ITE College Central in 2010 and was awarded the LKY-STEP Award.
- My relatives and friends were shocked that I did so well at ITE even though I had to work and study at the same time. Now they will be shocked again because I did well in SP.
- It even amazed me that I could work about 20 hours a week during my ITE and SP days and still do well in my studies.
- I have a “die die must do” attitude. If I want to do well in something, I make sure I do it.
- I’m a good salesman. I’ve been a Nokia sales consultant before SP and still doing it part-time and even got promoted.
- I do volunteer work for the Yong-En Care Centre and also an old folks’ home.
- I relieve stress by jogging.

**MY NEXT STOP**
- I will start my degree course in Electrical and Electronic Engineering at the National University of Singapore under an Energy Market Authority scholarship.
- My aim is to be the top graduate for my degree course.

**MY AWARDS**
- Tay Eng Soon Gold Medal
- Motorola Prize
Congratulates The Star Performers Who Graduate Top Of Their Class For 2012.

- Anna Cheng
  Diploma in Creative Media Design
  Hwa Yi Secondary School

- Fooing Guowei
  Diploma in Civil Engineering & Management
  Seng Kang Secondary School

- Ang Hui Ling
  Diploma in Interior Design
  Yishun Town Secondary School

- Lian Zhi Xian
  Diploma in Games Design & Development
  Compassvale Secondary School

- Tran Ho Soon
  Diploma in Landscape Architecture
  Marsiling Secondary School

- Low Hui Xiang
  Diploma in Environmental Management & Water Technology
  Seng Kang Secondary School

- Lee Zhe Min
  Diploma in Property Development & Facilities Management
  Serangoon Garden Secondary School

- Low Bee Guat
  Diploma in Experience & Product Design
  Dunearn Secondary School

- Kewei Ng Zu-Yi
  Diploma in Architecture
  St Patrick’s School

- Fusong Guowei
  Diploma in Civil Engineering & Management
  Seng Kang Secondary School
**SPIRIT**

**Congratulates The Star Performers Who Graduate Top Of Their Class For 2012.**

- **Lee Meng Hui Jessica**
  Diploma in Accountancy
  Compassvale Junior College

- **Peh Hui Xiang**
  Diploma in Banking & Financial Services
  Mayflower Secondary School

- **Ng Chung Kit Mark**
  Diploma in Applied Drama & Psychology
  Geylang Methodist School (Secondary)

- **Tan Pei Ling**
  Diploma in Human Resource Management with Psychology
  Nan Chiau High School

- **Jansen Prawetyo**
  Diploma in Business Administration
  St Joseph’s Institution

- **Dahshie Koh Tian Tiong**
  Diploma in Tourism & Resort Management
  Chong Boon Secondary School

- **Ng Sin Yee**
  Diploma in Financial Informatics
  Zhonghua Secondary School

- **Wong Yao Wen**
  Diploma in Infocomm Security Management
  Pei Hwa Secondary School

- **Wong Yen Ting**
  Diploma in Media & Communication
  Ngee Ann Polytechnic

- **Nadia Zaleha**
  Diploma in Creative Writing for TV & New Media
  Crescent Girls’ School

- **Wong Hao Wen**
  Diploma in Infocomm Technology
  Jurong West Secondary School

- **Nguyen Doan Hong Nhat**
  Diploma in Information Technology
  Trung Vuong High School (Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam)

- **Goh Si Kai**
  Diploma in Music & Audio Technology
  Anderson Secondary School
Star Performers

Congratulations The Star Performers Who Graduate Top Of Their Class For 2012.

Cheng Yujin
Diploma in Aerospace Electronics
SMK Taman Melawati (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)

Wong Yen Lynn
Diploma in Bioelectronics
SMK Air Putih
(Pahang, Malaysia)

Nicholas Ng Chun Keong
Diploma in Clean Energy
St Patrick’s School

Cheng V-Jin
Diploma in Bioelectronics
SMK Air Putih
(Pahang, Malaysia)

Teo Choon Seng
Diploma in Mechanical Engineering
Fuhua Secondary School

Ton Yu Xuan
Diploma in Resort Facilities Services & Management
Hong Kah Secondary School

Loh Yi Yan
Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering
SMK Aminuddin Baki (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)

Ong Yong Lin
Diploma in Engineering with Business
Riverside Secondary School

Liu Jiale
Diploma in Computer Engineering
Bukit Panjang Government High School

Wang Jue
Diploma in Information Communication Technology
River Valley High School

Ho Xin Wei Samuel
Diploma in Bioengineering
Fajar Secondary School

Wei Linyan
Diploma in Mechatronics
Shashi Middle School (Hubei, China)

Wong Kay Khine
Diploma in Electrical & Electronic Engineering
No. 2 Basic Education High School (Latha, Myanmar)
Star Performers

SPIRIT

Congratulates The Star Performers Who Graduate Top Of Their Class For 2012.

Koh Shi Min
Diploma in Biomedical Science
Pei Hwa Secondary School

Matthew James
Diploma in Chemical Engineering
Wesley Methodist School (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)

Koh Siu Min
Diploma in Biomedical Science
Pei Hwa Secondary School

Matthew James
Diploma in Chemical Engineering
Wesley Methodist School (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia)

Liew Tiong Hoong
Diploma in Marine Engineering
Institute of Technical Education

Lee Pui Xin
Diploma in Optometry
Jurongville Secondary School

Song Sheng Qian
Diploma in Nutrition, Health & Wellness
Woodlands Ring Secondary School

Gum Sock Ying
Diploma in Biotechnology
Evan’s Secondary School

Tan Guixue
Diploma in Chemical Process Technology
No. 2 Middle School of Wangjiang County (Anhui, China)

Toy Shu Lyn
Diploma in Food Science & Technology
SMK Tun S Abdul Rahman (Malaysia)

Lim Tong Hoong
Diploma in Marine Engineering
Institute of Technical Education

Memorial Diploma in Maritime Transportation Management
Chai Chai Secondary School

Aine Fung Ho Yim
Diploma in Nautical Studies
Chung Cheng High School (Tahiti)
The first Birth took place four years ago but it never stopped at one. It has since become the branding for showcasing the works of graduating students from the School of Architecture and the Built Environment and SP Design School. From two diplomas and a smaller venue, it has now grown into a massive display of impressive works from six diplomas across the two schools. These are the Diplomas in Architecture (DARCH), Landscape Architecture (DLA), Games Design and Development (DGDD), Experience and Product Design (DXPD), Interior Design (DID) and Visual Communication and Media Design (DVCMD).

A highlight of this year’s Birth is the interactive element. Visitors can create their own art forms using art materials provided. There were also videos on the students’ projects that could be viewed on iPads.

Unknown to many visitors at the show, Birth is produced entirely by the graduating students themselves, from conceptualisation to execution. The role of Organising Chairman fell on Melcas Lim from the Diploma in Architecture who was supported by about 20 fellow final year students. They spent the past six months sourcing for venues, securing sponsorships, designing booths and producing the graduation books, among other tasks.

“The most challenging aspect was people management. There were more than 100 projects to be exhibited and we had to ensure that each was properly edited and formatted to a consistent look and feel before we sent them for printing and then mounting them on the display boards. It was tough getting everyone to commit to deadlines. But overall, it was good exposure for us,” said Melcas, 20, who graduated with an impressive GPA of 3.967 and plans to pursue a degree in architecture in the United States or Europe after his national service.

Cheers to all of them. Birth is just the beginning to bigger things.
It was certainly the greatest show to date for graduating students from the School of Digital Media and Infocomm Technology, the digital natives of their generation.

The SP Convention Centre witnessed an exciting conglomerate of projects from the diplomas in digital media (now renamed Diploma in Interactive Media - DIXM), music and audio technology (Dmat), information technology (DIT), Business Information Technology (DBIT), and Infocomm Security Management (DISM). This was also the first time that the various projects were showcased together in one combined graduation show that was themed ‘SPECTRUM’.

The music was original yet polished. The animation was nothing short of amazing. The short films – you wouldn’t think they were done by 20-year-olds. The phone apps had great potential.

From a travel booking iPhone app to online games, projects by the information technology students showed that they have no lack of creative ideas and technical skills. They are now masters of the latest interactive media technology – whether it’s Adobe, Android, Cloud Computing, iOS, Dreamweaver, Java, Kinect, Photoshop, My SQL or XML. The clients that they developed projects for were no small fry either. Among them were Fullerton Hotel, Singapore Police Force, Nam Ho Travel Services, Singapore Tourism Board and the Singapore Land Authority.

Creativity showed in abundance too for those who have mastered 3D animation and computer generated effects. They would be the future creators of blockbuster movies. For another group, music was their first love. From heart-wrenching love songs to angst filled rock anthems, the students from the Diploma in Music and Audio Technology showcased their best works to an appreciative audience at Sonic Show, another highlight at this graduation event.

Camera. Lights. Action. Enter. The digital natives are all ready for the world!

For those who missed the graduation showcase, visit www.render.sg.
The Creative Writing Pioneers

The red carpet was rolled. Lights and cameras were on standby. There was no shortage of glamour at the DTVM Awards 2012 – the ceremony to honour the creative works of the pioneer batch of Diploma in Creative Writing for TV and New Media (DTVM) graduates.

They were all dressed to the nines. It could have been their graduation ball but the event was more important than just a party to end their three-year SP experience. It was a celebration of the best works they had produced and stained with blood (maybe), sweat (of course) and tears (most certainly that night!).

Altogether, six awards were given out to the deserving ones, each bringing home a bespoke Ah Huat bear that immortalised the moment of glory. The first and second year students had their moments of fame as well. While some were members of the show production crew, there were others who reaped their DTVM days with song, dance and skits that had the audience laughing in stitches!

Laughter became tears towards the end when the tributes rolled out for the course manager and lecturers. The usually-animated course manager Ms Gamar Binte Abdul Aziz was seen teary-eyed while Ms Stella Wee and Mr Esman Supaat looked equally heart-wrench! “This is a group of students who set the standard. As the pioneer batch, they joined the course after recognising that it had whatever they were looking for. In the three-year journey, both the lecturers and the students worked hand-in-hand to develop a unique experience. We started our own DTVM culture and we’re very proud of it,” said Ms Gamar after the show.

“My three years here were not just about taking lessons. It was a life journey for me. I’ve learnt so much about myself and I’m looking forward to chasing my dreams and to take on the world,” said graduating student Nicholas Tang. But carving his dream career will have to take a backseat for now as Nicholas has been offered a place at National University of Singapore’s Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences.

“After course mate Nadia Izarra summed up her feelings for DTVM: “Encoding in a brand new diploma is always risky. But with my amazing lecturers and fantastic course mates – it was a risk worth taking. My three years at DTVM was life-changing.”

With solid knowledge, skills and fantastic internship with renowned media companies such as Channel NewsAsia, Fox International, Asian Food Channel, HBO, Disney and Xtreme Productions, they are now ready to show off! The show has ended but another exciting journey has just started for the 46 pioneer DTVMers.

36 Grads, One Healthy Body

It you think our youth are ignorant about health and wellness, think again! The pioneer batch of graduates from the Diploma in Nutrition, Health and Wellness would be the first to correct this perception.

Take graduate Tan Ying Xin, for instance. When she read about the new diploma course called Nutrition, Health and Wellness, her instincts told her this is the one. Likewise for Song Shang Qian, the top graduate for this course who grew up on a strict diet and never ate a burger until he was in secondary school.

“The name itself tells me that DNHW offers a pretty holistic approach towards health promotion and education. It does not focus solely on nutrition, but also the overall wellbeing of an individual. I have always wanted to be in the healthcare sector, so this diploma stood out from the other nutrition-related diplomas offered by the other polytechnics. Of course there were uncertainties such as whether we could further our studies or work upon graduation. Looking back, I would say it was worth the risk. At the end of the day, I’m proud to call myself a DNHW graduate; pioneer batch okay!” recalls Ying Xin on her decision to choose the new course three years ago.

The graduating class of 36 had an enjoyable three years. All their nutrition-related modules came with practical sessions where they actually learned to cook meals! They experimented with all sorts of food, good and bad, and different cooking methods, healthy and otherwise. The learning approach here is that if you never try, you will never know.

One of the highlights of the course was the internship with health related companies and organisations such as the Centre for Enabled Living, Arcare Health, Gold Gym and Select Catering. Through these attachments, they were able to share and apply what they have learnt and contributed to enhancing the wellness standards in these companies. The feedback on their performance was nothing but good and encouraging.

If there was anyone who wished they did not graduate, it would be the Course Manager, Ms Toh Hui Kheng and her fellow lecturers who had developed strong bonds with this batch of students.

Show Piece

Show Piece
Shaping Potential

In the past, an engineer who wants to start a business might have to hire someone to handle the marketing and finance aspects of the business. Or he could earn himself a second qualification in business practices. Not anymore. From this year, there would be a new breed of business-savvy engineers.

Business-minded Engineers Ready To Go

The pioneer batch of Diploma in Engineering with Business (DEB) is graduating this year. The course was first introduced by SP in 2009 to meet the demand for engineers who are equipped with business knowledge. There were those who recognised the merits of this course right away.

Said Dexter Lee, one of the 80 students from the pioneer batch: “I wanted to get into this course so badly so I applied under the Direct Polytechnic Admission exercise. The main reason was my desire to be an entrepreneur. I believe the course would equip me with the necessary engineering knowledge and business fundamentals for me to succeed.”

Fellow graduate Zen Lee, however, was coaxed into taking this course: “To be honest, I wasn’t sure which diploma course to apply for. Some relatives and friends strongly suggested that I take up DEB since it’s the first diploma course in Singapore to offer engineering and business modules together. They were convinced that many employers would definitely hire engineering graduates with business knowledge. I made it my first choice in order to secure a place.”

Whatever the reason for taking DEB, the pioneer batch has performed very well. Several of them have secured places in local universities, and some have even clinched scholarships. Dexter, for example, is offered a place in Singapore University of Technology and Design (SUTD) but at the same time he is considering applying for business degree programmes in National University of Singapore and the Singapore Management University.

Zen has also accepted the offer to pursue a degree in Engineering Product Development at SUTD. His course mate, Thomas Ting, has made it to the Renaissance Engineering Programme at Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and with a scholarship too. Ong Yong Lin, the top graduate in the class, has been offered places at NTU and NUS but he is widening his options to consider getting a degree from a renowned American university with scholarship. With his perfect GPA, this should not be difficult.

Whether these guys decide to continue their studies or start work, they would have an upper hand with their knowledge of engineering and business. Dexter valued the module in Business Planning for New Ventures where he and his course mates brainstormed business ideas and learned stuff like business registration, cash-flow, marketing and promotion. Zen’s favourite is the Project Management Module which taught him the essentials to set up and maintain an engineering firm. He had to work out the required resources and flow chart before coming up with a business proposal with his project buddies.

Engineering or business, whichever way they go, they are all ready.

In the past, an engineer who wants to start a business might have to hire someone to handle the marketing and finance aspects of the business. Or he could earn himself a second qualification in business practices. Not anymore. From this year, there would be a new breed of business-savvy engineers.

A toast to the pioneer batch of engineering-business graduates.

Excellent Student Awards 2012

And the winners are ......
Star Performance

Performance Par Excellence

Visual Communication and Media Design student Anson Cheng was a student creative director who helped to drum up the creatives for SP Open House in 2011 and 2012. Nurzahidah Binte Mohamed Yusoff, a SP Scholar, found time to do social work and yet achieved a perfect GPA score for her Electrical and Electronic Engineering course.

Mechatronics student Teo Chun Meng played a leadership role in integrating international students into the SP environment. Goh Si Kai organised a sellout concert for the SP Jazz Band at the Esplanade but the work load did not stop him from scoring a perfect GPA for his Music and Audio Technology course.

Leonard Ong, a Diploma in Chemical Engineering student and national windsurfer, was named SP Sportsman of the Year for his big haul of medals in 2011. Nur Fazlin Bte Juma’en from the Diploma in Information Communication Technology, is a two-time winner of the SP Sportswoman of the Year who won gold medals at regional silat competitions. The SP Dragonboat team, needless to say, is the best in their category.

M.Eng candidate and winner of the President's Medal for Research Excellence, Francis Ng, a PhD student, managed a tight work schedule to still score a perfect GPA.

All of them, together with other exemplary SP students, were recognised for their outstanding achievements and contributions at the annual Excellent Student Awards 2012 Ceremony held on 9 March. Awards were given out in four main categories: Outstanding Class Leader Award; Outstanding Contributions Award; Sports Award and the Model Student Award.

At the award ceremony were proud parents and teachers from their alma mater, including Mr Sam Ko and his wife who are the parents of graduating student Cedric Ko from the Diploma in Civil Engineering and Management who received a Sports Honours Award for his achievements in Lifesaving. The link between child and parents goes beyond their blood ties. Cedric’s parents, now successful engineers in their own right, were also Civil Engineering graduates from SP. Not only that, their youngest son, Alex Ko, is currently a second year student taking the Civil Engineering with Business course.

SP Principal Mr Tan Hang Cheong presented the Model Student Awards 2012 with SP President SK Tan Hien-Chiang.

Matthew James, is a deserving winner of the Model Student Award. He amassed 22 distinctions and 12As over his three years at SP. Despite committing to academic excellence, he still made it a point to help the needy. He went on a youth expedition programme to China to refurbish a kindergarten and taught the kids oral hygiene and IT skills. Today, he volunteers at the Matta Home during his free time. He is thankful to his mother for her unwavering support towards his pursuits.

Our alumni have also chosen this occasion to give back to SP. Ng Tian Hwee, Mandric Tan and Reuben Raman, pioneer graduates from the Diploma in Music and Audio Technology (DMAT) course, contributed three scholarships worth $1,000 each. They did this to show their gratitude to SP for its unwavering support towards their business start-up, SoundFarm, which is now a successful music production house.

To the winners, the best is yet to be. We know you will go forth and scale greater heights.
Winners of Student Excellent Awards 2012

Model Student Award
- Amanda Yeo (Architecture)
- Anson Cheng Wan Tung (Visual Communication & Media Design)
- Goh Si Kai (Music & Audio Technology)
- Jessica Lee Meng Hui (Accountancy)
- Lim Shi Yan (Integrated Event & Project Management)
- Lim Wen Zhen (Aeronautical Engineering)
- Lov Zheng Hua (Mechanical Engineering)
- Matthew James (Chemical Engineering)
- Ng Zi Kai (Infocomm Security Management)
- Nurrahidah Bte Md Yusoff (Electronic Engineering)
- Ong Yong Lin (Engineering & Business)
- Peh Rui Xiang (Banking & Finance)
- Prem Rajeshkumar Badpaval (Computer Engineering)
- Primit Kay Khine (Electrical & Electronic Engineering)
- Song Shang Qian (Nutrition, Health & Wellness)
- Tan Pei Ling (Human Resource Management with Psychology)
- Tay Yan Tze (Creative Writing for TV & New Media)
- Teh Le Qi (Integrated Event & Project Management)

Sports Award
- Wang Jue (Information Communication)
- Wong Yan Ting (Media & Communication)
- Yeo Song Rong (Aeronautical Engineering)
- Zhang Junkai (Mechanical Engineering)
- Chen Jia Min (Biotechnology)
- Tan Pei Ling (Accountancy)
- Tan Pei Ling (Accountancy)
- Tan Pei Ling (Accountancy)
- Tan Pei Ling (Accountancy)

Sports Award
- Cham Dao Seong (Lifesaving)
- Goh Yi Hui (Tchoukball)
- Ho Puay Ling (Hockey)
- Khairil Bin Abdul Rashid (Tchoukball)
- Ceddie Ko Kai Jun (Lifesaving)
- Christopher Lee Jia Zhe (Taekwondo)
- Jerome Liew Xian Rui (Dragonboat)
- Ling Hsih Hwa (Dragonboat)
- Muhammad Amirul Asyraf Bin Abdul Aziz (Hockey)
- Muhammad Helmi Bin Mazlan (Rugby)
- Nadzirie Hyckell Bin Hamzah (Rowing)
- Eugene Ng Jian Ye (Wushu)
- Neo Quek Ping Yang (Tchoukball)
- Esmonde Tan Yongshi (Dragonboat)
- Toh Leong Chin (Tchoukball)

Sports Team of the Year
- SP Dragonboat Team
- Most Improved Team of the Year
- Touch Football
- Tchoukball (Men)

Sportsman of the Year
- Leonard Ong (Windsurfing)

Sportswomn of the Year
- Nur Fazlin Bte Jama’en (Siar)

Outstanding Contributions Award – Individual (Arts and Culture)
- Chia Run Jin (Stage Management)
- Emily Te Jia Qi (Daiko)
- Feng Wei Jia (Symphonic Band)
- Heng Qi Xiang (Community Service and Culture Club)
- Shannan Sim Wen Jie (Photography Club)

Outstanding Contributions Award – Individual (Community Service)
- Galen Lim (Community Service and Culture Club)

Outstanding Contributions Award – Individual (Sports Interest)
- Alfred Bay Wee Chin (Bowling Club)
- Daphne Pan Xian Hui (Sports Club)
- Lim Yi Yan (Goju Kai Karate Club)
- Ow Mun Yee (Taekwondo Club)

Outstanding Contributions Award (Group Category)
- Community Service and Cultural Club
- Current Affairs and Debating Club
- Cheerleading Club
- Chinese Orchestra
- Civil Defence Lionhearters Club
- Dance Club
- Environment Club
- Japanese Daiko Drummers
- Jazz Band
- Red Cross
- Stage Management Club
- Students’ Union
- Welfare Services Club
- Wushu Club

Outstanding Class Leader Award
- Jiang Shan (Civil Engineering and Management)
- Ong Jia Rong (Integrated Events and Project Management)
- Yang Shuchen (Integrated Events and Project Management)
- Shamsul Lee Tai Lin (Biotechnology)
- Chi Kok Pin (Information Technology)
- Chia Li Qing (Business Information Technology)
- Daing Muhammad Irfan Bin Mohammad Farhan (Aerospace Electronics)
- Koh Quanzhuan (Engineering with Business)
- Joanna Lock Hui Min (Mechatronics)
- Low Zheng Hua (Mechanical Engineering)
- Teo Chun Ming (Mechatronics)
- Aylward Lim Yi De (Business Administration)
- Melissa Mok Jie Ru (Accountancy)
- Muhammad Khairul Fadhli Bin Suandi (Maritime Transportation Management)

Outstanding Class Leader Award
- Chang Jia Hui (Community Service and Cultural Club)
- Kabincalan A/L R Parthiban (Ambassadorial Relations Corps – SPARC)
- Michael Kiong Jianyi (Community Service and Cultural Club)
- Leong Hai Kern (MAE Engineering Challenge and MAE Peer Study Group)
- Marissa Videography Club
- Ong Yan Shing (Community Service & Cultural Club)
- Ong Yi Wen (ISP Students’ Union)
- Patricia Teo Pei Yee (Catholic Students’ Society)
- Wang Chenwei (Ambassadorial Relations Corps – SPARC)

Outstanding Class Leader Award
- Kwok Cheong Lai (Sports Club)
- Lim Yi Yan (Goju Kai Karate Club)
- Ow Mun Yee (Taekwondo Club)

Outstanding Class Leader Award
- Vanessa Tay Hui Min (Symphonic Band)
- Madeleine Yeo See Ying (Photography Club)

Outstanding Class Leader Award
- Ting Xiao Qing (Community Service and Cultural Club)
- Sitthi Nabbale Binte Malek (BP Mentoring Club)
- Tong Xiao Qing (Community Service and Cultural Club)

Outstanding Class Leader Award
- The Amazing Angels (School of Architecture and the Built Environment)
- The Student Agency (ISD Design School)
Social Platforms

This gangly team of second-year Diploma in Media and Communication students took on journalism. Fantastically at a press conference organized by them to present their findings from a research study.

Social Media

Living and Breathing Social Media

Not too long ago, our second-year Diploma in Media and Communication (DMC) students were still in secondary schools preparing for their O’ levels. And what a change two years made! They had the knowledge, courage and confidence to organise an industry conference and pull off a press conference. It just goes to show that at SP, we prepare our youth to do real things.

While others of the same age were planning for their romantic night out the day before 14 February, a team of second-year DMC students huddled in a classroom to rehearse again and again for the big moment. There was no time to think of romance. All that was in their heads were just two words – social media.

Come Valentine’s Day, they had to face the media at a press conference to present their key findings of a research study titled The Impact of Citizen Journalism on Youth. From being clueless three months earlier, they picked up layer after layer of confidence as time went by. When the time came, there was no more fear as they shot from their hips all that they had mastered to a roomful of journalists that came from the bigwigs like The Straits Times, Channel News Asia and Lianhe Zaobao.

The research study was conducted with 801 youths aged between 15 to 35 years old at high traffic areas like shopping malls and bus interchanges. The aim of the study was to find out how citizen journalism has impacted the attitudes, behaviours and perceptions of Singapore youth.

Says team member Adele Ong, 18: “There were a lot of ups and downs throughout the whole thing but at the same time, there was really great team work. I was one of the members that had to field journalists’ questions and this was nerve-wracking as I had to think on my feet. But all of us pulled off our roles, I would say, spectacularly. For me, I came out of this experience greatly enriched and learned how to stay calm under pressure, on top of everything else that we learnt, such as organising surveys and collating the results.”

The press conference was held on the second day of the SP Media and Communication Conference 2012, an annual event organised by 112 second-year DMC students. The Conference was a critical component in their curriculum as they were tasked to apply what they have learnt by organising a real, large-scale conference entirely on their own. Their tasks include deciding on a conference theme, sourcing for credible industry speakers, securing sponsors, inviting participants, designing and producing marketing communication collaterals and co-ordinating the logistics involved.

The conference was themed Click to Connect and the organising committee successfully secured impressive speakers from new media giants like BlackBerry, Dell, Nokia and Starcom Mediavest Group. The audience at the five-day event comprised more than 500 new media practitioners and secondary school students. The latter group also participated in workshops that taught them how to organise events using new media platforms.

Daniel Chai, 18, now a third year DMC student, spoke of the real world when he recalled his experience: “There were frustrations and sometimes tempers were a little short. The team was big and all of us had different ideas. But we all worked towards a common goal which was to make the conference a big success. And it was! It taught me that hard work pays off. The whole thing gave me an experience that is more than a classroom and made me more resolve to join a public relations agency when I graduate.”

This gangly team of second-year Diploma in Media and Communication students took on journalism. Fantastically at a press conference organized by them to present their findings from a research study.

Here are some of the survey findings by the DMC students on Singaporean youth’s attitude towards citizen journalism and social media habits.
LONDON’S CALLING
THE EXHIBITION

We are an army of student designers, fresh back from our recent foreign endeavour: London.

To honour our English adventure, the peeps of TSA have brought together our little pride; London’s Calling - The Exhibition (LCE). A total of 10 exhibits were showcased at *Scapes The Gallery. Due to overwhelming response, the exhibition was extended to *Scapes Atrium, and Bishan Community Centre for its Arts and Culture Day.

WHEN
24 Feb - 29 Feb
29 Feb - 7 Mar
31 Mar

WHERE
*Scapes The Gallery
*Scapes Atrium
Bishan Community Centre
( Arts & Culture Day)

A JAM-PACKED LAUNCH NIGHT
Opening with a full-blown launch night complete with live Biz music and fish & chips, LCE was graced by many goodfellas from the creative industry. Principal Mr Tan Hang Cheong; Deputy Principals; Directors, lecturers and students from Singapore Polytechnic; our fun-loving sponsors from Lee Cooper and of course, the alumni and colleagues of our beloved TSA.

“Building an art piece gives you the kind of fulfillment you don’t get doing graphic design, it’s much more tangible and I love it.”
Foo Kai Ling, Exhibitor

“I’m marking this experience as a milestone to remember.”
Koh Jia Ling, Exhibitor

THE EXHIBITS
The night was fabulous to say the least, with each of the exhibits bringing a distinct experience to the table. From illustration to videography, the exhibition was designed to bring a diverse and sprawling visual, and sensual experience.

All this would not have been possible without the guidance of our inspiring lecturers Asher and Sarah, the TSA alumni, the creative dynamics Justin Tan and Aaron Cheng, and Syanri our superb copywriter.

LONDON’S CALLING - THE PUBLICATION
If you dropped by, you might have seen this fancy publication, an illustrated guide to experiencing LCE, with contributions from the alumni of TSA. Get your hands on it soon. This publication will be released in partnership with BooksActually, soon to be available at major bookstores.

“I can’t use words to describe how I feel about LCE, but I don’t think I’ll be given such an awesome opportunity again.”
Chloe Ong, Exhibitor
Come 2014, a new building will sit majestically on the space opposite The Moberly. This will be the Singapore Institute of Technology (SIT) building at SP which will house the degree programmes offered by SIT’s overseas university partners. SIT will have a building in each of the five polytechnics, which were unveiled by Mr Lawrence Wong, Minister of State for Education, at a ceremony held at the Arts House last month.

At the ceremony, invited guests and the media were wowed by a 3D rendition of a virtual fly-through of the new SIT campus buildings. This was developed by a team of SP students, together with staff from the SME Infocomm Resource Centre (SIRC) and the Games Resource Centre (GRC).*

The SIT building at SP, designed by the award-winning local firm DP Architects, is the biggest among the five polytechnics, which were unveiled by Mr Lawrence Wong, Minister of State for Education, at a ceremony held at the Arts House last month.

At the ceremony, invited guests and the media were wowed by a 3D rendition of a virtual fly-through of the new SIT campus buildings. This was developed by a team of SP students, together with staff from the SME Infocomm Resource Centre (SIRC) and the Games Resource Centre (GRC).*

The distinctive designs for each of the SIT buildings include a main atrium that features the SIT colours and student-centric social spaces such as activity decks and spacious courtyards. In keeping with SIT’s practice-oriented and industry-focused pedagogy, space will also be allocated to house facilities for degree programmes that are more hands-on. For example, animation studios will be featured in the building at SP which will offer digital media related degree programmes from Digipen.

SIT aims to secure the Green Mark Platinum for its buildings. This would blend in well with the various green and sustainable initiatives that SP has rolled out.

DIGIPEN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science in Real-Time Interactive Simulation
- Bachelor of Science in Game Design
- Bachelor of Fine Arts in Digital Art and Animation
- Bachelor of Arts in Game Design

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW
- Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Aeronautical Engineering
- Bachelor of Engineering with Honours in Aerospace Systems

TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITAT MUNCHEN (TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF MUNICH)
- Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering
- Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and Information Technology

Established in 2009, SIT will offer degree programmes primarily for polytechnic graduates in partnership with reputable overseas universities. By 2015, it would be able to take in at least 2,000 full-time students each year.

* You can view the 3D rendition at youtube/8vlMkAzrET4
Snap Properly

Tap and Snap!

1. **Instagram**
   - This is probably now the hottest and incredibly awesome photography application that most students have on their iPhones. It allows you to take a photo, apply special and customised photo filters and share it instantaneously on social networking services including Instagram's very own sharing platform, instagr.am. After much anticipation, Instagram for Android was finally launched in April and it has garnered many positive response from users.

2. **Camera360 Ultimate**
   - In Camera360, you get to select the effects that you want to apply to your photo before you start taking it. This is different from other similar apps where you apply the effects post-factum on the photo. The effects and features include Colourful Sketch, Magic-Colours and a Real Time Preview of those effects that you are applying.

3. **Pixlr-o-matic**
   - This fun and simple darkroom app makes it a breeze for you to add an effect, overlay and border to get that retro, grunge, clean or stylish look. All in just three simple steps. Similar to Camera360, it allows you to have real time preview of the filter that you are using. Leafing through the options could be a little time consuming, so it would be great if there is an option for us to save our selections as presets. Let’s hope for this when they next upgrade the app.

4. **Lightbox**
   - This is one of the popular apps using Android platforms. It allows you to apply effects to your photos to make them beautiful or to create a retro camera look and share with them on various social media platforms. The photos could be automatically uploaded to Lightbox.com as a personalised photo blog. You can view my Lightbox on http://yeoterence.lightbox.com.

5. **ImageChef**
   - ImageChef lets you add all the fun things to your photos. You can add your photos to a billboard, a wanted poster or a picture frame. You just need to pick a photo for a chosen application, swipe your fingers and you will see the photo being applied to various templates. Best of all, you don’t even need network connection.

6. **美图秀秀 (Meitu Xiuxiu)**
   - This is the most popular photo app in Taiwan and was named Best Product in App Store in 2011. It has all the usual applications such as adding effects to photos or putting multiple photos into a frame. What set this apart from the rest are the amazing functions such as skin recognition feature that could whiten or darkens your complexion! It also has Lomo camera effects to give your photos a studio make-over look.

7. **Adobe Photoshop Express**
   - With hundreds or perhaps thousands of photos in your smartphone, you can start a hobby editing them. Adobe Photoshop Express is just the right tool to do this. Photoshop Express is a companion of Photoshop.com, the online photo sharing and editing platform that allows you to store 2GB of photos and videos online. You can view my works on http://yeoterence.photoshop.com.

Mobile phones are no longer used for just making calls and sending SMS. The smartphone revolution has turned the mobile phone into an indispensable lifestyle tool. Waiting for the bus? Check the app. Want music? Tap iTunes. Bored? Play Angry Birds. You don’t need a watch; your phone has World Time. We are Facebook-ing and Tweeting on our phones. Every day, we are happily snapping pictures using our smartphones. There are more phone apps than you think you know. And we don’t just snap, we style our photos too! What’s your favourite?

By Terence Yeo, graduating student from the Diploma in Banking and Financial Services
New On The Board

Bill Chang

A new Board of Governors (BOG) for SP was appointed on 1 April 2012. The outgoing Chairman, Mr Tan Kay Yong, having dedicated 12 years of distinguished service, has retired on 31 March 2012. The incoming Chairman Mr Chang is also an SP alumnus. He has been serving as the Board’s Deputy Chairman since 2009, six years after he joined the Board in 2003. After graduating with a Diploma in Electrical Engineering in 1986, Mr Chang went on to obtain a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours in Electrical and Computer Systems Engineering) from Monash University, Australia, in 1999. Mr Chang is armed with many years of experience in the Info-Communication Technology (ICT) industry and is recognized for his strong leadership, corporate achievements and key contributions to the ICT industry and involvement in the community. He has been working with SingTel since 2003 as the Executive Vice President of Business Group. Prior to that, he was the Managing Director of Advanced Services Group, Asia Pacific Operations at Cisco Systems (USA). Mr Chang also served on the Board of Workforce Development Authority for six years until 2011. For his contributions to Singapore’s workforce development, Mr Chang was conferred the National Day Public Service Medal Award in 2007.

Six new members have also been appointed to the Board, four of whom are also SP alumni. The four are Mr Chia Boon Kuah, Chief Operating Officer and Executive Director (Property Sales Business Group), Far East Organisation; Mr Goh Teik Poh, President, Group), Far East Organisation; Ms Chong Phit Lian, Chief Executive Intelligence Department, Singapore Police Force; Mr Allan Yeo Hwee Tiong, Group), APL Co Pte Ltd. The two other new members are Ms Amanda Chen, Managing Director, Business Group, Singapore Police Force; Mr Chang was conferred the National Day Public Service Medal Award in 2007.

Total Defence At SP

Army personnel, tanks and big guns landed at SP on 15 February. There was no war or emergencies but they were there to engage, no less. It was Total Defence Day (TD Day) and SP was selected as one of the four educational institutions to convey the message “Total Defence: It’s My Turn”.

This was the first TD Day event jointly organised under the SAF-School Partnership Programmes. The Singapore Armed Forces put up weapon displays and interactive activities at elevated to engage visitors which include, SP staff and students, secondary school students and residents from nearby constituencies.

Popular TV personality Chua En Lai from “The Noose” lent his presence to engage visitors with quizzes to convey the TD message.

TD Day takes place on 15 February every year, the day Singapore fell to the Japanese during World War II in 1942. This is to remind Singaporeans that everyone has a part to play in defending our country.

Anti-drug Campaigners

The School of Architecture and The Built Environment (ABE) is proud to receive the National Council against Drug Abuse Award (NCADA) for its contributions to the anti-drug cause. The award is given out to individuals and organisations who have contributed significantly to the anti-drug cause through collaborations with NCADA and the Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB).

The contributions came mainly from the ABE students who did an exceptional job working with CNB last year to conceptualise and organise the Anti-Drug Abuse Campaign (ADAC) and Sportszmania, an anti-drug carnival held at Toa Payoh Hub. As part of the ADAC project, a group of students from the Diploma in Integrated Events and Project Management (DEPM) produced a new memorabilia that was distributed to 600,000 students in Singapore. They also conducted online anti-drug abuse awareness activities. Another group of students organised Sportszmania to encourage youths and the general public to lead a healthy and drug-free lifestyle through participation in wholesome sports.

This year, ABE will continue to collaborate with CNB on ADAC 2012 as well as other anti-drug events.
More Internship Places For SP Students At Pratt & Whitney

The world’s renowned aircraft engine manufacturer will propel SP students to greater heights. In a new five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by SP and Pratt & Whitney, more students will be trained at the engine maker’s Customer Training Centre in Beijing, China. At least 300 aeronautical students will benefit from this partnership. The new MoU is an extension of an earlier agreement signed in 2010 where more than 150 were trained at the Centre. This time round, at least 300 Diplomas in Aeronautical Engineering (DARE) students will be trained right through to the Honours in Aeronautical Engineering (ESEA) programme.

“With our strong in-house engineering design and development team of over 400 engineers and experts in developing unmanned air systems, ST Aerospace is looking forward to working closely with Singapore Polytechnic to nurture talent specifically in the UAV area,” said Mr Chang Cheow Teck, President of ST Aerospace.

“The MoU signed with SP’s School of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering and RP’s School of Engineering empowers not only internship programmes but also the provision of training materials in the area of rotary aircraft education for teaching staff and students. With the newly established base at Singapore Aerospace Park, ESEA’s expanded facilities and capabilities will be able to provide interactive, quality hands-on training at its high-tech facility for students in aerospace-related courses. “This partnership will prepare our aeronautical engineering students for the future as they receive world class training and the best hands-on experience. I am confident that they will be well sought after and highly valued by the industry when they graduate,” said Mr Lim Peng Hun, SP’s Deputy Principal for Engineering Cluster.

The University of Glasgow was founded in 1451 (that is an awesome 561-year history!) and is among the top one per cent of the world’s universities. It has been delivering world-class engineering education for more than 160 years. PR’s Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering (DARE) and Aerospace Electronics (DASE) have always been the most popular engineering programmes that attract ‘A’ level students with outstanding results every year. The world’s renowned aircraft engine manufacturer will propel SP students to greater heights. In a new five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by SP and Pratt & Whitney, more students will benefit from this partnership. The new MoU is an extension of an earlier agreement signed in 2010 where more than 150 were trained at the Centre. This time round, at least 300 Diplomas in Aeronautical Engineering (DARE) students will be trained right through to the Honours in Aeronautical Engineering (ESEA) programme.

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A Good Deal from Home Team

Now graduating SP students from various diploma courses were among 37 polytechnic students who were recently awarded the HOME Merit Award and the HOME Study Award. Recipients of the Merit Award will receive a lump sum payment of $15,000 while the Study Award recipients get $10,000. Upon their graduation, all Home Awards recipients will have a choice of pursuing a career with either the Home Affairs Uniformed Services or the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority. After two years of service, they can choose to further their studies at a university with sponsorship from the Home Award. They will also receive payment of tuition and compulsory fees during their poly studies plus a study honor of $1,200 per semester if all modules are passed. More information on the Home Team Awards available at www.mha.gov.sg.

Congratulations to the following who receive the Awards in 2012.

Home Merit Award:
Ali-Mattu Ra‘if Bin Jefri and Louis Tan (Property Development and Facilities Management); Chong Kai Wen (Biomedical Sciences); Roys Chen (Architecture); Mohd Aswand bin Ismail (Aerospace Electronics); Junpeng (Aerospace Electronics); Wendy Yeo Wen Di (Civil Engineering and Management).

Home Study Award:
Ang Jun Kee (Business Information Technology); Ao Yeong Chia Woea (Information Communication Technology); Hong Li Yang (Property Development and Facilities Management); Ng Yi Wei (Electrical & Electronic Engineering); Wendy Yeo Wen Di (Civil Engineering and Management).

A*STAR scholar and SP graduate Dr Jonathan Loh Yuin Han has been named one of the two winners of the inaugural TR35 Asia Pacific award organized by Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s Technology Review Singapore Award. Organised by Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), TR35 is one of the two winners of the inaugural TR35 Asia Pacific award organized by Massachusetts Institute of Technology’s Technology Review Singapore Award. Organised by Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), TR35 is the second highest group among the foreign students taking part in adventure races and orienteering among the top five out of more than 40 universities such as Harvard, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stanford and Yale. His heartiest congratulations to you, Dr Loh!

Dr Loh, who graduated from SP with a Diploma in Biotechnology (DBA) in 1997, is now a Principal Investigator at the Institute of Medical Biology (IMB). He was awarded the second highest group among the foreign students taking part in adventure races and orienteering among the top five out of more than 40 universities such as Harvard, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Stanford and Yale. His heartiest congratulations to you, Dr Loh!

Life Science Alumnus Wins Top Award

Thirty one SP graduates who are now pursuing undergraduate degree courses at the University of Queensland (UQ) in Australia were accorded the distinguished honour of a Dean’s Commendation for High Achievement for the Second Semester in 2011. According to UQ, among all the polytechnic graduates enrolled in UQ, SP has the highest number with outstanding performance at the university. Oliver Xu, who is pursuing a Bachelor of Communication, is one of them. The Diploma in Business Administration (DBA) graduate said he is enjoying his studies at UQ as the course offers him insights into the communication industry and understanding of the dynamics between communication professionals, the media and society as a whole. Whilst in Australia, the outdoor lover has also taken part in adventure races and orienteering competitions, including the Gold Coast Marathon.

Founded in 1911, UQ is currently ranked among the top five out of more than 40 Australian universities. Singaporeans formed the second highest group among the foreign student population there after China.

Thank You For The Beautiful Campus

If you are staying behind after classes because you enjoy the facilities, say thanks to the team of 10 Diploma in Architecture (DARCH) graduates from the class of 2009. They were the creative brains behind many of the rejuvenation works that gave SP a lively and vibrant campus environment. Their works include the bright and airy connectors, vertical greening and more than 2,000 additional seats around the campus. Team member Riberd, who is now studying architecture at NUS, said it was a great challenge to them because they had to design something that is both functional and yet cost-effective. To him, the experience was really the real world coming into play.

SP honoured the team with a plaque engraved with their names on it and hopes it would inspire students to come up with inspirational ideas that can breathe life to the campus surroundings. New teams have been commissioned to come up with ideas for upcoming rejuvenation plans. Director for the School of Architecture and the Built Environment, Mr Tan Yew Meng, said that from this new semester, all new DARCH students will get to experience how an actual architect works.
Big Win At Green Competition

SP students put up a spectacular show at the annual Green Wave Environmental Care Competition by clinching seven out of 12 awards in the Tertiary category! SP teams clinched the 2nd Prize, 3rd Prize, all three Merit Awards and two Commendation Awards. There was no winner in the 1st prize category. Organised by Sembawang Shipyard, the competition encourages youth to develop innovative green solutions to solve environmental issues and challenges. This year, it achieved a record number of 1,429 participants, 401 project entries and 79 schools - the highest since its launch in 2003.

The project Water Wheel of Energy won the 2nd Prize of $6,000. It was developed by Diplopa in Property Development and Facilities Management (now renamed Hotel and Leisure Facilities Management - DHLFM) students Larry Loi Hoi Fatt, Nakajima Yamato and Luc Zhao Yang, and Diploma in Civil Engineering and Business (DCEB) students Victoria Sek Jia Yee and Wendy Yeo Wen Di. They applied basic engineering principles to salvage and promote the conservation of energy. It involves harvesting energy from rainwater and turning it into a useful source of energy.

The 3rd Prize Award of $4,000 went to the project Scum “Extractornator” for GOLD Dynamic Test of Materials at High Strain Rate. Both teams on Surface Acoustic (SAW) Technology; and Test Rig for Electronic Engineering (DEEE) won Merit Prizes at the competition. The winning teams received their Merit Award Certificates and prize money from the Minister of State for Trade and Industry Mr Lu Yi Yi at the award presentation ceremony.

Easy-to-hang Ideas

Student from the School of Architecture and The Built Environment (ABE) and School of Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) won Merit Prizes at the Cool Ideas for Better HDB Living Student Competition. They had to develop creative ways that will make clothes drying less of a hassle yet safe. They competed with participants who came from very diverse background such as working professionals, engineers, university students and other tertiary students.

The winning ideas came from Diploma in Environmental Management and Water Technology (DEEE) students Brenda Ong Ghiek Choon who designed a Swing and Go System, and Diploma in Civil Engineering and Management (DCEM) students Soh Chee Yee and Lu Qing Feng who jointly developed the Hinge Lever Pole Holder. Electrical and Electronic Engineering (DEEE) students Yap Kai Yong, Tan Say Yee Derrick, Chua Wei Koo, Soh Xiao Qi, Fizhaliyemprent Augustine and Gan Shao Feng were awarded for their project Easy Laundry Poles which also won the People’s Choice Awards.

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Next-gen Police Post

Two SP teams of SP students from the Diploma in Architecture (DARCH) were among the last five standing in the Neighbourhood Police Post of the Future design competition. They fought for top placing with teams from Nanyang Technological University, Singapore Management University and Republic Polytechnic. Although the SP Teams did not clinch the top prize which eventually went jointly to NTU and SMU, they deserved special commendation for their creative innovations.

The competition was organised by the Singapore Police Force to tap the young minds of tertiary students for creative and innovative ideas. Videos explaining the students’ designs which include the use of videoconferencing, automated drop-boxes for lost and found items, and self-service kiosks, were put on Facebook for online voting. Eventually, the judges picked the top five teams which included two SP teams, Axis and Flexwall.

Team Axis’ concept was a futuristic Police Post that is easily accessible because all services and facilities are integrated in a central area visible from all angles. The creators were Mandy Wong, Adeline Poon, Goh Wei Ping, Donny Tang, Brenda Tan and Dhakshini K. Kannan.

Flexwall’s design centred on flexibility and simplicity where movable wall panels could be re-configured to create space for different functions. This was designed by Melcas Lim, Faith Tan, Ho Fuk Kim, Albert Tan, Jehan Sasah, Mohd Hakeel and Sam Mak.
SPOT At Harvard

Nicholas Tei, now a final year Diploma in International Business (DIB) student, secured a spot in Harvard earlier this year. Not for the university’s undergraduate programme though. He was there as a member of the SP Team attending the Harvard Model United Nations Conference (HUMUNC).

Every year, undergraduates from all around the world would gather at Harvard or Princeton universities to simulate an actual United Nations conference where they would act as delegations and represent countries or organisations. They would debate and write resolutions to tackle issues plaguing the world today. Students from the SP Outstanding Talent (SPOT) programme are selected through an interview process for this very special experience: SP is the only polytechnic that sends students to this Conference.

Nicholas represented a non-governmental organisation, Transparency International. His main task was to persuade member countries to accept certain policies drafted by other member nations and offer the support and expertise of his organisation.

He described his experience: “I learned to be more diplomatic in the way I act and react to things. I realised in order to achieve the best solutions to the issues we debated on, I had to work with others, understand what the other party wanted and then make compromises while upholding my organisation’s fundamental missions and beliefs.”

What he also enjoyed throughout the trip was the bonding with his SPOT mates. They kept a lookout for one another, explored Boston and had meals together. They visited historic sites like Quincy Market, the Harvard Museum of Natural History, the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and, of course, Harvard University itself where they met up with SP alumni, Kuraikan, for dinner where he shared his experiences at the world class university.

“I found the phrase ‘going through thick and thin’ more meaningful than ever during this trip. The deep friendships forged added value to the entire experience. If I had to sum up the trip in one word, it would be ‘enriching.’ Lessons were not only learnt in the conference, but also from our preparations and the day-to-day activities in Boston. Tough as it was, it is a trip that I would never forget,” said Nicholas with all fondness for the experience.

Marketing Test

SP Business School’s Diploma in Business Administration (DBA) students taking the Marketing Management Option formed teams to pitch their marketing skills at the AirAsia Marketing Plan Competition 2012. The competition was organised to provide students with an authentic marketing experience in the corporate world. The challenge posed to them was to develop a $1 million marketing plan that would position AirAsia as the preferred airline for Singaporean travellers.

The stakes were high in this Competition as AirAsia generously sponsored $1,000 worth of AirAsia vouchers as prizes to the winning teams. The champion team also gets to visit the AirAsia Training Centre in Kuala Lumpur. The battle was toughly fought across five marketing classes and sixteen teams. Eventually, four teams emerged as finalists and they delivered their marketing plans to the judges.

The champion team walked away with $1,500 AirAsia vouchers, followed by the 1st, 2nd and 3rd runners-up that won $1,200, $1,000 and $800 vouchers respectively. A $500 voucher was also awarded to the team with the best marketing idea for AirAsia.

The team with the best marketing idea for AirAsia: (from left) Tan Wei Ling, AirAsia staff Joey Tan and Shahidah, Joachim Peh, Marcus Yong and Vinoth Ilangovan.

Start With The Bazaar

SP budding entrepreneurs once again showcased their business skills at the Entrepreneurship Bazaar organised by SP Business School. The annual event attracted hundreds of participants from not just the SP Business School students but also secondary school students from Outram Secondary and Fairfield Methodist Secondary.

The bazaar is a fine example of the SP authentic learning journey. For the current batch of business students taking the entrepreneurship option, they applied what they have learnt from selling skills to product sourcing to logistics management. The products sold at the bazaar ranged from apparel to food and even movie tickets. Each team had to pay rental for the space, buy their merchandise and sell them for a profit. Therefore, they would need to map out sales strategies to make sure they could rake in profits.

Director of SP Business School, Dr Timothy Chan, said he hopes to train students to develop the mind of an entrepreneur while they are still young. “It’s about giving them the right tools, taking risks and looking at customers’ needs from a different perspective,” he said.

The Bazaar continued its tradition of being a part of the SP annual event ‘Sparking Young Innovators With The Heart’ that proceeds to The Straits Times Pocket Money Fund. Mr Kenneth Wong, SP Business School’s lecturer-in-charge of the Bazaar, said: “We identified this charity because our students find much relevance and meaning in helping needy students around their age.”

Besides the bazaar, SP business students also have the opportunity to practice their entrepreneurship skills at SPELL, a retail living lab at Changi Airport Terminal 1 which is run entirely by them. In just three months, the shop hit a turnover of over $100,000. This is how real our students get to practise business.

Young Innovators With A Heart

Our final-year engineering students are trained to put more empathy in practice when they developed their projects. Without putting themselves in the shoes of the old folks, they would not have innovated things like the Portable Automated Toilet Seat, Intelligent Limbs Exercise Machine and the Portable Detection Therapy System. These were among 14 projects that were recently donated by SP to hospitals and homes at this year’s SP Care Projects Handover Ceremony.

The portable toilet seat gained much media attention at the ceremony. For many senior citizens, going to the bathroom could be a nasty experience if they slip and fall. For this purpose, this special seat can lift anyone weighing up to 200kg from the toilet seat with just the press of a button. Kudos to the Mechanical Engineering (DME) students who developed this: Desmond Koh, Mauritz Khoo and Dexter Yeo. Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE) students Jienar Bin Sorrela, Mohd Noor Bin Rashid, Mohd Furad Bin Mohd Hajer and Mohd Shilqi Bin Ismail designed the Intelligent Limbs Exercise Machine where users can listen to songs or watch videos while exercising.

Organised in collaboration with St Andrew’s Community Hospital, the annual event challenges engineering students to invent products that would help patients who are less mobile. Among this year’s recipients of these projects are the St Andrew’s Community Hospital, St Luke’s Hospital, All Saints Home, Boham Home, Aspir Hospice and HCA Hospice Care.

From left: Mohd Shilqi Bin Ismail, Jienar Bin Sorrela, Mohd Noor Bin Rashid and Mohd Furad Bin Mohd Hajer. The Portable Automated Toilet Seat is developed by the Mechanical Engineering (DME) students.
SP Gusto Cheerleading Team has not only defended its local championship at the Singapore National Cheerleading Championship 2012 but also made headway in the international arena. After its consecutive win at the local scene, five Gusto members were selected to be part of Team Lions that competed at the recent Cheerleading Asia International Open Championships in Tokyo. Leading the team was SP fresh graduate Sen Poh Kang who was joined by fellow graduates Clement Lim Jun Xian, Ong Wei Han, Ainslie Kua Jie Ling and third-year student Vinnie Lee Xiao Wen. Together with members from National University of Singapore, Republic Polytechnic and Ngee Ann Polytechnic, the 17-strong Team Lions won three medals in a hotly contested international team category with strong opponents from Japan, Thailand and Taiwan. They came in first for Group Stunts (Poh Kang, Clement and Ainslie were involved); second in Partner Stunts (Wei Han and Vinnie were involved) and emerged Second Overall. Look out for an interview with Sen Kang and his team in the next issue of SPirit.

When it comes to the crunch, they are no softies. The SP Men’s Softball Team beat its opponents Raffles Institution 6-5 to win the SBSA Kallang Softball Open competition. This is the first time that the team clinched the top position in this sport, thanks to the dedication and perseverance of the team members over the past year. They were in second placing last year. The team had earlier beaten the NTU team 3-0 before meeting RI in the finals. The SP Women’s Team came in 6th position and was the best showing among the polytechnic teams.

Habib Muhammed, a graduating Diploma in Biotechnology (DBt) student, decided to take a last leap before his graduation. Together with 19 SP students and two staff, they scaled the Annapurna base camp in Nepal which is about 4,000 metres above sea level. Organised under the LEAP Advanced programme, a leadership training initiative, the 14-day trip was a strong test of endurance and faith for the group. They had to bear with the chilly weather that sometimes went under freezing point and survived on rice with beans and potatoes most of the days. All pains were forgotten when they reached the base camp and planted the SP flag. You won again, Team SP!

Meanwhile, another group of students, scaled another mountain peak for an icy view. The team of 16, including four girls, scaled Uhuru Peak in Tanzania, Africa. This is the highest summit on Mount Kilimanjaro at almost 6,000 metres above sea level. The group landed in Kilimanjaro after an arduous 15-hour flight from Singapore – Qatar to Dar Es Salaam – Kilimanjaro – excluding more than 12 hours of transit time said Alan Lee, an officer from the Department of Student Development who led the trip with colleague KeeKwong Soong. “This trip is also organised under the LEAP Advanced programme. Climbing a mountain is a metaphor for the challenges that the students might face. It’s all about building resilience through team work.”
Intelligent Light On Show

An innovative and green invention that has the potential to save $38 million if implemented across all Singapore lighting systems was exhibited at the annual Ministry of Education Excel Fest 2012. Held at Suntec City, the event gave opportunities for all educational institutions to showcase their unique learning tools and innovation ideas.

Lead researcher for the Intelligent Lighting System, Mr Hui Wing Hong, showcased the invention at the Fest. On site were three Diploma in Electrical and Electronic (EEE) students who explained the unique features of this green innovation to visitors. Eventually, SP plans to bring this innovation to as many secondary schools as possible with the intention of spreading the green message while helping them save on electricity bills.

Made-in-Singapore Robots

Robot enthusiasts met their match at the annual RoboCup Singapore Open held recently at the Science Centre. Organised by SP and Science Centre, the participants competed in four main categories: RoboCupJunior Dance Challenge, RoboCupJunior CoSpace Challenge, RoboCupJunior Rescue Challenge and RoboCupJunior Soccer Challenge. The winners from each category stand a chance to represent Singapore at the international meet, RoboCup 2012, to be held in June in Mexico City. The full results can be viewed at www.robocupsingapore.org.

SP and Science Centre Singapore jointly launched the Young Engineer Award (YEA) to boost interest in science and engineering amongst secondary school students through real-world phenomena and creations. There will be three categories of award – Gold, Silver and Bronze.

To qualify for the Bronze Award, students need to take a short online test to assess their grasp of secondary school science among other general questions. They are then eligible to qualify for the Silver Award which involves a series of workshops and hands-on assignments. The best students from the Silver Award will be invited to participate in the Gold Award category and the eventual winners will stand a chance to be shortlisted for SP Scholarships and become part of the SP Outstanding Talent (SPOT) programme when they join SP after their ‘O’ levels.

In date, 267 students were awarded the Bronze Award. Associate Professor Lim Tit Meng, Chief Executive of Science Centre Singapore believes that this meaningful award programme will engage interest, encourage self-discovery and enrich the knowledge and skill sets of our youth. The award programme will also be a stepping stone for them to carve out a rewarding career in science and engineering.

Secondary school students with an interest to participate in the YEA can apply through their schools.

Come Meet Nila

Beatrice Cho, a second-year student from the Diploma in Visual Communication and Media Design (DVCMD) came up with the winning mascot design for the Singapore National Games. Nila, her mascot, also garnered more than 70% (1,028 of 1,417) of the online voting when the the shortlisted designs were opened for public voting.

Besides getting a cash prize of $1,000, Beatrice will also get an internship with Publicis Singapore, an international advertising and communications company.

“I’m very delighted that Nila will be the mascot for the inaugural Singapore National Games! It has been a very good experience and will definitely boost my portfolio. I’m also looking forward to the internship so that I can learn more from the professionals.”

The Singapore National Games 2012 is a biennial sports festival to showcase our sporting talents. The new initiative in Singapore’s sports calendar will offer something for everyone, participants, spectators and supporters. They can choose to compete, cheer or volunteer.

Rail Ideas

Ideas developed by SP students to give a new life to the railway corridor could become a reality in future. At the Innovation Competition organised by the Urban Redevelopment Authority, a team of eight final year students from the Diplomas in Architecture and Landscape Architecture - Heng Cheng Sin, Lee Hui Tong, Liu Jiahui, Li Yuan Yuan, Zhou Yake, Ng Haley Harrison, Wyn Lim Jia Ying and Muhammad Huzairah Bin Mohd Aryan - won the joint first prize in the Open Category with their chosen focus on Biodiversity and Sensitive Development. They were among the 18 winning entries from more than 200 submissions that came from architects, landscape architects and tertiary students. There were even submissions from countries like Australia, Denmark and United Kingdom.

The judges commended their entry, titled Bio Trail, for their “strong and environmentally friendly response to the challenge with visually attractive interventions that give visitors special attention to different perspectives of appreciating the natural world that surrounds them. The proposal scores highly for its innovative use of architecturally compatible forms that sit well in the environment.”

Their winning ideas were unveiled at the launch of the “Journey of Possibilities” exhibition which ran for six weeks at URA Centre.
Big Winnings For Alvin

It was barely a year ago when Alvin Lee graduated from the Diploma in Digital Media course but this SP graduate has scored big time in the fields of film-making and photography. First was the win at the Very Short International Film Festival (VSIFF) Singapore 2012 where his work Timeline clinched the Grand Prix Award and bagged in $1,400 cash as prize money! Read this – at the VSIFF International, his film bagged the 4th prize and was the only Asian entry and banked in $1,000 cash as prize money! Read this – at the VSIFF Singapore where his work Timeline clinched the Grand Prix Award 2012 where he was named one of the top eight winners. This time round, he won a Canon DSLR camera and an all-expense paid photography boot camp training in Bali. Look out for an in-depth interview with Alvin in the next issue of SP!Post where he talks about how his SP journey honed his passion in film-making and photography. In the meantime, check out and like his works in Facebook.com/alvinleeworks.

Rookie Movie Director Wins Film Award

It was only his maiden attempt at film-making but Colin Huang certainly shows a lot of promise. The SP Scholar and second year student from the Diploma in Creative Writing for TV and New Media (DTVM) won the third prize at 2nd The New Paper FIRST Film Fest. His winning entry was a comedy titled I Want To Be A Director. He received more than $3,000 worth of Sony prizes and $300 cash.

Cyber Defence Champs

Team Orion, comprising second and third year students from the Diploma in Infocomm Security Management (DISM), has beaten teams from the universities and polytechnics to clinch the top prize at a cyber-defence competition. The event was part of the Cyber Defence Discovery Camp organised by the Defence Science and Technology Agency (DSTA) and the Ministry of Defence’s Research and Technology Office. The participants were tasked to audit a fictitious company’s network security and identify loopholes in the company’s servers and plug the gaps. It was a dramatic win for the SP team as it was at the second last position at one point of the two-day competition. Team Orion comprised (from left in picture) Han Xing Jie, Yang Xudong, Jeremy Heng and Goh Kee Chin. They collectively took home $10,000 worth of Harvey Norman and Kinokuniya vouchers.

She’s Young But Already An Environmentalist

Elaine Sam from the Diploma in Environmental Management and Water Technology (DEWT) has been named as one of the five winners of the HSBC/NYAA Youth Environmental Award. This award honours youths between the ages of 14 and 25 years for their outstanding contributions towards environment protection and nature conservation in Singapore. As an executive committee member of the SP Environment Club, she has helped to organise and also participated in various environment-related activities such as the Action for Earth Affairs Forum and the Clean and Green Singapore Carnival.

Victory In The Waters

Congratulations to SP’s water boys! Leonard Ong and Timothy Lee added new achievements to their sporting pursuits by winning medals in windsurfing and diving competitions recently. Leonard, who recently graduated from the Diploma in Chemical Engineering (DCHE), snatched the championship title at the Schools Windsurfing Grand Prix. Timothy, a second-year student from the Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering, won first prizes at both the Open Men 3m Springboard and the Open Men Synchronised 3m Springboard at the Macau International Diving Invitational.
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Fresh Graduate  
Diploma in Business Administration  
Member of SP Gusto! Champion, National Cheerleading Competition, 2011 and 2012