

ISSUE #10 (29 September 2017)



Welcome to the Office of Student Community Engagement's fortnightly update.

Much has been discussed about being an inclusive society and the need to ensure that no one is left behind.

Singapore is now into its 3rd [Enabling Masterplan](#) and there is a role for all Singaporeans to play. The narrative must change - it's not about enacting changes that concern 'Them', it's about Us. We need to recognise that each individual is unique and this way, differences can be viewed more positively as an opportunity to foster social cohesion. Inclusion is a process, and it should be seen as a never-ending search to find better ways of responding to diversity.

In this issue, we feature stories that promote diversity, empowerment, inclusion, participation and community-minded action.

Be informed. Be inspired. Be the change.



Articles and Updates

Mayflower Primary to take in deaf pupils

School will accept seven pupils with hearing loss in Primary 1 cohort next year, as a move to boost inclusivity. Read [more...](#)

Helping those with mental health issues find work

People with mental health issues, who are trained to help others with similar conditions, will be able to apply for an apprenticeship scheme to ease them back into the workforce. This is a collaboration between the National Council of Social Service, Workforce Singapore and social service organisations. Read [more...](#)

"The Restaurant of Order Mistakes"

Diners have no complaints about the service at a pop-up restaurant in central Tokyo, where the 17 waiters and waitresses all suffer from dementia. Read [more...](#)

Jason Chee takes his first individual table tennis gold

Jason Chee has no legs, no left arm, is missing one finger and parts of two other fingers on his right hand and has only one eye. Yet a man who has lost so much still finds a way to win. Read [more...](#)

Assembling Singapore's 'superheroes'

Three years ago, Jean Loo (a NTU Alumna) hit on a winning idea to combine photography, costume-making and every kid's innate desire to be a superhero into a groundbreaking social initiative to inspire children here. Those who took part in the project imagined themselves as having special powers and made costumes corresponding to their alter-ego. Read [more...](#)

Volunteer Opportunities



Do you love to **interact with people of all ages?**

The [South West Community Development Council \(CDC\)](#) is looking for volunteers to be SkillsFuture Champions (SFCs) to support Career Fair and [SkillsFuture](#) Roadshows in the community. Training will be provided.

The role of SFCs is to provide assistance to residents during roadshows and job fairs as ground guides. SFCs will also help direct jobseekers to the relevant booths to learn more about alternative career options and learning opportunities.

Each volunteer should be committed to at least two roadshows.

Details of confirmed roadshows:

- **When:** 13 October & 14 October 2017, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm
- **Where:** Keat Hong Community Club (2 Choa Chu Kang Loop, #01-01, Singapore 689687)
- **When:** 27 October 2017, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm
- **Where:** Bukit Batok Community Club (21 Bukit Batok Central, Singapore 659959)

Email Alvin at AlvinLee@ntu.edu.sg or call 69041118 to register your interest.



Embarking on your own volunteer activity or social advocacy project?
The CoLab4Good Fund seeks to support meaningful ground-up initiatives.
Find out more [here](#).



Upcoming Events



GREEN IS THE NEW BLACK: THE CONSCIOUS FESTIVAL

A festival that aims to bring people who want to *#LiveMoreConsciously* by improving the way they think, work and consume while doing more good in the world. It is also a place where fun and social environmental responsibility goes hand in hand.

There will be a flea market, food, live music, bite-size 10 minute talks, and much more!

- **When:** 1 October 2017, 11.00 am - 7.00 pm
- **Where:** PARKROYAL On Pickering Hotel (3 Upper Pickering Street, Singapore 058289)
- **Cost (Admission):** Free but prior registration is necessary. Click [here](#) to register.
- **Cost (Talks):** \$55 - \$90. Student discounts are available, click [here](#) to purchase tickets.

Click [here](#) to read more about the festival.

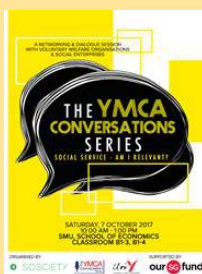


INCLUSIVE EDUCATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION 2017

This is NTU's first full-day forum with a focus on how we can better integrate students with special needs in our institutes of higher learning. Look forward to distinguished speakers who will share their expertise in special needs education; participate in concurrent workshops on best practices in inclusive higher education and employment; and engage in a panel discussion with university students with special needs.

- **When:** 5 October 2017, 8.45am - 5.30 pm
- **Where:** Tan Chin Tuan Lecture Theatre, NTU
- **Cost:** Free for NTU students, but prior registration is necessary. Click [here](#) to register.

Click [here](#) for the full programme and list of speakers.



THE YMCA CONVERSATIONS SERIES 2017

Organised by [Uni-Y Singapore](#), this session aims to explore the relevance of skills and knowledge learnt in school along the theme of "Social Service Sector – Am I relevant?". There will also be chances to interact with various social service organisation representatives to find out more about life and opportunities in the social work and community service sector.

- **When:** 7 October 2017, 10.00 am - 1.00 pm (breakfast and lunch provided)
- **Where:** Singapore Management University (SMU), School of Economics, Classroom B1-3 and B1-4 (90 Stamford Road, Singapore 178973)
- **Cost:** Free but prior registration is necessary.

Closing date for registration is 5 October 2017. Click [here](#) to register now!

For more details or enquiries, please email theymcaconversationseries@gmail.com.

ARCHIFEST 2017



Archifest is an annual public festival to celebrate architecture and the built environment. This year's Archifest theme of Building Agency describes the empowerment of people through stakeholder participation in the shaping of architecture and the built environment. Built upon five pillars including Archi-Interfaces, Archicraft, Architours, Conference and Conversations, Archifest 2017 will be held across multiple venues from 4 – 15 October 2017 with an exciting line-up of more than 50 events.

MIGRANT ART AND MAKING SHADOWS: TWO EXHIBITIONS

Grey Projects present two exhibitions for Archifest. Migrant Art is a sequence of photographs documenting the lives of migrant workers by the workers themselves. Making Shadows explores the claims on the built environment and public spaces through the eyes of a much-discriminated group.

- **When:** 7 - 18 October 2017
- **Where:** Grey Projects, 6B Kim Tian Road, Singapore 169246
- **Cost:** Free

There will be a panel discussion with the artists from the two exhibitions on 15 October, 4 – 5pm.

POETRY AND MUSIC: A PERFORMANCE BY MIGRANT WORKERS

Featuring winners from the Migrant Worker Poetry Competition and musicians from the migrant worker community, the celebration marks the closing of their photography exhibition.

- **When:** 15 October 2017, 5.30pm – 6.30pm
- **Where:** Grey Projects, 6B Kim Tian Road, Singapore 169246
- **Cost:** Free but limited to 60 people. Prior registration is necessary at nicole@greyproject.org.

CHASING BUTTERFLIES, BUILDING RAINBOWS

In the design of the extension wing to Rainbow Centre, each stakeholder (be it the owner, funder, authority, user, or designer) campaigns for their needs and their beliefs to be materialised in the lines, texts and geometries that will eventually constitute the building blueprint. The conversations that arise during such a design process often tread the fine line between the overprovision, against that of normalisation, of accommodating within reason. Attend this panel discussion to learn how a mediated approach is especially relevant in light of current discussion on the design of spaces for children and youths with disabilities. The event will end with an inclusive art workshop that will engage all children, staff, volunteers and visitors alike.

- **When:** 14 October 2017, 3pm
- **Where:** Rainbow Centre, 501 Margaret Drive, Singapore 149306
- **Cost:** Free

Click [here](#) for the full Archifest programme.



Others



VOLUNPRENEUR PROGRAMME

Aspire to use your skills, talent and passion to do good and benefit others?

The Volunpreneur Programme aims to develop and support participants to be impactful volunpreneurs who are able to identify real needs in the community, design quick and efficient ways to prototype solutions and develop practical strategies in galvanising volunteers to support their projects. It is a comprehensive workshop that guides participants through the key phases critical for the successful start and end of a social/community project.

- **When:** 14 October & 28 October 2017, 9.30 am - 2.30 pm
- **Where:** LHS TR+ 52 @ The Hive (Level 2) (*Lunch is provided*)
- **Cost:** Free but prior registration is necessary

Limited slots available. Click [here](#) to read more and register.



Interested in social enterprise and sustainable development?

Be part of this three-week immersion programme that has participants as guests of a rural community - to become villagers, to participate in everyday life and to see, feel and impact their real needs. [Drishtee Immersion](#) employs a bottom-up approach that allows empathy-level understanding of real people on the ground, so that participants and villagers can collaborate hand-in-hand to co-create new, innovative empowered approaches to everyday needs.

Based on a community-based learning approach, there are opportunities for self-directed learning, supported by a team of experts in diverse fields including cross-cultural communication and empathy, rural Indian society and industry, anthropology, innovation and sustainable rural development.

[Drishtee Immersion](#) seeks to connect youth from around the world with rural communities to affect positive change in both. Watch the programme video [here](#).

- **When:** 9 - 30 December 2017 (21 Days)
- **Where:** Maharashtra, India
- **Cost:** AUD \$3,500 (*This only includes programme costs and not travel costs i.e. flights, visa*)

Limited spaces available, applications close end-Sep 2017.

Applicants selected by [Drishtee Immersion](#) will be eligible for the Social Impact Training Grant. Email OCommE@ntu.edu.sg for more details.

Student Community Engagement aims to empower students to make a difference through positive social actions. We provide students access to opportunities such as grants for their ground-up initiatives and social entrepreneurship efforts, internships at non-profit organisations, and training programmes to develop community leadership skills.

We believe that young people have a critical role to play in building a better world for themselves and the community.

Established in 2015, we are part of the Student Academic Services Department at NTU. More information at <http://www.ntu.edu.sg/sasd/communityengagement>.

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