

ISSUE #18 (31 January 2018)



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

PLASTICS. We use them in our daily lives – grocery shopping, throwing out the trash, food take-outs – and they seem to be indispensable.

According to [Plastics Ocean Foundation](#), the world is now producing nearly 300 million tons of plastic every year, half of which is for single use. More than 8 million tons of plastic is dumped into the oceans every year.

In July 2017, China has announced that it will [ban imports of 24 categories of recyclables \(plastic, textiles and mixed paper\) and solid waste](#) from 1 January 2018. Theresa May, Britain's Prime Minister, [pledged to eliminate avoidable plastic waste by 2042](#) – the government wants supermarkets to introduce "plastic-free aisles" and charge customers who take plastic bags.

Here in Singapore, [Zero Waste SG](#), started the [Bring Your Own \(BYO\) Singapore](#) campaign for retailers to offer incentives to customers who bring their own bags, bottles or containers.

Start to [bin your recyclables](#) today in NTU. They can be found next to lift doors and at Level 1 and 2 entrances of every block in North Spine and South Spine.

Be informed. Be inspired. Be the change.



Articles and Updates

Supermarkets to reveal amount of plastic they create

Leading UK retailers create almost 1 million tonnes a year. Read [more...](#)

EU declares war on plastic waste

Brussels targets single-use plastics in an urgent clean-up plan that aims to make all packaging reusable or recyclable by 2030. Read [more...](#)

New vending machines to push recycling

Machines at supermarket outlets in Singapore collect used cans and bottles, and offer product discounts. Read [more...](#)

UK ban on microbeads takes effect to save oceans from plastics

Due to its size, microbeads flow through treatment filters and polluting waterways with particles that are ultimately eaten or absorbed by wildlife in rivers and seas. Read [more...](#)



ENGLISH CLASSES FOR MIGRANT WORKERS

Migrant workers form the backbone of the Singapore economy, working tirelessly behind the scenes so that our country runs smoothly.

[SDI Academy](#), a social enterprise, aims to empower migrant workers with English communication skills to promote an inclusive society and a safer workplace. Classes are conducted in an interactive manner where picture description, video analysis, discussion and debate will be used to promote English proficiency.

25 volunteers are required to run these Sunday classes. Volunteer roles include facilitation of English classes, curriculum design, marketing and videography. Long term volunteers are also welcome.

- **When: Sundays, 28 January - 29 April 2018, 7.00 pm - 9.00 pm**
- **Where: LHS-TR+56 @ The Hive (Level 3)**

Email Sazzad at sazzad@sdi.academy to find out more and register your interest. The last day for application is **24 February 2018**.



ECOBANK

[EcoBank](#) is back in action for the third time! Join this meaningful social-environmental initiative by becoming a volunteer for EcoBank.

Your support will make a difference in creating awareness for responsible consumption and help promote a zero-waste nation while raising funds for [The Children's Charities Association of Singapore](#) (CCA).

Volunteers can help to sort and curate pre-loved items for sale as well as set-up and manage stalls at the EcoBank Charity Bazaar. Details are as follows.

Sorting and Curation of Sale Items

Duties include sorting out collected items, curating items for Charity Bazaar sale and general logistic support.

- **When: 12 January - 27 February 2018, 9.30 am - 5.30 pm (volunteering days and shift times varies)**
- **Where: City Industrial Building (71 Tannery Lane Singapore 347807)**

EcoBank Charity Bazaar

Duties include setting up of stalls, manage sale of items and general logistic support.

- **When: 1 - 4 March 2018, 9.30 am - 8.30 pm (volunteering days and shift times varies)**
- **Where: City Square Mall (180 Raffles Place, Singapore 208539)**

In appreciation, all volunteers (either or both events) will be given a token meal voucher from City Square Mall for every shift they participate in. Limited slots available. Click [here](#) to sign up.



THE GOBABYGO! PROJECT

Calling all students who have **experience in electronics, electrical and/or mechanical engineering!**

Children with cerebral palsy and other motor impairments face difficulties exploring the world due to reduced mobility. Exploration is essential to learning about the world and helps in their learning and development.

An initiative of [Engineering Good](#), the GoBabyGo! project converts battery-powered ride-on cars into rehabilitative devices for children with special needs, allowing them to explore the world around them on their own and participate in interactive play with other children.

Join as a tech team member to adapt commercially available, off-the-shelf ride-on toy cars into easy-to-operate cars that help children who cannot walk on their own.

Click [here](#) to find out more and register your interest. The last day of registration is **15 February 2018**.



DIGITAL ARTS FOR ALL

An initiative of social enterprise [Make The Change](#) and in collaboration with [Media Literacy Council](#), Digital Arts For All (DAFA) is an inclusive ecosystem that uses digital art to empower, give back and showcase. It embodies the belief that creativity can be the connecting key to educate, empower and strengthen inclusiveness in society today.

Make The Change is looking for volunteer facilitators to conduct these digital arts workshops. Training would be provided. In appreciation for the time committed to this project, volunteer facilitators will also be reimbursed with a small token.

Click [here](#) to find out more about DAFA and [here](#) to register as volunteer facilitators. For enquiries, email Abigail Teo at abigail@makethechange.sg or call 6337 5449.



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

Competitions and Grants



D-PRIZE

The world has already invented ways to end poverty, yet the best interventions are not being distributed at mass scale. There are proven ideas to alleviate poverty all across the globe. Can you distribute them to the people most in need?

The [D-Prize](#) funds new entrepreneurs who increase access to proven poverty interventions.

Submit a one page concept note to enter the competition. Win up to US \$10,000 to pilot your new venture.

Click [here](#) to read more. The last day for submission is **11 February 2018**.



Upcoming Events



ECONINJA BY EARTHLINK NTU

Organised by [Earthlink NTU](#), the inaugural EcoNinja campaign aims to promote sustainability and you can be a part of this!

Bring your unwanted items to the *Trash to Treasure* flea market; participate in a carbon footprint research; play a giant Jenga game and learn facts about sustainability at EcoNinja.

Trash to Treasure is a free-for-all market that aims to give a new lease of life to your unwanted daily items! There will be books, stationery, sports equipment, accessories and much more – all **free of charge!** You can have any item you like, even if you are not donating anything. For more information, click [here](#).

- **When:** 5 - 6 February 2018, 10.00 am - 4.00 pm
- **Where:** Pavilion @ Tan Chin Tuan Lecture Theatre
- **Cost:** Free



INSIGHTS INTO AUTISM

Ever wondered what you should do when you meet someone with autism? Or how best to communicate with them? [Project ANGEL](#) is organising "*Insights to Autism*" - a panel discussion aimed raising autism awareness.

Featuring [panel of doctors, therapists and an educator](#), who will share more on:

- Understanding and communicating better
 - Screening and early intervention
 - Avoiding and managing meltdowns
 - Autism in the family
 - The education system
- **When:** 23 February 2018, 6.30 pm - 9.00 pm (*light refreshments will be provided*)
 - **Where:** Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine (Novena Campus), Mandalay Lecture Theatre (11 Mandalay Road, Singapore 308232)
 - **Cost:** Free (*prior registration is necessary*)

Click [here](#) to register. The last day of registration is **6 February 2018**. Limited slots available.



SCOOP TRAIL 2018

Scoop Trail is a tech-based, Amazing Race-styled event organised by [Singapore National Co-Operative Federation](#) (SNCF) to raise awareness about the Co-operative Movement. The trail is designed for all youths who love solving puzzles, clearing missions and have fun! Click [here](#) to read highlights of SCOOP Trail 2017.

This year, an element of heritage is incorporated into the trail. Participants are required to travel from one pit stop to another and complete missions by answering trivia questions and completing social media tasks.

Form a team of 5 now and participate to stand a chance to win cash prizes! The top cash prize is \$2,500.

- **When:** 10 March 2018, 12.00 pm - 6.00 pm
- **Where:** Republic Polytechnic, Agora Hall 2 (9 Woodlands Avenue 9, Singapore 738964)
- **Cost:** \$32.60 per team

Participants are also required to attend a pre-event briefing on **3 March 2018, 10.00 am - 12.00 pm**.

Click [here](#) to read more and register. The last day of registration is **15 February 2018**.



GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK SINGAPORE (GCNS) YOUTH FORUM 2018

[GCNS Youth Forum](#) is back this year with the theme "SDGs in ASEAN: The Youth Impact". Youths from ASEAN, China, Korea and Japan, and thought leaders from all sectors, will come together to collaborate on the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs).

Immerse in a series of sharing sessions and workshops with business and non-governmental leaders, and experience sustainability initiatives first-hand with guided visits to NTUC Fairprice Hub, Resorts World Sentosa, Marina Bay Sands and more.

Come learn about the SDGs, and lend your voice to a fun, impactful conversation on how various sectors can collaborate to achieve them!

[GCNS](#) has also partnered with [Young NTUC](#) to host a Youth Career Network Networking Session at the Youth Forum on 17 March 2018. At this networking session, Sustainability Professionals will be invited to share about their works in their respective organisations and participants will get a chance to ask questions and to know more about specific industries!

- **When:** 17 - 18 March 2018, 9.00 am - 5.30 pm
- **Where:** NTUC Centre (1 Marina Boulevard, Singapore 018989)
- **Cost:** Free (prior registration is necessary)

For enquires, email Soma at soma.biswas@unglobalcompact.sg.

Click [here](#) to register. The last day of registration is **16 March 2018**. Limited slots available.



Others



LEAP FOR GOOD

Are you an aspiring social entrepreneur eager to create a better future for seniors and caregivers? Or are you a social enterprise focused on seniors and caregivers, and keen to pilot new solutions for them?

[LeapForGood \(LFG\) 2018](#) is here to help you kickstart your social enterprise journey! The theme for this year is "work, life and play of seniors and caregivers returning to work".

LFG is a year-long programme organised by the [Singapore Centre for Social Enterprise](#) (raiSE) to inspire innovation in addressing emerging social needs through social entrepreneurship.

Attend the Launch Day and get the opportunity to:

- Learn more about LFG programme, themes and the journey ahead;
- Hear stories from successful social entrepreneurs who have been through the journey; and
- Meet other passionate individuals - perhaps the like-minded change-maker whom you could be building your social enterprise idea with!

Come join the movement to ignite real social change and be [#partofthegood!](#)

- **When:** 3 February 2018, 1.30 pm - 5.30 pm
- **Where:** National Design Centre (111 Middle Road, Singapore 188969)
- **Cost:** Free (prior registration is necessary)

Click [here](#) to register.

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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