

ISSUE #23 (13 April 2018)



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

CAUSES – a principle, aim, or movement to which one is committed and prepared to defend or advocate.

Over the course of four months, 50 youths from all walks of life came together and started their own ground ups - tackling a wide spectrum of issues, such as suicide prevention to improving digital literacy of seniors. Last weekend saw the closure of the [National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centres'](#) inaugural [Groundup Sandbox](#) where teams shared their lessons learnt, knowledge gained and new insights discovered. Stories of heartfelt thanks expressed by caregivers to autistic children and of migrant workers readily trusting and opening up to volunteers drew warm applause from the audience and the commonality was clear - however small the help, people are grateful someone cares enough to do something.

We might be a busy bunch but the numerous ground up initiatives around and inspirational stories of the average Singaporean trying to improve the world proves that it can be done.

"It always seems impossible until it's done." – Nelson Mandela

Be informed. Be inspired. Be the change.



Articles and Updates

Families on holiday take time to do good

The "Holiday for Hope" programme helps charities generate funding for their projects in less developed countries. Read [more...](#)

Young author inspired by her little sister with special needs

At the age of nine, Sofia Chen made history in 2017 by becoming the youngest Singaporean author to land a major publishing deal in the United States – with a Lego how-to activity book. It all began because she simply wanted to help her six-year-old sister, who has Down Syndrome, build brick toys. Read [more...](#)

Parents help teen cope with autism

Organised by NTU Lee Kong Chian School of Medicine, third-year student at Millennia Institute, Anastasia and her mother, gave a talk at the Family Fair for Autism, targeted at families and people with autism. Anastasia was diagnosed with autism when she was 2.5 years old. Read [more...](#)

A supermodel with a heart for children

Supermodel Petra Nemcova has set up a charity to rebuild schools in areas affected by natural disasters and bring education to kids. Read [more...](#)

Volunteer Opportunities



The [Singapore Disability Sports Council](#) (SDSC) is recruiting a group of 8 volunteers to assist teams who will be playing in the Tiger Balm Singapore Boccia Open 2018 tournament. Duties will include welcoming the international athletes (Korea, Thailand, Timor Leste, Malaysia and Singapore) at Singapore Changi Airport; facilitating their transportation, meals and other needs with the organising team; and assisting them where needed with logistics and performing translations (if necessary).

Boccia is a sport that is played by the severely disabled. Organised by SDSC, this Open welcomes international players to the sunny shores of Singapore to put their skills against Singapore's best.

Volunteers must be able to commit throughout the entire period, and those who can speak the language of their preferred international team will be prioritised.

- **When:** 28 May - 3 June 2018, 7.00 am - 8.00 pm
- **Where:** Singapore Changi Airport, Capri Singapore (3 Changi Business Park Central 1, Singapore 486037) & Heartbeat@Bedok (11 Bedok North Street 1, Singapore 469662)

Email Sharizal at sharizal@sdsc.org.sg to register your interest – include your name, contact number, email and spoken language(s). The last day of registration is **22 April 2018**.



The [Urban Redevelopment Authority](#) (SDSC) is recruiting a group of 10 volunteers to be exhibition guides for the upcoming exhibition, "Underground: Singapore's Next Frontier Exhibition".

Volunteers will share to exhibition visitors about the new ideas and technologies that push the boundaries across the fields of underground planning, mapping and construction to create a better urban environment for Singapore.

Volunteers must be able to commit to two sessions during the entire exhibition period.

- **When:** 30 May - 29 June 2018, 12.00 pm - 4.00 pm
- **Where:** The URA Centre (45 Maxwell Road, Singapore 069118)

Email ura_outreach@ura.gov.sg to register your interest. The last day of registration is **30 April 2018**.



[Free Hugs SG](#) promotes positive interactions with the migrant community in Singapore. It aims to reduce the expenses of migrant workers and increase their savings through activities such as free haircuts and rescued food redistribution.

Through this project, Free Hugs SG rescues food that would have been discarded due to cosmetic reasons and redistribute these rescued food to dormitories on a weekly basis. In six redistributions, the team has distributed more than 100kg of food.

- **When:** 22 April - 31 December 2018 (every Sunday), 12.00 pm - 3.00 pm
- **Where:** 810 Hougang Central, Singapore 530810 (collection point) & 39 Kaki Bukit Avenue 3, Singapore 415920 (distribution point)

Volunteers roles include drivers (own personal vehicle) and vegetable collectors.

Contact Junxian at 9823 6322 to register your interest. The last day of registration is **30 November 2018**.

*Free Hugs SG is a Groundup Sandbox project.



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



SOCIAL IMPACT INTERNSHIP STIPEND

Intern at a social service organisation or social enterprise and apply for the [Social Impact Internship Stipend](#) (SIIS)!

The SIIS provides opportunities for full-time NTU undergraduate students to create shared value while banking real-world experiences, deepening your classroom experience, and broadening your perspective and network.

Applications must be received at least six weeks before the commencement of internship.

The last day of application is **30 April 2018**.

For questions about eligibility and application process or to request for an application form, email QCommE@ntu.edu.sg.



DBS-NUS SOCIAL VENTURE CHALLENGE ASIA

Do you have a business solution that can significantly improve the community around you in a sustainable manner? The [DBS-NUS Social Venture Challenge Asia](#) is back, to propel your ideas and ventures into the limelight they deserve!

Aspiring and early stage entrepreneurs who are passionate and leverage on their innovative business solutions (be it product, service or processes) to solve social issues and create positive and sustainable social impact in Asia, are encouraged to apply. A total award money of over S\$100,000 to be won!

Finalists will be invited to a four-day finale programme in Singapore, where you can network with industry experts and impact funders, attend a one-day Special Boot-Camp training, and more!

Click [here](#) to read more and apply. The last day of application is **6 May 2018**.



Upcoming Events



NUS CHUA THIAN POH COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP CENTRE SYMPOSIUM 2018

Do you have a strong interest in community development?

Into its seventh year, join like-minded individuals in a symposium that recognises students' community development efforts with partnering social service organisations. There would be presentations by student presenters and a dialogue session with Mr Desmond Lee, Minister for Social and Family Development, and Second Minister for National Development.

The [Chua Thian Poh Community Leadership Centre](#) aims to nurture Singapore's next generation of community leaders. These future leaders will not only be intellectually engaged in social and community issues, but will also be passionate about addressing social and community challenges in Singapore. Driven by a sense of true calling to mobilise the community to collectively solve social problems, they will be tomorrow's change makers.

- **When:** 23 April 2018, 2.30 pm - 5.00 pm
- **Where:** NUS University Town, Auditorium 1 (NUS Town Plaza, 1 Create Way, Level 1, Singapore 138602)
- **Cost:** Free (prior registration is necessary)

Click [here](#) to read more and [here](#) to register your interest.



15TH ASEAN LEADERSHIP FORUM

The ASEAN Leadership Forum is widely recognised as a high-powered Forum that brings together Government, Business, Civil Society and Thought Leaders for a critical discussion of the strategic issues facing ASEAN and to share valuable knowledge and information on the future of ASEAN.

Held in Singapore this year, the [15th ASEAN Leadership Forum](#) theme is "Strengthening Resilience, Promoting Innovation". The Forum brings together Government, Business, Civil Society and Thought Leaders for a critical discussion of the strategic issues facing ASEAN and to share valuable knowledge and information on the future of ASEAN.

- **When:** 28 April 2018, 7.00 am - 6.00 pm
- **Where:** Marina Mandarin Hotel Singapore (6 Raffles Boulevard, Singapore 039594)
- **Cost:** \$260 for NTU students* (Normal rates charged by Social Innovation Park: \$650)

Apply for the Social Impact Training Grant from Student Community Engagement to qualify for discounted tickets and further grant subsidy. Email OCommE@ntu.edu.sg for details.

**Only full-time NTU students are eligible for this discounted rate and further grant subsidy. Terms & conditions apply.*



SOCIAL ICON 2018

Organised by the [Lien Centre for Social Innovation](#), the *Social iCon* (innovation conference) places its spotlight on women and innovations in education, employment, environment and economic inclusion. Facing challenges in these key areas is critical for creating an equitable and sustainable future for all.

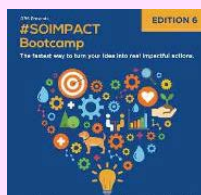
The conference aims to bring together a diversity of practitioners, policy-makers, researchers and trailblazers from around Southeast Asia to catalyse impactful solutions to social issues.

- **When:** 18 May 2018, 8.00 am - 4.00 pm
- **Where:** SMU School of Law (55 Armenian Street, Singapore 179943)
- **Cost:** Free

Click [here](#) to read more and [here](#) to register your interest. Last day of registration is **18 May 2018**.



Others



#SOIMPACT BOOTCAMP (EDITION 6)

Do you have an idea or initiative that can impact an existing social or environmental issue? If so, [UNFRAMED](#), in partnership with [*SCAPE](#), is proud to present #SOIMPACT Bootcamp Edition 6.

This is a three week programme designed to equip change makers with the right skills, knowledge and resources to make real change happen. Participants not only get access to a series of masterclasses, workshops and coaching sessions with some of the best minds in the industry, but also stand a chance to get \$3000 in co-matching funds.

Click [here](#) to find out more and register your interest. Last day of registration is **29 April 2018**.



SUSTAINABILITY INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

The Sustainability Internship Programme is an initiative by [Global Compact Network Singapore](#) to develop Singapore's youth talent pool and meet the increase in demand for jobs in the green sector.

This internship programme focuses on nurturing and training youths on Corporate Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility; and to look at it as a prospective career. It aims to create a pool of young sustainability professionals that is ready for the workforce.

Interested participants have to attend a compulsory two day training workshop. The training workshop will equip participants with the basics of sustainability knowledge and enable them to take on roles as sustainability interns in the private sector.

- **When:** 5 - 6 May 2018, 9.30 am - 5.00 pm
- **Where:** NTUC Centre, Room 901 (1 Marina Boulevard, Level 9, Singapore 018989)
- **Cost:** Free* for NTU students (*prior registration is required*)

Click [here](#) to register your interest. The last day of registration is **30 April 2018**.

**Terms and conditions apply. Contact diana.chng@unglobalcompact.sg to find out more.*

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 and Academic Services Department at NTU. More information at <http://www.ntu.edu.sg/sasd/communityengagement>.

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