

ISSUE #6 (31 July 2017)



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

All of us lead busy lives juggling studies, work and family but we can all be encouraged with signs of a new revolution in the giving space. Singapore is seeing a greater informal and peer to peer action with the rise of ground-up movements, social enterprises and purpose-led businesses.

According to the [National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre](#), the rate of volunteerism in Singapore has almost doubled from 18% in 2014 to 35% in 2016.

The activity of volunteering is not an end in itself and should not be viewed as solely to bring benefit to others. Instead, the effort becomes more meaningful when we learn to view volunteerism as a 'two-way street', and the one who volunteers can learn and benefit from the process at the same time.

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." – Mahatma Gandhi

Be informed. Be inspired. Be the change.



Articles and Updates

Singaporean doctor spends over 10 years in war-torn Afghanistan

Singaporean Dr Wee Teck Young left a comfortable life in Singapore more than 10 years ago, and puts his life at risk to help those affected by the war in Afghanistan. In 2005, he started *A Journey To Smile*, later renamed *Afghan Peace Volunteers*, whose members come from different ethnic groups and are dedicated to promoting non-violence as a way of life. Read [more](#) ...

To get treatment at a free clinic, the crowds come early

Just like a camping ground, children, individuals, and families in Wise County, Virginia, United States, slept in their cars and sleeping bags overnight, so that they can take the golden opportunity to visit the doctor at the free mobile clinic (operated by *Remote Area Medical*) in the morning. These patients do not have access or cannot afford a visit to the doctor. There is a limit to how many people can get in on a given day – when one missed his/her chance, he/she would have to wait until next year. Read [more](#)...

Caring for special needs kids

The Values In Action programme at Bowen Secondary School may have ended, but over a third of its students who took part in it now volunteer on their own at nearby social service organisations. Read [more](#) ...

Volunteer Opportunities



Calling all **technology lovers!**

A few of our NTU students in [Life Planters](#) will be embarking on their community project to empower youth-at-risk through technology driven community activities, which are often inaccessible to them due to lack of guidance and opportunities.

In collaboration with [Trybe](#), Life Planters will conduct 3D Printing workshops for its youth beneficiaries. Learning 3D printing is intuitive, customisable to one's interests and an employable skill.

30 volunteer facilitators are needed. Volunteers are required to commit to **all four workshops** in December 2017 on Friday evenings (2pm – 5pm) at Community Rehabilitation Centre (343 Jamaica Road, Singapore 757759).

A training workshop will be organised for all volunteer facilitators and attendance is compulsory.

- **When:** 12 August 2017, 11.00 am - 4.00 pm (Lunch will be provided)
- **Where:** LHS TR+4 @ The Hive (Level B4), NTU (52 Nanyang Avenue, Singapore 639816)

Click [here](#) to register your interest by 5 August 2017, 12.00 pm.



Do you have the passion to work with **young children, teenagers** and the **elderly**?

[Lakeside Family Services \(LFS\)](#) is a social service organisation established in 1993 to serve the community at Jurong. It provides casework and counselling, financial assistance, information and referral services targeting family needs for people of all ages, regardless of race, language or religion. LFS is looking for volunteers to help in three of their programmes:

- (1) **LIGHTS Preteen Programme (Children Services)** – To facilitate activities and befriend the children in the programme.
- (2) **Lakeside Student Care (Jurong East and Jurong West Centre)** – To conduct activities such as sports, Arts & Crafts, homework coaching, student workshops, etc.
- (3) **Families-in-Transition Shelter** – To tutor children in their subjects and teach creative arts.

Click [here](#) to see details and register your interest with Cindy Gan at volunteer@lakeside.org.sg or call 6265 6522 (ext. 150).



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



Do you have a keen business sense? Or have you always dreamt of becoming a social entrepreneur? Here is your chance! The CoLab4Good Fund for Social Enterprises seeks to support and encourage NTU students who are interested in entrepreneurship to explore a social enterprise business model.

Seed funding of up to S\$10,000 will be provided for new and sustainable business ideas that create positive social impact.

Today (31 July 2017) is the **last day** of application.
Click [here](#) to find out more and apply today!



Upcoming Events

DESIGN FOR GOOD

“Can good design change the world?”

Explore how NTU ADM students are using design to engage people and transform communities. Held in conjunction with ADM Select, a series of creative works from the 2017 ADM Graduation Show will be on display at this exhibition.

There will also be workshops to upcycle and make functional items out of old T-shirts and bottles.

- **When:** 14 - 27 August 2017
- **Where:** North Spine Plaza @ NTU

Click [here](#) to read more and sign up for workshops!



The MINDS Film Festival is back for the second consecutive year!

MINDS and [Singapore Film Society](#) have collaborated together for the second year after a resounding success from last year's inaugural film festival, to continue its outreach to the public to not just promote social inclusion, but to advocate the advancement of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (PWID) contributions to the society.

The Film Festival will feature six films from five countries – China, Malaysia, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States of America.

- **When:** 29 July - 5 August 2017 (films have specific dates and screening times)
- **Where:** Golden Village at Vivocity (1 Harbourfront Walk, #02-30, Singapore 098585)
- **Cost:** \$6.00 per ticket

Click [here](#) to read more and [here](#) to purchase tickets.



World renowned conservationist, primatologist and United Nations Messenger of Peace, Dr Jane Goodall, will be visiting Singapore this August!

- **Date:** 6 August 2017
- **Venue:** Various locations

In celebration of the [Jane Goodall Institute of Singapore](#) 10th Anniversary, a series of three exciting events has been organised. Come and meet Dr Jane and be inspired by her stories!

PUBLIC LECTURE: ONE NATURE, TOGETHER

Dr Jane will share stories of hope and inspiration, and her thoughts on conservation, through a lively discussion with other notable speakers, including Guest-of-Honour Mr Desmond Lee (Minister, Prime Minister's Office).

DINNER: LIVING IN HARMONY

Enjoy a rare opportunity to interact with Dr Jane at an exclusive dinner, and be inspired by her passion and hope for people to live in harmony with nature and wildlife.

Click [here](#) to find out more details of each event.



Drop by for some socially conscious retail therapy at [The Good Market](#), held in conjunction with the annual [Singapore Coffee Festival](#).

There will be a range of socially conscious coffee, organic snacks, and all natural skincare products from seven social enterprises in Asia, which includes [Farm To Beauty by Edible Garden City \(Singapore\)](#), [Aurora \(Taiwan\)](#), and [East Bali Cashews \(Indonesia\)](#).

There will also be a series of free workshops by these social enterprises, including latte art classes, chocolate and coffee pairings, as well as edible art making sessions.

- **When:** 4 - 6 August 2017, 10.00 am - 3.30 pm (Brunch sessions) ; 4.30 pm - 10.00 pm (Sundown sessions)
- **Where:** Marina Bay Cruise Centre (61 Marina Coastal Drive, Singapore 018947)
- **Cost:** From \$18.00

Click [here](#) to purchase tickets.

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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July 2017