



The [World Federation of the Deaf](#) estimates that there are 72 million deaf people worldwide and according to [The Singapore Association For The Deaf](#) (SADeaf), the number of individuals with hearing loss in Singapore is estimated to be [around 500,000](#). SADeaf has more than 5,400 clients who are deaf or hard of hearing and among them, there is a world where hand, body and facial expressions are used to communicate ideas, feelings and sentiments, very similar to how people use spoken and written languages.

Sign language is part of Deaf Culture - a set of social beliefs, behaviours, history, values, and shared institutions of communities that are influenced by deafness. In order to raise awareness of the importance of sign language, the United Nations has designated 23 September as the [International Day of Sign Languages](#). First celebrated in 2018 under the theme "[With Sign Language, Everyone Is Included](#)", the theme for 2019 is "[Sign Language Rights For All](#)".

Did you know that we have a community within NTU who are not only sign language trained, but also regularly put up [song-signing performances](#)? We even have [students who have contributed to creating a Sign Bank](#)!

Visit [NTU Welfare Services Club's Regular Service Project \(Deaf Community\)](#) Facebook page to find out more about NTU students who are making a difference in the lives of the Deaf community, and be inspired to be part of this effort.

Be informed. Be inspired. Be the change.

ARTICLES & UPDATES



Women make their mark in male-dominated businesses

Susan Chong was named Her World Woman of the Year. She picked up sign language from her employee who was deaf, and learn to communicate with her. Read [more...](#)



Art started as a refuge to cope with deafness

Chen Ziyue, a deaf artist, is the award winner of the Goh Chok Tong Enable Awards. Despite her disability, she is an illustrator of children's books in Singapore and abroad. Read [more...](#)



Sign language training in the tourism sector

Dominique Duchatel, director of a youth hostel chain in Belgium, encourages her team to master the basics of communicating in sign language, and understand how best to welcome deaf clients, as their needs are different. Read [more...](#)



Hearing-impaired barista can now draw hearts

Some employees at Foreward Coffee are persons with disabilities and special needs, but they learnt sign language to communicate with Melvin Sii, who has a hearing disability. He is now an assistant outlet manager. Read [more...](#)

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES



21 September 2019

International Coastal Cleanup Singapore 2019

A worldwide movement that gathers people with the same goal to clean up our seas and collect important data to be used by governments in environmental policy-making. Organised by Earthlink NTU, lend a helping hand in this annual effort to save our waters.

[Find out more.](#)

COMPETITIONS & GRANTS



21 September, 5 & 12 October 2019

Singapore Youth Action Challenge

Take part in the Challenge and come up with ideas to impact the future of Singapore in areas of environment, social and economy. You may receive up to \$50,000 in grants to turn them into reality. Click [here](#) to read more and apply.

UPCOMING EVENTS



17 - 20 September 2019

The International Week of the Deaf

In conjunction with International Day of Sign Languages, come and pledge your support for the Deaf community. There will be an exhibition, games session and many more activities. You may even pick up some basic sign language at the event! Don't miss out! [Find out more.](#)



19 - 22 September 2019

Exhibition: A New Life Reimagined

In collaboration with Yellow Ribbon Project, embark on a journey of acceptance and immerse yourself in the experiences of the ex-offenders community. You can also participate in free craft workshops, enjoy energetic performances and share your personal story. [Find out more.](#)



21 September 2019

YOUth Alive! 2019

Back for the second year, this event aims to raise awareness about mental wellness among youths in Singapore. There will be entertaining performances and inspiring talks. [Find out more.](#)



21 August - 31 October 2019

Exhibition: For Love Shines

Discover Singapore's philanthropic growth from past to present, and uncover the societal impact that philanthropic efforts have made in the nation-state's history. [Find out more.](#)



5 October 2019

Doing Good Better 2019

Have you been thinking about how you can do good better? This conference will cover topics such as climate change interventions, mental health and long term welfare. Get the rare opportunity to hear from speakers in these fields. Subsidised tickets are available for eligible NTU students. [Email us](#) to find out more.



9 - 12 December 2019

Youth For Change Conference 2019

Discover how World Vision pursues social innovation to tackle threats to the well-being of children and their families. To be held in the Philippines, look forward to field visits and interactive sessions with experts in the field. Grants are available for eligible NTU students. [Email us](#) to find out more.



Website



Email



Telegram

Student Community Engagement aims to empower students to make a difference through positive social actions. We believe that young people have a critical role to play in building a better world for themselves and the community.

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.

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