



21 August 2018

MEDIA ADVISORY

Coming Together, Achieving Together Self-Help Groups Jointly Celebrate Students' Achievement

The Chinese Development Assistance Council, the Eurasian Association, the Singapore Indian Development Association and Yayasan MENDAKI are jointly organising the 15th Joint Tuition Awards Ceremony to celebrate the achievements of students from all four races. The four Self-Help Groups have held the award ceremony since 2004, to recognise students who have achieved good results at the PSLE, GCE N and O-Level examinations.

A total of 517 students from the four Self-Help Groups will be lauded at this event.

This year's ceremony will be graced by Mr Ng Chee Meng, Minister, Prime Minister's Office & Secretary-General, National Trades Union Congress (NTUC).

The event details are as follows:

Guest-of-Honour: Mr Ng Chee Meng, Minister, Prime Minister's Office & Secretary-General, National Trades Union Congress (NTUC)

Date & Time: Saturday, 25 August 2018, 3.00pm – 5.00pm
(Media is requested to be present at 1:30pm)

Venue: Singapore Polytechnic Convention Centre
500 Dover Road, Singapore 139651

Media Opportunities:

- Interviews with Best Overall Award Recipients
- Doorstop interviews with the heads of the Self-Help Groups

Programme:

1.30 pm	Media Registration
1.35 pm	Media Interviews
2.40 pm	Guests to be seated
3.00 pm	Arrival of Guest-of-Honour, Minister Ng Chee Meng Welcome Performance Speech by Guest-of-Honour Presentation of Awards
4.30pm	Group Photo on Stage
4.40 pm	Reception
5.00 pm	End of Event

Interview Opportunities (at 1.35pm)**Best Overall Award Recipients:****Toh Jing Jie, 17 years old, Year 1 Student, ITE College East (CDAC)**

Toh Jing Jie joined CDAC's tuition programme when he was in Primary 3. He comes from a modest background – his mother is the sole breadwinner as his father is unable to work, owing to health issues. Jing Jie used to be a playful boy with little interest in studies. But when he scored below expectations in his year-end Secondary 2 examinations, it served as a sudden wake-up call, as he began worrying that he may not be able to provide for his parents in the future, if he did not perform well in school.

Jing Jie decided to focus more on his studies and began attending tuition, where his tutors' guidance helped him improve and clarify his doubts. And his efforts showed in his N(A)-Level Exam, where he scored three Grade "1"s and two Grade "2"s – a tremendous improvement. Jing Jie is currently pursuing a Higher NITEC in Chemical Technology at ITE College East. He is confident that he will do well and can provide for his family in future.

Jansen Aalyssa Jade, 17 years old, Year 1 Student, ITE College East (The Eurasian Association)

Jansen Aalyssa Jade, who is currently pursuing a NITEC in Hair Fashion & Design at ITE College East received a medal of excellence in hairdressing at the recent WorldSkills Singapore competition, where she demonstrated her expertise on a national stage. Aalyssa admits that hairdressing was not her first choice. She only took it up upon her mother's suggestion, who knew that Aalyssa was more of a hands-on learner. Over time, she grew to love her craft and was determined to excel at it.

By balancing her time between school and co-curricular activities, which included track-and-field, Aalyssa directed her efforts at improving her Elementary Mathematics grades – practising countless questions even during the holidays. She worked closely with her tutor, who helped her build her confidence in the subject. Today as she tastes the fruits of her efforts, Aalyssa cites her parents, coaches and friends as sources of motivation, who helped her through the countless times that she wanted to give up.

Jagjeet Singh, 13 years old, Secondary 1 Student, Dunearn Secondary School (SINDA)

Jagjeet Singh is a self-motivated student who believes in the power of resilience. At a young age, Jagjeet suffered the demise of his father, but he did not let it discourage him. Instead, he channelled more efforts into his studies and spurred himself to study harder and make his father proud. The 13-year-old joined SINDA's tuition programme at Primary 4 and improved by three grades in his English, Mathematics and Science subjects at PSLE. Jagjeet's achievements were made possible because he diligently attended tuition and clarified his doubts with his tutors – efforts underpinned by a mind-set of hard work and discipline.

A devoted and conscientious son, Jagjeet also takes the time outside of school to assist his mother with the running of their provision shop and taking care of his siblings. The avid sports enthusiast aims to serve in the army one day, allowing him to contribute meaningfully to our nation.

Muhammad Shakir Bin Shiraj Abdullah, 17 years old, Year 1 Student, Millennia Institute (Yayasan MENDAKI)

Muhammad Shakir Bin Shiraj Abdullah attributes his success to the tutors at the MENDAKI tuition programme, citing how they were not just tutors, but rather, mentors to him. These mentors made him look forward to attending tuition lessons and motivated him to stay focused on his path. Shakir's performance in English and Mathematics progressed significantly – he improved by two grades to an A2 in English, and improved by six grades to a B3 in Mathematics at O-Levels. Currently, Shakir is in his first year at Millennia Institute.

Driven, curious and passionate about social causes, Shakir aspires to be a lawyer one day. He hopes to study law at the Singapore Management University, to realise his dream of contributing to society by advocating for those without a voice and the underprivileged.

For more information and to RSVP, please contact:

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