

**PROFILE OF RECIPIENTS OF LEE KUAN YEW CO-CURRICULAR
ACTIVITIES AWARD 2016**

Name : Nur Aqeela Bte Noor Hussain
Course : *Higher Nitec* in Marine & Offshore Technology
College : ITE College Central

A Path Less Travelled

In less than four years, Nur Aqeela Bte Noor Hussain has taken part in six inter-tertiary and national Judo competitions and won a medal in all six. An impressive feat, considering Aqeela picked up the sport only in 2012 while she was pursuing a *Nitec* in Chemical Process Technology at ITE College Central.

“I was interested in martial arts and thought it would be good to try something new. So I picked Judo as it can help me keep fit and I can learn how to defend myself,” said Aqeela, on why she chose a usually male-dominated sport. The 22-year-old rose to become captain of the ITE Judo Club and was active in recruiting new members to the Club.

Aqeela’s preference for the path less travelled also shines through in her choice of course. She chose to take up a *Higher Nitec* in Marine Offshore & Technology upon her brother’s advice. One of only six girls in her batch, Aqeela firmly believes that girls can do just as well, whether it is in the shipyard or on the sporting field.

A natural leader, Aqeela was also President of the Mariners Club, which organises marine-related activities for its members. A Marine & Offshore Technology student, Aqeela joined the Club as it allowed her to participate in events related to the First-Year Marine & Offshore students. She also led a group of Marine & Offshore students in the Singapore Maritime

Dialogue, where tertiary students and a Maritime Port Authority panel discussed issues in the Maritime Industry.

Aside from her Co-curricular Activities, Aqeela was kept busy with several community events. These include leading a group of students to bring groceries and install safety features for the elderly, facilitating the giving of necessities to the needy at the SG50 Gifting Day and going door-to-door to give out food rations to the elderly under the Gift of Heart Programme at Cheng San Community Club.

In spite of her heavy schedule, Aqeela has maintained a Grade Point Average of 3.867. When asked how she managed that, Aqeela said, "It's all a matter of time management and being able to give priority to the important tasks." With her good grades and excellent CCA record, Aqeela is looking forward to furthering her studies in Marine & Offshore Technology at a polytechnic.

Name : Khor Yi Wei Danniell
Course : *Nitec* in Facility Technology (Landscaping Services)
College : ITE College East

Fighting for Eco-opportunities

The environment has always been a passion for 23-year-old Khor Yi Wei Danniell. So when the time came for Danniell to choose his next path in life, he decided on a Landscaping Services course. “I got a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.017 for my *Nitec* in Facility Technology (Air-Conditioning & Refrigeration), which meant I couldn’t pursue a *Higher Nitec* or diploma. So I chose Landscaping as it marries my passion for nature, with my wish to make a change for the environment,” said Danniell.

His enthusiasm for the environment led him to join the Environmental Club when he came to ITE. As the Club President, Danniell organised several events for both the College and community, such as the Clean and Green Singapore Carnivals and a *Waste to Craft* Creativity Competition.

Danniell also constantly tries to spread awareness on how one can, and should, take care of the environment. That’s why he highly encouraged his peers to take part in his events such as Litter Free Ambassador, Youth for the Environment Day, and Positive Action Care Toilet. These events, he hoped, would help teach his peers to take better care of their environment.

Danniell’s work for the environment extends beyond our shores as well. He was only one of two Singaporeans chosen to attend a Southeast Asian youth conference on illegal wildlife trade in the Philippines in March 2015. His trip was sponsored by the US Embassy in the Philippines. The year before, Danniell helped plant 1,500 fir trees in Inner Mongolia to help mitigate air pollution as part of a Youth Expedition Programme.

While the environment plays an important role in Danniell’s life, the people in the community matter just as much. As such, Danniell was happy to participate in causes such as showing

appreciation for cleaners during Know Your Cleaners Day or repairing and installing pipes and new taps for the needy as part of the Safe Home Project.

Having found his focus in life, Danniell also put in more effort for his studies. “Juggling being active in my CCA, being a community volunteer, leading numerous projects and participating in several events has taught me how to prioritise my commitments. I promised myself that I would fully utilise my two years in ITE, and I’m proud to say, I have accomplished that,” said Danniell. He achieved a 3.967 GPA, which he intends to use to pursue a diploma in Integrated Facility Management.

Name : Liew Yu Cheng Paul John
Course : *Nitec* in Digital Audio & Video Production
College : ITE College West

When Passion Clicked

When Liew Yu Cheng Paul John asked his mother for a \$2,000 camera when he was 15 years old, he had to convince her that his interest in photography was not a flash in the pan.

Believing in him turned out to be one of the best decisions that his mother had made. Paul could not stop exploring with his new gadget. He would take many photographs and learn as much as he could about photography. After his final exams in Secondary 4, Paul asked if he could be an intern at a production house. He felt that he should learn more about the industry before his school term at ITE began. The internship turned out to be a blessing, as Paul found himself thick in real work action, and was exposed to videography and editing work.

When his *Nitec* in Digital Audio & Video Production course started, Paul grew in learning how to work better with others. He said, “I was used to working alone for a long time, but in ITE, I had to learn how to work better with others. Through the many opportunities given, my leadership skills were developed. I am much more comfortable in leading a team and working with people of different personalities now.”

His skills and affable nature saw Paul rise quickly to take on additional responsibilities. He was President of the Apple Club at ITE College West, which is a club that provides Apple software training to students. Besides sharing his knowledge, Paul also did much field work on top of his studies. As Project Head of the ACE Club, he oversaw numerous video projects that featured College activities. His multiple obligations meant long hours spent balancing between studies and projects. The perfect 4.0 Grade Point Average holder said, “My school day is quite standard: I start at 8 am and end at 11 pm to 12 midnight daily. But it’s what I love to do, so the work is rewarding.”

Currently a Diploma in Film, Sound & Video student at Ngee Ann Polytechnic, Paul aspires to be an ITE Lecturer in future. It would be an achievement that his mother would be proud of. He said, "I've come a long way from the day she decided to buy me the camera. Now, she is happy with what I have achieved."