



Lee Kuan Yew Model Student Award



**Ryka Putri Eva
Sabrinna Binte Sabtu**

***Higher Nitec in Offshore &
Marine Engineering Design
ITE College Central***

Finding her Light

Despite scoring distinctions for her N-level exams, Ryka decided to enrol at ITE as she wanted to further her studies as soon as possible. A trip to the Singapore Maritime Academy open house piqued her interest in the maritime industry and she decided to work towards a career in it. However, just before her exams in the first term, Ryka was asked to move out of her home. Lost and alone, Ryka turned to her lecturer for help. Within a week, her lecturer found her a place to stay and made sure she settled in well. Relieved, Ryka found she could finally focus on her studies and went on to do well in her exams.

Although Ryka had no parental support and needed to clock over 40 hours a week in part-time work to pay for rent and make ends meet, she remained diligent and focused on doing her best in school. She credits her leadership skills, drive, and ability to remain calm and rational to her lecturers and the friends she made at ITE. Despite her challenges, Ryka rose above them, excelling as a student leader and team member, while also finding time to give back to the community whenever she is able to. For her, that is one way to show her gratitude for the help she had received.

From the Heart

"In secondary school, I was led to believe that lecturers at Polytechnics & ITE would be indifferent toward their students. However, my experiences proved this notion wrong. At ITE, I met exceptional adults who influenced my journey, despite my tendency to seek guidance infrequently. They supported me during challenging times, provided a sense of belonging when I felt lost, and consistently encouraged me. Their unwavering support has been crucial to my personal growth & achievements."

Life after ITE

Ryka is now studying for a Diploma in Nautical Studies at Singapore Polytechnic. She dreams of becoming the youngest female Chief Officer on board a ship.

Top Achievements

- Living on her own at a young age was stressful at first but Ryka soon found that this arrangement worked better for her. It gave her a quiet and peaceful environment, allowing her to relax and better concentrate on her work.
- Ryka received the Keppel Care Foundation Scholarship in 2024 for her outstanding performance in school. The Scholarship is awarded to one student per college each year. By stretching the cash award, Ryka was able to get a year's worth of living expenses – this meant she did not have to work as many hours, leaving her with more time to rest, pursue other activities, and focus on her studies.
- Ryka participated in several competitions, earning a commendation award for the Tan Kah Kee Young Inventor's Award in 2024, and winning First Prize at the Student Ideation & Design Competition the same year.
- A driven and eager learner, Ryka enjoys reading and learning a variety of skills – from baking and budgeting to sports science and storytelling. Her enthusiasm and exceptional work ethics saw her earn five distinctions for her six core modules. This earned her a remarkable 3.957 GPA.