

ITE GRADUATION 2021 LEE KUAN YEW GOLD MEDAL

Name : Damien Tan
Course : Higher Nitec in Sport Management
College : ITE College Central

Courage to Pursue Dreams

Damien Tan pioneered the Fencing Co-Curricular Activity (CCA) at ITE College Central. To pursue his interest in the sporting industry after obtaining a *Nitec* in Aerospace Avionics, Damien bravely made the change from studying Aerospace to Sport Management. The values of perseverance and resilience, which he learnt from fencing, helped him succeed in his studies, placing him in the Director's List in 2019 and 2020. In Sport Management, he grew to enjoy the dynamism of sports events and is now equipping himself with Event Management skills via a diploma course.

Damien also pushed himself to grow in his leadership and empathetic skills by joining Student Council and ACE Programme, a student talent development programme. Through his four years in ITE, he has grown his skills in various areas – trade, sports and leadership. He is grateful to his ITE lecturers who have shown him concern beyond his academics.

Succeeding at His Own Timing

“Academic grades do not determine your success in life. They do not measure your ability to connect with others or your ability to think outside the box. We do not have to follow societal pressures and expectations, as to when we should achieve different milestones. It is alright to take a longer route. I spent four years in ITE, which meant that I had more time to discover myself and find out what I really wanted to do. There are many ways to succeed and we must develop ourselves in different areas.”

After ITE

Damien is pursuing a Diploma in Integrated Events & Project Management at Singapore Polytechnic.

Top Achievements

- An accomplished fencer, Damien represented ITE in competitions such as the 2018 and 2019 Asian Varsity Fencing Championships where he achieved a top 16 placing both times. He is a part-time coach at SG Academy of Fencing.
- As a member of Student Council, Damien contributed to various community service projects, from planning an anti-drug campaign on campus, organising activities to spread festive cheer to nursing home residents, to facilitating cyber wellness learning for underprivileged children. Damien also penned thank-you messages to healthcare workers during the outbreak of COVID-19.
- For his dedication to community service, exemplary conduct and outstanding academic performance, Damien received the ITE Service Star Gold Award 2020, Edusave Character Award 2020 and Student Excellence Award 2019.

ITE GRADUATION 2021 LEE KUAN YEW GOLD MEDAL

Name : Tan Shi Wei Cody
Course : *Higher Nitec in Electronics Engineering*
College : ITE College East

Raising the Bar

When Cody was younger, he often did not do well in school. As a result, many around him cast doubts on his future. This, however, ignited his desire to prove himself and build his own success.

Enrolling in ITE, Cody was determined to start afresh and excel. He participated in numerous competitions to challenge himself and hone his skills. These included the WorldSkills Singapore 2020 competition, where he represented ITE in the field of Electronics. Besides improving himself, Cody is also passionate about making a difference to society. As President of the Student Ambassadors Club, he actively led his peers in various community service projects. He is also working on creating an artificial intelligence (AI) chatbot, which provides emotional support for youths with mental health issues.

Cody's motivation for self-improvement extends beyond school subjects. Driven by the desire to learn a new skill, he has been working part-time as a barista at Starbucks for three years. Establishing himself in this field, he has even attained the certification of a "Coffee Master"!

Pillars of Support

"I am very thankful to my lecturers at ITE, especially Mr Muhammad Basheer and Mr Teo Hock Wee. They believed in me, cared for me, and supported me in any way they could. There were several times when I felt down or stressed out while preparing for competitions. Mr Basheer and Mr Teo would constantly check on my well-being and give me words of encouragement. Their gestures of care touched me, and gave me the extra push to persevere in the face of challenges. I would not have been able to succeed without them."

After ITE

Cody is pursuing a Diploma in Applied AI and Analytics at Singapore Polytechnic.

Top Achievements

- Recognised for his all-round excellence, Cody won the 2021 Lee Kuan Yew Model Student Award. He was in the Director's List for all terms from 2019 to 2020, and graduated with a perfect Grade Point Average score of 4.0.
- Cody and a classmate developed a smart device for improving washroom cleanliness, which clinched the 2021 Lee Kuan Yew Technology Award. The project also won the Silver Medal at the International Exhibition for Young Inventors 2020 competition.
- He was the first runner-up of the ITE College East Public Speaking Competition in 2019.

ITE GRADUATION 2021 LEE KUAN YEW GOLD MEDAL

Name : Indra Dermawan Bin Yuhanis
Course : *Nitec* in Retail Services
College : ITE College West

Leading with the Spirit of Service

Behind Indra Dermawan's decision to pursue a *Nitec* in Retail Services is a dream to become a prominent figure in the retail industry. This dream spurred him to achieve 'Best Customer Service Award' for delivering excellent service during his internship with Uniqlo Pte Ltd. As the Student Advisor of Retail Club Co-Curricular Activity, Indra's service-oriented spirit rubbed off on his juniors as he guided and shared techniques in managing stores and sales with them.

Indra also took up other leadership roles, such as the President of Entrepreneurship Club and Vice President of ACE Club, a student talent development programme. Besides being involved in College activities, his passion for the disadvantaged saw him initiating several community service events. In 'Project SG Strong', he rallied a team to pack more than 140 Care Packs for distribution to frontline workers in appreciation of their work against the pandemic. He also formed a community organisation - Indspire Youths - with his friends and peers. He led the team to execute the first community outreach project, a charity food drive supporting low-income families in the Taman Jurong constituency.

Indra rose up to the challenge of juggling his studies, a part-time job, heavy co-curricular commitments and volunteering pursuits. He is the epitome of an all-rounder, deserving the praises of his lecturers and support of his peers.

Confronting Challenges

"ITE has shaped me to be a more confident and professional individual. My Section Head constantly encourages me to do my best. Through the support and guidance from my lecturers, I strive to deliver positive outcomes consistently in my assigned tasks. I believe that if you have a positive mindset, you can overcome any challenge you face."

After ITE

Indra is pursuing a Diploma in Tourism and Resort Management at Ngee Ann Polytechnic.

Top Achievements

- Indra received several accolades, such as the Lee Kuan Yew Model Student Award 2021, Top Student Award 2021, 4PM Bestari Student Award 2020 - Academic Excellence Award, ITE Edusave Character Award 2019/2020 and Service Star (Gold & Diamond) Awards 2019/2020.
- He performed well academically, attaining the HYC-PSA Scholarship 2019 and Keppel Award Scholarship 2020. He was in Director's List in 2019 and 2020, and graduated with a perfect Grade Point Average of 4.0.
- During ITE Fiesta, he led his team in Retail Club to achieve the highest daily sales of more than \$2,000 for Choc Spot, a retail candy store at ITE College West.

ITE GRADUATION 2021 TAY ENG SOON GOLD MEDAL

Name : Andrea Lee Zi Qin
Course : *Nitec* in Product Design
College : ITE College Central

Product Designer on a Mission

Andrea relishes the experience of imagining, creating, and marketing products that cater to consumer needs and wants. Casual window shopping trips became meaningful application opportunities as she started to observe product designs versus practical functionalities. Her acute observation skills and passion put her in good stead when she started her internship with homegrown company, Trigger Design.

Under the tutelage of President Design Award Winner, Ms Chan Wai Lim, she built on her skills gained in ITE with valuable market exposure – from working with projects from Multi-National Corporations like Samsung, Panasonic and Kohler; to rendering designs for patent-pending products for her internship company and clients. The fast learner acquired 2D illustration and 3D modelling skills on the job, honed her marketing presentation skills and stretched her creativity to generate product concepts targeted at reducing COVID-19 risks. Andrea's current skills set as a Product Designer in the making is testament of her zeal and determination to be the best at what she does.

Design a Better Tomorrow

"I believe design is a means to express our thoughts and emotions. What makes it even more special is that we interact through designs every day, and we may not even realise it! The world is forever evolving and we need to keep up with the changes. As a Product Designer, I get the chance to shape your tomorrow."

This quote from Bruce Lee well sums up my thoughts on this: 'If you want to learn to swim, jump into the water. On dry land, no frame of mind is ever going to help you.' To help me design a better tomorrow, I must always be in the motion of learning."

After ITE

Andrea is pursuing a Diploma in Product & Industrial Design at Temasek Polytechnic. In future, Andrea hopes to revisit her other love – floristry, and combine her knowledge and experience in Product Design, to innovate the art of floristry. If possible, she may start her own floristry business.

Top Achievements

- Andrea has consecutively made it to the School of Business Director's List whilst pursuing her *Nitec* course in ITE College Central.
- She was awarded the CDC/CCC-ITE Scholarship in 2019. This Scholarship is awarded to the top 10% of GCE 'N/O' level entrants in each *Nitec* or *Higher Nitec* intake at ITE.
- Andrea was an active and valuable member of her College's Student Council. She contributed in the Active Ageing Festival, SBS Kindness Movement and other Student Council signature events.

ITE GRADUATION 2021 TAY ENG SOON GOLD MEDAL

Name : Cherie Wong Wei Qi
Course : Higher Nitec in Beauty & Wellness Management
College : ITE College East

Making Her Mark

Cherie Wong Wei Qi has a dream – to be a doctor. Yet self-doubt and lack of confidence in her abilities hindered her efforts to realise that dream. Things turned around when she enrolled in ITE. Thanks to the care, support, and most importantly, the belief of her lecturers, Cherie found her drive to work hard and reach for what she wants.

Her outstanding academic performance aside, Cherie shone in other areas. At WorldSkills Singapore 2020, she was a Silver Medallist. She also turned her skills into a business by formulating and selling her own range of beauty products, and providing home-based beauty services during her free time. Working only on three to four hours of sleep a day, Cherie also squeezed in time to participate in several community projects.

Today, Cherie is a proud business owner and continues to work hard towards her dream of becoming a doctor.

Believing in Success

“In secondary school, I was rebellious and could not be bothered about my studies. ITE really changed me into someone totally different. I met amazing teachers and classmates who were extremely supportive. My form teacher always believed that I would excel in life. She’s my role model and had made a big impact on me. All my lecturers and WorldSkills coaches are extremely nurturing and pushed me out of my comfort zone – that sparked something in me and made me want to work hard for my future.”

After ITE

Cherie is pursuing a Diploma in Health Sciences at Ngee Ann Polytechnic. She runs Posh Aesthetics with a business partner and is the sole owner of another beauty salon – Chioskin Singapore.

Top Achievements

- Cherie’s outstanding performance earned her the Director’ List Awards in 2019 and 2020, the College East (CE) Special Award (Innovation & Enterprise) 2021, and the CE ExcellenCE Award 2021, which is given to the top graduate in ITE College East.
- She took part in WorldSkills Singapore 2020 and emerged as the Silver Medallist in the Beauty Therapy category.
- While at ITE, she used her skills to develop her own range of beauty products, including an innovative spray-on make-up remover, and sold it online. She then went on to provide home-based, on-demand beauty services during her free time. She has since built a substantial clientele base, leading her to set up a salon upon graduation.

ITE GRADUATION 2021 TAY ENG SOON GOLD MEDAL

Name : Shuqri B Shaifuddin
Course : *Higher Nitec in IT Systems & Networks*
College : ITE College West

Loving Life

Shuqri B Shaifuddin used to spend hours playing computer games into the late nights. In ITE, he cut down on his gaming hours and spent time on new interests he discovered in school. He enjoyed classes so much that he never missed a day of school at ITE. Shuqri took up the IT Systems & Networks course as he saw that IT skills would be in demand. He started to love the course more as his knowledge in the area grew.

Shuqri also joined his friends at the Green Ambassador Club and this ignited his passion for environmental causes. He eventually led the Club as the President. Through the Club, he learned about the urgency and importance of taking care of the environment. Because of him, his supportive family now grows some of their own vegetables to reduce their carbon footprint.

He actively took part in community service and school life, and graduated with a perfect Grade Point Average. He accomplished all these while maintaining his belief that he has to enjoy the life he has been given. Shuqri hopes to build a career where he can use artificial intelligence in Finance or environmental causes.

Enjoying the Gift of Life

"I believe in enjoying life and living in the moment. I enjoyed school very much and am thankful to have done well in the process. When we enjoy what we do and don't put pressure on ourselves, we can succeed and appreciate the life we have."

After ITE

Shuqri is pursuing a Diploma in Information Technology at Ngee Ann Polytechnic

Top Achievements

- Shuqri won the Edusave Award for Achievement, Good Leadership and Service, the LBKM Excellence Award, the 4PM Bestari Award, the Edusave Character Award, the ITE-Siloso Beach Resort Youth Eco Award, and the Edusave Certificate of Academic Achievement (Merit Bursary) in 2020.
- With excellent academic results, he was in the Director's List at ITE College West in 2019 and 2020, and won the Academic Performance Awards in 2019 and 2020. He was also awarded the Service Star Award – Diamond (2020) and Gold (2019) by his College.
- Shuqri displayed strong leadership qualities in his CCA. He was the Project Lead of the ACE Club. He was also the Team IC for a Youth Expedition Project (YEP) in Chiang Mai, Thailand, the Group Leader for the YEP Post-trip Community Service project at the Fei Yue Senior Activity Centre, and a Volunteer at the Merdeka Generation Roadshow Digital Clinic.

ITE GRADUATION 2021 THE Ngee Ann Kongsi Gold Medal

Name : Poh Jun Kai
Course : *Higher Nitec* in Games Programming & Development
College : ITE College Central

Game On, Press On

An avid gamer since primary school, Poh Jun Kai has a penchant for anything innovative in the gaming scene, often downloading new mobile games to personally experience different mechanics during game play. At age 15, he resolved to transform his passion in gaming into a lifelong pursuit as a games developer.

Jun Kai first enrolled in *Nitec* in Infocomm Technology (Networking and System Administration) course. It laid a foundation for him to pick up programming quickly and benefitted him, as he progressed to *Higher Nitec* in Games Programming & Development. His dedication to honing his craft is evident in his stellar academic records and active participation in several games-related competitions. As the President of Media Smart Club Co-Curricular Activity, he also displayed strong leadership and a heart for the community in planning events, especially during Silver IT Fest where he assisted his lecturer in sharing cyber security tips with senior citizens. Despite his achievements, he remains humble and was willing to sacrifice personal time to help his peers in their studies.

Get Creative Juices Flowing

“Engaging in games makes me happy and I wish to spread the joy of gaming to others by developing quality games. One of the most important traits of a game developer is to be creative, in all aspects, be it in coming up with storylines, creating art or designing the game play and user interface.”

It is not easy to be creative but never give up. Broaden your knowledge, talk to people, think out of the box. For me, I always challenge myself to do something different from the norm. In my final-year project, when we were tasked to create a shooting game, many decided to create a gun that dispenses bullets. I designed a gun shooting slime instead. It’s a small change but something unique. Start small, believe in yourself and inspiration will come.”

After ITE

Jun Kai is pursuing a Diploma in Game Development & Technology at Nanyang Polytechnic. After obtaining a diploma, he hopes to work overseas in a game company for at least five years to gain relevant work experience.

Top Achievements

- Jun Kai attained Certificate of Excellence in the Qualifying Rounds of WorldSkills Singapore 2018 and represented ITE in the category of IT Software Solution for Business.
- For his contributions in CCA, he achieved the CCA Platinum Award. Jun Kai also received the Service Star Award in 2020.
- A hardworking student, he was in the Director’s List in 2019 and 2020, and graduated with a perfect Grade Point Average of 4.0.

ITE GRADUATION 2021 THE Ngee Ann Kongsi Gold Medal

Name : Nur Leila Bte Laqman Hakem
Course : *Higher Nitec* in Landscape Management & Design
College : ITE College East

Green Thumbs Up

As a preschooler, Nur Leila Bte Laqman Hakem was not obsessed with toys and games but plants. Her playground was her grandmother's home garden where she would volunteer to water the orchids and cacti. As Leila grew to love plants, she also took an interest in design. After her 'O' Levels, she chose to enrol in ITE as she felt that the *Higher Nitec* in Landscape Management & Design course combined both her interests well. Leila relished the opportunity to widen her knowledge in horticulture, landscape operations and design, and immerse herself in new technology related to facilities management within parks.

She excelled academically while participating actively in events related to her field of study. As the President of Horticultural Club Co-curricular Activity, she led in gardening projects with industry partners and re-designed the layout of her College's Eco Garden. During her internship with NParks, she learnt about plants that are native to Singapore and even contributed to conservation when she re-homed turtle eggs found at East Coast Park. Leila aspires to be a Landscape Architect who can design functional nature playgrounds that cater to children with disabilities, especially those who are wheelchair-bound.

Planting with Purpose

"Since we deal with plants, we have to work outdoors and adapt to unpredictable weather conditions. Even though it may be hot and tiring, it is important to keep your goal in mind. At the end of the day, I believe landscaping work benefits someone and most definitely, the environment. I see it as a way of giving back to the community."

After ITE

Leila is pursuing a Diploma in Landscape Architecture at Singapore Polytechnic. After obtaining a diploma, she plans to either work for NParks or further her studies at a university.

Top Achievements

- Leila led a team to develop the Butterfly and Herb Garden at Bedok Town Park in collaboration with NParks. Her design idea of a vertical Log Border Flowerbed was implemented and it led to an increase in the number and species of butterflies.
- A video created by Leila and her classmates made it to the Top 20 spots of 'N.E.Mation 2020', an animation competition to commemorate Total Defence Day. Their entry stood out as they used plants creatively in their storyline, depicting venus flytraps and cacti as villains of terrorism, and flowering plants like roses as heroes.
- Leila received the Peter Lim Horticulture and Animal Science Scholarship (PLHASS) in 2020. She was in Director's List in 2019 and 2020, and graduated with a perfect Grade Point Average of 4.0. For her service contributions in Horticultural Club and Student Ambassadors, Leila was presented with a Service Star Award (Gold) in 2020 by her College.

ITE GRADUATION 2021 THE Ngee Ann Kongsi Gold Medal

Name : Koh Yan Xi
Course : Nitec in Western Culinary Arts
College : ITE College West

Project Souperstar

What goes into a good bowl of soup? If you ask Koh Yan Xi, the answer could very well be commitment, dedication, and a whole lot of care. As co-leader of a class entrepreneurship project that involved preparing and selling ready-to-consume vacuum-packed soups, Yan Xi was tasked with coordinating various aspects of the production process, from organising recipes and ordering ingredients to scheduling production.

With the proceeds obtained from this project, Yan Xi rallied her team members to show care and appreciation for the school cleaners at ITE College West, by purchasing food items like rice and biscuits and packing them into goodie bags as gifts for the cleaners.

A resilient young lady with a fiercely independent streak, Yan Xi also took it upon herself to work part-time, so that she could lessen her family's financial burdens. Her excellent performance as a service crew at McDonald's saw her being promoted to the role of Trainee Restaurant Manager recently. With her positive attitude and determination to succeed, Yan Xi has proven to be an outstanding youth who looks set to excel in life.

Drive and Determination

"I am a person who doesn't like to give up easily. I like to prove to others that effort is what counts – if I work hard enough, I can surely do well and achieve good results."

After ITE

Yan Xi is currently in her first year of the Technical Diploma in Culinary Arts at ITE. She aspires to open her own café or restaurant in future.

Top Achievements

- Yan Xi held several leadership positions during her two years in ITE. She was the Secretary of the ITE College West ACE Club, Deputy Chairperson of the Culinary Club and Chairman of her class' Executive Committee.
- An illustrious student, Yan Xi excelled academically and achieved a Grade Point Average score of 4.0. Due to her good results and willingness to render help, she was selected to be a Student Mentor to guide her classmates who needed help in their studies.
- Doing good comes as second nature to Yan Xi. An all-rounder with a heart to serve and help others, Yan Xi was involved in numerous College and community service activities, such as cooking meals for needy elderly and raising funds in support of underprivileged youths. For her excellent service contributions, Yan Xi received the ITE Service Star Diamond Award and Lee Kuan Yew Model Student Award in 2020.

ITE GRADUATION 2021 SINGAPORE NATIONAL EMPLOYERS FEDERATION GOLD MEDAL

Name : Norheesham B Rahmat
Course : Work-Study Diploma in Marine & Offshore Engineering
College : ITE College Central

Building a Bright Future

An internship stint at Keppel Offshore & Marine Ltd during his *Higher Nitec* in Marine & Offshore Technology course cemented Norheesham B Rahmat's resolve to pursue a career in shipbuilding. While Norheesham could have easily qualified for a Polytechnic diploma course, he chose to apply for a full-time position at Keppel instead, to hone his skills in the industry.

A few years into his job, an opportunity to upgrade his qualifications came along in the form of the ITE Work-Study Diploma (WSDip). It was a win-win situation for Norheesham, as he could work towards getting a recognised diploma, while learning on-the-job at Keppel. The WSDip curriculum structure allowed him to gain hands-on experience at various departments within the shipyard, where he gained valuable insights into the entire shipbuilding process.

A fast and capable learner, Norheesham impressed his superiors with his strong work ethics and good attitude. In recognition of his outstanding performance, Norheesham was promoted from a Drafter to an Assistant Planning Engineer. He was also entrusted with tasks that demanded a high level of responsibility, such as assisting with the construction methodology of an offshore wind farm substation, a new renewable energy project.

Practice Makes Perfect

"To me, the WSDip course is not just about paper qualifications. I get the opportunity to apply what I have learnt, to be involved in real projects, rather than just sitting in a classroom."

After ITE

Norheesham is the first WSDip graduate to have been offered a place in a local university. As he is currently serving a post-training bond with Keppel Offshore & Marine Ltd, he intends to take up his degree studies under a company sponsorship after the bond. Norheesham shared that Keppel had expressed support for him to further his studies. He hopes to contribute further to the company with his newfound knowledge upon graduation from university.

Top Achievements

- In 2021, Norheesham obtained the WSDip in Marine & Offshore Engineering with Merit and a Gold Course Medal.
- A serious and committed student, he excelled in his on-the-job training and was constantly among the top performers in the WSDip course.
- Norheesham was awarded the Association of Singapore Marine Industries (ASMI) Scholarship in 2011.

ITE GRADUATION 2021 SINGAPORE NATIONAL EMPLOYERS FEDERATION GOLD MEDAL

Name : Muhammad Hafiz B Mohamadnor
Course : Work-Study Diploma in Mechanical & Electrical Services Supervision
College : ITE College East

The Right Attitude

Growing up in a large family of seven, eldest child Muhammad Hafiz sees it as his duty to support his parents and be a good role model to his younger siblings. After 'N' levels, he opted to study *Nitec* in Facility Management (Traineeship) which suited his learning and financial needs well. After serving his National Service, the kinesthetic learner did not hesitate to enrol in ITE's Work-Study Diploma (WSDip) Programme.

Accustomed to the traineeship model of work and learn, Hafiz settled well into a routine that alternates between the workplace and campus. As his work deals with systems and machines, he valued the practical training and guidance from industry experts. In school, under the guidance of lecturers, learning is further reinforced.

At times, Hafiz struggled to balance school and work obligations. Encouraged by his family's advice of always seeing the big picture, he persevered in the course and even took the initiative to upgrade further by signing up for a Fire Safety certification. Hafiz's positive work attitude and excellent performance were duly recognised by his employer and he was promoted from a Technician to a Technical Officer. Hafiz credits his family for constantly reminding him that the right attitude will eventually reap rewards.

The Right Fit

"The Work-Study Diploma Programme with ITE was definitely the right fit for me. I got the peace of mind to continue to upskill in the area of my choice, through a fully sponsored training programme. I had the opportunity to be mentored and guided by experienced people at my workplace whilst earning a stable monthly income to support my family. Graduating with a Diploma in hand is so surreal – I am qualified, capable, confident and motivated, and these are the qualities I want my employer to see in me."

After ITE

Hafiz is currently employed by ENGIE Services Singapore Pte Ltd. He plans to upgrade his skills and attain a degree in Facility Management in future.

Top Achievements

- Hafiz performed exceptionally well in his course, obtaining a Gold Course Medal which is conferred to the top graduate of his course.
- A capable employee at work, Hafiz frequently comes up with innovative solutions to resolve problems at his work site.

ITE GRADUATION 2021 SINGAPORE NATIONAL EMPLOYERS FEDERATION GOLD MEDAL

Name : Daniel Ezzra Adly B Mohamed Y
Course : Work-Study Diploma in Security Systems Engineering
College : ITE College West

Shy Guy No More

Daniel Ezzra Adly B Mohamed Y chose to take up a Work-Study Diploma (WSDip) in Security Systems Engineering at ITE because it allowed him to study and build his career at the same time. Fuelled by his passion for technology, Daniel was able to push himself beyond his comfort zone during training.

Initially shy, he was not confident in communicating with others at the start of the programme, despite possessing the know-how. Through determination and support from his supervisors, Daniel successfully managed a project during his training and received compliments from several customers. His resilience, positive attitude and outstanding performance during training have impressed not just his supervisors, but also the Vice President & Head of Certis Technology (Singapore).

Experience Counts

“ITE helped build up my foundation, allowing me to understand the larger context and gain knowledge of the industry. With the WSDip, the theories I’ve learnt translated into real-life experience and I was able to apply my knowledge into specific technologies. I also gained experience in soft skills earlier than my peers with on-the-job training. With more recognition being awarded to WSDip, I have no regrets taking up this course.”

After ITE

Daniel is now a Field Engineer at Certis Technology (Singapore) Pte Ltd – his employer during WSDip training. He received a pay increment upon graduation. He hopes to further his studies in the future.

Top Achievements

- Daniel is part of the pioneer batch of WSDip graduates. He received the Gold Course Medal, which is given to the top graduate in the course.
- While studying for his *Nitec* in Technology (Mobile Devices), Daniel received the Edusave Awards for Achievement, Good Leadership & Service in 2015 and 2016.
- While training, Daniel led an in-house project that helped minimise the rate of return to the Engineering Service Centre. This reduction in manpower to maintain and troubleshoot meant substantial savings for the company. His outstanding performance during training led to him achieving an excellent grade for his On-the-Job Training in Year 2.

ITE GRADUATION 2021 e2i GOLD MEDAL

Name : Pearl Lynn Woon Zeng Yu
Course : Nitec in Services – Business Services
College : ITE College Central

Advancing with Skills

Having spent almost a decade in the Retail sector - as a part-timer selling clothes while she took her 'N' and 'O' Levels and in her current position as a Sales Associate at Watch it! Pte Ltd - 26-year-old Pearl Lynn Woon Zeng Yu has had her fair share of handling difficult customers. Even though she was earning her keep, she discovered that career progression was slow in the face of rising inflation. She attributed this realisation to maturity and wanted to obtain formal qualifications related to her work.

In 2018, Pearl took a leap of faith and decided to upgrade her skills with Nitec in Services – Business Services. In the course, she learnt more about accounting, delivering good customer service, events planning, keeping track of inventory and managing suppliers. Supported by her family, supervisor and ITE lecturers, Pearl excelled in her course and was able to apply what she learnt directly at her workplace. This eager learner is not about to stop upgrading. With a newfound interest in supply chain and logistics, she plans to further her studies in part-time mode up to degree level and work in the shipping or transportation industry in future.

Discipline is Key

“There are no hard and fast rules that guarantee success. In my case, it helps to be disciplined. Once I get home after class, I make it a point to finish my assignments. Once you put off what you need to do, you’ll lose the momentum. You must have the drive to complete individual work.

For group work, it is tough as we have to accommodate each other’s work schedules and balance personal commitments. Even though we met with challenges, I’m glad we managed to pull through together and graduate! Our lecturers were very helpful. They explained the concepts clearly so that we could grasp them well.”

After ITE

An advocate of continuous learning, Pearl is currently pursuing a part-time Diploma in Business Practice (International Supply Chain Management) at Ngee Ann Polytechnic.

Top Achievements

- Pearl attained the Silver Course Medal in her Nitec in Services - Business Services course.
- She also achieved the Certificate of Merit and graduated with a perfect Grade Point Average of 4.0.
- She is a role model in class. Her project work and assignments demonstrated that she is well versed in all her course modules.

ITE GRADUATION 2021 e2i GOLD MEDAL

Name : Stanley Ong Weiqin
Course : *Higher Nitec in Technology – Electrical Engineering*
College : ITE College West

Lifelong Learning for Lifelong Success

A graduate from the University of Melbourne with a Bachelor of Environments, Stanley started out as a Project Engineer managing oil and gas pipeline insulation works, before joining an environmental services company as a Senior Operations Engineer. Keen to pursue a career with greater autonomy, he established his own electrical services company in 2018. As Director, Stanley primarily handles business development and project management functions while entrusting technical work to his staff.

A year into his business, a family friend who runs an electrical business convinced Stanley on the importance of having technical expertise in his line of work. To bridge his knowledge gap, Stanley enrolled in a part-time Electrical Engineering course at ITE. He quickly gained practical insights and skills in areas such as electrical design and installation, intelligent building systems, and codes of practice. These enabled him to adopt a more hands-on approach in project management, and streamline work processes for greater efficiency. Inspired by his rewarding experience at ITE, Stanley has gained a deeper passion for lifelong learning.

Faith and Perseverance

“Before I enrolled in ITE, I was pursuing a part-time Master’s degree in Analytics. When I told others about my decision to switch to the Higher Nitec course, I could sense their scepticism. However, that did not affect me. I believe it’s important to focus on achieving our desired goals, and not to worry about others’ opinions. Thankfully, my wife was very supportive as she understood the importance of the ITE course to my career.

It wasn’t easy juggling work and study. I attended classes four times a week. By the time I got home, it would be late at night. I sacrificed a lot of family time but it was all worth it. I gained a lot from this course. It was inspiring to meet classmates from diverse backgrounds, all motivated by a common goal of improving themselves. They reinforced my belief that it’s important to have a growth mindset, to be curious, and keep learning.”

After ITE

Stanley plans to pursue a part-time diploma in Electrical Engineering. He is also keen on taking up technical courses, which could empower him to expand his business, from providing electrical services to delivering Mechanical and Electrical services collectively.

Top Achievements

- For his strong academic excellence, Stanley was awarded the Gold Course Medal for *Higher Nitec in Technology – Electrical Engineering* course.
- Being one of the top performers of his course, he obtained the Certificate of Merit upon graduation.
- Diligent and motivated, Stanley graduated with a perfect Grade Point Average score of 4.0.

ITE GRADUATION 2021 IES ENGINEERING AWARD

Name : Robin Teoh Yan Quan
Course : *Higher Nitec* in Mechatronics Engineering
College : ITE College West

Engineering Enthusiast

Fixing faulty electronic appliances, designing autonomous vehicle and assembling robots – these are some of the talents Robin Teoh Yan Quan is gifted in. Robin’s fascination in engineering and robotics served as a strong motivating factor for him to participate in various competitions. One of his most memorable experience was competing at ‘Solidworks Design Challenge 2020’, when his design of a 3D toy model won him a Grand Prize.

Beyond the classroom, Robin shone as a leader. As the President of Automation and Robotics Club, he led the members in planning and participating in a series of robotics-related competitions and team bonding activities for new and existing members. A diligent student, he was selected as a Student Mentor to tutor students who required assistance in their studies.

With a deep passion in engineering, Robin always strives to improve himself in a holistic manner, so that he is well equipped to tackle any future challenges.

Thrill of Learning

“The knowledge and skills that I have gained from the Mechatronics Engineering course empowered me to create something useful. The thrill of designing, constructing and fabricating a machine, or simply, to make something work, continually sparks my interest in the engineering field. I enjoy learning at ITE, as my lecturers and peers have constantly supported and guided me through my course of study. It is an exciting and rewarding journey at ITE.”

After ITE

Robin’s excellent scores earned him a direct entry into the second year in the Diploma in Mechatronics and Robotics at Singapore Polytechnic. After obtaining a diploma, he plans to further his engineering studies in a university. He aspires to be a Mechatronics Engineer.

Top Achievements

- Robin excelled academically, achieving a perfect Grade Point Average score of 4.0. He received the Certificate of Merit and a Gold Course Medal. He was in the College Director’s List in 2019 and 2020.
- For his exemplary conduct and service contributions, Robin was presented with Gold Service Star Award (2020) by his College.
- For developing an amenities dispensing machine for the hospitality industry, Robin and his team recently won the Lee Kuan Yew Technology Award 2021.