

**LEE KUAN YEW CCA AWARD 2020
RECIPIENT PROFILES**

Name: Liew Wen Yu
Course: Nitec in Electronics, Computer Networking & Communications
College: ITE College Central

Giving His Best Fight

When Wen Yu was 11, burglars broke into his home. The incident motivated him to learn martial arts to protect his family. Soon after, his family plunged into more difficult circumstances, as his father passed away. To make ends meet, he chose to work after his N-Levels and withdrew from ITE.

During his National Service, he became inspired to resume his studies when he saw the dedication of those pursuing part-time studies.

Upon returning to ITE, Wen Yu joined the Karate Club to pursue his passion. Despite having to juggle between part-time work and school commitments, he persevered. He was well-respected as a caring leader with a positive attitude, who would readily help others. Every month, he would lead his Club members to provide massages for the elderly at a nursing home.

From the Heart

“ITE is a place that nurtures students to live up to their full potential, where there are many chances given to every student to excel and become who they want to be. For me, ITE was where I could start anew, regain confidence and prove my capabilities.

My lecturers and Karate Club coach were understanding towards my personal circumstances, showed care for me, and gave me the opportunities to be a leader. We can all achieve our best, if we make the best out of the opportunities we have and give our 100%.”

Life after ITE

- Pursuing the *Higher Nitec* in Cyber & Network Security course at ITE College West.
- Aspires to be a penetration tester, or “ethical hacker”, and build a career in cyber security.

Top Achievements

- Representing ITE, Wen Yu clinched a Silver Medal in Karate at the 2019 Institute-Varsity-Polytechnic (IVP) Games.
- For his extensive service contributions and exemplary conduct, he received the ITE Service Star Gold Award in 2018 and 2019 and the Edusave Character Award in 2019.
- An all-rounded student, Wen Yu achieved a GPA score of 3.967. He was in the Directors’ List for all terms from 2018 to 2019.

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Name: Michelle Sng Siew Hua
Course: *Higher Nitec* in Event Management
College: ITE College East

Spreading Love and Positivity

Growing up, Michelle did not consider herself “studious”. She struggled to cope with her studies and often did not do well. However, the unwavering support of her parents encouraged her to keep improving. They also inspired her to be positive and give her best efforts in all pursuits.

Driven by this spirit, Michelle actively seized self-development opportunities at ITE. She joined the Student Council, as she wanted to make a difference. Despite her heavy schedule, she remained focused on managing her multiple commitments well.

Through her strong leadership and dedication, she earned the respect of her peers and was elected President of the Student Council. She was well-liked as a caring leader, who would take time to mentor and help her peers.

From the Heart

“The person I am today and the success I have achieved along the way did not come about solely through my own effort. My parents have made sacrifices for me. My teachers have guided me. My friends have supported me. Therefore, in everything that I do, I want to give back to others. The Student Council provided me many opportunities to do that. The work we did was very meaningful and brought me great satisfaction.”

Life after ITE

- Pursuing a Diploma in Early Childhood Development & Education at Ngee Ann Polytechnic.
- Inspired by her experience of teaching pre-schoolers at her church’s Sunday School, she aspires to be an early childhood educator.
- Plans to join grassroots and community service organisations to give back to society.

Top Achievements

- Michelle led a team to hold a movie gala which raised more than \$14,000 for charity, earning them the Citi-YMCA Youth For Causes Merit Award 2019.
- Through her extensive service contributions, Michelle received the ITE Service Star Gold Award in 2018 and Platinum Award in 2019.
- For showing all-round excellence, she received the Edusave Award for Achievement, Good Leadership and Service.

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Name: Neo Wei Li
Course: *Nitec* in Infocomm Technology
College: ITE College West

Igniting the Joy of Service

Growing up, Wei Li found little joy in studying. Being a hands-on learner who likes computing, he was happy to enrol in ITE's *Nitec* in Infocomm Technology (ICT) course after his N-Levels.

At ITE, Wei Li discovered a new vigour for learning. This was driven by his determination to gain a fresh start at ITE and achieve his best. Despite suffering from a condition which causes frequent abdominal pains, his commitment never wavered.

Besides excelling in his studies, Wei Li also established his strong leadership abilities. He was elected as President of the ACE Club for student leaders, where he led numerous community service and school events. A firm advocate of helping the less fortunate, Wei Li actively volunteers with community service groups.

From the Heart

"My favourite quote by Ernest Hemingway best sums my outlook in life: "There is nothing noble in being superior to your fellow man; true nobility is being superior to your former self."

My life experiences were greatly enriched through the community service activities I participated in, which made me realise that I cannot take what I have for granted. There is so much we can do to help the needy and underprivileged among us."

Life after ITE

- Pursuing a Diploma in Community Development at Ngee Ann Polytechnic.
- Aspires to work in the social services sector.

Top Achievements

- Wei Li attained the National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA) Gold Award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to society.
- He led a team to raise over \$17,000 for charity by selling herbs, which earned them the Citi-YMCA Youth for Causes Merit Award 2019.
- For his service excellence, he won the ITE Service Star Diamond Award in 2019.
- Excelling academically, Wei Li achieved a GPA score of 3.935. He was in the Director's List for two terms, in 2018 and 2019.