



# MOVING ON 2018

#IStartedFromITE



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Nitec in Digital Media Design (Digital Video Effects)

- Class of 2010

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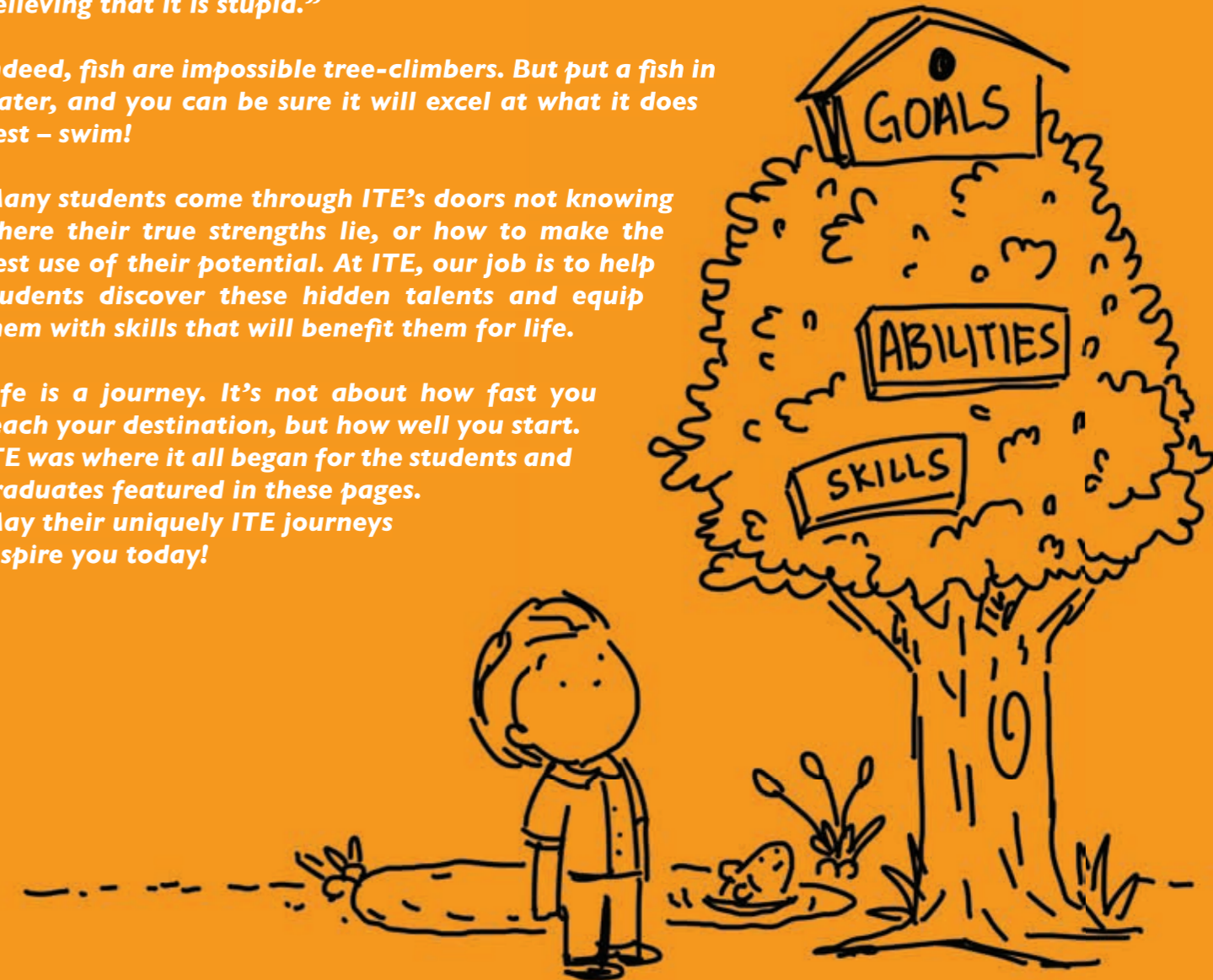
**# I STARTED FROM ITE**

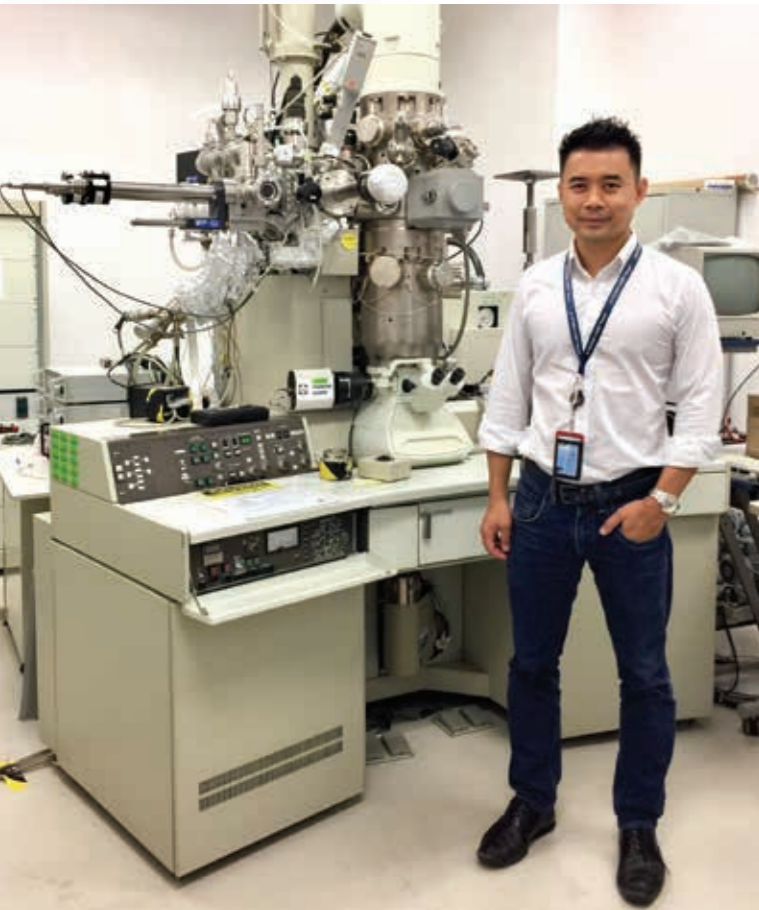
**A wise person once said, “Everyone is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing that it is stupid.”**

**Indeed, fish are impossible tree-climbers. But put a fish in water, and you can be sure it will excel at what it does best – swim!**

**Many students come through ITE’s doors not knowing where their true strengths lie, or how to make the best use of their potential. At ITE, our job is to help students discover these hidden talents and equip them with skills that will benefit them for life.**

**Life is a journey. It’s not about how fast you reach your destination, but how well you start. ITE was where it all began for the students and graduates featured in these pages. May their uniquely ITE journeys inspire you today!**





## AUGUSTINE CHEONG

Not faring very well in the standard academic track subjects during his early school years, **Augustine Cheong** used to be at a loss when it came to life's ambitions and goals. It was only later on, when he was streamed into ITE, that he felt that his life took a turn for the better. It was the training received at ITE, where he honed his hands-on skills for Precision Engineering, that made him feel most at home. This became his springboard into adult life, as he took the same skill-sets gained from his ITE days to life in Polytechnic, doing Mechanical Engineering and then, to his job now as a Specialist in in-depth Materials Testing focusing on mechanical properties.

### THEN

- ▶ NTC 3 in Precision Machining
- ▶ <sup>1</sup>NTC 2 in Precision Engineering
- ▶ <sup>2</sup>ITC in Mechanical Engineering
- ▶ Diploma in Mechanical Engineering  
Ngee Ann Polytechnic

<sup>1</sup>NTC 2 is now called *Nitec*  
<sup>2</sup>ITC is now called *Higher Nitec*

Specialist, Materials Processing and Characterisation  
A\*STAR's Institute of Materials Research and Engineering

=NOW=

“ITE gave me the opportunity to focus on my skills and talents.”

## PAUL JOHN LIEW

**Paul John Liew** is a driven young man who spares no effort pursuing his interests. At the age of 15, he wanted to pursue photography, but his mother was not convinced that his interest would last. Paul managed to turn her mind around, and she bought a camera for him. Paul was determined to learn as much as he could about photography. After his final examinations in Secondary 4, Paul proactively searched for an internship opportunity at a production house. He started learning about the industry even before his ITE course began. Through the *Nitec* in Digital Audio & Video Production course at ITE, Paul benefited from another internship opportunity to work with the production team for the local film, 'Ah Boys to Frogmen'. A person with a great attitude towards life, Paul graduated among the top of his cohort at ITE, and is now pursuing deeper skills in his craft at Ngee Ann Polytechnic.

“It's what I love to do, so the work is rewarding.”



### THEN

- ▶ Riverside Secondary School
- ▶ *Nitec* in Digital Audio & Video Production

Diploma in Film, Sound & Video  
Ngee Ann Polytechnic

=NOW=

“I think young people should find an area they would like to pursue as their career and work towards it. For me, being an ITE student made me who I am today, and ITE has played a very important role in helping me achieve my goals. Dreams can come true!”



## NOEL NG

After completing his 'N' levels, **Noel Ng** decided to forgo taking his 'O' levels and started his *Nitec* in Hair Services (Hair Fashion & Design) course in 2008. Fuelled by his interest in hairstyling, Noel went on to do a second *Nitec* – this time specialising in Hair & Scalp Therapy. In fact, he was so good in his skill area that he was selected to represent Singapore at the ASEAN Skills Competition in 2010, where he won a gold medal, and at the WorldSkills Competition in London in 2011. After National Service, Noel worked as a stylist in a Joo Chiat hair salon, where he learnt from the owner how to run a business. Fast forward to today, Noel is living his dream as the owner of Harts Salon at Tan Quee Lan Street, which opened in 2016.

### THEN

- ▶ Telok Kurau Secondary School
- ▶ *Nitec* in Hair Services (Hair Fashion & Design)
- ▶ *Nitec* in Hair Services (Hair & Scalp Therapy)

Owner  
Harts Salon

=NOW=

## FATINI ADLINA

Would you put in your best efforts to win in a competition, and subsequently donate half of your prize money to the less-privileged? That was exactly what **Fatini Adlina Bte Kassim** did. This big-hearted young lady, together with her teammate, designed and created a card game that won the Merit Prize at the Singapore Junior Water Prize Competition in 2016. Fatini then decided to donate half of her cash prize to those in need. The active community service volunteer, who finds meaning in sharing “what I have and what I know”, truly symbolises ITE’s Hands-on, Minds-on, Hearts-on® education philosophy!

### THEN

- ▶ East View Secondary School
- ▶ Higher *Nitec* in Broadcast & Media Technology

Diploma in  
Visual Effects  
Ngee Ann Polytechnic

=NOW=



“My grandparents and parents taught me to do everything with a sincere heart, and to the best of my ability.”



## MARIANI DAWOOD

Aspiring towards a Junior College pathway, **Mariani Dawood** sat for the GCE 'O' level examinations twice, before deciding that this route was not to be. Even though she qualified for other Polytechnic courses, Mariani decided to pursue the *Nitec* in Aerospace Technology course at ITE, as she liked hands-on work. It seemed like a perfect metaphor for a fresh start, to soar in a different direction. At ITE, Mariani regained her self-esteem and re-ignited her passion for skills. In fact, she did so well that she got a scholarship from Rolls-Royce, and is now an Engine Assembly Technician with the multi-national corporation.

**THEN**

- ▶ Anderson Secondary School
- ▶ *Nitec* in Aerospace Technology

**Engine Assembly Technician**  
Rolls-Royce

**=NOW=**

“At home, I’m the one assembling furniture.”

## MOSES CHARLES

**Moses Charles S/O Felix** believes in having a positive outlook in life. This attitude translates beautifully into everything that he does. In secondary school, he stunned his peers by becoming a Head Prefect, even though he was from the Normal (Technical) stream. Though it was challenging earning the respect of his peers, he chose to rise to the occasion by leading by example. The experience made him realise that a good leader is not recognised by only a sterling report card, but also the ability to lead and inspire others. At ITE College West, Moses carried on what he did best, and helmed the Student Council as its President. His energy and tenacity rubbed off on his fellow student councillors, and made a positive and lasting impact to the student body. An excellent ITE role model, Moses continues to shine in his diploma studies at Republic Polytechnic.

**THEN**

- ▶ North View Secondary School
- ▶ *Nitec* in Fitness Training

**Diploma in Sports & Exercise Sciences**  
Republic Polytechnic

**=NOW=**

“It is alright if I am better with hands-on learning than churning out stacks of model essays. It is alright if I have to take a longer route to achieve my dreams than most people. But it is not alright to stop trying to be the best in everything that I can be.”



## ALINA HAR & ANDREA LIM

Despite having very different family backgrounds, restaurant owners **Andrea Lim** and **Alina Har** know that their culinary skills are the secret to keeping their food business thriving. Andrea comes from a family of skilled professionals, with his father being a chef. Andrea realised that acquiring skills would get him a good job, like his father did. Alina, however, had to persuade her parents harder in pursuit of a culinary career. As an intern, she would report for work hours earlier just to pick up tips from the chefs. Her passion eventually paid off, as she gained her parents' support. Today, Andrea and Alina believe that their training at ITE has provided them with an excellent foundation to run their two 5 Senses Bistro outlets.

### THEN

- Alina Har
- ▶ Hua Yi Secondary School
  - ▶ Nitec in Western Culinary Arts
  - ▶ Technical Diploma in Culinary Arts, ITE
- Andrea Lim
- ▶ Temasek Secondary School
  - ▶ Nitec in Western Culinary Arts
  - ▶ Technical Diploma in Culinary Arts, ITE

Owners  
5 Senses  
Bistro

=NOW=



“Our head chef is also from ITE. Being from ITE ourselves, we know what its graduates are capable of.”

## NUR AMIRAH

Despite being assigned the extremely challenging task of tracing and documenting the entire instrument air supply system of a refinery during her internship at Shell Eastern Petroleum in 2016, **Nur Amirah Bte Mohd Yusof** did not allow herself to be daunted. She persevered and applied the skills that she had learnt at ITE to update the air supply system on the company's maps and technical records. Amirah's maturity and tenacity greatly impressed her supervisor, and she was offered a full-time job with the company immediately upon graduation from ITE.

### THEN

- ▶ St Anthony's Canossian Secondary School
- ▶ Nitec in Chemical Process Technology

Process Technician  
Shell Eastern Petroleum

=NOW=

## RAYNER ENG

**Rayner Eng** was first exposed to the charms of Engineering when he was just 10 years old. In Peiyong Primary School, he actively pursued his interest by joining the Robotics Club, where his strong Engineering foundations were developed. He enjoyed tinkering not only with nuts and bolts, but also appreciated the beautiful language of programming. This CCA set the stage and strengthened his desire to become an aircraft engineer. Despite qualifying for the Polytechnic Foundation Programme with his eight-point 'N' levels score, Rayner decided to further his studies at ITE. His decision paid off handsomely two years later, due to a combination of hard work and a clear focus on his goals. This aspiring Engineer did exceedingly well at ITE and won the prestigious IES Engineering Award in 2016. Rayner has since progressed to Singapore Polytechnic.

### THEN

- ▶ Unity Secondary School
- ▶ Higher Nitec in Mechatronics Engineering

Diploma in Aeronautical Engineering  
Singapore Polytechnic

=NOW=



**“I decided to go to ITE because it would provide me with the basic hands-on and fundamental skills of engineering, which was what I wanted.”**





## SARASVATHY

She was only a pre-schooler then, but **Sarasvathy D/O Ravee** already had her mind set on becoming an early childhood educator, just like her kindergarten teachers. Sarasvathy took up the *Higher Nitec* in Early Childhood Education course at ITE, where her lecturers shared the career prospects she could look forward to. With encouragement and guidance from her lecturers, she worked hard to realise her dreams. A recipient of the inaugural Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA) Training Award – Commendation Award in 2017, Sarasvathy is currently studying for her Diploma in Early Childhood Education and hopes to make a difference in the lives of the young children under her care.

### THEN

- ▶ Anderson Secondary School
- ▶ Higher Nitec in Early Childhood Education

Diploma in Early Childhood Education  
Ngee Ann Polytechnic

=NOW=

## STEPHANIE HO

**Stephanie Raphaela Ho** has been passionate about drawing ever since she learnt how to hold a pencil. This spunky go-getter has a dream to become a prominent figure in the design and illustration industry one day. Her first step towards this dream started when she took up studies in the *Nitec* in Digital Media Design (Digital Video Effects) course. A mature student, Stephanie only joined ITE five years after her GCE 'N' levels. She initially had no plans to join ITE, but five years of being in the workforce convinced her that she needed to upgrade her skills in order to achieve her goals. And what a change that one step has made. Today, Stephanie is living her dream as an author, illustrator and highly sought-after mural artist. And just so you know, this magazine is also designed by her!

### THEN

- ▶ Fuhua Secondary School
- ▶ Nitec in Digital Media Design (Digital Video Effects)
- ▶ Diploma in Visual Communications Temasek Polytechnic

Founder of  
**Muffinsaurs Studio**  
(www.muffinsaurs.com)

=NOW=

“If you ever have a dream or vision to do something, do it!”





## THEOPHILUS TAY

After graduating from ITE with a *Nitec* in Electrical Technology (Lighting & Sound) in 2009, **Theophilus Tay** set up his events management company. He went to 'work' daily, despite having no clients for four months. He made many cold calls. It was definitely a worrying period for him. The breakthrough eventually came via a referral. Even though the scale of the job wasn't exactly what Theophilus had hoped for, he did his best and delivered. The rest, as they say, is history. Today, Theophilus' Daebak Production Pte Ltd has a steady stream of assignments, possessing the expertise and enough equipment to take on sizable projects. Theophilus is now able to meet the industry's demands in lighting, sound and video work. More importantly, he is confident in his ability to deal with unpredictability, which is to be expected in any event's setup.

### THEN

- ▶ New Town Secondary School
- ▶ *Nitec* in Electrical Technology (Lighting & Sound)

**Business Owner**  
Daebak Production Pte Ltd

=NOW=

## TOMMY PEH

Meet ITE's 2017 Valedictorian and Lee Kuan Yew Gold Medallist, **Tommy Peh**. When Tommy was 15, his father met with a car accident and could not work. Tommy started working to sustain himself and supplement his family's income. Despite juggling part-time work and studies, he still served as a student leader in ITE College Central and achieved an almost perfect Grade Point Average. Through adversity, he proved his strength in spirit and character.

### THEN

- ▶ Bowen Secondary School
- ▶ *Nitec* in Finance Services

**Diploma in Customer Experience Management with Business**  
Republic Polytechnic

=NOW=



“There are very few dead ends, except in people's minds.”

“The most valuable lesson I learnt in ITE was professional ethics. Our lecturers trained us well and they have high expectations of excellence and consistency – I was trained for tomorrow, so that tomorrow belongs to me.”





## WANN HAMZZAH RAMLLAN

Expecting to do better, **Wann Hamzzah Ramllan** was disappointed when he was posted to the Normal (Technical) stream after primary school. His mother, however, was ecstatic; she was so proud that her first-born made it to secondary school that she called her friends to share the good news with them. It was this same support from his parents that sustained Wann through all the ups and downs in his studies – from dropping out of his first *Nitec* course, to taking a break from school, and then coming back to ITE to complete two courses under the ITE Traineeship Programme. During his Traineeship stint, Wann discovered his strengths in managing multiple projects and helming leadership roles. In 2013, he received the Lee Kuan Yew Model Trainee Award for his exemplary conduct and performance in ITE. Currently completing his National Service with the Singapore Police Force, Wann will be furthering his studies at Ngee Ann Polytechnic come October 2018.

### THEN

- ▶ Boon Lay Secondary School
- ▶ ITE Traineeship Programme  
*Nitec* in Service Skills (Office)
- ▶ ITE Traineeship Programme  
*Higher Nitec* in Business Studies (Service Management)

**Diploma in Business Practice**  
(Administration & Management)  
Ngee Ann Polytechnic

=NOW=

## NG JUN XUAN

**Ng Jun Xuan** is so good at creating digital game characters that he became a world champion in the craft in 2017. At the WorldSkills Competition held in Abu Dhabi in October 2017, Jun Xuan beat eight other contenders from around the world to clinch the coveted Gold medal in the 3D Digital Game Art category. This success was not achieved overnight, though. Jun Xuan's interest in Art began in secondary school, when he started sketching his favourite cartoon characters on paper. He subsequently enrolled in ITE's Digital Animation course to pursue his twin interests of art and gaming. Currently completing his final year in Nanyang Polytechnic's Digital Game Art & Design course, Jun Xuan is proof that you can find success if you are game enough to give it a shot!

### THEN

- ▶ Springfield Secondary School
- ▶ *Nitec* in Digital Animation

**Diploma in Digital Game Art & Design**  
Nanyang Polytechnic

=NOW=

“No matter how challenging things may seem, as long as you have the passion, your dreams will be fuelled.”



# PRABHMEET KAUR

**Prabhmeet Kaur** enrolled in ITE's *Higher Nitec* in Biotechnology course because of her interest in Science. However, after being given the opportunity to participate in many ITE events as a student ambassador, she soon discovered that her real passion was in writing and public speaking. With encouragement from her sister, Prabhmeet applied through the special admissions round to the Diploma in Mass Media Management course at Nanyang Polytechnic and became the first ITE student to be accepted into it. Her hard work paid off, and in 2016, she was presented the Tay Eng Soon Award, for being the most outstanding graduand who progressed to Nanyang Polytechnic from ITE.

“My dream is to be a broadcast journalist reporting from war-torn, poverty-stricken countries.”



<p><b>THEN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ CHIJ Katong Convent</li> <li>▶ Higher Nitec in Biotechnology</li> <li>▶ Diploma in Mass Media Management, Nanyang Polytechnic</li> </ul>	<p>Degree in Social Sciences, Political Science &amp; Corporate Communications Singapore Management University</p>	=NOW=
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# TAN TUAN HONG

Although he was already running a successful business and had a degree and diploma under his belt, **Tan Tuan Hong** decided that he had to get his basics right in order to better understand the technical products he was selling. To achieve this, Tuan Hong enrolled as a part-time student to pursue the *Higher Nitec* in Technology – Electrical Engineering course, as it offered him a solid foundation in his subject of choice. He completed the course in 2016, and was awarded the e2i Gold Medal at the ITE Graduation Ceremony that year for his outstanding results.



“I believe it is important to gain background knowledge of my work, and the way to do this is to master the basic skills.”

<p><b>THEN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ Singapore Polytechnic</li> <li>▶ University of Western Australia</li> <li>▶ Higher Nitec in Technology – Electrical Engineering (Part-time), ITE</li> </ul>	<p>Business Owner Rong Fa Electric Pte Ltd</p>	=NOW=
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## GARY LAU

**Gary Lau's** life was once filled with darkness. His younger days were spent participating in negative activities. After running away from home, Gary was sent to Remand Home and to Boys' Town for two years. At Boys' Town, he received positive reinforcement and care, and decided to strive for an education. Through the encouragement of mentors and friends, and through sheer determination, Gary changed the course of his life. From a troubled youth, Gary became a top student. He graduated with a perfect Grade Point Average (GPA) score from the Nitec in Community Care & Social Services course and received the Lee Kuan Yew Model Student Award in 2015. Gary's dream is to be a professional social worker to help youths, and instil hope and purpose in their lives. At ITE, Gary found the foundation for the skills he needs to fulfil this dream. Now a final-year student at Nanyang Polytechnic, Gary's strong character will light the way ahead for him and the other young people he hopes to reach out to.

**“Everyone deserves a second chance. Never judge or misjudge them, as it can kill their spirit.”**

### THEN

- ▶ Assumption Pathway School
- ▶ Nitec in Community Care & Social Services

Diploma in Social Science  
(Social Work)  
Nanyang Polytechnic

**= NOW =**

## RYAN ANG

**Ryan Ang's** parents chose to let him progress to Crest Secondary School after Primary Six, despite the school being brand new, with no illustrious history or alumni success stories to show. They felt that the hands-on mode of learning at Crest – the first Specialised School for Normal (Technical) students – would suit Ryan better, as he had struggled with his studies in primary school. Four years on, their leap of faith proved fruitful – Ryan aced his 'N' level examinations and was awarded the Tay Eng Soon Scholarship for being the most outstanding Crest graduate who progressed to ITE. Currently in the second year of his Nitec course, Ryan continues to thrive in ITE's authentic learning environment and aspires to progress to a diploma course in future.

**“My sister is a Junior College student. I am an ITE student. My parents are equally proud of both of us.”**



### THEN

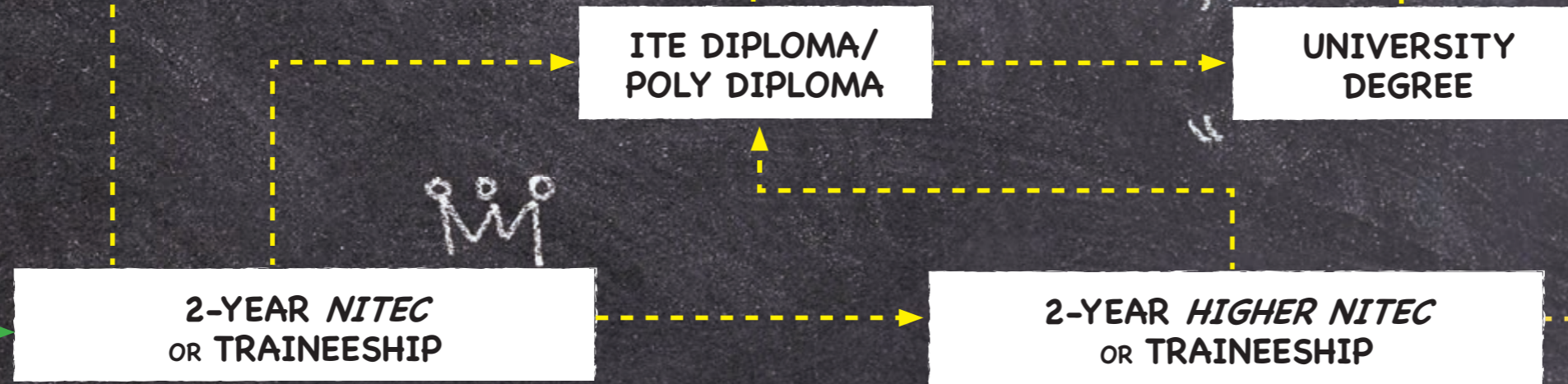
- ▶ Crest Secondary School
- ▶ ITE Skills Certificate in Hospitality Services

Nitec in Chemical Process Technology

**= NOW =**

#PATHWAYS TO SUCCESS

# EXCITING CAREERS!



<sup>1</sup>Direct Entry Scheme to Polytechnic Programme (DPP): A 10-week preparatory course followed by two years of *Higher Nitec* training.

**FROM LIGHTING  
UP MY LIFE  
TO ILLUMINATING  
THE WORLD**

At ITE, we equip you with deep technical skills and important life skills to make you career-ready, life-ready and world-ready. To help you make a difference to the world, we start by making a difference to yours.

**By equipping you for life.**



*"I was trained  
for tomorrow,  
so that tomorrow  
belongs to me."*

*Theophilus Tay  
Business Owner, Daebak Production Pte Ltd  
Nitec in Electrical Technology  
(Lighting & Sound) (2009)*

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There are no shortcuts to  
any place worth going.



At ITE, we equip  
you for the journey.