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ITE Students Recognised for All-Rounded Achievements
Award-winning students stand out for excellence in character, skills, and innovation

ITE honoured **418** outstanding students at its annual ITE Student Achievers' Awards Presentation Ceremony 2018 held at ITE Headquarters this morning. These students were recognised for their holistic achievements and excellence in the arts, sports, co-curricular activities, and technological innovations. Many of them have demonstrated strength of character to rise above challenges and pursue their aspirations.

Of these 418 students, **47 received the prestigious Lee Kuan Yew (LKY) Award** – namely, the **LKY Model Student/Trainee Award**, the **LKY Co-Curricular (CCA) Award**, and the **LKY Technology Award**. The other 371 students received the ITE Arts Excellence Award, the ITE Sports Excellence Award, the ITE CCA Medal and the ITE Student Commendation Award. A brief on these Awards can be found in *__Annex A__*.

Transforming Lives, Inspiring Change

One student who turned his life around was **Puvanaswaran S/O Manikam**. Growing up, he mixed with the wrong company, and often got into trouble. Even after his father was retrenched and the family sank into financial difficulties, he was indifferent towards his family's plight.

When his mother had a stroke, he realised that he has the duty to care for his family. He also became inspired to do good for others, and started actively volunteering in community work.

With time, Puvanaswaran developed a sense of purpose in helping the disadvantaged. This has shaped his aspiration to be a Prisons Officer, so that he can help to rehabilitate inmates.

"Having benefitted from community assistance, I understand how much it means to receive help in times of difficulty. This motivates me to help others and give back to the community," said Puvanaswaran.

For his exemplary attitude and conduct, Puvanaswaran is one of 10 ITE students who won the **LKY Model Student Award** this year.

Hitting the Score of Success

Another student, **Melvin Ang**, showed strong resilience and leadership to rise above challenges in pursuit of his musical passion. The President of ITE College West's West Symphonia band not only loves music, but also finds strength from music.

Melvin suffered from panic attacks when he was in secondary school, and would play the trumpet to relieve his anxiety. Music became the remedy that nursed him to good health.

However, Melvin faced another challenge when he first joined West Symphonia. He struggled to cope with his studies while juggling training. Despite feeling demoralised, his passion for music motivated him to stay positive and continue doing his best.

Melvin eventually established himself as a strong leader who constantly showed care for his band members. He would often take time to counsel those facing personal challenges.

For his all-rounded achievements, Melvin received the **LKY CCA Award** – which was also given to three other deserving ITE students this year.

Creating Space for Inclusion

Ananda Low, **Lum Zhi Wen**, and **Adelle Tan** were three ITE students who used their skills to make a positive difference.

Having noticed that children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) often unconsciously cause discomfort to others by standing too close, they were inspired to help these children. The group created a pair of wearable devices that would alert these children if they get too close to others.

One could be worn by parents at home or teachers in school. The other is sewn into the identification card holder worn by children with ASD. The devices would alert the child to move back through blinking light, voice instructions, or vibrations if the child gets too close to someone.

"We wanted to do something that can help these children integrate normally into society as they grow up, and build a more inclusive society," Ananda said.

For their creative innovation, they were presented with the **LKY Technology Award**. Seven innovative student projects won this Award this year.

Profiles and Winning Projects

Profiles of the LKY Model Student/Trainee Award and CCA Award winners can be found in ***Annexes B and C*** respectively. Details on the LKY Technology Award winning projects can be found in ***Annex D***.

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About ITE
The Institute of Technical Education (ITE) is a post-secondary education institution established in 1992 under the Ministry of Education. As a principal provider of career and technical education, and a key developer of national occupational skills certification and standards, ITE's Mission is to create opportunities for students and adult learners to acquire skills, knowledge and values for employability and lifelong learning. ITE's Vision is to be A Trailblazer in Career and Technical Education. Our Values are Integrity, Teamwork, Excellence and Care. ITE comprises the ITE Headquarters and three ITE Colleges - College Central, College East and College West.