

## **Media Release**

### **To News Editors**

#### **TERTIARY STUDENTS PRODUCE APPRECIATION VIDEOS TO THANK NATIONAL SERVICEMEN**

Earlier today, Senior Minister of State for Defence and President of SAFRA, Dr Mohamad Maliki Bin Osman, presented awards to students and lecturers from ITE College Central, ITE College East, Republic Polytechnic, Temasek Polytechnic and Singapore Polytechnic, for their winning video entries for the 'Appreciating NSmen Video Competition'. For this competition, students from tertiary institutions were invited to express their creativity in conceptualising and producing short videos of up to 90 seconds to convey recognition and appreciation to NSmen for their contributions to Singapore's peace and security. This is part of the ongoing series of 'We Thank NSmen' initiatives organised by SAFRA. A total of 28 entries were received from 12 tertiary institutions. The Awards Ceremony was held at SAFRA Toa Payoh. The students were awarded cash prizes ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000, as sponsored by Singapore Technologies Engineering Ltd.

The Gold Award was clinched by two ITE College Central students, Poh Luna Alicia and Edric Ting Yeun Long, for their video titled, 'Thank You Daddy'. The video playfully depicts servicemen from all five uniformed services – the Singapore Army, Republic of Singapore Navy, Republic of Singapore Air Force, Singapore Police Force and Singapore Civil Defence Force, as 'heroes'. The video is narrated by a young girl, who in a light-hearted manner, thanks her father and his friends for protecting Singapore. Both students are 18 years old and currently in their first year of pursuing a NITEC in 'Digital Animation'.

Two ITE College East students, Mulyana Chan and Nur Hafizah Garnell, won the Silver Award for their video titled, 'Book of Time'. In the video, former national football coach Jita Singh recollects and shares some of Singapore's most tumultuous incidents in the past such as racial riots, bombings and deadly fires. He uses old newspaper clippings to explain to his grandson about the importance of National Service (NS) to ensure Singapore's peace and stability. Both students are 19 years old and currently in their second year of pursuing a NITEC in 'Digital Audio and Video Production'. Jita Singh is also the grandfather of Nur Hafizah Garnell.

Jorgen Pang Jia Geng from Republic Polytechnic clinched the Bronze Award for his video titled, 'Heroes'. The video depicts a girl's narration of an endearing personal message to her brother who had just enlisted for NS. She expresses how proud she is of him for playing a role in Singapore's defence. Jorgen is 18 years old and a second-year Diploma student in the 'Aerospace Engineering' course.

Republic Polytechnic student, Odell Jeremiah Dass, won both the Merit Award and the Audience Choice Award, for his video titled, 'Thank You For...', after receiving the highest number of public votes on social media. The video takes a humorous spin on the many reasons why Singaporeans are thankful for NS and NSmen. Odell is 19 years old and a third-year 'Mass Communications' Diploma student.

Three students from Temasek Polytechnic, Republic Polytechnic and Singapore Polytechnic also won Merit Awards for their videos. More details on the Merit Award winners and their videos can be found in **Annex A**.

The winning videos will be screened at all SAFRA clubs and selected People's Association community clubs. As a lead-up to 9 Aug (Singapore's National Day) this year, the winning videos will also be circulated on social media and all Singaporeans are encouraged to show their support and heartfelt appreciation to NSmen by 'liking', sharing, and posting their personalised thank-you messages to NSmen when reposting these appreciation videos. The winning videos can also be viewed at [www.safra.sg/appreciationvideo](http://www.safra.sg/appreciationvideo).

### **Illustration Depicting Singapore's Rapid Progress by Edmund Chen Commemorates Singapore's Bicentennial and Pays Tribute to National Servicemen**

This year's SAFRA Lil' Stars, a talent time competition organised annually by SAFRA Toa Payoh and supported by the Families for Life (FFL) Council, introduced new visual arts categories for colouring and drawing.

Local actor and author Edmund Chen specially designed an illustration for the colouring competition. The illustration, themed 'Our Singapore, Our Home', was designed in commemoration of Singapore's Bicentennial Celebrations and depicts a slice of Singapore's transformation from an island village to a metropolitan city. It also underlines the integral role of NS in supporting Singapore's rapid development by paying tribute to the contributions of past and present NSmen in safeguarding Singapore's sovereignty and peace. Reflecting on how NS is entrenched as a sacred duty of every Singaporean son from young, a toy soldier, a boat and an airplane, are also illustrated from a child's perspective, to represent the three services of the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF).

Families who visited SAFRA Toa Payoh today also had the opportunity to participate in colouring a 4.8-meter by 2.5-meter replica of the colouring template. Children participating in this year's SAFRA Lil' Stars also had the opportunity to learn more about Singapore's history and heritage from a member of the SAF Veteran's League, SWO(Ret) Jeffrey Chung. Over 250 children competed in dancing, singing, colouring and drawing, at this year's SAFRA Lil' Stars.

For more information, refer to the following links:

- Appreciating NSmen Video Competition ([www.safra.sg/appreciationvideo](http://www.safra.sg/appreciationvideo))
- SAFRA Lil' Stars talent time competition ([www.safra.sg/lilstars](http://www.safra.sg/lilstars))

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## **About SAFRA National Service Association**

SAFRA was formed in 1972 to provide for the social and recreational needs of NSmen and their families through quality sports, social, educational and cultural programmes to recognise NSmen for their contributions to National Defence. SAFRA currently has a network of six clubs conveniently located in Jurong, Mount Faber, Punggol, Tampines, Toa Payoh and Yishun. Complementing the modern facilities at SAFRA clubs are a host of quality membership benefits and activities specially packaged for over 450,000 members (as of 31 March 2019) and their families.

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## APPRECIATING NSMEN VIDEO COMPETITION

### More Details on Merit Award Winners

- Four 18-year-old Temasek Polytechnic students, Tang Wei Jie Marcus from the 'Diploma in Leisure and Events Management' course (Year 2), Chew Ee Cheng Dewey from the 'Diploma in Communication and Media Management' course (Year 2), Christopher Tan Meng Huat from the 'Diploma in Electronic Engineering' course (Year 2) and Gek Jun Xu from the 'Diploma in Aviation Management' course (Year 2) jointly produced a video, titled 'We Thank You'. The video captures an encouraging conversation between a father, serving his In-Camp Training, and his son who is on his way back to camp to serve his National Service duties. It also features an original song composed by Temasek Polytechnic's Arts & Culture Co-Curricular Activities group, 'Music Vox'. The lyrics are written in appreciation for national servicemen who dutifully serve their nation to safeguard Singapore.
- Muhammad Amirul Haqim Bin Modzafar, a 19-year-old Republic Polytechnic student from the 'Diploma in Business and Social Enterprise Management' Course (Year 3) produced the video, 'We Love NSmen'. The video reminds everyone that there are often two sides to every story, as it addresses negative views and assumptions that are sometimes held against national servicemen, and showcases how the wider community can show appreciation towards NSmen for their contributions to Singapore.
- 19-year-old Singapore Polytechnic student from the 'Diploma in Energy System and Management' course (Year 3), Mubeen Tan Wu Bin produced a video titled '#Thank You'. The video features real life individuals across different ages, races and backgrounds, giving a thumbs up to show their support for national servicemen dutifully serving their Nation.

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