Annex 2: Profiles of Top Award Recipients

The Ngee Ann Kongsi Gold Medal

Natasha Benedicta Diploma in Advertising

Natasha is a highly motivated and passion-driven individual with a natural inclination towards learning. She enjoys exploring new approaches in all the projects she undertakes, and always faces challenges heads on.

Aside from being actively involved in various school activities, Natasha has participated in both local and international creative competitions to hone her artistic and strategic thinking skills. She and her team recently emerged third as Student World Champions at the Young Glory Awards 2019, the world's advertising competition devoted to creative consistency.



Natasha constantly challenges herself to venture to the edge of her limits. She believes that being a creative person means she is only as good as her next piece of work.

Awards and Achievements

- Best Studentship Award, Diploma in Advertising, NAFA, 2019
- 3rd Place, Student World Champions, Young Glory Awards, 2019
- 1 Gold, 2 Silvers, 1 Finalist, Young Glory Awards, 2019
- 1st Runner-up, Inter-school Anti-Smoking Competition Finals, Singapore Cancer Society, 2019
- Dean's List Award, AY2018/19
- NAFA Talent Development Programme, AY2018/19
- NAFA Merit Award, AY2018/19
- Tan Chin Tuan Scholarship for Creative Education (Diploma), AY2017/18
- Silver, Advertising for Good, The Crowbar Awards, 2018
- Bronze, Direct Marketing, The Crowbar Awards, 2018
- 2nd Runner-up, The Crowbar 48-hours Advertising Challenge, 2018
- Winner, Logo Design Competition, Sunbird Apollo Estate, 2017

Events, Exhibitions and Activities

- Art Director and Creative Strategist, Singapore Cancer Society Anti-Smoking Paid Media Campaign, World No Tobacco Day, 31 May 2019,
- Core Committee (Brand Lead), The Grad Expectations, 2019
- Exhibited at Winning is just the Beginning, NAFA, 2019
- Head of Committee, Advertising, NAFA Open House 2019
- Attended UX Conference & Certification, Nielsen Norman Group, Hong Kong, 2019
- Student Representative, Design & Media Programme, NAFA, 2017, 2018 & 2019
- Student Ambassador, Advertising, NAFA Open House 2017 & 2018
- Videographer and producer for various video projects:
 - WIP Exhibition No Bed-Time Stories, NAFA, 2018
 - The Great MRT Pitch, NAFA, 2018
 - Carnival at Society for the Aged Sick, NAFA, 2018
 - Launch of More Than Words Storybook, Tan Chin Tuan Foundation, 2017
 - Launch of wall mural at Society for the Aged Sick, 2017
- Orientation Leader, NAFA Orientation, 2017
- Design Ambassador, Singapore Design Week, 2017
- Photographer/Contributor, Singapore Tourism Board, 2017

About the Award

The Ngee Ann Kongsi Gold Medal is presented each year to the most outstanding diploma graduate at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts. The medal recognises the all-round achievements and

attributes of the recipient including strong academic performance, discipline, diligence and leadership qualities, as well as contributions towards the class, Academy and arts community.

The medal is funded by The Ngee Ann Kongsi, a foundation that is actively involved in educational, cultural and welfare activities in Singapore. The award was presented for the first time in 2015.

NAFA Chairman Award

Nicole Choo Jen Quinn Diploma in Fine Art

Jen is an aspiring artist and earnest learner committed to uncovering and exploring the human experience. She harnesses her language in the arts as a mediating arm for voices, to extend their breadth in and beyond the community.

Her time at NAFA offered her unparalleled experiences through projects of self-discovery and cultural identity. She has collaborated with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra on a backdrop commissioned for the *La Bohème* opera. She also partnered with philanthropic organisation, Thye Hua Kwan Moral Charities on a project which brought to light the forgotten stories of the elderly with dementia.

Beyond her spirited focus as an academic, Jen is a consultant at a contemporary fine art gallery and an avid volunteer within her locality.



- Dean's List Award, AY2018/19
- NAFA Talent Development Programme, AY2018/19
- NAFA Scholarship (Diploma), AY2018/19
- Young ChangeMakers, National Youth Council, Singapore, 2019

Events, Exhibitions and Activities

- Exhibited at Piece of Mind, National Library Building, Singapore, 2019
- Exhibited at speak to me softly, NAFA, 2019
- Curatorial Publication Team and Publicity Team, The Grad Expectations, NAFA, 2019
- Exhibited at In-Structions, NAFA Open House Exhibition, 2018
- Exhibited at Between Skylights, NAFA, 2018
- Exhibited at Savour the Arts, The Connoisseur Concerto, Singapore, 2018
- Exhibited at Art and Soul: 80 Years of the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, NAFA, 2018
- Mentor, Labyrinth: Dance Show and Afterlife: Dance Show, United World College of South East Asia, Singapore, 2018
- Participant, Illustrators Central, NAFA Arts Festival, 2018
- Student Lead, New Order: NAFA Fine Art Staff Show, NAFA, 2018
- Student Representative, Fine Art Programme, NAFA, 2018
- Casted in Discover the Possibilities: NAFA, NAFA Enrolment Video, 2018

Industry Experience

- Artist Collaborator, Bold at Work!, Singapore, 2019
- Piece of Mind, Thye Hua Kwan Moral Charities, Singapore, 2019
- Space Design Consultant, Alegria, Tema Construction, Singapore, 2019
- Collaborator, SG Cares, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, 2019
- Space Design and Coordination Collaboration, A Space Between, Tema Construction, Singapore, 2019
- La Bohème Backdrop Commission, Singapore Symphony Orchestra, 2019
- OCBC Premier Private Client Artwork Commission, Singapore, 2019
- Gallery Coordinator, Zarch Gallery, Singapore, 2019
- Contemporary Fine Art Consultant, YANG Gallery, Singapore, 2017

Volunteer Experience (2018 – Present)

- Children's Cancer Foundation, Singapore
- Youth Arts and Culture Representative, People's Association Youth Movement, Singapore
- · Loving Heart, Singapore

About the Award



The NAFA Chairman Award is presented each year to an exceptional student from amongst the best diploma graduates of each graduating cohort. The award recognises the all-round achievements of the recipient who has excelled academically and distinguished himself/herself in other areas.

The award was presented for the first time in 2015.

NAFA President Award

Edward Tan Jia Liang Diploma in Theatre (English Drama)

Edward enrolled in NAFA's Diploma in Theatre (English Drama), with an excellent GCE 'O' Levels results of 6 points for L1R5 to pursue his interest and passion in theatre. Despite his introverted nature, he is an expressive actor on stage.

His notable roles in NAFA productions include Christopher in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* (2017) and Tracy 3 in *Is This Our Stop?* (2018).

As a student, Edward approaches his work with discipline and reflection. He is diligent, receptive to feedback, and demonstrates well-rounded excellence.

Edward hopes to further his studies in theatre after his graduation.

Awards and Achievements

- Dean's List Award, AY2018/19
- NAFA Talent Development Programme, AY2018/19
- The Ngee Ann Kongsi Talent Scholarship, AY2016/17, AY2017/18 and AY2018/19
- Merit Award (Youth Category), 24 Hour Playwriting Competition, 2016

Events and Activities

- Presented original short play for Asian Youth Theatre Festival, 2018
- Member, Young Company Writers Programme, Singapore Repertory Theatre, 2018
- Member, Youth Performing Group, Firstpointe, 2017 2018
- Performed in Alice in Wonderland: A New Adventure, Jeffrey Dance Academy, 2018

About the Award

The NAFA President Award is presented each year to an exceptional student from amongst the best diploma graduates of each graduating cohort.

The award recognises the all-round achievements of the recipient who has excelled academically and distinguished himself/herself in other areas.

The award was presented for the first time in 2006.



Wu Tsung Kan Book Prize

Lim Ying Xuan Jonelle Diploma in Music

Jonelle has a great passion for music composition. She spends much time in conceptualising and research before she starts writing a new work. Her compositions are highly individual in style and character. With her strong command of the orchestral language, the instruments come alive with vivid colours, conveying a sense of drama and poetry.

Jonelle is a keen collaborator with artists across different disciplines, which expands her pursuits beyond the traditional realm. Jonelle's quest for artistic excellence and experimentation will undoubtedly thrust her far afield to greater heights.

Awards and Achievements

- NAFA Talent Development Programme, AY2018/19
- 1st Prize Winner, Song Writing Competition, Epilepsy Care Group 25th Anniversary, 2018
- Finalist, Leong Yoon Pin Composition Competition, 2018

Professional Experience

- Music Composer, 守护海洋的神岛 Rock Guardians of the Sea, Fools Theatre, 2019
- Music Composer, NAFA Junior Drama Graduation Performance, 2019
- Soundscape design for interdisciplinary performance by NAFA's Fine Art and Dance students, Courtyard @ National Gallery Singapore, 2018
- Music Composer, short film Old Friend, MM2 Entertainment, 2018
- Music Composer, 画蛇添足, Kids Theatre Show, Toy Factory, 2018
- Sound designer, NAFA Open House Mandarin Drama performance, 2018
- Music Composer, piano work for Composers Society of Singapore's 10th Anniversary Concert, premiered by German pianist Moretz Ernst, 2017
- Composer and performer, Angkor Wat Project, NAFA, 2017
- Music Arranger, Singapore Pocket Opera Theatre's performance, Singapore Cultural Centre, 2017

Performance Experience

- Performed with Dicapella in collaboration with National Environment Agency, Pasir Ris Hawker Centre, 2019
- Performed with Reverberance, Blast 2019, Singapore Chinese Cultural Centre, 2019
- Performed with Ocarina House, Chinese New Year workshop, Singapore Cultural Chinese Cultural Centre, 2019
- Performed with Dicapella and Singapore Chinese Orchestra Music Tapas, Singapore Conference Hall, 2018
- Musician, NAFA Interdisciplinary Project, National Museum's World War II Opening Ceremony, Singapore, 2017

Leadership

• Student Representative, Diploma in Music (Year 1), AY2016/17

About the Award

The Wu Tsung Kan Book Prize is a premier award for all-round excellence. Two awards are presented to exceptional students from amongst the best diploma graduates at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts. The recipients are selected based on academic excellence and other outstanding achievements.



Mr Wu Tsung Kan served as Principal of NAFA from 1979 to 1988. He had a long and distinguished career in Singapore's education sector. Among his many significant achievements in NAFA were the introduction of new diploma courses in Music, Dance and Design, a revamp of the curriculum and assessment system, ensuring the building of new campus facilities including an art gallery, and establishing new sources of funding. The Academy grew in national and international stature as a result of Mr Wu's vision and dedication.

The Wu Tsung Kan Book Prize has been made possible by a generous donation from Mr Wu and his family on the occasion of his 97th birthday on 23 April 2016.

Wu Tsung Kan Book Prize

Anadier Ong Soo Teng Diploma in Fashion Design

Anadier demonstrates a keen passion for learning and displayed a high level of commitment in her final year collection. She is always well-prepared and organised when attending consultations and displays great depth and understanding in her research and design development work.

Anadier's critical thinking skills enabled her to anticipate and solve problems during her design and garment creation processes. Her final collection indicates her commitment and professionalism to her craft and this is substantiated by the impeccably constructed and finished garments submitted for her final project.

Anadier's leadership qualities are also evident in how she takes charge of various tasks while leading her team members to the finishing line.



Awards and Achievements

- Winner, External Examiner Meritorous Award, 2019
- Finalist (Top 6), New Generation Fashion Designer Award, Harper's Bazaar, 2019

Exhibitions and Activities

- Student Assistant, NAFA Open House, 2018 & 2019
- Exhibited at Flagship Genius 80 featuring Angkor Wat III, NAFA, 2019
- Fashion Upcycling, Takashimaya Department Store, Singapore, 2019

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Embassy of Peru Award

David Zechariah Kwek Bachelor of Music (Hons)

David's academic achievements at the undergraduate level are commendable and his performances show a strong stylistic awareness and confident musicianship.

David is an engaging and intelligent person to work with. He displays an excellent work ethic in class where he is always punctual and well-prepared for his tasks. He has shown consistency and enthusiasm in his development as a musician and actively participates in many on-campus ensembles such as the NAFA Orchestra and NAFA Winds Orchestra, as well as external events by local ensembles including the Metropolitan Festival Orchestra, Singapore Lyric Opera and The Philharmonic Orchestra. David is also a freelance musician with the Singapore Symphony Orchestra since 2018.



In addition, David is a confident leader as he facilitated a community music project with 3 other classmates for a group of seniors at NAFA. As the group coordinator, he managed the outreach project with excellent preparation, creativity, empathy and passion. David created the similar project with 3 other musicians and 10 seniors to present a community music performance at the SkillsFuture Festival @ Central Singapore CDC in 2019.

Awards and Achievements

- 1st Prize Winner (Category: Under 28 Years), Macao Clarinet Asia Competition, Macao, 2019
- NAFA Merit Award (Degree), AY2018/19

Orchestra Experience

- Royal College of Music Philharmonic, London, January-March 2019
- Metropolitan Festival Orchestra, Singapore, 2018 Present
- re:Sound Collective, Singapore, 2017 Present
- NAFA Orchestra, Singapore, 2014 2019
- The Philharmonic Orchestra, Singapore, 2013 Present

Performance Experience:

- Performed at Contrasts Recital, Singapore & Malaysia, December 2018 & March 2019
- Performed at The Sing Song Club 8th Singapore Lieder Festival, Victoria Concert Hall, Singapore. December 2018
- Performed at the Singapore Night Festival, a collaboration between the Singapore Art Museum & The Young Musician's Foundation Orchestra, Singapore, August 2018
- Performed at the Orchestra Collective Dialogues, Singapore, April 2018
- Performed at the Concert & Outreach Workshops (with the NAFA Wind Ensemble), Medan, Indonesia, September 2017

About the Award

The Embassy of Peru Award was first presented in 2006. It is presented to the most outstanding degree graduate at the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts. The award recognises the all-round achievements of the recipient who possesses strong academic performance, good attributes including discipline, diligence and leadership qualities, as well as contributions towards the class, Academy and arts community.

The award is a *Tumi* from Peru. It is made of solid silver. The *Tumi* is one of the symbols of Peru. It has its origin in one of the main cultures in ancient Peru between 1050 – 1476 AD, known as the Chimú Culture. One of the important accomplishments of the Chimú was the establishment of the goldsmith workshops. Among the most famous pieces made were the great ceremonial knives called

the *Tumi*. During the ancient times in Peru, it was used as a knife in ceremonies and surgeries. Later on, it evolved into an art object.

Peru is a country where gold, silver and other metals with artistic character are in abundance and so the *Tumi* is symbolic of the art and culture of Peru. In Peru, hanging a *Tumi* on a wall brings good luck.