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## Annex 1 – Student Profiles



### Soh Ray Chel

Diploma in Fashion Design, 2025

Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Design Practice (Current student)

The Ngee Ann Kongschi Scholarship (AY 25/26)

Quote:

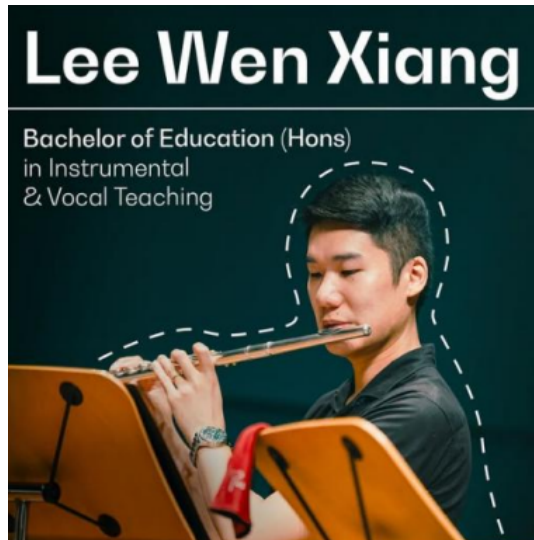
“The Ngee Ann Kongschi Scholarship has eased my financial burden, allowing me to focus fully on my studies and growth as a designer. Even without it, I would have pursued my degree at NAFA, but this award has given me extra confidence and motivation to excel.”

Ray Chel has distinguished herself as an emerging fashion designer whose creativity bridges social impact and innovation. In her final year at NAFA, she received both the Best Collection Award and the Best Studentship Award for her graduating project. As part of the Singapore Council of Women’s Organisation (SCWO) President’s Gala Dinner, she was tasked to redesign donated clothing from SCWO’s New2U store into a bespoke gown. Inspired by survivor stories from NAFA Fashion Studies’ collaboration with SCWO, her work was later featured on SCWO’s website.

Her growing portfolio also includes high-profile projects such as designing for the National Day Parade, where her creations were commissioned and worn by Senior Parliamentary Secretary Ms Goh Huan Yan and Minister of State Mr Baey Yam Keng, as well as costume work for Maya Dance Theatre. Most recently, she was invited to showcase her final year collection comprising six outfits at Laos Fashion Week in September 2024.

Looking ahead, Ray Chel aims to deepen her practice, expand her presence on international platforms, and continue creating designs that merge artistry with meaningful narratives.

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### **Lee Wen Xiang**

The Ngee Ann Kongsi Gold Medal (Degree) 2023

Bachelor of Education (Honours) in Instrumental & Vocal Teaching, 2023

Quote:

"I am grateful to NAFA and The Ngee Ann Kongsi for supporting my undergraduate and postgraduate studies."

Wen Xiang has built a vibrant career in music education, nurturing young talents across multiple schools in Singapore. As a School CCA Instructor, he co-conducts bands at Catholic Junior College, Commonwealth Secondary School and Guangyang Secondary School, and tutors woodwind players at St. Hilda's Secondary School. He also leads the Angklung and Kulintang Ensemble at Yuhua Primary School, where he takes on full responsibility for conducting, arranging and composing music, and managing performance preparation.

One of his notable achievements was guiding the Commonwealth Secondary School Symphonic Band to a Gold Award at the 2024 Asia Pacific Band Festival. Alongside his teaching, Wen Xiang continues to perform as a flautist with ensembles such as the Macpherson Philharmonic Orchestra and Vocalise's Orchestra V. His performances have included Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5 with the MPPO and an exclusive preview event for the On the Wings of Hermès exhibition at Marina Bay Sands.

He is now pursuing a Master of Education (Music) at the National Institute of Education, NTU Singapore, which he is set to complete at the end of 2025. He credits his NAFA-RCM degree and the support from The Ngee Ann Kongsi for broadening his teaching perspectives and relieving financial pressures during both his undergraduate and postgraduate studies.

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**Muhammad Irfan Bin Zakariah**

The Ngee Ann Kongsi Scholarship AY21/22 (Degree)  
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Design Practice, 2023

Quote:

“Receiving The Ngee Ann Kongsi Scholarship gave me the confidence to fully pursue my arts education without the constant worry of financial pressures. It not only supported my studies but also affirmed my decision to take this path, knowing that there’s recognition and belief in the value of what we do as artists.”

Irfan began his creative journey in Fashion Design at ITE before moving into Graphic Communication for his diploma at NAFA, and eventually into Design Practice for his degree with NAFA and UAL. This multidisciplinary path has equipped him with a fresh perspective, strong awareness of trends and design culture, and the versatility to thrive across different creative fields. His early experience in fast-paced agencies honed his problem-solving skills and sharpened his ability to manage projects efficiently.

He is now a Project Manager at Trinax, an award-winning creative technology agency in Singapore specialising in interactive and experiential brand experiences. Previously, he was a Project Manager at Popper Asia, where he led ideation, content creation, and execution for campaigns. His portfolio includes high-profile projects such as the Sephora Creator Summit 2024, which strengthened long-term influencer relationships across Asia-Pacific, the reopening of Clarke Quay with the Journey of the Firefish drone show, and Replay Good Times at Kallang Wave Mall, which connected families through multi-generational activities and workshops.

He credits NAFA and The Ngee Ann Kongsi for supporting his education and giving him the confidence to pursue his path in design, providing the foundation and recognition that continue to inspire his creative journey.