

# LEE KUAN YEW GOLD MEDAL

## **ESTHER JOICE TAN XUAN TING**

***HIGHER NITEC IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION***  
**ITE COLLEGE CENTRAL**



## Moulding a Brighter Future

Inspired by the care of her secondary school teachers, Esther developed an aspiration to be an educator. She also looked up to her aunt, who was an early childhood educator. This led her to join the *Higher Nitec* in Early Childhood Education, after completing the *Nitec* in Business Services.

Esther's education journey however, has been fraught with difficulties. When she was in Secondary Three, her father contracted cancer. This was followed by multiple health issues over the years. As the only child, she shouldered the responsibility of caring for him.

Despite the challenging situation, Esther remained determined to excel at ITE. With a love for singing, she joined ITE's That Acapella Group where she became its President and Music Director. She was also the Senior President of the Student Icons group, which hosts campus tours for secondary schools. Distinguishing herself as an all-rounder, Esther's greatest motivation is to make her parents proud.

## Growth through Adversity

*"My greatest takeaway from ITE is learning to embrace and take on challenges as they come. This is the spirit that led me to achieve so much more than I thought I could. I believe in the principle – nothing ventured, nothing gained. At ITE, I am thankful to have many opportunities to grow my potential as a leader and performer. Having to manage multiple commitments while coping with family circumstances was very challenging. In this journey, I am grateful for the unwavering support of my class advisor, Ms Moon Tan, and my CCA in-charge, Mr Julian Wong. They showed care for me, and were always there whenever I needed help or someone to talk to."*

## After ITE

Esther is pursuing a Diploma in Early Childhood Development & Education at Temasek Polytechnic. She plans to take a degree in Early Childhood Education after attaining her Diploma, and build a career as an early childhood educator.

## Top Achievements

- Esther achieved a perfect Grade Point Average score of 4.0, and was on the Director's List for all terms from 2022 to 2023.
- For her outstanding CCA achievements, she was awarded the ITE CCA Medal in 2024.
- Shining on the global stage, Esther led a team from That Acapella Group to clinch a Diploma award at the 2022 Busan Choral Festival and Competition in South Korea.

# LEE KUAN YEW GOLD MEDAL

## **FILBERT HO JIAN HAO**

**NITEC IN LOGISTICS SERVICES  
ITE COLLEGE EAST**



## Grounded in Goals

Filbert's childhood dream was to become a pilot. However, he realised that the extensive travel required would compromise family time, which he values. This prompted him to explore other career paths, eventually choosing to study logistics.

Determined to excel, Filbert immersed himself in various self-development programmes and competitions while he was at ITE. He also went on an exchange programme to observe the logistics operations at Rhenus High Tech in Germany, which deepened his passion for the industry.

As President of the Student Ambassadors Club at ITE College East, Filbert led the organisation of different events to engage the community. He earned the respect of his peers, through his strong leadership qualities.

## Strength in Support

*"Extraordinary achievements arise from strong support networks. ITE provided invaluable experiences for my growth, pushing me out of my comfort zone. I am grateful for the journey here and will continue striving for excellence in the WSDip programme."*

## After ITE

Filbert has progressed to ITE's WSDip in Logistics & Supply Chain Management course. As part of his training, he works as an Inventory and Asset Technician at Microsoft Operations Pte Ltd. Filbert hopes to progress to university and build his career in the logistics sector.

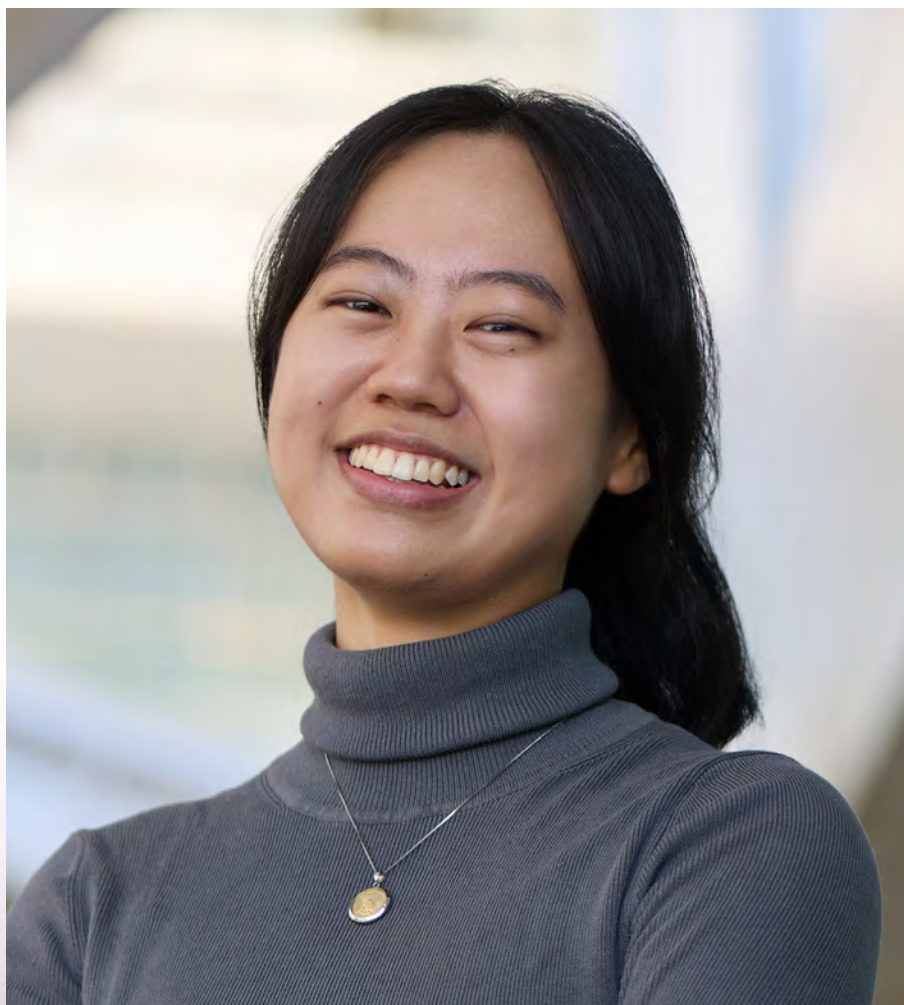
## Top Achievements

- For developing a solution that addresses real-world supply chain issues, Filbert led his team to win the Supply Chain Challenge++ 2023. The competition is organised by the Singapore Logistics Association and Singapore University of Social Sciences for polytechnic and ITE students.
- Proposing the concept of a tunnel system for driverless electric vehicles, he led another team to earn an honourable mention at the Sustainability Hackathon 2022 organised by social enterprise Green Nudge.
- For his outstanding holistic achievements and contributions, Filbert received the Rotary-ITE Student Excellence Award and ITE Service Star Diamond Award in 2023.

# LEE KUAN YEW GOLD MEDAL

## LOO DAN LIN

**HIGHER NITEC IN LEISURE & TRAVEL OPERATIONS  
ITE COLLEGE WEST**



## Super Go-Getter

Six years ago, fourteen-year-old Dan Lin was gripped by stage fright while delivering a speech. This unsettling experience became a turning point that ignited her determination to master effective communication.

Throughout her journey at ITE, Dan Lin embraced every learning opportunity for personal development. To expand her horizons, she participated in various mentorship programmes. Besides conquering her fear of public speaking, Dan Lin also flourished as a leader. She was the President of the ACE Club which grooms student leaders, Vice President of the Gavel Club, and Secretary of the FinLit Club.

Dan Lin sought to make a positive impact, by actively organising events for the school community. She was a part of the Roses of Peace Harmony Champions programme, which seeks to cultivate interfaith understanding among youths.

## Harmony Champion

*"I was given many opportunities to try new things in ITE, and I wanted to give back to the student community. One particularly memorable experience I had was organising an International Friendship Day event on campus. To foster racial and religious harmony, we distributed roses symbolising peace and hosted booths showcasing diverse cultural practices. We also provided a platform for students to pledge their commitment to social cohesion, through messages displayed on a large screen. I am glad that I could put what I learned from the Harmony Champions programme into practice and help to unite the school community."*

## After ITE

Dan Lin is pursuing a Diploma in Banking and Finance at Singapore Polytechnic. She aspires to take a Fintech-related degree in university.

## Top Achievements

- For conceptualising a customer relationship management solution that addresses real-world business needs, Dan Lin's team won the first prize in a Salesforce-ITE mentorship challenge.
- Diligent in her studies, she graduated with a perfect Grade Point Average score of 4.0.
- Excelling in her CCA contributions, Dan Lin received the ITE College West 21st Century Star Award in 2023.
- Through her outstanding all-round achievements, she was one of three ITE recipients of the Keppel Care Foundation Scholarship in 2023.

# TAY ENG SOON

## GOLD MEDAL

# CHNG HONG XIANG ROY

*HIGHER NITEC* IN IT APPLICATIONS DEVELOPMENT  
ITE COLLEGE CENTRAL



## Programming is Life

Roy found an interest in computing, when he was in secondary school. Keen to pursue this field further, he enrolled in the *Higher Nitec* in IT Applications Development. At ITE, Roy actively seized opportunities to hone his programming skills. He put himself to the test by participating in the WorldSkills Singapore 2023 competition, where he competed in the area of Mobile Applications and Development. His strong sense of initiative impressed his internship supervisors, who entrusted him to lead the development of a new application.

Roy sees technology as an enabler, and wants to use his knowledge to empower others. Besides helping his peers in their studies, he has been creating programming-related tutorials on YouTube and writing coding articles for a charity organisation. Roy aspires to build a technology start-up that could make a positive impact on society in the future.

## Challenged to Excel

*"My lecturers at ITE were incredibly supportive and I am very grateful for that. They encouraged me to participate in various competitions and leadership CCAs to further develop myself. My journey in the WorldSkills Singapore 2023 competition was particularly tough and required a lot of self-learning, but it helped to build my mental toughness. I have learned that I can conquer any challenge, so long as I give my best efforts and never give up."*

## After ITE

Roy is pursuing a Diploma in Infocomm & Media Engineering at Nanyang Polytechnic. He hopes to take a degree in Computer Science or Engineering, after attaining his Diploma.

## Top Achievements

- Representing ITE, Roy clinched a Silver Medal in the skill area of Mobile Applications and Development at the WorldSkills Singapore 2023 competition.
- While juggling multiple commitments, he achieved a perfect Grade Point Average score of 4.0 and was offered the accelerated programme for his three-year *Higher Nitec* course.
- Roy has grown his following on YouTube to some 6,000 subscribers, through his efforts to develop effective programming-related content.



# TAY ENG SOON

## GOLD MEDAL

# WINNIE LEOW CAI PING

*HIGHER NITEC IN ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING*  
ITE COLLEGE EAST



## Championing Electrical Excellence

Winnie's interest in electrical engineering was ignited from a young age, when she followed her electrician father on his job. She developed her skills in this field at ITE, and went on to participate in several WorldSkills competitions.

At the WorldSkills Singapore 2021 competition, Winnie represented ITE in the skill area of Information Network Cabling and won the Gold Medal. She competed at the WorldSkills Singapore 2023 competition and emerged champion again. In the same year, Winnie flew Singapore's flag high at the WorldSkills ASEAN competition by winning a Gold Medal. She also won the Best of Nation Award, for being the top scorer in the Singapore team.

While juggling training with studies and part-time work, Winnie also participated in community service projects. These involved sharing of electrical maintenance skills with the community, and producing lamps for the elderly.

## Skills, Growth, Passion

*"ITE has been pivotal in honing my skills. Through ITE, I found ample opportunities to challenge myself and even got to compete at regional and international levels through the WorldSkills competitions. Initially, I felt nervous about being up against other highly skilled competitors. However, I learned to embrace all of that as a chance for growth. Ultimately, I grew tremendously from these experiences. Winning has also fuelled my passion further, and I hope to bring more glory to Singapore."*

## After ITE

Winnie will be representing Singapore in Information Network Cabling at the WorldSkills Competition 2024 in Lyon, France. She is planning to further her studies in 2025.

## Top Achievements

- Establishing her capabilities in the field of electrical engineering, Winnie has won multiple Gold Medals at various WorldSkills competitions.
- Recognised for her all-round excellence, she won the ITE Service Star Gold Award in 2022 and the Edusave Award for Achievement, Good Leadership and Service (EAGLES) in 2021.
- Excelling academically, Winnie emerged as the top graduate of ITE College East's School of Engineering and was on the Director's List for all terms from 2021 to 2024.

# TAY ENG SOON GOLD MEDAL

## **SITI NUR SYIQA BTE ABDUL SAMAD MOHAMAD**

**NITEC IN ASIAN CULINARY ARTS  
ITE COLLEGE WEST**



## Taste of Success

When Syiqa was 12, she moved from Indonesia to Singapore to pursue her secondary education. Faced with the challenge of adapting to a new environment, Syiqa found comfort in cooking. Drawing on her years of experience assisting her mother in the kitchen, she honed her culinary skills.

Fueled by her love for cooking, Syiqa enrolled in the *Nitec* in Asian Culinary Arts and excelled. To broaden her culinary exposure, she participated as a chef assistant in prestigious events, such as the 2022 Michelin Star Revelation and Gala Dinner. She also modified recipes of local dishes for people with swallowing difficulties, as part of a collaboration between ITE and Alexandra Hospital.

Amid her culinary pursuits, Syiqa still dedicated time for community service projects. These included a trip to Thailand to help with reconstruction works at a local school.

## Making a Difference

*"I really enjoy what I learned at ITE. Besides delighting taste buds, the culinary knowledge and skills I gained can also potentially improve the lives of others. When my teammate and I were given the task to adapt a local cuisine for patients with swallowing difficulties, I immediately thought of Bubur Lambuk which is a rice porridge dish close to my heritage and heart. Knowing that the modified dish can bring patients joy gives me a sense of fulfilment, as it makes me feel that I could contribute to society through my skills."*

## After ITE

Syiqa has progressed to the Technical Diploma in Culinary Arts with Restaurant Management course at ITE College West. After attaining her Diploma, she plans to pursue a related Masters programme at Institut Lyfe in France.

## Top Achievements

- Excelling academically, Syiqa achieved a perfect Grade Point Average score of 4.0 and was on the Director's List for all terms from 2022 to 2023.
- In recognition of her outstanding CCA achievements, she was awarded the ITE CCA Medal in 2024 and the ITE College West 21st Century Star Award in 2022 and 2023.
- For demonstrating exemplary character, Syiqa received the Edusave Character Award in 2022.

# THE NGENE ANN KONGSI GOLD MEDAL

**SUJAYSHARAN DEVAKUMAR**

*HIGHER NITEC IN FINANCIAL SERVICES*  
ITE COLLEGE CENTRAL



## Investing in Success

After completing his N-Levels, Sujaysharan had the option of progressing to Secondary Five to sit for the O-Levels. However, he chose to enter ITE to pursue his interest in finance instead.

At ITE, Sujaysharan seized every opportunity to develop himself. He joined ITE College Central's Investment Club, where he established his leadership qualities and became elected President. As a certified trainer under the Citi-SMU Train-The-Trainers Programme, he conducted financial literacy workshops for members of the Investment Club. Sujaysharan also participated in various competitions to expand his financial knowledge. These included the FinLit Challenge under the Citi Foundation-SMU Financial Literacy Programme for Young Adults.

Driven by his passion in finance, he aspires to pursue a career in investment banking.

## Laying the Foundation

*"I do not believe in passively waiting for the right moment. I believe in creating it with the right mindset. This was what made me enrol into ITE, so that I could gain valuable financial knowledge and experience. It has proven to be the right decision, as I benefitted from many invaluable learning and industry networking opportunities at ITE."*

## After ITE

Sujaysharan is pursuing a Diploma in Banking and Finance at Ngee Ann Polytechnic. He dreams of becoming an investment banker.

## Top Achievements

- Recognised for his all-round excellence, Sujaysharan won the 2024 Lee Kuan Yew Model Student Award.
- He led his team to clinch the Tableau Tech Prize and emerge runner-up at the ITE Digitalisation Challenge 2022.
- For his extensive service contributions, Sujaysharan received the ITE Service Star Gold Award in 2022.

# THE NGENE ANN KONGSI GOLD MEDAL

## **SRI MARDIAH BINTE SUHARMAN**

**NITEC IN NURSING  
ITE COLLEGE EAST**



## Scaling New Heights

Sri joined Qatar Airways as a flight attendant at the age of 20. She became a senior cabin crew and cabin service director, over a 15-year career. When the COVID-19 pandemic hit and the airline industry was disrupted, Sri began to rethink her career path. Inspired by the valiance of healthcare workers in the COVID-19 fight, she felt a calling to pursue her childhood dream of being a nurse. This spurred her to leave her job and join the *Nitec* in Nursing.

Returning to school was not easy, but she adapted quickly. Beyond excelling in her studies, Sri actively sought to make a difference. As President of the Singapore Nurses Association Student Chapter at ITE, she led numerous community service projects. These included the teaching of first-aid skills to children in Sri Lanka. She would also look out for her classmates, and help them in their schoolwork.

## Finding Gratitude

*"Having not studied for over 20 years, I struggled when I first entered ITE. I needed more time to catch up and process information. With the help of my classmates and lecturers, I managed to overcome these difficulties. I had very supportive lecturers, who made me feel that I could reach out to them for anything. One of them is Ms May Chng. She was always ready to share additional learning resources, even beyond classroom hours. My CCA in-charge – Ms Pauline Hu and Ms Marree Naw – also gave me the platform to excel beyond academics. I am forever grateful to my ITE lecturers. Without them, I would not have grown into the person I am today."*

## After ITE

Sri is pursuing a Diploma in Nursing at Ngee Ann Polytechnic. She intends to take a degree in Nursing after attaining her Diploma, and build her experience working in hospitals.

## Top Achievements

- Sri achieved a perfect Grade Point Average score of 4.0 and clinched the Top Nursing Graduate Award for her cohort.
- During her internship, she received compliment letters from hospital patients for the care and attentiveness she showed towards them.
- Showcasing their creation of a bed-assist grab bar that also functions as a bed table, Sri led her team to clinch the Best Presentation Award at the 11th National Assistive & Rehabilitation Technologies Student Innovation Challenge.
- Through her demonstration of all-round excellence and good conduct, she won the Rotary-ITE Student Excellence Award in 2023.



# THE NGENE ANN KONGSI GOLD MEDAL

**VACENT OOI ZHAN JIN**

**NITEC IN ELECTRICAL TECHNOLOGY  
(LIGHTING & SOUND)  
ITE COLLEGE WEST**



### **Third Time's the Charm**

At 16, Vacent started taking on part-time jobs to support his family financially. Balancing work with school was challenging for him. Coupled with a lack of interest in his studies, it pushed him to withdraw from ITE twice. With time however, he began to recognise the importance of a good education in securing a better future for himself.

Returning to ITE for the third time, Vacent had a renewed focus and determination to do well. Besides juggling his studies with part-time work, he also served as the Vice President of the ITE College West Student Council and led various community service projects. His dedication and hard work paid off, as he shone in his studies and established himself as a well-respected leader.

### **Against All Odds**

*"I believe success is not about how many times we fall, but how many times we get back up. Our future is not dictated by our circumstances, but rather by how we choose to react and respond to those circumstances. After the struggles I went through, being selected as the valedictorian for the ITE College West School of Engineering graduation ceremony felt like a huge personal achievement. I am grateful for the support of my lecturers and classmates at ITE. This achievement would not have been possible without them."*

### **After ITE**

Vacent is pursuing a Diploma in Integrated Events Management at Republic Polytechnic. He plans to take a degree in Events Management after attaining his diploma and build a career as an events manager.

### **Top Achievements**

- Excelling academically, Vacent graduated with a perfect Grade Point Average score of 4.0 and was conferred the Gold Course Medal.
- He was awarded the ITE CCA Medal in 2024, in recognition of his exemplary leadership in the ITE College West Student Council.
- For his outstanding service contributions, Vacent received the ITE Service Star Gold Award in 2023.

# SINGAPORE NATIONAL EMPLOYERS FEDERATION (SNEF) GOLD MEDAL

## **REZEANTY BTE RAMZAN**

**WORK-STUDY DIPLOMA IN  
LIFESTYLE & RECREATION MANAGEMENT  
ITE COLLEGE CENTRAL**



## Learning for Life

Rezeanty joined Sembawang Country Club in 2012 as a Customer Service Assistant, before switching to the role of Golfing Assistant in 2016. Recognising Rezeanty's zeal and potential for growth, her General Manager recommended her to take up the WSDip in Lifestyle & Recreation Management course. This was an opportunity that she seized, as she has always wanted to further her studies.

Resuming her studies after a gap of 15 years was tough, but Rezeanty rose above the challenge with the support of her family. She excelled in her course, while juggling family commitments. Known for her caring nature, Rezeanty also initiated study groups to help her fellow WSDip trainees do well. Since joining the WSDip programme, Rezeanty has been promoted twice and achieved significant career growth. Her spirit of upskilling has also inspired her husband to take up a part-time Diploma.

## Treasured Memories

*"I really treasure the bonds formed with my WSDip lecturers and coursemates. The lecturers felt like my friends, as we are around the same age. Though most of my coursemates are much younger than me, we bonded well as we learned together. Graduating with a WSDip has been a memorable experience. My parents are 70 plus, and they have been encouraging me to continue my studies for a long time. Finally, they are able to see me graduate with a Diploma and they are so proud of me!"*

## After ITE

Rezeanty has been promoted to the role of Sports Executive, where she handles golf, swimming and tennis events. She aims to continue upgrading herself, by attaining a degree in the future.

## Top Achievements

- Through diligence and a positive attitude, Rezeanty emerged as the top graduate of her WSDip course and was awarded the Gold Course Medal in 2023.
- Recognised for her strong contributions, she was promoted to the role of Senior Golfing Assistant during her WSDip training.
- Using the skills she picked up from her WSDip course, Rezeanty created a virtual site tour of Sembawang Country Club on its website.

# SINGAPORE NATIONAL EMPLOYERS FEDERATION (SNEF) GOLD MEDAL

## **ANWARHAQAM BIN ABDULLATIIF**

**WORK-STUDY DIPLOMA IN  
LOGISTICS & SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT  
ITE COLLEGE EAST**



## Success Delivered

Anwarhaqam graduated from the *Higher Nitec* in Accounting in 2017. After completing his National Service in 2020, he worked at Markono Logistics as a Warehouse Assistant. Impressed with his work, his supervisors readily supported his request to be sponsored for the WSDip in Logistics & Supply Chain Management course in 2021.

Anwarhaqam flourished in his WSDip course, under the mentorship of his trainer and lecturers. Beyond excelling academically, he also gained further recognition for his strong work performance. A year into the course, he was promoted to the role of Operations Team Leader at his workplace.

With deeper skills and broader responsibilities, Anwarhaqam has grown to enjoy his work more. He plans to continue upgrading himself and grow his career in the logistics industry.

## Learning Through Work

*"I like that the WSDip programme enabled me to directly relate my lessons in class to my work at the workplace. Using my work experience, I could visualise what my lecturers taught and grasp the content of the lessons more effectively. I could also use my work experience to do better in class projects. The combination of work and study in the WSDip programme helped to reinforce my learning, and has definitely benefitted me."*

## After ITE

Anwarhaqam was promoted to the position of Supply Chain Management Supervisor, after graduating from the WSDip programme. He will be pursuing a degree in Logistics and Supply Chain Management at the Singapore University of Social Sciences from July 2024.

## Top Achievements

- Anwarhaqam was conferred the Gold Course Medal, for being the top graduate of his WSDip course in 2023.
- Disciplined and motivated, he graduated from the WSDip programme with a Grade Point Average score of 3.97.
- Recognised for his potential, Anwarhaqam was placed by his company on a 36-month development programme to support his career advancement.

# SINGAPORE NATIONAL EMPLOYERS FEDERATION (SNEF) GOLD MEDAL

**KOH XIU LI**

**WORK-STUDY DIPLOMA IN  
CULINARY ARTS & MANAGEMENT  
ITE COLLEGE WEST**



## Savouring Sweet Success

Xiu Li took an interest in pastry and baking from young. While she was keen to pursue this interest at ITE, she was offered the *Nitec* in Western Culinary Arts instead.

Xiu Li embraced this unexpected shift positively and committed herself to achieving success in the culinary field. She excelled and progressed to the WSDip in Culinary Arts & Management course, where she was employed by Sofitel Singapore City Centre.

Despite the demanding rigours of a commercial kitchen, Xiu Li adapted quickly through diligence and hard work. She earned several promotions, and was entrusted to guide new colleagues. An introvert by nature, Xiu Li also pushed herself beyond her comfort zone to participate in various culinary competitions and hone her skills.

## Growth through Challenges

*"I believe success is achieved through a combination of hard work, consistency and the ability to learn from failure as a stepping stone for growth. Your goals may seem distant at times but when you start to believe in yourself, you are already halfway to achieving them."*

## After ITE

Xiu Li is currently a Chef de Partie at Sofitel Singapore City Centre. She aspires to partner with a group of friends to open a hawker or restaurant business selling local-French/Italian fusion food in the future.

## Top Achievements

- As the top graduate of her WSDip course, Xiu Li was conferred the Gold Course Medal.
- She clinched a Gold Award at the Food & Hotel Asia Culinary Challenge 2022 and came in third at the Young Talents Escoffier 2022 competition.
- Her hard work and skill elevated her from Demi Chef to the role of Chef de Partie at Sofitel Singapore City Centre within a year, during her WSDip training.



# SINGAPORE BUSINESS FEDERATION (SBF) GOLD MEDAL

**CHUA JUN JIE LEON**

**TECHNICAL ENGINEER DIPLOMA IN  
MACHINE TECHNOLOGY  
ITE COLLEGE CENTRAL**



## Pushing Limits

Despite being diagnosed with dyslexia, Leon has always strived to give his best in his studies. After graduating with a *Nitec* in Mechanical Engineering in 2022, he chose to progress to the Technical Engineer Diploma in Machine Technology as it would enable him to obtain a diploma in just two years.

While Leon found it challenging at times to keep up with the pace of learning, he did not allow that to hinder his potential. With a strong drive to excel, he worked tirelessly to catch up in his studies. His hard work paid off, as he surpassed his own expectations to emerge as the top performer of his course.

Leon credits his ITE journey for teaching him the value of perseverance. He aspires to keep upgrading his qualifications to enhance his career prospects.

## Making it Count

*"Before entering ITE, I often lacked motivation in my studies. However, my experience at ITE changed that. I had very dedicated lecturers, who helped me a lot in my academic journey. I became more diligent and determined to do well. ITE offers many good opportunities for students to achieve their potential. I encourage ITE students to work hard and seize these opportunities."*

## After ITE

Leon plans to pursue an engineering-related degree, after his National Service. His goal is to establish a company that provides technical and power solutions.

## Top Achievements

- Through his strong academic performance, Leon received the Outstanding Graduate Award of his cohort.
- Diligent in his studies, Leon achieved a Grade Point Average score of 3.68.
- For their Final Year Project, Leon's team collaborated with test and inspection company Setsco Services Pte Ltd to design a vibrating hammer jig, which clinched the Most Innovative Project Award.

# SINGAPORE BUSINESS FEDERATION (SBF) GOLD MEDAL

## **TEOW ZHI YUAN**

**TECHNICAL DIPLOMA IN CULINARY ARTS  
WITH RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT  
ITE COLLEGE WEST**



## The Fire to Excel

Zhi Yuan learned to prepare homecooked dishes from his grandmother. This experience sparked his interest in cooking, which deepened as he took his Food & Nutrition classes in secondary school. To hone his culinary skills, Zhi Yuan enrolled in the *Nitec* in Western Culinary Arts. He aimed to progress to the Technical Diploma (TD) in Culinary Arts with Restaurant Management thereafter, but was unsuccessful in his application.

After his grandmother's passing during his National Service, Zhi Yuan developed a determination to honour her memory through a culinary career. He successfully re-applied to the TD in Culinary Arts with Restaurant Management. Committing himself wholeheartedly, he excelled. During his internship at Michelin-starred Odette restaurant, Zhi Yuan proved his ability to thrive under pressure by mastering the garnish station in a few days. He also actively supported various culinary events on campus, including assisting visiting French chefs.

## Doing More Together

*"ITE opened doors to my most rewarding internship experience. Working in a professional kitchen was demanding yet incredibly fun. I learned the value of teamwork in helping us to achieve our dreams. This was a lesson that resonated strongly with me. I constantly reminded my classmates the importance of working hard together, which united and motivated us in pursuing our goals."*

## After ITE

Zhi Yuan plans to pursue a Master's degree at Institut Lyfe, in France, and subsequently establish a restaurant that offers local cuisine with a French influence.

## Top Achievements

- Zhi Yuan won the Cuisine Challenge at the Young Talents Escoffier (YTE) – Singapore Selection 2024 competition. As the champion, he will represent Singapore in the Asian leg of the YTE competition.
- For his outstanding performance, he was hand-picked for an internship with Michelin-starred restaurant, Odette, during his TD course.
- Zhi Yuan was selected as the valedictorian for the Graduation Ceremony of his TD course in 2023, and received the Outstanding Graduate Award for his cohort.

# SINGAPORE PRECISION ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY ASSOCIATION GOLD MEDAL

**MOHAMMAD REZAL S/O  
ABDUL LATHIFF**

**WORK-STUDY DIPLOMA IN  
ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING  
ITE COLLEGE WEST**



## Powering Passion

Rezal developed an interest in electrical work at a young age while watching his uncle, a technician, troubleshoot electrical problems at home. He was intrigued by how connecting a few wires could power up devices. This curiosity led him to join the *Nitec* in Electronics, Computer Networking & Communications course at ITE.

Despite his enthusiasm, Rezal did not do well in his studies. Unable to handle the disappointment, he dropped out of school. Regretting this decision later, he re-enrolled into the same course after completing his National Service and successfully graduated.

Keen to build a good career, Rezal embarked on the WSDip in Electrical Engineering course in 2021. During his training at energy storage systems company GenPlus Pte Ltd, he was recognised for his substantial contributions to various renewable energy projects. Rezal's dedication and hard work earned him a double promotion within two years.

## Aspiring to Inspire

*"The unwavering support that I received from my dedicated ITE lecturers has been fundamental to my success. They guided me in my coursework and offered valuable advice on career pathways. ITE has ignited a passion within me to further my studies and delve deeper into the electrical field. Looking ahead, I am filled with excitement and determination to accomplish even more. I firmly believe in the words of Eugene Bell Jr. – 'Aspire to inspire before you expire'. I aspire to not only excel in my career, but also give back to society in meaningful ways in the future."*

## After ITE

Rezal is working as a Project Engineer at GenPlus Pte Ltd. He is preparing to take his Licensed Electrical Worker Grade 8 certification, and plans to pursue a degree in Electrical Engineering in 2025.

## Top Achievements

- Rezal was awarded the Silver Course Medal, for his exemplary performance in his WSDip course.
- Excelling in his studies, he achieved a Grade Point Average score of 3.96.
- During his WSDip training, Rezal oversaw a team that handled the testing, commissioning and installation of part of the energy storage system at Seatrium Limited's Floating Living Lab – Southeast Asia's first floating and stacked energy storage system.

**e2i**  
**GOLD MEDAL**

**MOHAMMAD HAIQEL BIN  
MAZNI**

***NITEC IN TECHNOLOGY -  
INFOCOMM TECHNOLOGY  
ITE COLLEGE EAST***



## His Time to Shine

Bogged by family and financial issues, Haiqel did not complete secondary school. He did odd jobs for a few months, before enlisting for National Service. However, returning to school was always at the back of his mind. Through some research, Haiqel decided to attempt the Workplace Literacy & Numeracy Assessments to be eligible for an ITE part-time course. He passed and enrolled into the *Nitec in Technology – Infocomm Technology*.

Haiqel opted for this course, as it aligns with his interest in technology. As a child, he liked fiddling with various gadgets. While pursuing his studies at ITE, Haiqel also worked as an IT Support Assistant to support his family. Though it was tiring, he grew to enjoy his studies. Through hard work and diligence, Haiqel emerged as the top graduate of his course. His greatest memory of this milestone was seeing how proud his parents were about his accomplishments.

## Pillars of Support

*"I had a very positive experience during my studies at ITE. I had very good lecturers, who supported me in times when I was feeling down or doubted my abilities. They believed in me and my potential. They also taught me the importance of adapting to difficult situations. Through their guidance, I learned to push myself and found my confidence. They were truly my mentors and guiding lights. I am very appreciative of them. As a teen, I never thought I will be where I am today – being the top graduate and studying for a Diploma."*

## After ITE

Haiqel is employed at JPMorgan Chase Bank N.A., undergoing training in ITE's WSDip in Data Centre Infrastructure & Operation. He hopes to continue upgrading himself, by taking a Work-Study Degree in the future.

## Top Achievements

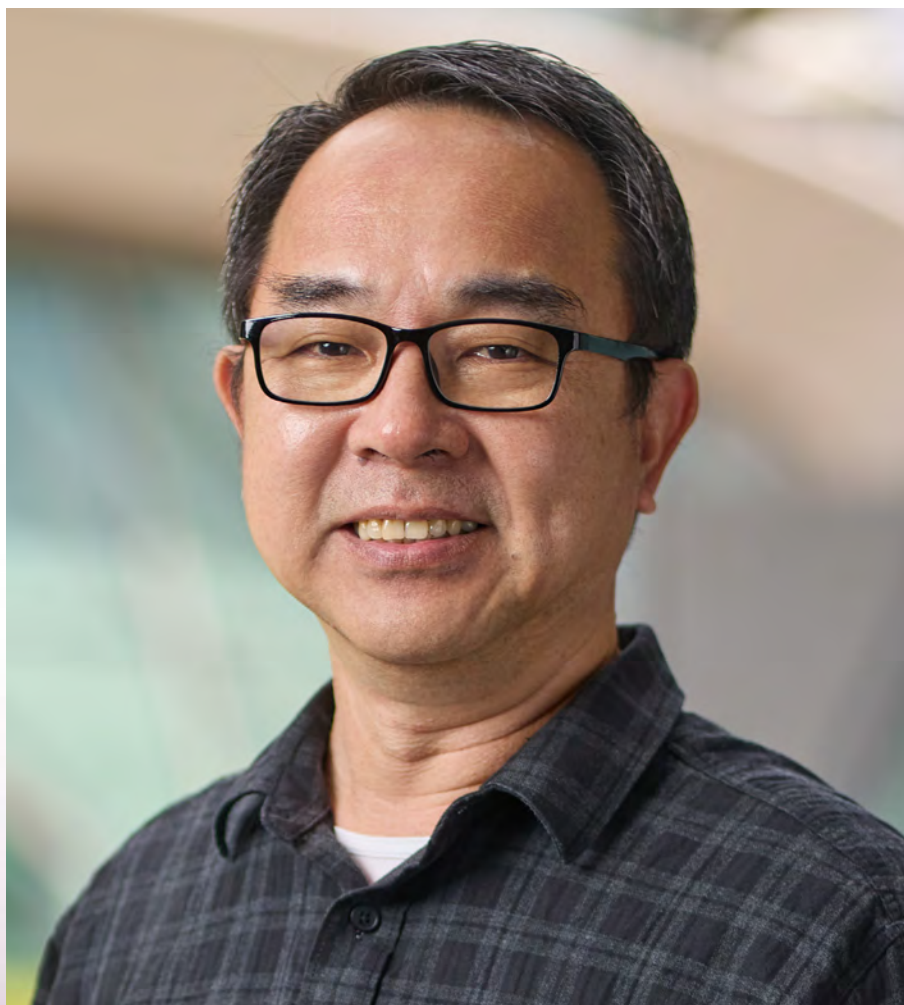
- Diligent in his studies, Haiqel graduated with a Grade Point Average score of 3.778.
- He was conferred the Top Graduate Award of ITE College East's School of Electronics and Info-Comm Technology.
- For his strong academic performance, Haiqel was awarded the Certificate of Merit upon graduation.



**e2i**  
**GOLD MEDAL**

**TEOW CHIN BOON**

***NITEC IN TECHNOLOGY -  
INFOCOMM TECHNOLOGY  
ITE COLLEGE WEST***



## Age is No Barrier

At the age of 52, Chin Boon has demonstrated that age is no obstacle to learning and career growth. After graduating from secondary school in Malaysia with an O-Levels equivalent certificate, he worked in the IT industry for a few years. He then spent nearly 20 years working in a church, before returning to the IT industry.

While working as a Device Engineer, Chin Boon enrolled in the *Nitec* in Technology – Infocomm Technology to expand his knowledge and obtain a formal certification in IT. Proactive in his learning, Chin Boon would engage in further study outside of class by referring to online videos. Through the course, Chin Boon gained a stronger foundation in IT. These have helped him to effectively communicate complex technical concepts to his clients and colleagues.

His lifelong learning efforts have supported his professional growth. Chin Boon was promoted to the role of Team Lead, before progressing to his current role of IT Project Co-ordinator.

## Embracing Growth

*“My ITE education has provided me not just essential skills, but also given me the confidence to take on new challenges and lead successful projects in the IT industry. I found that what I studied in ITE aligned well with the skills I required at work. As a result, I could better relate to what I learned in class and apply it at work seamlessly. I believe that with hard work, we can all engage in continuous learning and achieve the direction we want in life.”*

## After ITE

Chin Boon plans to learn more about AI and is considering to take a WSDip course focused on AI.

## Top Achievements

- Chin Boon graduated with a perfect Grade Point Average score of 4.0.
- For his strong academic excellence, he was awarded the Gold Course Medal for the *Nitec* in Technology – Infocomm Technology course.
- Chin Boon successfully led a large-scale IT project at his company, where he supervised the decommissioning of network equipment and transition to cloud-based systems.

# IES ENGINEERING AWARD

## **JEREMY MATTHEW SETYAWAN**

***HIGHER NITEC IN MECHATRONICS ENGINEERING  
ITE COLLEGE WEST***



## Unleashing Passion

From a young age, Jeremy developed a fascination with robots and the possibilities of making things move by themselves. His interest grew after his parents introduced him to building LEGO robots.

Jeremy's learning journey however, was filled with challenges. Being diagnosed with dyslexia, he struggled with writing and comprehension. This affected his academic performance and confidence.

The situation improved for Jeremy, after he entered ITE. The hands-on nature of learning at ITE appealed to him, and he also enjoyed his course of study. When taking notes in class, he began drawing diagrams to better visualise what was being taught. Jeremy also sought to hone his skills by participating in various competitions. These included the WorldSkills Singapore 2023 competition, where he partnered with a classmate to compete in the skill area of Mechatronics.

## Breaking Boundaries

*"My greatest takeaway from ITE was to not worry about making mistakes. It is through mistakes that we learn to become better. I am glad to have lecturers who are more forgiving of mistakes. They helped me gain confidence to try out new experiences, without the fear of making mistakes. My competition experiences have given me a lot of new knowledge on robotics, beyond what I learned in the classroom. I also made really good friends at ITE, and we helped each other out to do well together."*

## After ITE

Jeremy is pursuing a Diploma in Mechatronics & Robotics at Singapore Polytechnic. He plans to take a robotics-related degree after attaining his Diploma, and build a career in robotics design.

## Top Achievements

- Representing ITE at the WorldSkills Singapore 2023 competition, Jeremy and his classmate clinched the Silver Medal in the skill area of Mechatronics.
- As the top performer of his course, he was awarded the Gold Course Medal upon graduation.
- For designing a robotic-arm assisted plastic waste sorting system, Jeremy and his team finished in fourth place at the Human Collaboration Robot 2022 competition organised by Universal Robots and ITE.