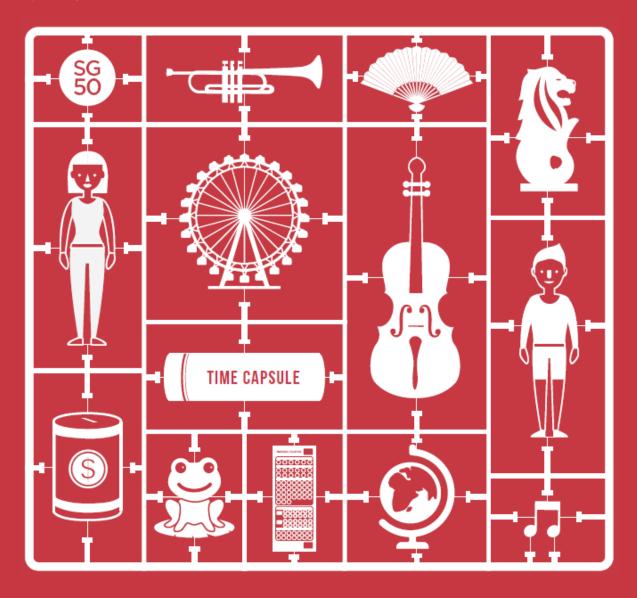


YOUTHS CELEBRATE SG50

A series of programmes have been planned to celebrate Singapore's jubilee by the SG50 Steering Committee. Highlights include the <u>SG Heart Map</u>, <u>Youth Celebrate!</u>, and the <u>Jubilee Weekend</u>, events that seek to foster a national identity while celebrating the diversity that youths bring to the nation. Indeed, Indranee Rajah, Senior Minister of State for Education and co-chair of SG Steering Committee, said that as future pioneers, youths should reflect on how far Singapore has come as a nation and they should strive to forge common national identity (Channel NewsAsia, Singapore).

At the community-level, programmes include The Social Co's "50 for 50" charity drive, a fundraising initiative aimed at raising funds for lesser known charities. SG50 celebrations extended overseas. For instance, Singapore's Consulate-General in Hong Kong has planned a series of initiatives, including a special concert, to allow Hong Kong youths to learn more about Singapore. This issue of Y+ looks at how youths celebrate SG50 through a variety of national and community programmes in the yearlong celebration.



GENERAL SG50 CELEBRATIONS

Singapore's youths should reflect on the country's achievements over the past 50 years and consider how they can forge a common national identity, according to <u>Ms Indranee Rajah</u>, Senior Minister of State for Education and co-chair of SG50 Steering Committee. It is therefore timely that the <u>SG Heart Map</u> project was launched to celebrate 50 endearing places that hold special memories for Singaporeans. Other programmes include <u>Youth Celebrate!</u>, a showcase of youth talents, and a 'Go 50' youth run, organised by the <u>Heartware Network and Institute for Technical Education</u>.

SG50 celebrations are not only confined to Singapore's youths on the island-state. The <u>Association for Public Affairs</u> has organised a 'See Future' video competition to encourage foreign youths to participate in SG50 celebrations. In keeping with the festivities, Singapore's <u>Consulate-General in Hong Kong</u> has planned initiatives to allow Hong Kong youths a better appreciation of Singapore and to celebrate with Singapore's young adults through a special concert by the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music.

SG50 CELEBRATIONS: CHARITY

In celebration of SG50 and the spirit of giving, several youth charitable initiatives are being spearheaded by our youths. Youth groups volunteering their time to serve their community include <u>The Social Co</u>, which has initiated a charity drive involving 50 youths, and <u>SG50KITAx</u> by the SG50 Kita Committee, which brought together 100 young people and tasked to develop solutions to problems that may emerge post-SG50.

SG50 CELEBRATIONS: SPECIAL INTEREST

Given the diversity of Singapore's youths, it is not surprising to learn that our youths are commemorating SG50 through their interest groups and communities. Using POSB's <u>Storytellers Grant</u>, youths Jacen Tan and Lee Huiwen are looking to share the bonds that exist within their neighbourhoods that transcend race, nationality, and diverse backgrounds. Also using storytelling medium is SPRING Singapore's <u>Local Champions</u>, <u>Global Leaders</u> competition, with tertiary students engaged to share the stories of companies that have built Singapore's economy over the past fifty years.

The <u>Victoria Concert Hall</u> has featured young musicians Loh Jun Hong and Abigail Sin in concert, while former members of the Singapore Youth Orchestra returned for a special performance to celebrate the bonds of friendship shared as young musicians. The <u>National Environment Agency</u> rallied 50 schools to decorate 50 Captain Green figurines and commit to act for the environment. Finally, the <u>Media Development Authority</u> has commissioned mobile games to enable young Singaporeans to develop a deeper appreciation of Singapore's history and culture.

Bringing you snippets of youth trends and issues compiled from diverse sources such as news reports, journals and press releases. Y+ is a bi-monthly e-newsletter that aims to help you stay in touch with the constantly evolving youth scene.

