

SUNWAYIAN

The Sunway Campus Magazine

Issue 03 | May-Jun 2023

*ECHO MEDIA:
TIKTOK AESTHETIC
TRENDS*

GOING
UNDERGROUND
WITH DR SAGA

“DID YOU KNOW?”
SERIES

CWAC
STORY
COMMUNITY
SERVICE
MODULE

STORY HIGHLIGHT

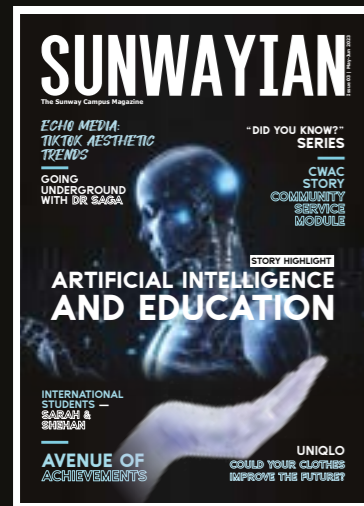
ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND EDUCATION

INTERNATIONAL
STUDENTS —
SARAH &
SHEHAN

AVENUE OF
ACHIEVEMENTS

UNIQLO
COULD YOUR CLOTHES
IMPROVE THE FUTURE?





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BE ONE OF OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Student contributors are
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IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

04 Campus Updates

STORY HIGHLIGHT

06 Artificial Intelligence and Education



CAMPUS WITH A CONSCIENCE STORY

10 Community Service Module

FEATURES

08 Are You A Bibliophile? - Peek Into the Life of An Editor

09 Avenue of Achievements

12 Going Underground with Dr Saga

14 Echo Media - A Dive Into TikTok Aesthetic Trends

16 International Students - Sarah and Shehan

18 Start With One

22 Student's Digital Art Showcase

23 My Inspiring Talent Photography Competition

CORPORATE INSIGHTS

20 UNIQLO - Could Your Clothes Improve the Future?

"DID YOU KNOW?" SERIES

24 How Much Do You Know About the Hari Rayas?

SUNWAY UNIVERSE

26 Sunway Stars

FUN & GAMES

27 Snap & Win!



Hello Sunwayians!

Welcome back to the 3rd issue of the new and popular Sunwayian magazine.

Firstly, a warm welcome to our newest Sunway community and of course those returning for the new semester, welcome home.

We are now halfway into 2023, and we thank all of our community for the continuous support and encouragement in producing this campus magazine. Remember, this is YOUR magazine, YOUR stories and YOUR moments.

Our editorial team is ready 24/7 to help you showcase all your news, hopes, dreams and achievements. Simply keep us in the loop and let us bring your news to the entire campus community.

The front cover story leads with "Artificial Intelligence in Education" and talks about how the emergence of ChatGPT and the use of AI technology will impact the education sector. Learn all about this new tech from our students who have shared their experience using it for their studies.

Also included in this bumper issue are articles featuring Uniqlo, stories of our international students, Sunway Echo Media and so much more.

In addition to our students breaking the national swimming record and being admitted to the world's most prestigious universities, we are also delighted to also note that the latest QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023, now include subjects from Sunway University's School of Arts, Sunway Business School and School of Hospitality and Service Management, all now boasting QS-ranked programmes that are among the world's finest.

As an all-inclusive community, we want to share stories from all corners of the campus – whether you are a changemaker, club and society, aspiring writer, budding photographer, influencer or simply enthusiastic about life, the Sunwayian magazine is your

voice and your chance to shout out to the world.

With over 90 active clubs and societies for you to join, it's never been easier or as much fun to develop new interests and to meet new people, so what are you waiting for? Remember at Sunway, there are no strangers on our campus, simply friends you haven't met yet.

So, you should feel immensely proud and fascinated by the stories generated by our campus community and the next time you pick up the Sunwayian, don't just read the article, BE THE ARTICLE.

Share your story or contribute content ideas to our dedicated Sunwayian editorial team. We want to hear from you all.

Here's wishing you all wonderful second half of the year and a fruitful semester ahead.

We are a Campus With A Conscience... and a reasonably good campus magazine too 🍌



CAMPUS UPDATES



Sunway-MAPAN Sustainability Plenary

Sunway Business School and Malaysian Association of Public Advocacy for Nature Sustainability Plenary hosted the ESG: Collaborating for a Sustainable Future, to discuss the importance of ESG and how to work together to find solutions, creating a positive impact to the environment, planet and humanity through sustainable practices.



Sunway University Hosted the Trident Games

This year's Trident Games featured athletes from Sunway University, Taylor's University, Monash University and Asia Pacific University (APU), with the aim to build culture and tighten the bond of inter-varsity through sports. Congratulations to all winners and huge thanks to participants and volunteers for making the event a success.

Transmedia 2 – Revisiting the Real and the Virtual

A research-creation exhibition, Transmedia 2 is presented by Centre for Research Creation in Digital Media and Virtual Augmented Reality Research Network. The exhibition showcased cutting-edge technologies in the digital media world, featured augmented reality and virtual reality technology.



ASEAN Top Romance Popstar at the #MostHappeningCampus

The talented Filipino singer, songwriter and musician Zack Tabudlo visited Sunway Campus to meet with his fans together with HITZ FM DJ Arnold recently. Apart from performing his hit songs, a few lucky fans managed to test out some pick-up lines on stage and walked away with goodie bags from Universal Music Malaysia.



"R U OK?!"

Singer and actor Alvin Chong popped by Sunway Campus for the "R U OK?!" podcast special screening, dedicated to spreading mental health awareness among the youth community. He was joined by Mark O'Dell, CEO of the Life Insurance Association of Malaysia to spread awareness and encourage individuals to prioritise their mental health.



Visit to the South Kuching City Council

To promote Campus With A Conscience initiatives, the team from Sunway Education Group conducted a workshop on designing and implementing recycling projects, for the South Kuching City Council (MBKS) staff to understand the principles and practices for sustainable development and sustainable waste management.

The workshop also shared the sustainable efforts carried out at Sunway Campus. This fruitful visit to MBKS will be a stepping stone to prepare the community to learn, understand and build habits and lifestyles practices to achieve the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND EDUCATION

By Professor Lau Sian Lun, Department of Engineering,
School of Engineering and Technology, Sunway University
and Sunway DataXSight Research Cluster



In November 2022, OpenAI released an Artificial Intelligence (AI) chatbot named ChatGPT. It is a chat client developed within 13 days, based on GPT-3.5 (Generative Pre-trained Transformer 3.5). The chatbot set the world on fire – just two months after its launch, it already had 100 million monthly active users.

ChatGPT, a large language model, can understand and respond to natural language input. Everyone started testing and using this service. When many have observed its ability to understand human instruction and generate somewhat believable (Disclaimer: Believable is not necessarily accurate or credible) answers, a BIG question came:

HOW WILL EDUCATION BE IMPACTED WITH SUCH A NEW TECHNOLOGY?

The most discussed topics related to ChatGPT and education are the ethical aspect of its usage and application. What if students started using ChatGPT to complete their assignments or even answer their examinations when AI is not forbidden or restricted? How can a lecturer tell apart if a submitted work is written using generative AI?

There is no straightforward answer to such questions or concerns. Some students (it could be anyone of us) will undoubtedly be tempted to just let ChatGPT or equivalent take over some, if not all, of the work. Some may argue that ChatGPT should be banned or avoided because it is still flawed and imperfect today that may provide false answers. However, when it comes to education, the real fear still surrounds the unethical use of such technology.

At Sunway University, the DataXSight Research Cluster held two sharing seminars on ChatGPT and its applications. However, the message and discussions were not on banning ChatGPT but on how integrating AI and ChatGPT in education can revolutionise how we teach and learn. The rise of ChatGPT should accelerate or even urge educators to rethink the method of assessing students. If an AI (or a computer) can answer an assessment reasonably well, it could already mean the assessment method could be outdated. Many agree that while generative AI produces believable texts, humans can still best perform the task's critical thinking and creativity side.

Answer generated by ChatGPT when Prof Lau asked it to explain Generative Pre-trained Transformer (GPT). ▶

can you explain briefly what is Generative Pre-trained Transformer to non-technical people?

Certainly!

Generative Pre-trained Transformer, or GPT for short, is a type of artificial intelligence technology that specializes in understanding and generating human-like language. It uses a large neural network – a computer system modeled on the human brain – that has been trained on a vast amount of text data.

By analyzing this text data, GPT is able to recognize patterns in language and generate new text that is similar in style and structure to what it has learned. This makes it useful for a wide range of applications, such as generating human-like responses in chatbots, summarizing long articles, or even writing its own articles or stories.

In short, GPT is a powerful tool that can help computers better understand and use human language, and it has the potential to revolutionize many different areas of our lives.

AI-powered systems can provide personalised learning experiences for students based on their needs and abilities. AI tools such as ChatGPT could be used by students on the lower-order thinking skills tasks to learn and practice high-order skills. Ultimately, it is the high-order skills that are needed in the workplace. Industries are not looking for graduates who can only recall and remember facts but need to be more adequate to apply, analyse or evaluate. Graduates who can create new solutions when the older ones no longer work are highly sought after. Thankfully, AI is still unable to be creative, at least for now.

More importantly, ChatGPT has demonstrated the future of work – AI will continue to be incorporated into systems, and its usage will multiply. If educators and students resist or are unfamiliar with it, they may be left behind. On the other hand, if AI can assist or even enhance teaching and learning, students can now focus more on actual learning. Everyone can use AI to automate and optimise data search and retrieval or use ChatGPT as a personal tutor to discuss. Workload could be reduced since the repetitive and mundane tasks will be completed much faster, significantly when the future generations of AI tools will only improve.

One should remember that students still require fundamental human-to-human interactions. No matter how realistic an AI chatbot may sound, it should not replace a conversation with a human. Actual engagement in and out of the classroom will continue to remind students to leave AI behind and enjoy the learning process. Students need to be reminded and inspired about the joy of learning. This joy will help them not let AI take it away.

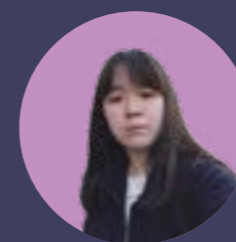
In conclusion, AI and ChatGPT have the potential to significantly impact the education field, offering new opportunities for personalised learning and improved efficiency. However, careful consideration and monitoring of the implementation of these technologies is necessary. Change of assessment philosophy is also essential to ensure they maintain the quality of education. We should allow machines to do what they are good at – completing repetitive jobs efficiently. If we can only perform tasks that machines can perform, machines will replace us.

(Less than 20% of the above article was drafted by ChatGPT. The author assures major part of the texts contains possibly-flawed human opinions and is ready to be challenged)



KAREN NG KAI EN – Year 3 student, Bachelor of Software Engineering (Hons)

I think ChatGPT increases our work efficiency. Sometimes when we lack ideas, ChatGPT can provide us with ideas we did not think of. It also reduces our research time compared to using Google alone. It will give you the information you need within one minute. But we need to be more creative and have a higher integrity. We can use it to assist our work rather than as a tool to help us produce the whole job. The concern of the public is the originality of the work. Especially for students, we can use it to assist us but not to use it to generate the whole essay.



CHEN WEI LUN – Year 2 student, BSc (Hons) in Computer Science

ChatGPT can be an excellent educational tool as it can gather and summarise information as requested. It helped me by answering some of my questions throughout my studies, which I couldn't find on Google. It is also very convenient as it is also available all the time, so if I have any questions during my late-night study session, I can consult ChatGPT instead of waiting for a response from the lecturer till the next day. For some apparent reason, ChatGPT could affect examinations and assignments incorrectly. Lecturers are aware of ChatGPT by now, so most online exams or assignments are already graded with that in mind. I question if ChatGPT can fully be the only source of information, as understanding a specific topic through reading a textbook or articles is still a better way of getting knowledge. One of the limitations of ChatGPT is that it is trained using data, so if the data given is inaccurate, it might not be that reliable for education. However, I believe ChatGPT will become one of the essential tools for students in the future if it continues to improve.



ARE YOU A BIBLIOPHILE? PEEK INTO THE LIFE OF AN EDITOR

Do you have a strong passion for books and are considering working in the book publishing industry? Consider being an editor with a publisher like Sunway University Press.

But what exactly does an editor do? At its core, editors help bring a writer's book into being, from a raw Word document to the shelves of bookstores. A good editor is a significant contributor to a new book's success. To do that, editors wear many hats and serve many functions.



GATEKEEPERS OF CONTENT

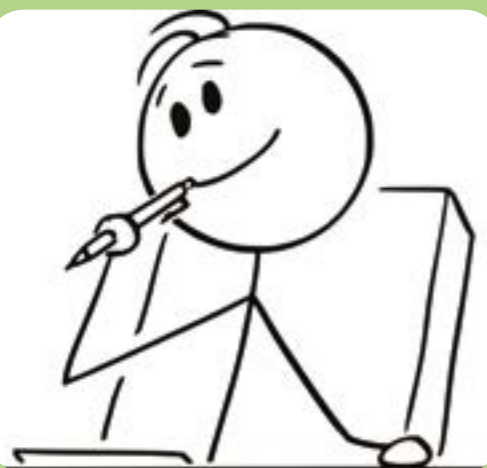
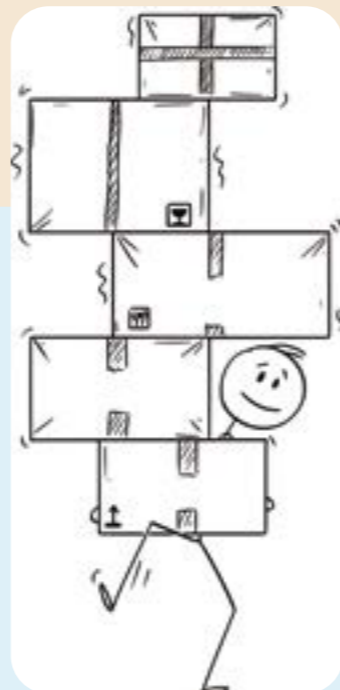
Ever seen a signboard with a silly misspelling or a social media post with an unintentionally insensitive caption?

Proofreading is not just checking for spelling and punctuations. Editors are the final gatekeepers of content, ensuring that everything is safe and suitable for the consumer.

MULTITASKERS

Editors are multi-tasking project managers, responsible for the A to Z of the publishing process.

They work with authors in the writing stage, coordinate with designers, printers, and all other parts of the production team, all to ensure that deadlines and quality standards are met.



EXERCISE IMAGINATION AND CREATIVITY

Books usually start as a basic Word document and a lot of creative design decisions need to be made. You will need to choose typefaces and fonts, along with other aesthetic choices such as line spacing, page margins, even the type of paper to use so that your book will give readers the best reading experience.

It is not all just work in front of a computer screen either! You will have to get hands on with books to learn what look and feel will appeal.

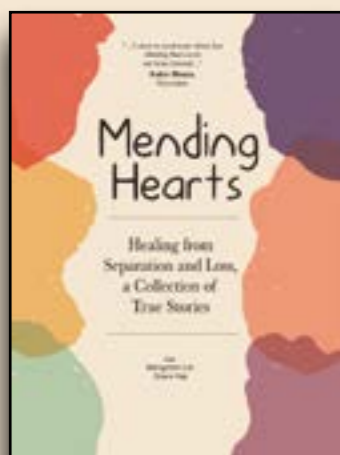
Once a book has been published, you can continue to influence its success, through writing copy for marketing materials, supporting promotional events, and many other exciting avenues to connect your book with its readers!

EDITOR'S RECOMMENDATION

Mending Hearts is an award-winning edited collection of true short stories from students and members of the general public of many ages and backgrounds, which were compiled and displayed at Sunway University's hit Breakup Exhibitions, run by the Sunway Psychology Club.

Share in the experiences of these heartfelt real-life accounts, each telling the end of a relationship—be it in romance, friendship, or family. Glimpse the myriad feelings and thoughts of those healing from these breakups and finding their way back to happiness.

Interested in being an editor or working in book publishing, and want to try it out as an intern? Want to check out the books that we have published? Just want to learn more about Sunway University Press and what we do as a publisher? You can reach out to us at sup@sunway.edu.my



AVENUE OF ACHIEVEMENTS

POSKOD 47500 SUNWAY



A-Level Student Made It to MIT

The road to success is not easy to navigate, and years of hard work has finally paid off for Tristan Chaang who has been accepted into the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in the United States. Tristan also received offers from the University of Oxford and Imperial College London.

During his studies at Sunway, Tristan was also awarded the first place for Best Across 4 AS Level in Malaysia and Top in the World for Further Mathematics in the Outstanding Cambridge Learner Awards.



Sunway University Reaches Greater Heights in the QS World University Rankings by Subject

In the recent announcement of the QS World University Rankings by Subject 2023, Sunway University's Art and Design made its new entry and ranked 201-240 for the first time; Business and Management moved up to 401-450 and Hospitality and Leisure Management continues to strive and ranked at 101-150.

Congratulations to Sunway Business School, School of Hospitality and Service Management and Department of Art and Design, School of Arts for their continuous effort in promoting and showcasing the Schools.



Sunway Recognised with 'Academic Excellence Award'

The Sunway Global Digital Talent team was recognised with the 'Academic Excellence Award', by the Global Digital Talent – an international certification by Alibaba Business School. It is integrated as part of the electives subject for the Sunway University degree.



CIMP Swimmer Broke National Record

Congratulations to swimmer Andrew Goh on his remarkable achievement in the 2023 Malaysian Open Championship. Andrew broke the national record in the 50-meter breast stroke event by clocking in at 28.10 seconds, breaking the previous record of 28.59 seconds set back in 2016.

CAMPUS WITH A CONSCIENCE – COMMUNITY SERVICE MODULE



#CampusWithAConscience (CWAC) is the fundamental spirit at the heart of Sunway Campus life; educating, encouraging, and engaging students in all aspects of a diverse and inclusive community to support them in adopting a lifestyle and habits that truly reflect a society determined to create a better living environment for the current and future generations.

Supervised by Associate Professor Dr Jane Gew, School of Medical and Life Sciences, 15 groups of Year 2 students from the BSc (Hons) Biomedicine, BSc (Hons) Biology with Psychology and BSc (Hons) Medical Biotechnology put into practice the CWAC initiatives through the compulsory community service module under the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia.

BEACH CLEANING

Tackling Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 12: Responsible Consumption and Production; and SDG 14: Life Below Water, two groups of students involved in cleaning up the beach along the coasts of *Pantai Tanjung Harapan* and *Pantai Morib*.

Over 27kg of trash were collected included plastic products – cups, bottles, bags, food wrappers; paper products – juice box, tissue paper; cigarette butts; wooden sticks; glass bottles; and worn-out clothing.

Volunteers involved were able to understand the importance of proper waste management and the impacts of waste pollution at the beach could harm both marine life and human.



FOOD WASTE COMPOSTING

To reduce food waste filling up the landfills, students collected food waste from TMG Express twice a week. The food waste, mainly cabbage, are placed into the compost machine and composted into useful fertiliser that is beneficial for plants.

Reduced food waste at landfills would reduce the amount of rotting food that contributes to global warming, as the decomposition process of food waste produces harmful greenhouse gases. This initiative aimed to tackle SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production and SDG 13: Climate Action.



EDUCATING PLANETARY HEALTH

A group of students visited the Sunway International School (SIS) to educate Year 5 and Year 6 students the importance of planetary health, as well as guiding the students to make seed bomb themselves.

This initiative aimed to tackle SDG 4: Quality Education and SDG 13: Climate Action.



HIKING TRAIL CLEAN-UP

One of the volunteer activities organised by the students included cleaning up the hiking trail at Bukit Wawasan Puchong, where 5kg of rubbish were collected and recycled. It is challenging to hike when the trail is filled with trash which also posed as a threat to wildlife.



TREE PLANTING

Students had the opportunity to take part in the 'Monthly Tree Planting Programme', run by the Selangor State Forestry Department and the Global Environment Centre, where about 450 *tenggek burung* trees (*Melicope lunu-ankenda*) were planted by 108 volunteers. Planting trees play an essential role in speeding up the recovery process of the forest after being burned. Strategically tree planting will bring life to the areas, improve quality of life and help fight against climate change. Both tree planting and hiking trail clean-up initiatives aimed to tackle SDG 13: Climate Action and SDG 15: Life on Land.



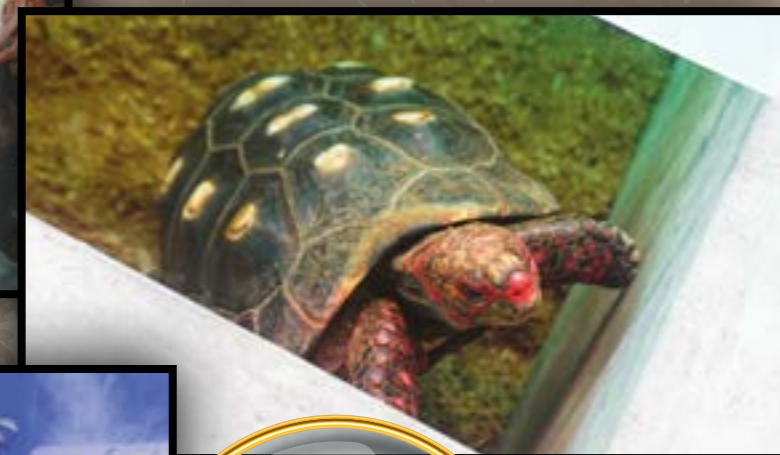


GOING UNDERGROUND WITH DR SAGA

Dr Sagathevarn Kuppusamy is the Head of Science and Engineering Resources at Sunway College where he manages the operations of 14 science labs conducting practicals for six pre-university programmes. A highly experienced lecturer with over 30 years of teaching experience, Dr Saga's interests lie in various fields of science such as Ecology, Marine Biology, Biodiversity and Taxidermy.

The editorial team had a chance to drop by Dr Saga's laboratories which are located at Lower Ground Floor, Sunway College building and visited some of the lovely friends including exotic pets at the Pet House, Biological Specimen Collection, Aquarium lab, and pond with water lilies and aquatic plants. His initiative also involves the establishment of a Highland Plant Conservatory that houses rare and endangered carnivorous plants.

Furthermore, Dr Saga has a wide range of interests that include yoga, meditation and the science of Vastu (original Feng-Shui). He is currently the Adjunct Principal Teaching Fellow in the Master in Sustainable Development Management programme under the Jeffrey Sachs Center on Sustainable Development at Sunway University.



A DIVE INTO **TikTok** AESTHETIC TRENDS



The rise of "aesthetic" trends has taken the Internet by storm. With platforms like TikTok and Instagram, users can curate visual styles that align with their individual interests, whether it be through music, fashion or art.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF AESTHETICS

The study of aesthetics dates back to ancient civilisations where beliefs, values and cultural practices of various countries have influenced the concept over time. Aesthetics originated in ancient Greece, where Greek philosophers such as Plato and Aristotle pondered over the nature of beauty and its relationship to art. According to Plato's Republic, art mimics everyday objects and experiences.



AN ILLUSTRATION OF PLATO AND ARISTOTLE

However, Aristotle argued that the beauty of an object is determined by its "magnitude and order", suggesting that beauty is not just a matter of personal opinion, but rather an objective evaluation based on principles of proportion, balance and organisation.

During the Renaissance, artists and thinkers such as Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo sought to capture the beauty of the natural world in their works. In a book illustrated by da Vinci, a number (1.618) is named as the divine proportion. Better known as the golden ratio, this number was regarded as the universal law of beauty as it appears in geometry, architecture, and even nature.

CONCLUSION

Aesthetics have been around for a while, and its influence on social media continues to grow. As more users seek to express themselves creatively while connecting with others, aesthetics will inevitably continue to evolve and shape the way we present ourselves.

The essence of any aesthetic is not about the appearance, but in our actions. Beyond the visual aspects, aesthetics have also created a sense of belonging between those with similar interests. In the end, this is absolutely crucial in a society where social isolation has become more prevalent.

A BRIEF ANALYSIS OF POPULAR AESTHETICS

There are many aesthetics that people can choose from when they are unsure how to express themselves. Here are just a few of the many trending aesthetics:



COTTAGECORE MOODBOARD

Cottagecore embodies the idea of peaceful, rural slow living. The aesthetic is about cosiness, appreciating nature and little moments. It is also linked with domestic productivity, including activities like gardening and baking, and the values that come with it. Mindfulness and sustainability are central to the Cottagecore lifestyle. Movies associated with the Cottagecore aesthetic include "Alice in Wonderland", and "Howl's Moving Castle".



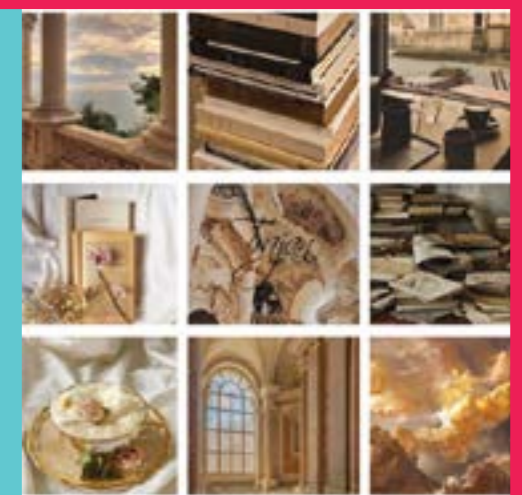
KIDCORE AESTHETIC MOODBOARD

Kidcore centres around reminiscing childhood innocence. It features vivid colours, cartoonish images, and references to toys from the 1990s and early 2000s. It also draws inspiration from retro design styles, involving 90s graphics, neon colours, and children's media such as "Totally Spies!", "Hello Kitty", and "Pokémon". Common visual elements of Kidcore include pastel colours, playful typography, and handmade items.

Kidcore gained traction on TikTok as people sought solace and familiarity in the past. By providing a fun, upbeat trend that values simplicity, joy, and imagination, this aesthetic offers a nostalgic escape from the complications and demands of adult life.

LIGHT ACADEMIA MOODBOARD

With an emphasis on soft pastel colours, light fabrics, and delicate textures, Light Academia is airy and romantic. This visually lighter counterpart of Dark Academia draws inspiration from classical Greek and Roman sculptures as well as picturesque settings. Themes of romance, nostalgia, and optimism are often present, which can be observed in popular media like "Pride & Prejudice" and "Little Women".



DARK ACADEMIA MOODBOARD

Dark Academia embodies a darker atmosphere with a focus on traditional education, ancient Greek and Roman mythology, and Gothic architecture. Inspiration is taken from Oxbridge and dark, atmospheric settings. It is often associated with the romanticisation of learning, philosophy, and history. Featuring the themes of melancholy, nostalgia, and intellectualism, books like "Harry Potter" and "The Secret History" are heavily associated with the aesthetic.



INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

SARAH BIBI MUNGLEY

SHEHAN DE SILVA YADDEHIGE



I am from Mauritius, a tiny island in the Indian Ocean. I enrolled at Sunway University in 2018 for my undergraduate studies and am currently pursuing my Masters in Life Sciences. The reason why I chose to pursue my master's here is because of the broad availability of choices for research. Sunway offered the research areas that I wanted to work on and specialise in.

As a student here, I spent most of my time on campus studying, socialising and planning events with my club and society. As a first year undergraduate, I was glad to have a good support and guidance from the University staff. My lecturers helped to boost my confidence and improve my skills and I am thankful for their support. By the end of my undergraduate studies, I was more confident and determined to achieve my dreams.

Campus life is very active; new events are ongoing every week, allowing me to learn about a new culture, knowledge or just enjoying the ambience at the University foyer. My favourite study spot at Sunway campus is a specific table and seat at the College foyer along with my friends. Now that I am doing my master's, many things have changed, yet the life at Sunway still remains a beautiful learning experience, with new environment, new friends and new life.

The campus facilities available makes my student life easier and more enjoyable. During my time off, I often use my Sunway Lagoon annual pass to go for a swim at the theme park next door. Only a few people can say that we live next to a theme park, but us Sunwayians can! Not to mention, having my meals at Rock Cafe is a bonus point, with an open-air, friendly environment and students chit-chatting in the background. The valuable experiences gained during my journey here as an international student will help me grow and shape my future.

“ Even when the time comes when you feel like giving up, don't! Because the struggle that you face will be the one to lift you higher. ”



I am from Colombo, Sri Lanka, and I am pursuing a BSc (Hons) in Actuarial Studies at the Sunway University School of Mathematical Sciences. My decision to study at Sunway University resulted from extensive research, which led me to conclude that it is one of the top universities for my chosen programme in Malaysia. Upon visiting the campus, I was impressed by its vibrant atmosphere and immediately enrolled.

Sunway University boasts a comprehensive range of facilities; one particularly appealing is the library. It is well-stocked with various books that provide valuable insights and guidance for my academic pursuits. Furthermore, the library's late-night study hours are convenient and conducive for students who prefer to study during non-traditional hours. The University's location, only a 5-minute walk from the Sunway Pyramid via the Canopy Walk, offers ample opportunities for recreational activities and socialising with friends.

The lecturers at Sunway University are true experts in their fields and possess extensive experience. They are always willing to lend a helping hand and have promptly addressed any issues or queries I had without hesitation. Living in Sunway City has been amazing! There's always something going on, with so many places to shop, hang out, and explore. I have enjoyed trying out different foods and cuisines as well. Sunway City is well-connected to other parts of Kuala Lumpur and Malaysia, making it easy to get around and travel.

I recommend considering Sunway University as your educational institution of choice. Should your desired programme of study is available at Sunway, I encourage you to visit the campus and experience the vibrant and dynamic environment it offers.

“ You will undoubtedly find that Sunway University is the #MostHappeningCampus around! ”

START WITH ONE



Written by Lance Cheang

"EVERYTHING I DID, I STARTED WITH A FIRST STEP; REGARDLESS OF SUCCESS OR FAILURE, AT LEAST I DID IT!"

Too often, people prepare to be prepared. Some take action, some do not. Described as constantly restless and oftentimes labeled an arsonist only to burn the barn down, that is the mantra tech entrepreneur Lance Cheang, a Sunway College alumnus lives by.

Throughout his studies in Sunway College's School of IT and Management (SITM), Lance worked part time in a local IT start-up in Bandar Utama as a part time network systems engineer. "I didn't really like taking pocket money from my parents, so I started working quite early to ease my parents' burden. I got the job quite easily partly because I took a professional course and became a Microsoft Certified Professional right after *Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia*."

Starting his business was initially scary. "I started my business with RM5,000 in the bank and a mortgage to pay." Lance quit his last job just a month after putting down the deposit for a condo next to Sunway University (Sunway Lagoonview Condo), where he lived for the next 15 years. "I rented out the master and single bedroom for a tidy sum enough to cover the mortgage and maintenance fees while I stayed in a makeshift bedroom converted from the study area. The condo turned into a great source of capital as it appreciated a great deal throughout the years, which I managed to refinance over time to fund business expansions." Only when he got married and had children that he decided to move to a house with a larger compound.



An entrepreneur at 23, Lance wasted no time deciding that a 9-6 job was not for him. After switching three jobs in nine months, he jokes, "I swapped an eight-hour work day for a 16-hour work day, sometimes pulling 24-hour all-nighters; when I was running a web hosting business, 2 AM was the only time I was able to update and fix any server problems in freezing cold data centres." He has since stopped hosting services in 2017 for the more sustainable Cloud model, which laid the groundwork for the most current iteration of his business as a technology concierge service, where his company fuels the customer's business growth with cloud technology.

He currently employs young and energetic individuals in VLAN Asia, managing customer engagements across Asia. VLAN Asia is a pioneering and leading Microsoft cloud service provider in the SME space in Malaysia. It is also credited with being the first partner in Asia for Zendesk, a cloud-based service desk solution, and is still the only active Zendesk partner in Malaysia. The company is also a partner for Hubspot and Oracle Netsuite.

Much of Lance's approach to business was influenced by his appointment in a global non-profit blockchain technology foundation. He was tasked with introducing, educating, and expanding the use of blockchain technology in government, corporations, and academia across Asia and the Middle East. He identifies, nurtures, and unleashes like-minded young individuals within the organisation to further the foundation's causes.

He was among the keynote speakers at the Asia Leadership Conference in Seoul, Jump-start Islamabad, O21 Disrupt Karachi, The Northern Region Innovation Forum, and various panels globally advocating the usage of blockchain technology. He was most recently a panellist at the Canalys Channel Conference in Singapore and a speaker at the Zendesk SMB event at the Sheraton PJ in November 2022.

"I really couldn't speak in public. I took the role because I knew it was a public role and I had to force myself to practise speaking in public. Speaking well in public made me a better leader as it gave me the confidence to communicate my directives and align my team in the right direction. I still find it upon myself to seek speaking opportunities to share my knowledge and expand my experience as a public speaker."

A man of action, Lance's mission is to inspire anyone who will listen to just "start with one". "Start with one can mean different things to different people. For someone aspiring to do good, just start with one cause." His company, VLAN Asia, too has supported many causes, most notably activities supporting causes to upskill and reskill women returning to the workforce with technology skills in hopes of securing jobs in the tech sector. He also supported the Malaysian Community Pharmacies Guild by providing the training platform to train and upskill Malaysian pharmacists to be vaccine providers during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

For someone looking to start a business, just start by looking for the first customer. Then the first staff member to assist internally. Just start. Opportunities abound in our country, as are good causes we can support. We just need to start with one.

Have an alumni story to share? Reach out to the Sunway Alumni Relations team via alumni@sunway.edu.my as we would love to hear from you!



Could Your Clothes Improve The Future?

At UNIQLO, we believe in the power of clothing to create a better tomorrow. Our clothes recycling is just one part of our sustainability efforts to RECYCLE, REUSE, and REDUCE. Through our circular sustainability programs, we make an effort to recycle your used garments!



RE.UNIQLO Studio @ DA Square



Donation Efforts Through UNHCR

Our collaboration with the United Nations Refugee Agency (UNHCR), has resulted in donations of 41.11 million clothing items to refugees and displaced persons in 75 countries and regions around the world. Through our global partnership with UNHCR, we aim to donate approximately 7 million pieces of clothing per year.



Promoting Product-to-Product Recycling

Through RE.UNIQLO we launched our Recycled Down Jacket in November 2020. The new technology enables us to extract and use down items and feathers efficiently. This garment is filled completely with reclaimed down and feathers were taken from 620,000. In 2020, we collected down products in 23 countries and regions.



RE.UNIQLO RECYCLE & REUSE FRAMEWORK



RE.UNIQLO: The Clothing Rebirth

Since 2006, UNIQLO has promoted a recycling program to collect pre-loved UNIQLO clothing and donating them to refugees and others in need. Recently we have included product-to-product recycling called RE.UNIQLO.

RE.UNIQLO promotes the efficient use of resources by incorporating recycled materials in the production of new items. This initiative reduces excessive waste, greenhouse gas emissions, and resource throughout the product life cycle.

Make your UNIQLO clothes last longer and help to work towards a more sustainable future with our RE.UNIQLO Studio.

In an effort to encourage clothing sustainability, the RE.UNIQLO Studio was set up at DA Square. The RE.UNIQLO Studio is the first of its kind in the country and is part of the RE.UNIQLO program, which contributes towards a circular economy through upcycling and the 3Rs: Repair, Reuse, and Recycle.

UNIQLO's LifeWear philosophy has always emphasised the quality and durability of our clothing. We believe it is our responsibility to not only produce and sell apparel that our customers can wear frequently and for a long time but also to ensure that clothing and materials last much longer.

The RE.UNIQLO Studio will help customers extend the life of clothing by offering simple and practical on-site repairs for LifeWear items, giving pre-loved clothing a second lease of life. Clothes repair services offered include replacing missing buttons, mending split seams, as well as patching torn pockets and loose hems, all at a nominal fee.

**The RE.UNIQLO Studio is now available at DA Square.*



For more information about UNIQLO and its sustainability initiatives, please visit www.uniqlo.com/my.

STUDENT'S DIGITAL ART SHOWCASE

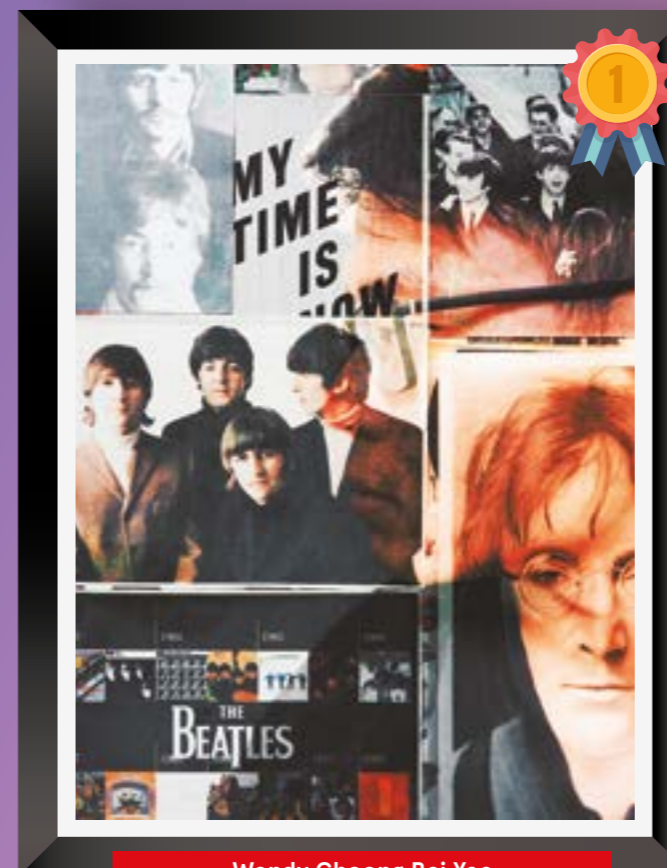
By Lee Zi Yang

SUNWAY UNIVERSITY
Department of ART, DESIGN & MEDIA

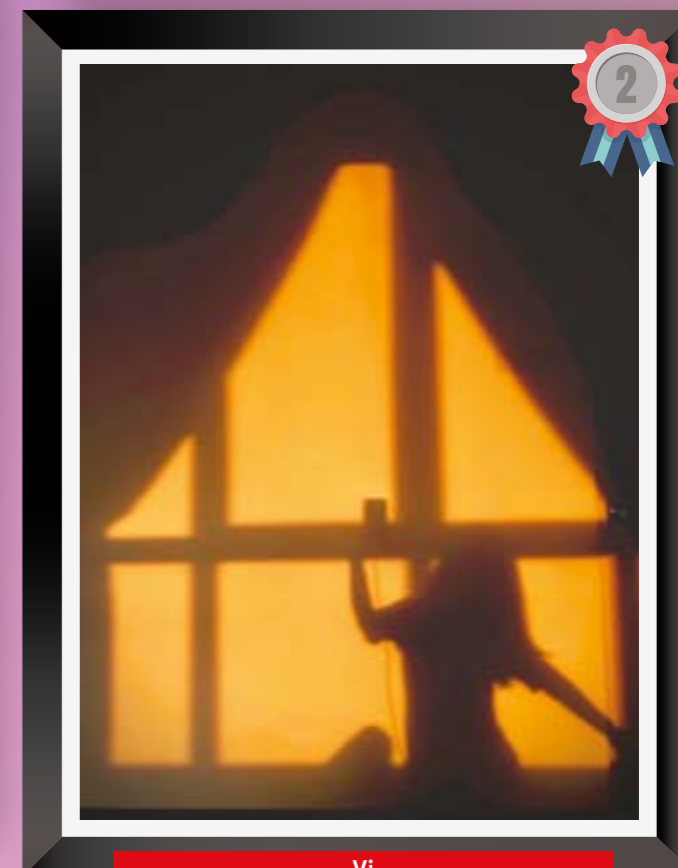


MY INSPIRING TALENT PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

organised by Sunway Gender Equality Club



Wendy Choong Bei Yee
Diploma in Graphic and
Multimedia Design, Sunway College KL
Someone who inspired me is my brother.
He may look nerdy, but he has a good
taste in music that lights up my aesthetic.



Vi
BSc (Hons) Culinary Management,
Sunway University
The me today inspires the me tomorrow,
join me and inspire ourselves.



Kyan Koh Chun Hoe
Bachelor of Actuarial Studies,
Sunway University
"Friendship knows no bounds."



HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE *HARI RAYAs*?

Hari Raya which also translated as the 'great day' is a festive celebration for the Muslim community. However, the 'great day of fasting' (*Hari Raya Puasa*) and 'great day of the haj' (*Hari Raya Haji*) are two separate celebrations that are often confused as one.

HARI RAYA PUASA

The great day of fasting, also known as *Eid al-Fitr*, is an Islamic festival that marks the end of the month-long from dawn to sunset fasting of Ramadan. Celebrated on the first day of *Syawal*, the 10th month of the *Hijrah* (Islamic) calendar, this holiday reminds Muslims to be grateful for what they have and are obliged to give *zakat* (religious tithe) to help the less fortunate.

According to the Muslim tradition, *Hari Raya Puasa* was originated by the Islamic Prophet Muhammad. In Malaysia, Muslims in the cities will return to their hometown, also known as *balik kampung*, to celebrate with their families and to ask for forgiveness from parents and the elderly. It is also a time for strengthening bonds among relatives and friends.

To celebrate the end of the month-long fasting, Muslims would visit the mosque and recite special prayers on the first day of *Hari Raya Puasa*. Other practices include visiting relatives and friends to seek forgiveness, as they believe peace and harmony are the way for all. Some families would also visit the graves of departed loved ones to pray for their souls. Homes will also be decorated with *lampu pelita* – celebratory lights, a small kerosene homemade lamp.

Hari Raya will not be complete without the excellent cuisine served at 'open houses' – where Muslims will invite their friends and family (including non-Muslims) to their homes to partake in traditional delicacies like beef *rendang* (a spicy dish of beef like dry curry), *ketupat* (rice cake wrapped in coconut leaf) and *lontong* (rice cake immersed in coconut gravy).



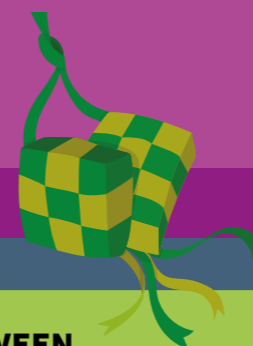
HARI RAYA HAJI

The *haj*'s great day, also known as *Hari Raya Aidiladha* or *Eid al-Adha*, is celebrated to mark the Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca, known as the *haj*. The second and the larger of the two main holidays celebrated in Islam, *Hari Raya Haji* falls on the 10th day of *Zulhijjah* the 12th month of *Hijrah*, and lasts four days.

According to the story found in the Quran, *Hari Raya Haji* commemorates the willingness of the Islamic prophet Ibrahim to sacrifice his son as an act to test his obedience to *Allah* (God). Before Ibrahim carried out this command, Allah intervened to stop him and allowed a sacrifice of a sheep in place of his son. Ibrahim's good act of sacrifice and obedience to Allah is commemorated through the ritual of *korban* – which involves the sacrificial offering of livestock.

The tradition for *Eid al-Adha* involves slaughtering an animal and sharing the meat in three equal parts – for family, friends and relatives, and for poor people. The goal is to ensure every Muslim gets to eat meat.

On the day of the festival, Muslims will gather in mosques for congregational prayers before carrying out the *korban* ritual.



COMPARISON BETWEEN HARI RAYA PUASA & HARI RAYA HAJI

Also known as <i>Eid al-Fitr</i> , <i>Hari Raya Aidilfitri</i> , Festival of Breaking Fast	Also known as <i>Eid al-Adha</i> , <i>Hari Raya Aidiladha</i>
Celebrated on the first day of <i>Syawal</i> – the 10 th month in the Islamic calendar	Celebrated on the 10 th day of <i>Zulhijjah</i> – the 12 th month in the Islamic calendar
Festival of breaking fast	Great day of sacrifice
<i>Puasa</i> in English means fasting	<i>Hajj</i> in English means 'pilgrimage to Mecca'
Celebrated at the conclusion of Ramadan – the 9 th month of the Islamic calendar where Muslim fast from dawn to sunset and perform religious duties for a month.	Involves slaughtering an animal (sheep, goats or cows as offering) and share the meat in three equal parts with family, relatives and friends, and for poor people
It is a time of forgiveness within the Muslim community	
The celebration lasts for 30 days	The celebration lasts up to four days

SUNWAY STARS

TAURUS (APR 20 – MAY 20)

Even a strong bull needs the help and support of other like-minded creatures and what could be a better place than their natural habitat. For peace of mind and creative thinking, head over to the tranquillity of the Brain Forest. It is full of colourful characters there and also popular with some humans too.



VIRGO (AUG 23 – SEP 22)

The hard work you are dedicating to your studies are a credit to you and we are all here to help you along your own unique incredible Sunway journey. Your family and friends would be so proud to see your level of dedication and passion for progression. Your future is so bright that you gotta wear shades 😎



CAPRICORN (DEC 22 – JAN 19)

Whenever times get a little tougher and you need to seek out some inspiration, all you have to do is enjoy a walk to the Sun-Birds at the University foyer and take a look up at their glorious wings. Your eyes will be full of gleaming red and blue engraved scrolls. It is only time before we are printing them with your name on it.



GEMINI (MAY 21 – JUN 21)

If you are new to the campus, it is fair to say you may be experiencing a bit of a transitional period right now whilst eagerly anticipating a bright new future. Remember to seek quality guidance from your mentors, remain positive and always try your best. Like the iconic Sun-Birds on the campus, you too will rise and soar ahead in the years to come.



LIBRA (SEP 23 – OCT 22)

Striking the right balance between dedicating time to your studies and the wonderful escapism of positive recreation can be tough, but at this campus we have the ideal solution. Why not do both at the same time. Grab your books and go to the Rooftop Terrace, enjoy a nice refreshing drink and continue your revision whilst overlooking the splendour of Sunway Lagoon. And at the weekend, take a splash in the pool too but please don't bring your books.



AQUARIUS (JAN 20 – FEB 18)

It is not gone unnoticed that you have a wonderful spirit and sense of giving. You are always trying to support your friends and family in all their endeavours. Your selfless attitude and positive demeanour towards others are a shining light to all of our campus community. It is because of people like you that we are blessed to be known as a #CampusWithAConscience.



CANCER (JUN 22 – JUL 22)

After studying so hard, there are times when we are all in need of some positive distraction and something else more exciting to do. Why not venture into uncharted territory and discover a new hobby or interest? With over 90 clubs and societies full of bright young people, there are many new and exciting activities that you can get involved in. It is not the #MostHappeningCampus for no reason 😊



SCORPIO (OCT 23 – NOV 21)

Choosing to study on this campus was a very wise move and one that will ensure all of your hard work and endeavours will not go unnoticed or unappreciated. At Sunway, there is no typical Scorpio sting in the tail but simply total recognition of your efforts and a platform for you to rise with your tail pointing up towards the sky. No one knows your limits.



PISCES (FEB 19 – MAR 20)

Being a student at Sunway allows you the opportunity to become a global citizen of the world without actually leaving Sunway City. So, it pays to take a look up from your smartphone the next time you are walking across the campus as there are new friends to be made from over 90 nationalities on campus... So, get your rod out Pisces, time to go fishing in international waters for new friends.



LEO (JUL 23 – AUG 22)

As a glorious lion you should always take good care of yourself, take pride in your achievements and maintain a healthy lifestyle. So please enjoy a healthy stroll along the canopy walk to Sunway Pyramid and enjoy a nice lunch with your friends. Even though you are the pack leader, let others choose the *makan* place too!



SAGITTARIUS (NOV 22 – DEC 21)

When it comes to achieving your long-term career goals, you could not hope to be in any better place right now, as Sunway University has been awarded the nation's No.1 for Graduate Employability for the second consecutive year. Your inspiring poster on the Avenue of Achievements can't be far away now, so keep being brilliant and just be yourself.



ARIES (MAR 21 – APR 19)

Buzzing from one classroom to the next, one campus location to the other, then eating at the Galley followed by Fresco the next could leave you feeling a little disoriented and in need of a sit down, then we have the idyllic place just for you. The Butterfly Garden at the College is the perfect location for you to rest your weary wings and reenergise. But there is only one bench so shuuuuusshh ya.



SNAP & WIN!



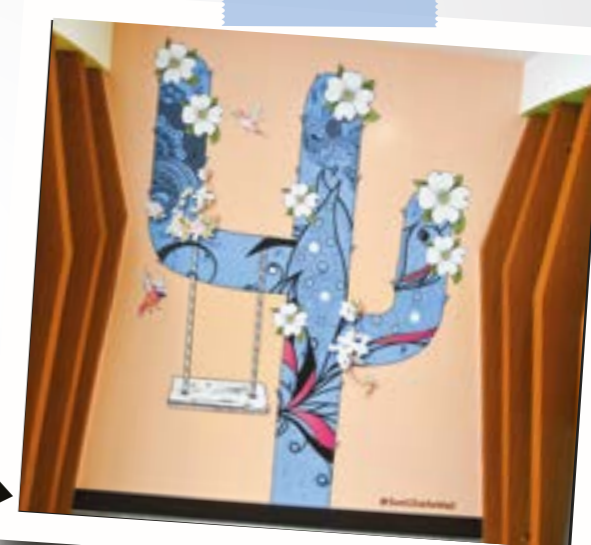
Participate and stand a chance to be one of two winners to get a Sunway Lagoon Annual Pass

How to join:

1. Take a photo of you (and/or with your friends) at your favourite spot on campus.
2. Send the photo via email to pr@sunway.edu.my, submission deadline is 15th June.
3. We will upload all submissions on Sunway College/Sunway University social media and allow the public to like and vote. The **TWO** photos with the most likes will win a Sunway Lagoon Annual Pass each.

What are you waiting for?

Head to your favourite spot on campus and send us your photo 📸



EXAMPLES ONLY LA!



PEACE FOR ALL



TADAO ANDO



INES DE LA FRESSANGE



KASHIWA SATO



HARUKI MURAKAMI



SHINYA YAMANAKA



JONATHAN ANDERSON



REI INAMOTO



KOSUKE KAWAMURA



SHINGO KUNIEDA



ADAM SCOTT



HANA TAJIMA



KEI NISHIKORI



AYUMU HIRANO



GORDON REID



CHRISTOPHE LEMAIRE

UNIQLO UT FOR PEACE.

100% OF PROFITS WILL HELP PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD. JOIN THE MOVEMENT.

The world needs peace now more than ever. With just a simple T-shirt, we can help make the world a better place. Introducing the UNIQLO UT PEACE FOR ALL project: an ongoing collection of T-shirts designed by world-renowned leaders in art, design, literature, science and sport. 100% of profits* will go towards international organizations that aid those affected by poverty, discrimination, violence, conflict and natural disasters. By wearing these T-shirts, we can share our hope for world peace and a future where everyone can live in safety.

*UNIQLO parent company Fast Retailing Co., Ltd. will donate all profits (no less than 20% of the selling price) equally among UNHCR, Save the Children and Plan International Inc.



We have been pursuing socially responsible initiatives ever since establishing the UNIQLO Social Contribution Office in 2005, because we believe social stability is vital for ensuring the lives of customers, developing businesses in a sustainable manner, and creating a peaceful world. Today the world is facing several problems that threaten people's lives and freedom. Conflicts have the power to protect lives, bring about daily living, and ultimately make society more stable. Driven by that strong belief, we are determined for PEACE FOR ALL to connect people all over the world. Please join us by doing your own power for good. All profits from the project will be donated to organizations that work to prevent poverty, discrimination, violence, and conflict around the world, and help solve the underlying challenges.

