

WINNERS OF THE NATIONAL DAY STUDENTS' VIDEO COMPETITION 2008 ANNOUNCED

*Best videos celebrating Singapore's heroes to receive attractive prizes,
including internships at Spinn Private Limited*

Singapore, 08 October 2008 – The National Heritage Board (NHB) and the Ministry of Education (MOE) may just have nurtured Singapore's next generation of film-making greats! Five teams from Loyang Primary School, Compassvale Secondary School, ITE College Central (Bedok), LASALLE College of the Arts and National University of Singapore/ Nanyang Technological University were awarded the top prizes in their respective categories in the 2008 National Day Students' Video Competition at a ceremony today. The winning entries paid tribute to their heroes such as social worker Mrs Chen Swee Soo, wheelchair marathoner Dr William Tan, mountaineer David Lim, Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew and our National Servicemen. On top of attractive cash prizes, the winning teams have also been given an opportunity to undergo training and internships offered by Spinn Private Limited, a leading local video production company.

In line with this year's National Day celebrations of "Celebrating the Singapore Spirit", the competition took on the theme of "Celebrating Singapore's Heroes". The theme encouraged the participants to think about the definition, the values and spirit that epitomises a 'hero'. "The theme was part of NHB's overall effort to start a journey of public introspection and discussion so that Singaporeans may be well-positioned in the future to dialogue on who Singapore's national heroes are", said Mr. Michael Koh, NHB's Chief Executive Officer.

"We also wanted to awaken people's consciousness of the many heroes within our midst – many ordinary people with extraordinary spirit – so that they will not go uncelebrated and forgotten," added Mr Koh. The participants did not fail to live up to the spirit of this year's competition; the 114 entries received celebrated heroes ranging from family members to prominent historical and local figures.

This is the second year that NHB and MOE have organised this competition. After a successful pilot last year among tertiary institutions, the competition this year was thrown open to all students regardless of their age with its four competitive categories – Primary, Secondary & JC/CI, Polytechnic & ITE, and Tertiary/ Open.

“We wanted to give all students a platform to showcase their talents and creativity while discussing a serious topic like Singapore’s heroes via the medium of film, and the enthusiastic response from students was very encouraging! The outcomes are more than just videos – through the process of film-making, the students would have found out and learnt more about the heroes they have chosen to feature, and deepened their appreciation of their heroes’ contribution to society. The competition even brought to the forefront some lesser-known heroes such as Mr N. Govindasamy, a senior Tamil teacher who pioneered the use of information technology in teaching Tamil, and who was also the inventor of the *Kanian* software,” said Mrs Tan Wai Lan, Deputy Director, National Education and Planning, MOE.

Mr Michael Koh presented the awards – cash prizes totalling \$9,500 – to the 13 winners in the four categories at the Singapore HeritageFest 2008 Thank You Party held at the Singapore Art Museum. Additionally, the top winners of the Primary and Secondary & JC/CI categories would be given an opportunity to experience an onsite tour of a production shoot as well as visit Spinn’s office to witness live demonstrations of work processes like animation and post-production editing. For the top winners of the Polytechnic & ITE and Tertiary/ Open categories, Spinn would be offering a different incentive – the company will be sponsoring paid internships.

“SPINN is really proud to be able to nurture our future talents and impart our knowledge and expertise on what we do best to the winning students,” said Mr. Foh Chit Yee, Founder and Executive Producer of Spinn who was also one of the members of the judging panel.

About SPINN

SPINN is a leading creative video production company which specializes in producing videos for sales, marketing and corporate needs. SPINN consistently delivers high quality work with service excellence, making it the preferred creative provider amongst leading companies and organizations seeking to communicate their marketing and corporate messages in an effective and compelling manner. SPINN's creative videos help brand companies, close sales, launch events, raise funds and recruit talent.

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