

PARTNERS' PROGRAMMES



ACROPOLIS ENGLISH CENTRE

Acropolis English Centre is a leading English programmes provider that has been offering a wide range of English language courses for over ten years. Acropolis conducts in-curriculum programmes and puts up performances and musical productions in many schools throughout Singapore, some of which have since become creative and vibrant learning centres. Acropolis endeavours to provide students with a brand of education that prepares them for the challenges of the 21st century and trains them to be competitive, productive, and compassionate members of society.

Programme

Acropolis English Centre is privileged to be working with the SGEM in organising the 2007 Storytelling Competition, an event open to all primary schools in Singapore and which carries the theme, "Stories my Grandparents Told Me". At the heart of this special project are the objectives to promote the development of oral skills in English, foster understanding between generations, encourage research and natural inquisitiveness, and promote appreciation for shared histories and traditions among family members. With this project, Acropolis is proud to share a similar vision with SGEM, one that promotes English learning through ways that are fun and engaging.



THE ASIAN STORYTELLING NETWORK



The Asian Storytelling Network (ASN), Singapore's first professional storytelling company, offers storytelling programmes for every occasion and venue. Focusing on the tradition of oral storytelling and using language that speaks to hearts and minds, rather than the language of instruction, its storytellers will weave a web of delight, transporting the audience from their everyday world into the world of story. Drawing on the rich heritage of folktales from Asia and beyond, they will create a programme especially tailored to the audience's needs.



THE BRITISH COUNCIL SINGAPORE

Founded in 1934, the British Council today operates in 110 countries worldwide. Its network spans offices in 215 towns and cities, backed by a global staff strength of 7,000. In Singapore, The British Council is a leader in international education and in cultural relations. More information can be found at www.britishcouncil.org.sg.



COMFORTDELGRO

ComfortDelGro is the world's second largest land transport company with a total fleet size of over 40,500 buses, taxis and rental vehicles. Headquartered in Singapore, the Group also has operations in China, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Australia, Vietnam and Malaysia. Currently, overseas ventures account for 45.5% of Group revenue. The Group intends to derive half of its total revenue from abroad in the next two to four years.

Programme

ComfortDelGro, which has been supporting the Speak Good English Movement for three years running, is sponsoring 10 double-deck bus ads amounting to over \$200,000 this year to create greater public awareness. The ads are due to run for six months starting end July.



HITCHOO PRIVATE LIMITED

Hitchoo Pte. Ltd. introduces to Singaporeans an alternative and innovative way of dating that is different from the traditional match-making approach. The Hitchoo card, with its catchy "You made my day!" phrase can be used everywhere; hence conveying the idea that love can happen anytime, anywhere. As such, Hitchoo aims to revolutionise Singapore by encouraging Singaporeans to be friendly, fun-loving and carefree.

Their website www.hitchoo.com, was launched recently on 15 May 2007, and it now has more than 900 members. Since its launch, it has created a buzz amongst bloggers, university students, and the media alike.

Programme

Though Singaporeans are good at expressing themselves in everyday functional language, they sometimes find it hard to express their emotions, especially love. Hence, Hitchoo Pte. Ltd. hopes to support this concept by spreading the SGEM message to young Singaporeans, who are very receptive to the Hitchoo concept. They plan to accomplish this by organising an online contest on the popular website, STOMP (www.stomp.com.sg), where Singaporeans can submit short phrases that best express their love emotions. The winning phrase, chosen at the end of the online competition on 31st October, could replace the present "You made my day!" for future Hitchoo cards.



JULIA GABRIEL CENTRE FOR LEARNING

Julia Gabriel Centre for Learning offers a diverse range of innovative and holistic communication programmes aimed at building greater self-confidence, self-esteem, and fluency of expression through the development of speech and language skills. A key feature of all programmes at Julia Gabriel Centre for Learning is the emphasis placed on stimulation, motivation, individual attention and encouragement, in a fun, creative, pressure free environment. Children as young as six months old start with EduPlay programmes until the age of three, when they advance through various stages of the EduDrama process until their teen years. Readers and Writers programmes support the language and literacy learning of kindergarten and primary school students, while the Julia Gabriel School of Education runs training courses for adults. EduPlay and EduDrama programmes are available in Standard English and Standard Mandarin.

Programmes

Talk: 'Switch on to Standard English'

A senior educator from Julia Gabriel Centre for Learning outlines the components of Standard English, when to speak it, how to encourage children to speak Standard English, and how best to promote it.

Interactive storytelling sessions

Books, drama, music and song are used with verve and vitality by educators from Julia Gabriel Centre for Learning to create the magic, sense of wonder and self-discovery that goes hand-in-hand with learning.



MEDIACORP RADIO

MediaCorp Radio leads the local broadcasting industry by providing the best audio entertainment and offering up-to-the minute news and information. As a people-oriented business, MediaCorp Radio is committed to meeting the varied listening needs of Singapore with her rich and diverse culture.

MediaCorp Radio operates 13 local FM stations, including 6 English stations, 3 Chinese stations, 2 Malay stations, 1 Indian station and an International Channel. Through Radio Singapore International, MediaCorp Radio also reaches out to regional listeners via short-wave in English, Mandarin, Malay and Bahasa Indonesia. By embracing Digital Audio Broadcast (DAB) technology, MediaCorp Radio now offers discerning listeners interference free and CD sound quality music through its SmartRadio service.

From its inception as a single radio station in 1936, MediaCorp Radio has grown to become the largest radio network in Singapore.

MediaCorp Radio is the radio arm of MediaCorp. As Singapore's largest broadcaster and one of the region's most renowned broadcasters, MediaCorp offers a complete range of media businesses: TV, Radio, Entertainment Productions, Movie Productions, Newspapers, Magazines, Electronic Media and other broadcasting services. MediaCorp's vision is to become one of Asia's top media companies by delivering valued content to the world.

For more information, please visit www.mediacorpradio.com

Programme

Through its English@Work e-newsletter which is produced every fortnight, MediaCorp Radio reaches out to its listeners on the usage of good standard English. The newsletter contains tips

for better communication, a pronunciation guide to commonly-mispronounced words, a book review segment as well as trivia on the English language. Listeners to 938LIVE are also encouraged to ask questions on grammar and these are then addressed by specialists in the English language. To sign up visit www.938LIVE.sg



987FM

987FM is the station for top hits and the latest in music, movies and trendy lifestyles. Reaching out to hip and happening young adults, 987FM which plays 'Only The Hits' has a cast of high profile DJs that are hugely popular with its listeners.



Ministry of Education
SINGAPORE

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

The Ministry Of Education (MOE) directs the formulation and implementation of education policies. It has control of the development and administration of the Government and Government-aided primary schools, secondary schools, junior colleges, and a centralised institute. It also registers private schools. More information on the MOE can be found on www.moe.gov.sg.

Programmes

In conjunction with various educational institutions, the MOE has supported initiatives to improve the quality of English in learning environments.



Fairfield Methodist Primary School (COE)

A variety of activities are developed to promote the SGEM in the school such as Mass Boggle, inter-class debates, and level oratorical competitions. The inter-class level competitions include Nursery Rhyme recitations, Choral Reading, Show and Tell, Reader's Theatre, Public Speaking and Have Your Say.

Please contact

Principal: Mr. Charles Tong

Email: charles_tong@moe.gov.sg

Kranji Primary School

The school partnered Word Forward (Chris Mooney of Poetry Slam movement) to organise a camp for selected students in the cluster. Students had to write a play or piece of poetry for performance after experiencing Orchard Road and Sungei Buloh.

Please contact

Principal: Mr. Sam Wong

Email: wong_poo_mun@moe.gov.sg

Vice President: Mrs. Angela Lee

Email: lee_lian_siang@moe.gov.sg

Casuarina Primary School

Initiated the inaugural East Zone Inter-Primary School Debating Competition that includes 24 E1 cluster schools. The preliminary round was held on 29 June. The finals will be held on 7 August.

Please contact

Principal: Ms. Debra Saw

Email: debra_saw@moe.gov.sg

Yusoff Ishak Secondary School

Mass training of students in speech and drama. Teachers also trained to speak Good and Standard English.

Please contact



Principal: Mr. Tan Yee Kan

Email: tan_yee_kan@moe.gov.sg

Raffles Institution

Raffles Institution Primary School Debating Invitationals 2007 is organised annually by Raffles debaters. This competition is sophisticated and mirrors the WSDC format of debating. This year the competition proper will start in November, with workshops held in September. Raffles debaters provide debate coaching and outreach programmes to all schools interested in enhancing debate programmes.

Please contact

Mrs. Rosie Smith

Tel: 63549162

Email: rosie@ri.sch.edu.sg

Mrs. Neoh Terh Ling

Tel: 63549137

Email: terhling@ri.sch.edu.sg



NATIONAL BOOK DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL OF SINGAPORE

The Book Council is a non-profit umbrella body inaugurated in 1969 to promote storytelling, reading, writing and publishing. The Council brings the book industry and literary community together through social events, courses, seminars, conferences and author lectures.

Since 1990 the Council has been organising the prestigious *Singapore Literature Prize*. The Council manages the *Centre for Literary Arts and Publishing* which provides training programmes for the book and publishing community. The *Singapore Writers Centre*, supported by the National



Arts Council, was set as a one-stop centre where the Singapore writing community can gain access to a myriad of services and resources aimed at encouraging writing efforts and fostering a greater understanding of the publishing process.

The Council's current objective is to establish and develop Singapore as the Asian centre for publishing and the literary arts.

Programme

The Singapore International Storytelling festival (SISF) is a two-week festival that celebrates live storytelling by the best of Singapore and international storytellers. The SISF consists of many components which directly support the *Speak Good English Movement* by using the unique method of storytelling. Events such as the Asian Congress of Storytellers, Sayang Singapore, the International Storytellers Showcase and a Storytelling Competition aim to promote the message of SGEM in an effective and entertaining manner. For more information on the Singapore International Storytelling Festival 2007 log on to www.bookcouncil.sg/sisf or email sisf@bookcouncil.sg



THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION

NIE is the sole teacher training institute in Singapore. We have three initial teacher preparation programmes which prepares teachers to teach at the primary, secondary and junior college levels. In addition, our Graduate programmes office also offers several postgraduate Masters' and PhD programmes, leadership programmes and in-service programmes for our teachers in schools.

Programmes

- a) Getting to know the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA): this is a two hour workshop which introduces participants to the sounds and symbols of the English Language as represented by the IPA. The aim is to allow participants to independently check up word pronunciations in the dictionary since they are now acquainted with the IPA.
- b) The SGEM website will feature IPA sounds and symbols compiled by NIE lecturer, Dr David Deterding. This webpage features audio clips to help users learn how to pronounce consonants and vowels using phonetics. Visit <http://www.goodenglish.org.sg/site2/pronunciation-lessons/13.html> to view this resource.
- c) Compulsory SGEM forum for ALL graduating primary school teachers across the three initial teacher preparation programmes: an expert panel comprising a principal, SGEM chair and a journalist will be invited each year for a one hour forum to share with some 1,200 graduating primary school teachers on the importance of speaking/ writing and teaching good English in schools.
- d) An educational game on pronunciation will be launched next year in the form of a CD Rom. This CD Rom can be used as a self-access tool for students and aims to help them familiarise themselves with the IPA sounds and symbols through a fun and interactive medium.



National Library Board

The National Library Board (NLB) serves as the secretariat for the Speak Good English Movement. Established on 1 September 1995, the National Library Board's mission is to provide a trusted, accessible and globally connected library and information service so as to promote a knowledgeable and engaged society. More information on NLB can be found on www.nlb.gov.sg



Panpac Education



PANPAC EDUCATION PRIVATE LIMITED

Panpac Education Pte Ltd (formerly known as SNP Panpac Pte Ltd) is one of Singapore's largest and leading homegrown educational publishers. As the publisher of two famous imprints, EPB and Pan Pacific, and with 60 years of combined publishing experience behind it, Panpac Education Pte Ltd has established itself in the region as a major publisher of learning programmes, textbooks and other educational materials.

Today, Panpac Education Pte Ltd provides a comprehensive range of educational print materials and multimedia packages for the entire spectrum of the market, from pre-school to pre-university and in humanities, Maths and Science subjects.

Being a leading homegrown educational publisher, Panpac Education Pte Ltd is the only textbook publisher in Singapore that works closely with the Ministry of Education, Singapore in publishing textbook packages for the Mother tongue languages (Chinese, Malay and Tamil), Social Studies, History, Civics and Moral Education (Primary), for Singapore schools.

Programme

Panpac Education is glad to be a part of the Speak Good English Movement as publisher of *English As It Is Broken*. We selected and put together questions regarding correct usage and photographs of errors in public signs and notices sent by readers to the hugely popular weekly column of the same title in *The Sunday Times*. The overwhelming response of the public to the invitation to send their questions and illustrations of incorrect usage for clarification and rectification by a panel of English language specialists from the Ministry of Education indicates Singaporeans' increasing concern about the use and abuse of the English language. It also shows their desire to know more about the difference between standard and non-standard English. *English As It Is Broken* is a modest contribution to the Speak Good English Movement.

The common goals to foster awareness of our use of the English language and for Singaporeans to speak and write the language competently are unmistakable.



READING PLUS

Reading Plus is a project that hopes to promote reading and learning among young Singaporeans and at the same time to provide children with opportunities to interact with one another.

The team at Reading Plus believes that there is a need to foster this spirit of reading and learning at a young age and are glad for the many partners who have helped make this programme a success. It is through this bonding that they are able to reach out to many young Singaporeans and help them understand one another better in our multiracial and multicultural society. It is therefore apt that this programme be themed: Building Bridges: Engaging the Young through Reading and Learning.

The team from Reading Plus is headed by Elias Tam Tak Chuen, a medical doctor by profession, grassroots leader and a social activist, and Mr Soon Mah Kit, a retired teacher.

Their two main partners are the Association of Muslim Professionals (AMP) and Mercy Relief. AMP is a self-help organisation whose main objective is to help uplift the lives of our Malay/Muslim Community. Mercy Relief is a humanitarian organisation that provides assistance and relief to victims of natural disasters.

To engage students in a useful and meaningful way, they have created a programme which features a fortnightly magazine and a portal.



With the portal, they hope to help children embrace the digital era in a fun, beneficial and safe way. The magazine will be beneficial for students who might not be able to afford a computer as yet. Other activities include reading sessions.

Programmes

- Fortnightly reading magazine
 - Reading and learning portal
 - Multi-lingual stories
 - Health knowledge
 - Keeping up with the latest and the hottest craze
 - Volunteer work in the neighbouring countries
 - Worksheets
 - Activities
-



SKY CAMBRIDGE INTEGRATED SCHOOL, FOR ENGLISH SPEAKING BOARD

Established since 2003, Sky Cambridge Integrated School (SCIS) is a MOE registered private school and Cambridge International Examination Centre. SCIS's philosophy centres on an *Integrated Education* and we offer courses that are relevant across different subject areas, integrating various aspects of the curriculum into meaningful association to real-life applications.

Programme

To support the Speak Good English Movement, we will offer English Speaking Board's courses and assessments that are focused on speaking and 'active' listening. It will be an opportunity for anyone interested to improve their oral communication skills, be it academic or work-oriented.



THE SOCIETY FOR READING AND LITERACY

The Society for Reading and Literacy (SRL) is a dynamic organisation striving to make Singapore a nation of readers and writers. Our mission is to champion reading and literacy in Singapore and provide professional leadership by promoting cooperative work among educators and interested parties in the field of literacy.

Composed entirely of volunteers, SRL disseminates Information and promotes research in developmental, recreational, corrective and remedial reading, organises national conferences and co-sponsors reading-related activities with other organisations in Singapore. It is an affiliate member of the National Book Development Council of Singapore and a national affiliate of the International Reading Association (IRA), which makes us privy to the most current worldwide trends in reading.



SINGAPORE RETAILERS ASSOCIATION

Singapore Retailers Association (SRA) was founded in 1977, by 10 leading retailers, and is a founding member of the Federation of Asia-Pacific Retailers Associations. The SRA presently has more than 300 corporate members who account for approximately 75% of Singapore's total retail market turnover, many of whom are reputable household names in the retail and retail-related businesses. Membership is open to all retailers and related businesses, large and small.



SMRT CORPORATION LTD.

SMRT Corporation Ltd is Singapore's premier multi-modal transport service provider offering integrated island-wide transport services. It delivers safe, reliable and friendly travel for commuters through its comprehensive network of 51 MRT stations, the Bukit Panjang Light Rail System, as well as a fleet of over 3,000 taxis and 800 buses. In addition, SMRT leverages its experience and unique strengths to offer maintenance consultancy and project management services for railway systems, as well as commercial and advertising space within its transport infrastructure.

Programme:

SMRT is pleased to support the Speak Good English Movement (SGEM) to encourage Singaporeans to be ambassadors of good English. In support of SGEM's campaign this year, SMRT has contributed \$188,400 worth of in-kind sponsorship, which entails the provision of media spaces in high-traffic MRT stations as well as advertising panels in 20 trains, reaching out to the vast commuting public every day throughout three months from 2 August to 24 October 2007.



STOMP

STOMP is Singapore's number one citizen journalism and social networking website. Set up by The Straits Times to engage with its readers online and offline, it has set new benchmarks for user-generated material.

THE STRAITS TIMES

THE STRAITS TIMES

The Straits Times is one of the region's oldest English-language daily newspaper. It is the flagship publication of the publicly-listed Singapore Press Holdings group. First published on July 15, 1845, The Straits Times is the most widely read newspaper in Singapore. The Sunday Times, which is produced by the same team of journalists, has a circulation of nearly 400,000 and a readership of 1.23 million.

Programme

Singapore's main Sunday paper, *The Sunday Times*, supports SGEM by running a weekly column in its Gen Y page called *English As It Is Broken*. The paper invites readers to send in questions pertaining to the use of the English Language. SGEM's Writers Panel answers their queries in a humorous and tongue-in-cheek manner.

Readers send their questions to Stomp!, The Straits Times' free interactive website. The Stomp website, www.stomp.com.sg, also carries questions and answers that do not appear in the paper. MOE's English language specialists answer the queries on Stomp!'s *English As It Is Broken* microsite.

The Sunday Times also works with schools to provide school children from low income families with the opportunity to sign up for a year-long free subscription delivered to their homes. This initiative enables economically disadvantaged children to expand their knowledge of current affairs, thus providing them with valuable assets to facilitate the development of a strong foundation in the English language.

Moving Images
a programme of the substation

THE SUBSTATION



The Substation is Singapore's first independent contemporary arts center, aimed at nurturing and challenging Singapore artists, providing an open space for artistic experimentation, and also fostering regional and international arts networks. Our venues include a black box theatre, a gallery, a dance studio, and two multi-function classrooms. We present and co-present a wide range of artists and programmes, from traditionally trained dancers to local rock bands; established visual artists to young poets; publications to international short film festivals; experimental theatre to seminal conferences on Singapore arts and culture. Since 1990, The Substation has worked with some of Singapore's most critically acclaimed artists, writers and intellectuals, as well as younger and emerging artists. In addition, we are committed to facilitating artistic dialogue between countries in the region and the world, and forge closer ties with our international counterparts. The Substation is a non-profit organization and registered IPC which relies on financial and in-kind support from the general public, commercial organizations and government ministries to cover the costs of operating and developing arts & educational programmes. Donations to The Substation attract a double-tax exemption.

Programme

Film Speak

For some of us who are familiar with local films, we know that they are a colourful mix of stories in various languages. What is it like making films in Singapore and bringing them to festivals around the world? How would filmmakers discuss their films with an international audience? The issue of Standard English becomes more than just a tool for communication in the process of filmmaking and becomes one of practical reality.



TIMBRE MUSIC RESTAURANT AND BAR



Timbre Music Restaurant and Bar situated at The Substation Garden is a music oasis within the city. Described by the local media as a "champion" and a "mecca" for Singapore music, Timbre presents live music performances by homegrown musicians every night except Sundays and has showcased some memorable concerts by leading bands such as Concave Scream, Ublues, Shirlyn Tan and The UnXpected, EIC, The Great Spy Experiment to name a few. Timbre also offers a delicious food menu which includes the popular Timbre Pizzas (up to 20 different flavours), main courses, pasta, salads, tapas and desserts. Please visit www.timbre.com.sg for more information, directions and map.

Programmes

Timbre, Stomp!, 987FM and the Speak Good English Movement present weekly programmes held at Timbre every Wednesday. The programmes kick off on 1 August and will last for a year. These regularly-held programmes aim to create an environment which promotes the use of good English through music and performance. There will be live band performances, oratorical contests called The Art of Persuasion, film screenings cum sharing sessions, and music performances, among other programmes. Students of the NUS Theatre Studies programme will also be contributing to the fun, by creating and performing skits at Timbre, and participating in The Art of Persuasion contest.



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

The Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA) seeks to enhance the employability and competitiveness of our workforce to meet the changing needs of Singapore's economy. Working with industry, unions, employers, economic agencies, professional associations and training organisations, the agency's efforts are targeted at supporting industry growth by building a pipeline of workers through training and skills upgrading, and raising industry standards through enhancing manpower capabilities.

For more information, please visit <http://www.wda.gov.sg>

Programme

In conjunction with the launch of Speak Good English Movement (SGEM) and its objectives, the Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA) is launching “Speak Well, Sell Well” for retailers. This is an easy-to-use phrase guide that will enable retail sales staff in Singapore to enhance their performance through a better understanding of the typical retail selling process and better able to use appropriate English phrases when interacting with their customers during the selling process.

The guide aims to support the Speak Good English Movement and offers effective English phrases which may be used in the retail selling process. Jointly developed with the retail industry, WDA hopes that the phrase guide will enhance the effectiveness of communication between our retail staff and their customers, increase their confidence, raise the professional image of the retail industry, and also improve sales.



YOUNG MEN’S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

YMCA Singapore is a worldwide affiliated Christian organisation which seeks to serve and enrich all members of the community regardless of race, language or religion. Through wholesome programmes based on Christian principles the YMCA aims to develop the Body, Mind and Spirit.

Programme

Started in 1986, YMCA Plain English Speaking Award (Y PESA) competition is now the largest English language competition held in the region with 160 contestants competing in prepared and impromptu speech this year. For the first time, the competition is open to young speakers in the pre-school category this year. Over 60 participants are between the ages of five to nine. The



competition, which includes categories like pre-school, primary, secondary, inter-varsity and international, aims to cultivate good spoken English and confidence in public speaking in the very young to young adults. All contestants have already won internal competitions at their respective schools to gain the right to be representatives. Judging is based on detailed criteria including the speech structure, speaker confidence, clarity of voice and the correctness of the language used, etc. The event is organised by the YMCA of Singapore in conjunction with the Ministry of Education, the National Library Board and the Speak Good English Movement.

SGEM ACTIVISTS

JACK HO

VOCALS AND GUITAR, EIC

Jack Ho's foray into music started when he won 'Best Original' composition' in a song-writing competition organized by NUS and NAC eight years ago. A member of one of Singapore's most popular acoustic groups, EIC, Jack and his fellow band member Rai have performed at several events and arts festivals for the past five years.

In true fashion of a story teller, Jack pens down his songs from the views of an innocent bystander and adopts an emotive approach to songwriting. His openness and approach to music and life in general is one that resonates positively.

Jack has been involved in music for eight years and turned full time three years ago to focus on his music. The band has many achievements under its belt. EIC has performed at the Mosaic Music Festival in 2005 and 2006 at various arts festivals organized by NTU, NUS and SMU, and was even nominated for Best Local Band at the Power 98 Music Awards in 2005.

RAI

Vocals and acoustic guitar, EIC

A pure, unbridled passion for music and a penchant for entertaining people is what resonates from Rai. His affinity for music was first uncovered and moulded when he served in SAF's Music and Drama Company during his National Service. Since then, Rai has been writing music and performing regularly at places such as No.5, Aubrey's, Fat Frog, Barcelona, Wala Wala amongst others. Rai's approach to writing is one of pure honesty and he describes his music as the window to his soul.

Presently Rai, one of the two lead vocalists of EIC, belts out tunes at bars such as Wala Wala, Balaclava, Muddy Murphy's and Timbre. EIC has also performed at several prominent events such as Live & Loud 2003 at the Padang.

Developing his guitar skills over the years, Rai is able to cover many genres of music such as funk, soul, rock and roll, ballads, pop, rock and alternative music.

SHIRLYN TAN

Lead vocalist, The UnXpected

A seasoned stage performer, Shirlyn has been singing in various cover bands for the past 10 years, her repertoire ranging from challenging rock classics to intimate personal compositions. Currently the lead vocalist for The UnXpected, she attracts a diehard fanbase with her charisma, wit and wicked sense of humour. The UnXpected has opened for Jason Mraz at the Mosaic Music Festival 2006 and was nominated for the first Singapore Music Awards.

Shirlyn's own compositions took centre stage at a sold-out concert at the Esplanade in 2006 and her first album of 10 original songs, *Newfound Jealousy*, which debuted in March 2007, showcases her trademark rock ballads as well as pop and blues. As the title suggests, her music delves deep into her soul and discovers emotions that were never truly examined before. Her original composition, "Window", has been picked up by Singapore filmmaker Originasian Pictures for their feature film 'Becoming Royston'.

In her spare time, Shirlyn enjoys writing music, photography, reading and lists Jeffery Archer, Paul Hoffman, Antoine De-Saint Exupery as some of her favourite literature authors.

SYED HYDER

Director

School Invasion Tour committee 2007

An illustrious and talented musician who plays for three bands, Syed is one of the youngest working musicians at the age of 20. Syed plays for the bands Timmy, Sevenfalls and West Grand Boulevard, each of a different genre, which helps improve his technical skills and widen his musical capabilities. Syed's musical influences range from the wild chaotic elements of metal to exotic Latin, progressive rock and pop.

Syed is also the Director of the School Invasion Tour which aims to promote the arts to students through a holistic approach, encompassing both entertainment and educational value. Local musicians, producers, DJs and other creative minds of the music industry are invited to talks and performances that are organised for students. This allows for interaction and provides the students insight and inspiration to consider music as a career. By placing these creative minds within the reach of the youth, Syed hopes that these sessions will inspire students to greater heights of creativity.

More about WestGrandBoulevard

Turning two but sounding years older, West Grand Boulevard is returning to rock your world even harder than before. Burning with a newfound intensity bolstered by the return of their original singer and the addition of one of the most talented young drummers in the country, West Grand Boulevard has begun churning out new songs that illustrate their evolution as a band. Drawing from influences as diverse as heart-pounding metalcore and saccharine-sweet pop-rock, West Grand Boulevard is ready to run you through your entire spectrum of emotions, from your deepest buried anger to your most ecstatic joy.
