

Inspiring our Youth Through Personal Development - Singaporean Company is Proud to be an Official Operating Partner with the National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA)

Singaporean Company Partners with the National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA)

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- Singaporean company is proud to be an official operating partner with the National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA).
- The program is devised to cultivate personal development in students through its various activities.

Singaporean company, Actura Singapore, has recently announced that it is an official operating partner with the National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA). The program is designed to develop essential personal development skills in students - across a wide range of areas and is the Singaporean equivalent to the British Duke of Edinburgh scheme as practiced in Australia and the United Kingdom.

Actura Singapore is delighted to be able make the official announcement – as this further signifies the key role that the STEAM education-based company plays in developing essential skills and capabilities in youth – specifically STEAM related skills. As its out-of-class solution, offering Space School Expeditions to students, through the California Association for STEAM Education (CASE) – and its CASE Space School International Study Programs offered for both Junior and Senior students, Actura Singapore can now boast that its programs are also officially recognised by the National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA). Students, through completing CASE Space School will be able to have elements of their NYAA fulfilled.

The National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA) Youth Leadership Development Program is an exciting self-development program for young people between the ages of 13 and 30 years old. It is a holistic, balanced and non-competitive program of voluntary leisure time activities designed to provide young people with a platform to develop personal qualities and skills to make a difference to themselves, their communities and the world. The new NYAA program is designed in line with the Ministry of Education's Levels of Attainment, focusing on effort and merit of the individual. There are three levels in the NYAA program – bronze level, silver level and gold level. The NYAA program has three key components, which all participants are required to complete: service learning (touching lives, making a difference, outdoor appreciation (to be at ease with nature), healthy living (physical & mental wellness), and community leadership initiative (creating an impact, delivering change). The NYAA has recently undergone a restructure, effective from January 2018 with some enhancements in place.

It is fantastic that CASE Space School endorses similar values reflected in the NYAA – that of self-development, personal achievement, adventure and service in the community. This displays the comprehensiveness and rigour the CASE Space School program holds. It also attests to CASE Space School being an all-round program designed to nurture students holistically for their futures. The CASE Space School is underpinned by the Seven Survival Skills, namely, critical thinking and problem solving; collaboration across networks and leading by influence, agility and adaptability, initiative and entrepreneurialism, effective oral and written communication, accessing and analysing information and curiosity and imagination. At CASE Space School students engage in a number of immersive, experiential learning and space-related projects with each catered program designed to develop the student's capacity to problem solve and collaborate using STEAM learning skills in a practical environment uniquely tailored to their needs based on their age and stage of learning.

LEAPS 2.0 is a framework to recognise secondary school students' holistic development. The NYAA supports the framework of LEAPS. Under LEAPS, students will be recognised with levels of attainment in four domains: Participation, Achievement, Leadership and Service. LEAPS assists students as they are able to earn a bonus point when getting into Junior Colleges, Polytechnics and Institutes of Technical Education which are tertiary institutions when they graduate from Secondary School. LEAPS helps to support students in identifying their interests and strengths, setting objectives, encouraging self-directed learning and also managing commitments. LEAPS also emphasizes participation, service, leadership, achievement, representation and accomplishment.

"NYAA is beneficial to students as their level of attainment as recognised from NYAA will be converted to a bonus point(s) which can be used for admission to tertiary institutions such as Junior Colleges/ Polytechnics/Institutes of Technical Education. NYAA also provides a foundational platform

for students to develop their leadership, personal and knowledge skills”.

Aasha Kaur - Program Management Specialist, Actura Singapore

A holistic education provides students with a broad and deep foundation for lifelong learning. This includes learning not just in the academic areas. Equally important is the development of values and life skills in each child. This will equip the child to handle the challenges in life later on. The National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA) and its partnership with Actura promotes a holistic development and education for our youth of today. It fosters key self-improvement and personal development in students and enables them to stand out when graduating from High School to Tertiary education. Employers of the 21st century are increasingly emphasising skills that embody key characteristics that are necessary for the future landscape, critical to this are STEAM skills. Actura's California of STEAM Education (CASE) Space School program is actively seeking to promote these skills through its endorsement of the NYAA through its program and enabling students to fulfil their Bronze and Silver requirements.

Established in Australia in 2014, Actura provides the leading STEAM learning solution comprising of in-class to out-of-class solutions. Actura continues to seek to fulfil its mission to become the most trusted STEAM education solution provider. With offices in Sydney, Melbourne, Auckland, Shanghai, Singapore and Taipei and with further international expansion on the horizon, Actura seeks to achieve its mission on a global scale.

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