

SINGAPORE FUTURES YOUTH COMPETITION 2026

**FUTURE OF YOUTH'S
CIVIC CONTRIBUTION IN SINGAPORE**

16 TO 19 JUNE 2026

Organised by
Institute for Governance and Leadership
Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy
National University of Singapore



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ABOUT THE SINGAPORE FUTURES YOUTH COMPETITION 2026



Centred on the theme “Future of Youth’s Civic Contribution in Singapore”, the sixth edition of the Singapore Futures Youth Competition invited young people to consider how they could help shape Singapore in 2050 through civic participation and a united, people-first spirit. Inspired by Prime Minister Lawrence Wong’s call to build a “We First” society, the programme encouraged participants to see themselves as contributors to a more caring, inclusive and resilient Singapore.

The Singapore Futures Youth Competition 2026 was held from 16 to 19 June 2026. The four-day, in-person programme began with a three-day futures thinking workshop conducted by faculty from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy. Participants were introduced to public policy challenges, the complexities of the policymaking process, and the tools and frameworks used to develop future scenarios.

Working in teams, participants applied these frameworks to explore the future of youth’s civic contribution in Singapore. Their scenarios examined how volunteering, youth voice and action, youth leadership, and community

participation could contribute to Singapore’s development towards 2050. On the final day, the teams presented their scenarios and recommendations to a panel of experts and leaders from the public, private and people sectors.

The programme brought together approximately 80 students from Junior Colleges, Polytechnics, Institutes of Technical Education, Madrasahs and other educational institutions. In addition to developing their understanding of futures thinking and public policy, participants had opportunities to exchange perspectives with peers from different educational backgrounds and engage with policymakers, practitioners and community leaders.

Through the programme, participants strengthened their abilities in strategic thinking, scenario development, teamwork and public presentation. The experience also encouraged them to reflect on their individual and collective roles in contributing to Singapore’s future.

16 JUNE – 18 JUNE 2026

FUTURES THINKING WORKSHOP

The Singapore Futures Youth Competition 2026 began with a three-day futures thinking workshop conducted by faculty from the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSPP). During the workshop, students were introduced to foresight tools and scenario planning frameworks that helped them explore emerging trends and uncertainties.

Participants were challenged to articulate their preferred futures and develop strategies to navigate potential risks and opportunities. The programme culminated on 19 June 2026, when teams presented their scenarios to a panel of thought leaders and experts from the public, private and people sectors.

Beyond learning about complex policy challenges and the policymaking process, participants gained experience in strategic thinking, public speaking and teamwork. They also had opportunities to connect with peers from different educational institutions and engage with policymakers and practitioners shaping Singapore's future.



Youth are not just future leaders; we are also present contributors. Before attending the programme, I thought we could not contribute because we lacked experience. It opened my mind to how we can take action now and work together to shape the future we want.

NUR 'AISYAH HUMAIRAA' BINTE ZULKIFLE
MADRASAH ALSAGOFF AL-ARABIAH

As youth, we not only have the opportunity to envision the future we want, but also to propose solutions to future challenges. This programme showed me how we can work towards the future we want as a society.

SUBRAMANIAN SANJAY
NATIONAL JUNIOR COLLEGE



17 JUNE 2026

PANEL DISCUSSION

YOUNG, RESTLESS AND READY: HOW CAN SINGAPORE HARNESS YOUTH CIVIC POWER?

One of the highlights of the Singapore Futures Youth Competition 2026 was the panel discussion, “Young, Restless and Ready: How Can Singapore Harness Youth Civic Power?”

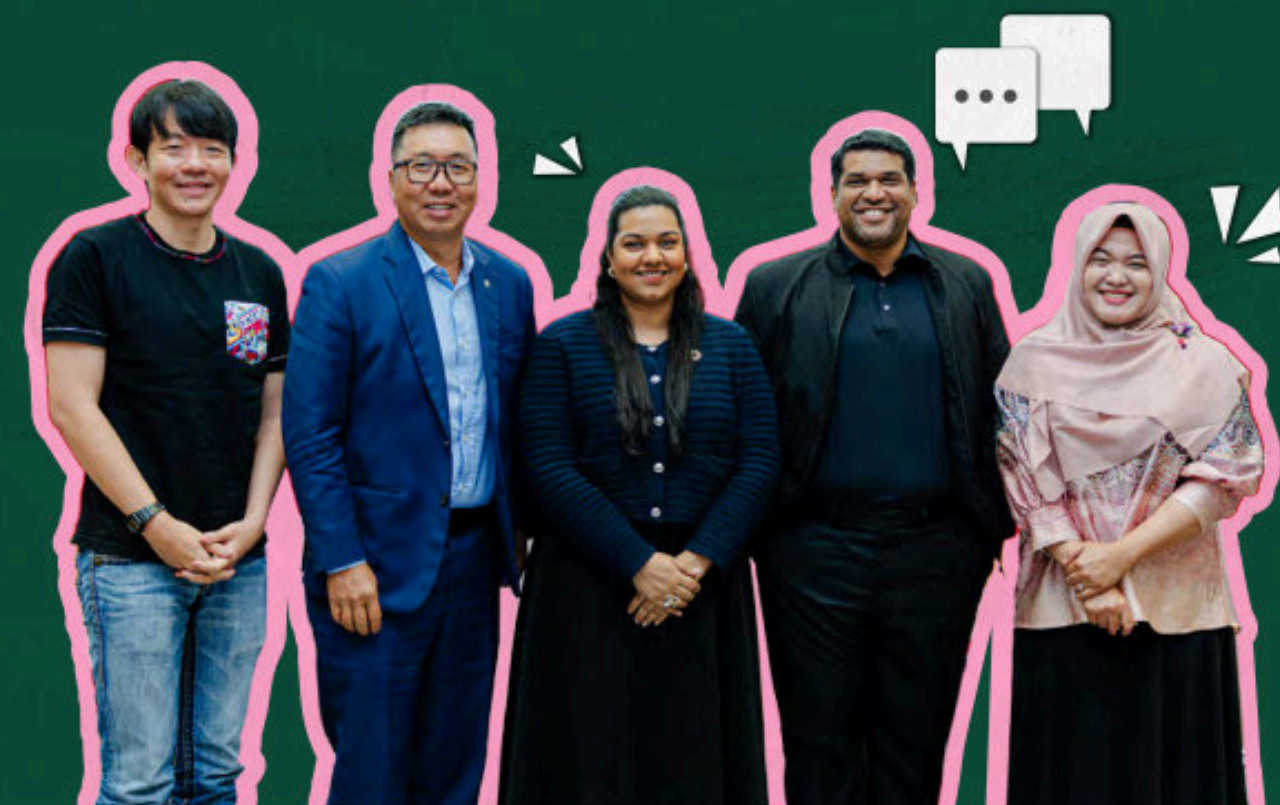
The session brought together panellists from the public, private and people sectors, with representatives from the National Youth Council, UOB, Together for Good and Institute of Policy Studies, LKYSPP.

The panellists explored the evolving role of youth in strengthening Singapore’s society and the changing nature of civic participation. They emphasised the importance of collaboration, meaningful community connections and engagement on the ground to ensure that civic initiatives respond to people’s lived experiences.

The discussion also examined wider challenges shaping Singapore’s future, including social isolation, cultural preservation and an ageing population. From a policymaking perspective, the panellists highlighted the need to balance

fairness, social impact and fiscal sustainability when addressing complex societal issues.

Ultimately, the session encouraged participants to build connections across different backgrounds, pursue causes they genuinely care about and see civic contribution as a shared effort across communities and national borders.



KEY TAKEAWAYS

CONTRIBUTING BEYOND THEMSELVES

Youth are increasingly willing to support causes beyond themselves, with civic contribution extending from formal volunteering to everyday acts that strengthen their communities.

PARTNERSHIPS ACROSS GENERATIONS

Stronger intergenerational partnerships can recognise seniors as capable contributors with valuable experience, skills and networks.

INCLUSIVE PROGRESS

Technology can widen access to knowledge, but progress must account for differences in digital literacy and personal circumstances to ensure vulnerable groups are not left behind.

PANELLISTS



MR TAN LIN TECK

**DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE
NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL**



MR LEONARD TAN

**SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
AND HEAD OF GROUP CSR
GROUP STRATEGIC
COMMUNICATIONS AND BRAND
UOB**



MS S NATH NAVANEETHA

**FOUNDER
TOGETHER FOR GOOD**



MR NICHOLAS THOMAS

**RESEARCH LEAD
(DELIBERATION & PUBLIC PARTICIPATION)
& RESEARCH FELLOW, POLICY LAB,
INSTITUTE OF POLICY STUDIES, LKYSPP**



TEAM 01

THE CIVIC COOKIES

FOCAL CONCERN:

Future of preserving and protecting the traditional performing arts scene for secondary school students in Singapore in 2050.





TEAM 02

AD ASTRA

FOCAL CONCERN:

Preservation of Mother Tongue
Languages in Singaporean Youth
in 2050





THE CHAME-LIONS

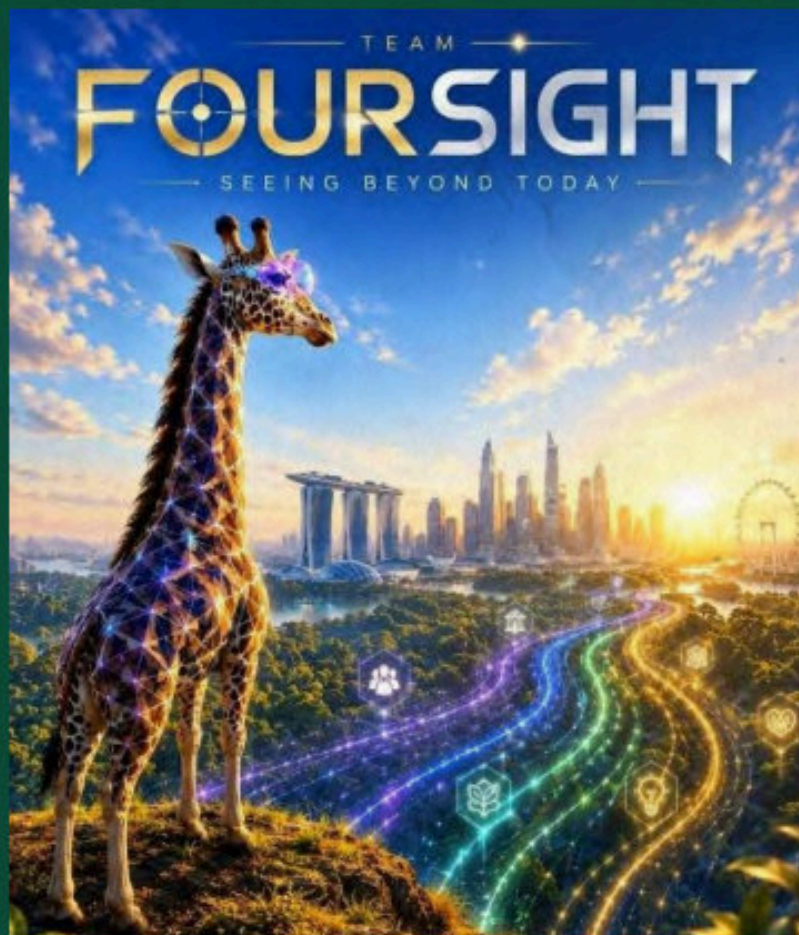
TEAM 03

THE CHAME-LIONS

FOCAL CONCERN:

Future of support ecosystems for victims of domestic abuse aged 13-21 in Singapore by 2050





TEAM 04

FOURSIGHT

FOCAL CONCERN:

Future of well being of Elderly aged 65 and above living in rental flats in Singapore in 2050





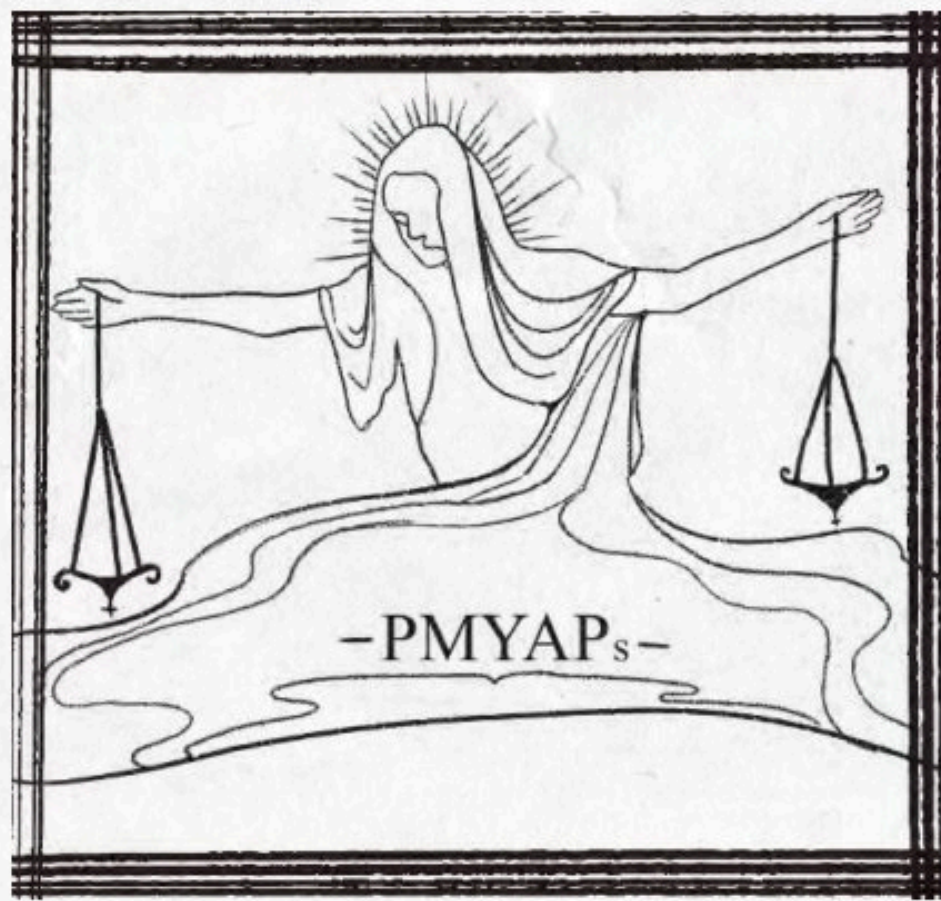
TEAM 05

DOMINUS

FOCAL CONCERN:

Future of active volunteerism among elderly (aged 55 and above) in 2050 in Singapore





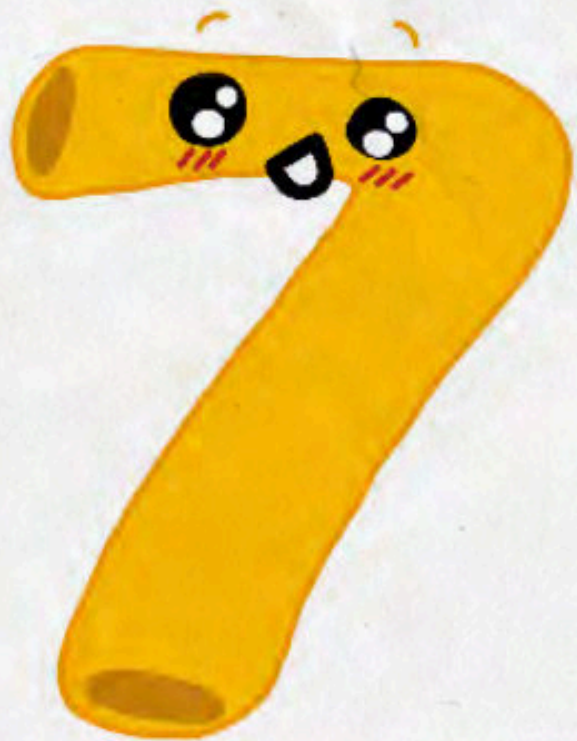
TEAM 06

PMYAPS

FOCAL CONCERN:

Future of youth-driven education in Singapore in 2050





TEAM 07

SICK SEVEN

FOCAL CONCERN:

The future of accessible volunteering and community contribution opportunities for low-income and underprivileged youths in Singapore by 2050.





TEAM 08

MAC8CHEESE BANG BANG SAUCE

FOCAL CONCERN:

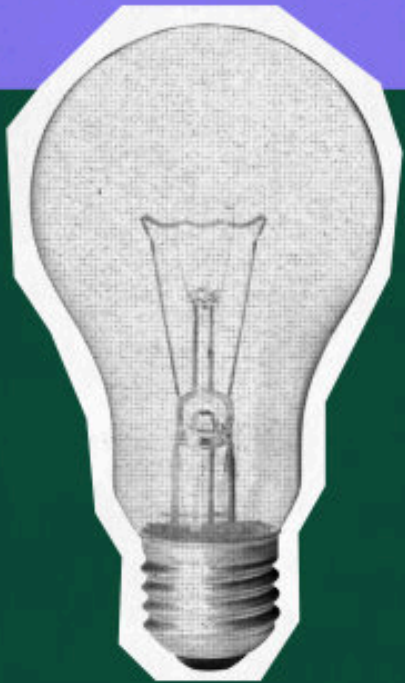
Future of Revitalisation of Public Spaces in Mature Housing Estates for Elderly in Singapore in 2050



JUDGING CRITERIA

The judging round required participants to give a 10-minute presentation, followed by a 7-minute Q&A session with the judges.

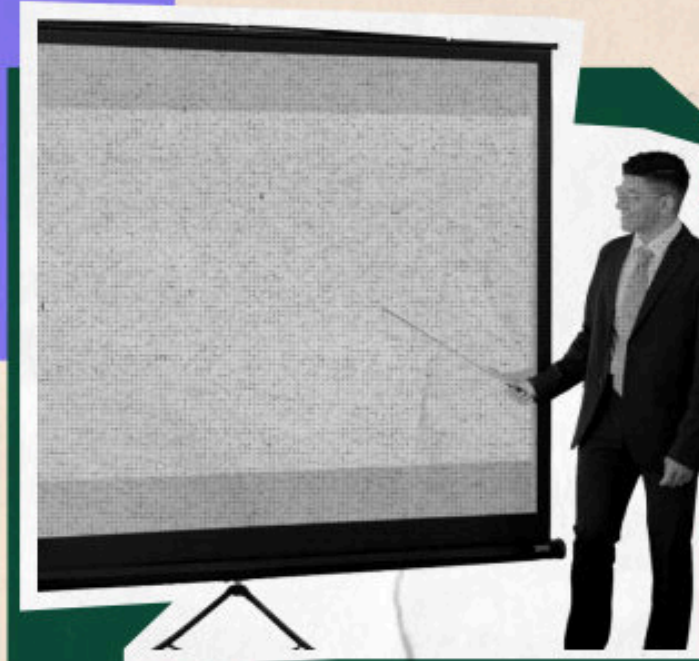
The group presentations were assessed based on the following criteria:



**BELIEVABILITY AND
CREATIVITY**



**ADHERENCE TO THE
THEME/ GUIDELINES**



**PRESENTATION
DELIVERY**



**TEAM COORDINATION
AND COHESION**

JUDGING PANEL

We invited experts and leaders from the public and people sectors as members of judging panel.



MS ONG TOON HUI

VICE DEAN AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
INSTITUTE FOR GOVERNANCE
AND LEADERSHIP, LKYSPP



DR YVONNE KONG

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
CENTRE FOR PROFESSIONAL
COMMUNICATION, SINGAPORE
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



MR DAVID TAY

ACTING DIRECTOR
YOUTH LEADERSHIP AND ENGAGEMENT,
NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL



CHAMPION

THE CIVIC COOKIES

TEAM 01



1ST RUNNER UP

SICK SEVEN

TEAM 07



2ND RUNNER UP

**MAC8CHEESE
BANG BANG SAUCE**

TEAM 08





DIALOGUE WITH GUEST-OF-HONOUR, MR BAEY YAM KENG

On the final day, we had an insightful dialogue with Guest-of-Honour, Mr Baey Yam Keng, Minister of State, Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth & Ministry of Transport, and Mayor (North East District).

The Guest-of-Honour dialogue with Mr Baey Yam Keng explored how young people could contribute to a more inclusive “We First” society. Mr Baey encouraged youths to recognise that their experiences represent only one of many perspectives and to approach civic participation with openness, humility and a willingness to listen. He emphasised that strong communities cannot be created through funding, technology or policy alone, but require individuals to participate actively, support one another and take shared ownership of society. The discussion also highlighted the importance of balancing idealism with practical constraints, as complex public issues often involve competing needs, limited resources and no single correct solution.

The dialogue also covered heritage preservation, cultural change, public service, mental health, accessibility and Singapore’s economic future. Mr Baey described heritage as living and evolving, with youths shaping its future through the traditions, businesses and communities they choose to support. He encouraged young people to seek perspectives beyond social media echo chambers, foster intergenerational relationships and practise empathy when navigating different needs. While affirming Singapore’s openness to foreign businesses, talent and cultural influences, he stressed that the country must continue to protect multiracialism and social cohesion while remaining innovative and competitive. Ultimately, youths were reminded not to take Singapore’s progress for granted, but to move beyond being passive beneficiaries and actively help build the communities and society they wish to inherit.

PROGRAMME TAKEAWAYS

IMAGINE WITH FORESIGHT

Deepened understanding of futures thinking and its application towards imagining the “Future of Youth’s Civic Contribution in Singapore”.



CONNECT ACROSS COMMUNITIES

Lasting friendships with peers from different educational backgrounds.



SHAPE THE FUTURE TOGETHER

A shared sense of ownership in shaping a more caring, inclusive and resilient Singapore.



THANKS TO OUR PARTNERS

We would like to extend our gratitude to teachers and staff from the following institutions for their support during our Singapore Futures Youth Competition 2026:

ANGLO-CHINESE JUNIOR COLLEGE

DUNMAN HIGH SCHOOL

HWA CHONG INSTITUTION

INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION COLLEGE CENTRAL

INSTITUTE OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION COLLEGE WEST

JURONG PIONEER JUNIOR COLLEGE

MADRASAH ALJUNIED AL-ISLAMIAH

MADRASAH ALSAGOFF AL-ARABIAH

MILLENNIA INSTITUTE

NANYANG JUNIOR COLLEGE

NANYANG POLYTECHNIC

NATIONAL JUNIOR COLLEGE

NGEE ANN POLYTECHNIC

RAFFLES INSTITUTION

RAFFLES JUNIOR COLLEGE

REPUBLIC POLYTECHNIC

RIVER VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

SCHOOL OF THE ARTS, SINGAPORE

SINGAPORE POLYTECHNIC

ST. JOSEPH'S INSTITUTION (JC)

ST. ANDREW'S JUNIOR COLLEGE

TAMPINES MERIDIAN JUNIOR COLLEGE

TEMASEK JUNIOR COLLEGE

VICTORIA JUNIOR COLLEGE

YISHUN INNOVA JUNIOR COLLEGE



ABOUT IGL



INSTITUTE FOR GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP, LEE KUAN YEW SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY, NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE

The Institute for Governance and Leadership (IGL) was established in January 2024 as a department under the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore. The Institute's mission is 'to improve governance in Asia by educating the next generation of Asian leaders in public service and beyond'. IGL builds on the good foundations of the School which already has an outstanding slate of academic Masters programmes and short executive education programmes. As the practice-oriented arm of the School, IGL focuses on:

YOUTH EDUCATION ON SG GOVERNANCE & FUTURES

Educate Singaporean youths (tertiary students and young professionals) on SG governance and equip them with skills to think more deeply about trends and factors shaping Singapore's future.

ADVANCED GOVERNANCE PROGRAMMES

Leadership milestone programmes for political leaders, senior public officials such as the Senior Fellowship in Public Service and Indonesian Mayors Programme. more deeply about trends and factors shaping Singapore's future.

PRACTITIONER NETWORK & COLLABORATION

Platform for practitioners to collaborate with and contribute to the School in teaching, executive education, share best practices, and produce practitioner-relevant content.

CASE INSIGHTS AND PRACTITIONER WRITING

Case writing for instruction, and practice- and policy- oriented practitioner writing.

THANK YOU!

