

ED's Message

Dear Valued Members

As we welcome 2018, we have lined up various programmes and activities in the new year, and we will need your support as always to help make it another successful and fulfilling year for our families and persons with Down syndrome.

I am pleased to share that three of our members with Down syndrome recently represented DSA(S) to present on their advocacy journey at the "Having A Say" conference held at Deakin University, Geelong, Victoria, Australia on 5 Feb 2018.

Coming up in March would be our annual World Down Syndrome Day event on 17th March, followed by our annual Charity Bowl event on 24 March. We certainly look forward to your participation and support at these two events. More information can be found below.

On behalf of the DSA(S) Board of Management, we would also like to appeal to all members to come forward to contribute your time as well as support us in our fundraising efforts, so that together, we may continue to run the many programmes and services for the benefit of our families and persons with Down syndrome.

May I wish you a fulfilling year ahead.

Moses Lee
Executive Director
Down Syndrome Association (Singapore)

"Believe you can and you're halfway there."—Theodore Roosevelt

UPCOMING EVENTS BY DSA(S)! Come support us!



World Down Syndrome Day 2018 (WDSO 2018)
—Buddy Walk cum Family Carnival
Join us on Sat, 17 Mar 2018, from 8am to 3pm at Dhoby Ghaut Green for a fun-filled day as we celebrate World Down Syndrome Day. Support us by joining the buddy walk, sponsoring the event, setting up carnival stalls, and telling all your family and friends to support this event!



Charity Bowl 2018
In conjunction with WDSO, we will be hosting a Charity Bowling event where anyone can form teams of 3 to bowl with our members with Down syndrome as their 4th team member! Sponsor a bowling lane and join us with on 24 Mar 2018, 9am at a brand new venue, Orchid Bowl located at Our Tampines Hub!

To support these event and our persons with Down syndrome,
please Email: cpcc.dsas@gmail.com or Tel: 6500 9321

For members, please contact Nalla nalla@downsyndrome-singapore.org

President's Star Charity



Fusion Dancers on stage performing their dance number for "Live" TV.

10 Dec 2017 was a special day for DSA(S) as 10 of our Fusion Dancers were given the awesome opportunity to perform with several Mediacorp artiste "Live" on TV for the President's Star Charity show.

The event was graced by President Halimah Yacob and gave our lucky dancers their 5-minutues of fame as they took to the stage to perform a heartfelt number. They even managed to get photo-op together with the President at the post-show party!



Fusion Dancers posing with President Halimah Yacob for a photo.

Klüber Lubrications Supports DSA(S)

The wonderful folks at Klüber Lubrications took two days off their Christmas revelry on 20 and 21 Dec 2017 to help refurbish our premises with a fresh coat of paint as well as assist to install some of the necessary fixtures around the various rooms.

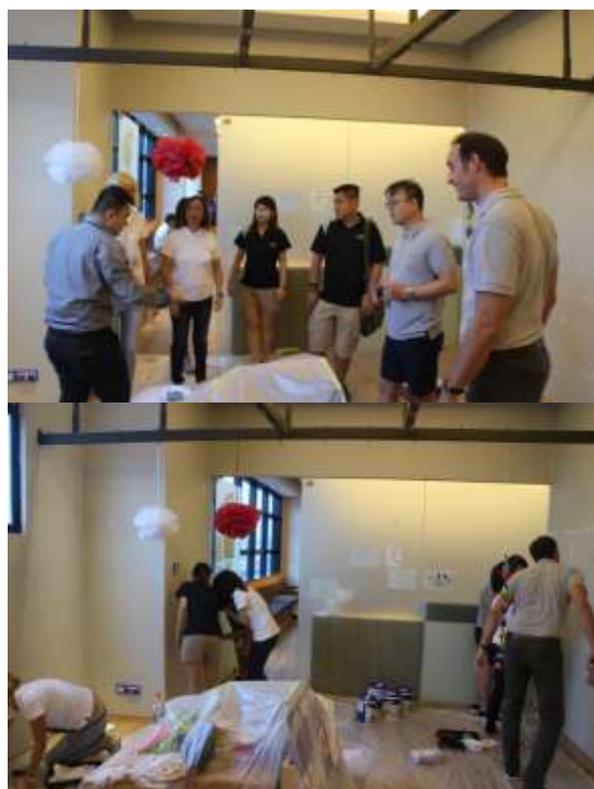
In addition, Klüber Lubrications also sponsored many equipment and fixture upgrades that were needed for our training purposes, including items such as new Laptops, iPads, Whiteboards, Smart Boards, Industrial Mops, Mirrors and Notice Boards.

We are also looking forward to the quarterly learning activities that the staff at Klüber will be organising for our members in 2018.

In total, Klüber Lubrications has committed not only their precious time and efforts, but also over \$30,000 that will cover the refurbishments and learning activities in 2018.

A very big thank you to the management and staff at Klüber Lubrications and their HQ in Germany, Freudenberg Help e.V.!

Thank you very much for your support!



*Top: Klüber staff receiving a briefing before commencing work.
Bottom: Klüber staff hard at work refurbishing the ITP room.*

Performance at the Grand Opening of Westlite Papan

On 5 Jan, the DSA(S) Drums Prodigy Ensemble was invited by Centurion Corporation Limited, to perform at the grand opening of the Westlite Papan Dormitory—a purpose-built workers accommodation and Association of Process Industry (“ASPRI”) training centre to cater to the housing and training needs of workers from the Process, Construction and Maintenance (“PCM”) industry. Beyond just housing and training, the premises houses many sports and recreation facilities as well.

This grand opening event was graced by Mr. Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Deputy Prime Minister (DPM) of Singapore.

We were honoured to welcome Mr. Shanmugaratnam with a thunderous drums performance and our members were very happy to have him stand alongside them throughout the performance.

Thank you to our friends at Centurion Corporation Limited and Westlite Papan for this great opportunity!



The Guest-of-Honour, DPM Tharman Shanmugaratnam standing alongside our members from the Drums Prodigy Ensemble during their performance.

Centurion Corporation Limited and ISG Singapore supports the Independent Living and Training Centre

DSA(S) is proud to announce that the works for the Independent Living and Training Centre (ILTC) would be commencing sometime in March. This is a service response designed to enable our members with Down syndrome to live an inclusive life in the community. The ILTC model supports persons with intellectual disabilities to transition from being solely supported by family, by teaching independent living skills, whilst either continuing to live at home or moving to an accommodation option in their community with drop-in support.



To make way for the Independent Living and Training Centre, the existing premises at Telok Blangah had to be repurposed. We are very happy to share that Centurion Corporation Limited, a developer of accommodations and ISG Singapore, a construction services company, are supporting DSA(S) in this endeavour.



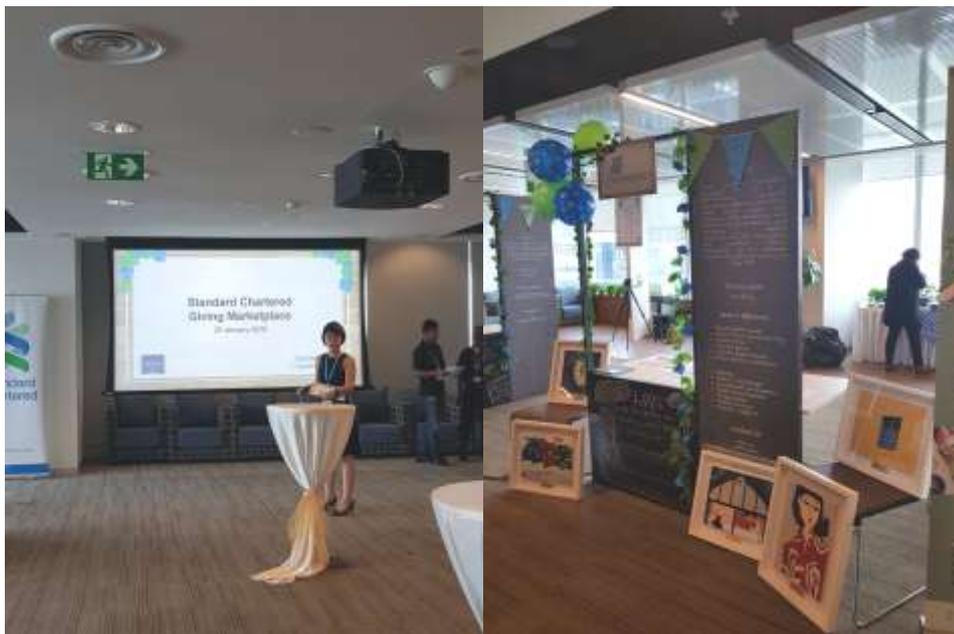
Thank you very much to Centurion Corporation Limited for sponsoring the electrical appliances for the centre and ISG Singapore for rallying the support of their project delivery team and industry partners, as well as for the generous financial support for this project!

We deeply value the partnership we have with both companies over the years!

Standard Chartered Bank Giving Marketplace

Every year, Standard Chartered Bank (SCB) organises an event to recognise their staff who have been very active in volunteering their time and efforts to charitable causes. As part of this event, SCB organised a Giving Marketplace on 25 Jan, where charities can network with their top volunteering staff.

DSA(S) is very honoured to have been invited to this Giving Marketplace event to share about the cause of DSA(S) and the opportunities available for volunteering. We also took the opportunity to showcase our **members' artistic talents and even sold a painting!**



DSA(S) at the Standard Chartered Bank Giving Marketplace.

Thank you to Standard Chartered Bank for the invitation and we look forward to more future collaborations!

Tote Board: A Good Day Out Carnival

Tote Board has contributed to 30 years of giving to the community. To commemorate this milestone, Tote Board organised the "A Good Day Out" carnival which was held at the Meadows, Gardens By the Bay on 10 Feb.

As part of this carnival, Tote Board invited DSA(S) to set up a pushcart to sell craftwork. Five AEP staff together with four Learners spent a day having lots of fun while selling craftwork made by the AEP team. The craftwork made by our AEP Learners consists of tea-light holders, mugs, key chains, bookmarks, bags and bracelets. The public were very impressed with the ability and capability of our Learners who are able to produce such high quality work. They had a great time interacting with our Learners who were present at the carnival. Our Fusion Dancers were also invited to put up a performance which was very well received by the public.

Thank you to Tote Board for inviting us to this wonderful event and for your continued support over the years!



Left: AEP learners enjoying themselves at the push cart booth.

Right: Fusion Dancers performing on stage at the "A Good Day Out" event.

DSA(S) Members @ "Having A Say" Conference

Valid Australia invited our participants from "Our Lives and Our Voice" (OLOV) project, namely, Ms. June Lin, Ms. Jaspreet Kaur Sekhon and Mr. Allan Cai to each present a key note speech on their advocacy journey on 5 February. This OLOV project is a 2-year project in partnership with DSA(S) and the Movement for the Intellectually Disabled of Singapore (MINDS), a service provider for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Now in its nineteenth year, "Having A Say" (HAS) conference organised by Valid Australia has cemented its position as Australia's leading and main event for persons with disabilities.

People with disabilities from all over Australia gathered at Deakin University in Geelong, Australia for a 3-day conference to share and exchange ideas about the advocacy movement in Australia.

Our presenters and parents Mdm. Shu Yun, Mdm. Rabinder and Mdm. Jean each shared their advocacy experiences to an audience of more than 600. Many Australian advocates were highly encouraged and gave their best wishes for our members and parents.

After the presentation, our delegation had the wonderful opportunity to meet with Deputy Commissioner, Disability Services Commissioner of Victoria, Australia, Ms. Miranda Bruyniks and presented her a painting from our very own artist.

It was an enjoyable learning trip for all involved and a collaborative one with our partner organisation, MINDS.



The delegation from DSA(S) representing Singapore at the "Having A Say" (HAS) conference organised by Valid Australia.



Presentation of artwork painted by DSA(S) artist to Ms. Miranda Bruyniks, Deputy Commissioner, Disability Services Commissioner of Victoria, Australia.

Happenings @ DSA

A visit from Irish Dance Group, Fusion Fighters

DSA(S) was honoured to receive a visit from Jamie Hodges, Chris Naish, and Kevin Goble of the Fusion Fighters, a renowned Irish Dance Group, on 7 Dec 2017.

Thank you very much to the Fusion Fighters for conducting an interactive and fun-filled Dance Workshop for our members!

A big shout out to our dear friends at The Ireland Funds Singapore for making this happen! Thank you!



Christmas Celebrations by the Family Support Services (FSS) team

On 9 Dec 2017, the DSA(S) FSS team held a Christmas party at the Piazza, which was attended by 60 participants.

The specially invited performing group, The Salvation Army Central Band, performed at 12pm. This was followed by a wonderful spread of food enjoyed by the families.

Eight volunteers from ISS International School, led by their lecturer, Mr. Wesley Whitehead, came to volunteer for this event, and bringing with them goodies bags for all the participants. They also helped to serve food and the cleaning up after the event.

Parents and children enjoyed the performance and had a great time networking with the performing group. Our members were invited to join in the performance by singing along with the performing group. There was great interactions among the performing group and our members. Everyone enjoyed the event and look forward to more celebration sessions in the near future.



Happenings @ DSA

Christmas Celebrations with DSA(S) Corporate Partners!

The Christmas holidays brought much festive joy and was a great treat for our members as various corporate partners created their own party for our members regardless of age.

On 2 Dec 2017, Drew and Napier threw their annual Christmas Party at One Farrer Hotel and Spa with a plethora of activities, goodies and a festive buffet lunch for all. There was also a Santa Claus present during the event to grant the wishes of our members, as each of them went home with a present of their choice.



Next up, on 7 Dec, the staff from the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) brought our members for a fun-filled afternoon of making gingerbread men from scratch. The members together with the staff went on a creative spree to create this yummy and colourful treat.



Finally, the team from Trailblazer Foundation threw a carnival-themed party on 15 Dec, giving our Adult Enhancement Programme Learners a morning of fun along with a buffet lunch for all at the association.



We thank our corporate partners for granting our festive wishes and hope to see them continue with their creative endeavours in bringing lots of joy, love and laughter to our members here at Down Syndrome Association (Singapore).

Dear Friends of DSA(S),

Greetings to you and your family from all of us at Down Syndrome Association (Singapore)—DSA(S).

Your support has enabled us to support our children and adults with Down syndrome through various educational, developmental, and social programmes with the aim to assist them to become more independent and lead productive lives.

Whether in big or small ways, we hope that you will continue to support our cause. If you wish to make a contribution, please kindly complete the donation form below and return it to us via post.

Once again, our heartfelt thanks and appreciation from the Board of Management of DSA(S) and our community of persons with Down syndrome.

DONATION FORM (NEWS/2018/03)

Name [(MR/MS/MDM/DR) as per NRIC]: _____

CONTACT No.: _____ NRIC/FIN/UEN/: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____

I would like to make a contribution of:

A one-time donation of \$ 50 / 100 / 500 / 1,000 / Other Amount: _____

Cheque No.: _____ Bank: _____

(All donations are eligible for tax exemption up to 250% of the amount donated)

Please write crossed cheque payable to Down Syndrome Association (Singapore)

Kindly drop off this form together with your contribution at our reception counter or Mail to:

DSA Centre—9, Bishan Place, #09-01 Junction 8 Office Tower, Singapore 579837. Attention to "Team CPCC".

Please send the above completed form via mail

Editorial Team

Mr. Andrew Soh	Editor	Mr. R. Sivanandam	Editorial Advisor
Mr. Patrick Hee	Sub-Editor	Mr. Gopalan P. Nair	Editorial Advisor
Mr. Alvin Ho	Contributor	Mr. Moses Lee	Editorial Advisor

DSA(S) News is only available on the DSA(S) website and via email to members . Kindly update your details by emailing to: nalla@downsyndrome-singapore.org or call: 6500 9321

For non-members, you may view our newsletter online at our website:

www.downsyndrome-singapore.org or email to: andrew@downsyndrome-singapore.org for a copy.

Down Syndrome Association (Singapore)—DSA(S) welcomes your feedback and suggestions, do contact us at Tel: 6500 9321.

For more information on some of DSA's events, programmes, services or event photos do visit our website: www.downsyndrome-singapore.org or Facebook: facebook.com/downsyndromesingapore