

ISSUE 14



Free copy!

# CAMPUS

MICA (P) 219/07/2011

.COM.SG

Cover artwork by Choy Wai Chuang / Ngee Ann Polytechnic School of InfoComm Technology (ICT) Multi Media & Animation (MMA)



the travel issue





UNIVERSITY OF BASEL

EDUCATING TALENT SINCE 1460

A EUROPEAN RESEARCH UNIVERSITY

INTERNATIONALLY PROFILED IN THE AREAS OF LIFE SCIENCES AND CULTURE

WWW.UNIBAS.CH



PRESENT IN SINGAPORE: SWISS EDUCATION FAIR 26 MARCH 2012



VISIT US @  
[www.recoil.com.sg](http://www.recoil.com.sg)  
[www.facebook.com/RecoilSG](http://www.facebook.com/RecoilSG)



## Our Outlets

**313 @ Somerset**  
 313 Orchard Road #03-07/08 (S)238 895

**Tampines One**  
 10 Tampines Central One #02/03 (S)529 536

**Marina Square**  
 6 Raffles Boulevard #02-177 (S)039 594

**ILUMA**  
 201 Victoria Street #03-08/09 (S)188 067

**Kallang LeisurePark**  
 5 Stadium Walk #01-41/44 (S)397 693

**Bugis Street**  
 CFL/E5

**Bugis Junction (New Opening on 7 Dec'11)**  
 200 Victoria Street #04-05 (S)188 021



## LARGE AND IN CHARGE:

Cover art by Wai Chuang and page 11 art by Marisa Oh, both students of Ngee Ann Polytechnic School of InfoComm Technology (ICT) Multi Media & Animation (MMA). Lecturer in Charge: Lawrence Koh Choon Teck.

**Contributors**  
 Cheryl Tan Kay Yin  
 Chione Zhang  
 Gayathiri  
 Jem  
 Jessica Teh  
 Julailah Lucker  
 Marisa Oh  
 Melissa Ang  
 Muriel Amable  
 Kay Lee Tan  
 Paul Craig  
 Prabhu Silvam  
 Rahimah Rashith  
 Ratna Masayu  
 Roshni Kapur  
 Selina Tan  
 Wai Chuang  
 Ying Zi  
 Yong Wei

Special Thanks to all involved in Update Your Mate

**Editor-in-Chief**  
 Aaron Stewart  
[aaron@campus.com.sg](mailto:aaron@campus.com.sg)

**International Business Development**  
 Kan Morita  
[morita@campus.com.sg](mailto:morita@campus.com.sg)

**Marketing Manager**  
 Kelly Morse  
[kelly@campus.com.sg](mailto:kelly@campus.com.sg)

**ASKM Pte Ltd**  
 11 Mohamed Sultan Road  
 # 03 - 01 Singapore 239010  
 Tel (65) 6737-1236  
 Fax (65) 6737-1258  
[www.campus.com.sg](http://www.campus.com.sg)

Campus is a publication of ASKM Pte Ltd (Singapore). All articles published are in good faith and based on bona fide information available to The Publisher at the time of press. The Publisher accepts no responsibility other than that stipulated by law. The Publisher also accepts no responsibility for unsolicited manuscripts, transparencies or other materials. All rights are reserved and no part of this publication may be reproduced in part or full without the previous written permission of The Publisher. Neither can any part be stored or recorded, by any means. The opinions expressed in The Publication are those of the contributors and not necessarily endorsed by The Publisher.

This publication and the name are owned solely by ASKM Pte Ltd, 11 Mohamed Sultan Road, #03-01, Singapore 239010. Email: [info@campus.com.sg](mailto:info@campus.com.sg). Campus is published bimonthly and distributed throughout Singapore. Trademarks and copyrights for all other products, logos and depictions contained herein are the properties of their respective trademark and copyright owners.

All colour separation and printing by Print Dynamics Pte Ltd.

Singapore MICA (P) 252/07/2010.

## ISSUE 14: CONTENTS

Visit  
[www.campus.com.sg](http://www.campus.com.sg)  
 for more stories and  
 contest details!

### ★ 06-08: Update Your Mate See their transformation!

09: The Couch Cometh  
Couch Surfing

10: Fall Flavour  
A photo shoot

11: Europe Special

12: Eurotrip  
Muriel's travel journal

14: Studying in the UK  
Top fields of study

15: The Inn Thing  
Europe's Hospitality Industry

18: Short Quiz  
Which European city?

17: Top Business Schools  
Top B-Schools in Europe

★ 19: Parent Trap  
Travelling with Folks

20: Financial Literacy  
Introducing DBS Remix!

22: Singapore Women's Everest Team  
An interview with the team

Casually

26: Going the Distance  
Long-distance Relationships

## Looking for interns:

\* **Fine Arts:** To create layouts, covers and amusing caricatures of other colleagues

\* **Graphic Design:** To assist in conceptualisation and layout for print and web

\* **Web Design:** To help us develop, expand and enhance our site

\* **Writing & Reporting:** To conceptualise, research and write original stories

\* **Beverage Dispensing & Affiliated Services:** To operate complex, multi-function automated coffee dispenser, have a working knowledge of basic Italian (espresso, grande etc.), and remember which mug belongs to whom.

Fringe benefits include a shared table space, free Red Bull, pizza during deadlines, unlimited use of in-house exercise facilities (our office is a 3rd floor walk-up). We can accommodate flexible hours, since we're always working. You should be creative, confident, and able to take direction, but still develop your own voice within a piece of work. Our work environment is fast-paced. What we are is a goal-oriented team of chronic workaholics, looking for other like-minded, impressionable young talents, to mold into our own, twisted image. We are not hiring right now, so don't ask. But we are looking to nurture and develop future talent.

Anyone not put off by the above should email 75 words or less about themselves and what position they'd be keen to fill to [campusinterns@gmail.com](mailto:campusinterns@gmail.com).

JOINING US AT  
[FACEBOOK.COM/CAMPUS.SINGAPORE](http://FACEBOOK.COM/CAMPUS.SINGAPORE)  
 GETS YOU  
 PLACES!



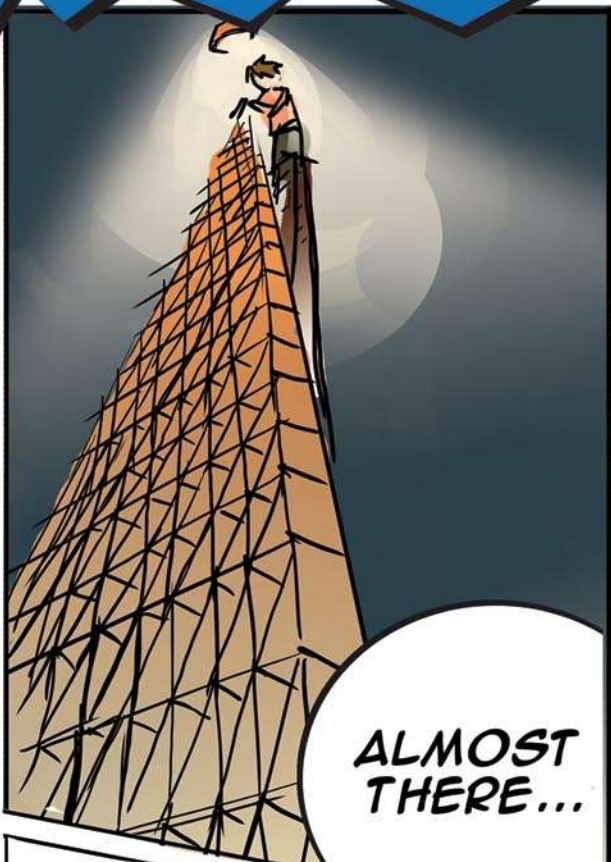
**REGULAR STUFF**  
 04: Word on the Web: Bloggers  
 05: Tech & Entertainment  
 24: Cheat Sheet: Bargaining  
 28: The List: World's Best Parties



Mr Konosuke Matsushita's LESSON #10:

**"Remember a job is not done until you have seen it through to the very end"**

Konosuke Matsushita  
Founder of one of Japan's  
greatest corporations,  
Panasonic, known to many  
as "the God of management"  
and a top world industrialist.



ALMOST THERE...



ALMOST...



FLICKER...



LIGH...



MY.. MY... BEAUTIFUL...  
... MASTER PIECE..



DOING A JOB EVEN 998 OF THE WAY IS NOT ENOUGH, WE HAVE TO SEE IT THROUGH TO COMPLETION. DON'T GIVE UP!



ARGHH!!  
I QUIT!!

WHAT HAPPENED?  
...OH, AGAIN?



HERE, TAKE THIS. IT LASTS LONGER.

- EFD11E27HD3**
- 10,000 HOURS OF LIFE
  - NEW SPIRAL MODEL IS MORE COMPACT AND MORE EFFICIENT
  - USES 80% LESS ENERGY AND LASTS 10 TIMES LONGER THAN STANDARD INCANDESCENT BULBS
  - IT USES ECO-FRIENDLY LEAD-FREE GLASS MATERIAL



YES!!  
I.. FINALLY DID IT!

**Panasonic**  
ideas for life

COST EFFICIENT  
ENERGY EFFICIENT  
TIME EFFICIENT



IDEA & ILLUSTRATION BY MARISA OH

# WORD ON THE WEB: CAMPUS BLOGGERS HAVE THEIR SAY

Campus Magazine hunted down four popular youth bloggers to capture their opinions on the hot topics of the moment. Check back here for the next few issues where Yingzi, Jem, Yong Wei, and Gaya share their thoughts on a topic related to our issue's theme. This time around, it's travel, and here's what the bloggers had to say about the question we proposed.

## Q: WHAT ARE YOUR THOUGHTS ON FAR FLUNG DESTINATIONS?

### GAYATHIRI

> I LOVE RAIDING THRIFT STORES FOR MARVELOUS DEALS AND I DREAM ABOUT BURNING ALL CROCS SANDALS AT A STAKE SOMEDAY.

[HTTP://POPSPOKEN.WORDPRESS.COM](http://POPSPOKEN.WORDPRESS.COM)

WHAT TO EXPECT: ALL THE LATEST, HOTTEST & MOST DANGEROUS IN POP-CULTURE, ENTERTAINMENT, LIFESTYLE & FASHION. IN OTHER WORDS: CRACK.

The thing about traveling is, it's meant to be an enlightening and humbling experience. You discover and learn things beyond the shores you've been living on. For me, traveling has become a cathartic experience since I went to Sabah alone when I was 18. It's not exactly the North Pole in terms of far-flung, but being alone in a foreign country for 4 days was as distant and remote as my experience could have been.



Of course I wasn't wandering around the mountainous landscape alone when I got there. I was part of a tour group. I got to see the majestic Mt. Kinabalu with my own two peepers and words fail me every time. I try to put into words the quiet elegance of Kinabalu. An unbelievable anecdote that I've gleaned from trip there alone was the event of a proboscis monkey stealing my film camera. Lost all my pictures but hands down, best-trip-ever!

Nikoi island, a privately owned paradise resort is one hell a destination! Although it's pretty near Singapore, the experience is like no other - no fancy malls, monuments or attractions. Just a tropical island with no more than a kilometer's distance from end to end. Best of all, Nikoi isn't even on Google maps, so you can't search for it! You basically pay for everything before you go but you don't need to bring a single cent, cos THERE'S NOTHING TO BUY THERE! Imagine staying on an island that accommodates no more than 60 people, with amazing food and nothing to think or worry about! However, there are activities like canoeing, snorkeling as well as em, skinny sunbathing (that's what I did) so you wouldn't feel bored. Plus, you'll get to enjoy complete privacy in an open shore villa, WITH YOUR OWN BEACH. Prices start at approximately \$1200 for 302N, but hey, it's once in a lifetime!



### JEM

> I REALLY LIKE CATS, COINS AND LOOSE CHANGE ANNOY ME.

[HTTP://JEMMAWEI.COM](http://JEMMAWEI.COM)

WHAT TO EXPECT: MY BLOG BASICALLY DOCUMENTS MY TRAIN OF THOUGHTS, AND THE RAILWAY ISN'T LINEAR, SO IF YOU FOLLOW ME YOU PROBABLY ALSO ENJOY RUNNING AFTER TAXIS AND EATING YOUR RICE WITH HONEY.



Far flung travel experiences don't always have to be geographical. On my way back from New York recently, I had to transit in Hong Kong for an estimated four hours. It being my first serious long distance holiday alone, everything seemed much more melodramatic. And although I've never visited Hong Kong past its transit lounge, it was definitely one of the more memorable destinations. Firstly, I got my flight timings wrong and was in the middle of a dim sum breakfast when I heard the last call for my boarding gate. Secondly, after running all the way there and barely making it, the flight got delayed for an hour due to - get this - a hysterical passenger on the plane who had to be escorted out by security. Thirdly, a technical difficulty delayed our flight for another two hours and one of the engine parts had to be replaced. The entire time, I was convinced the plane was going to crash and burn when it finally took off. Far flung? I think so.

# TECH AND ENTERTAINMENT

visit us at  
facebook.com/  
campus.singapore

## MV800 CAMERA

SAMSUNG REVIEWED BY PRABHU SILUAM

Featuring a 3.0" Flip-out screen designed for easy self-portraiture, Samsung's MV800 (RCP \$499) is a breath of fresh air with its distinct break for Samsung's Dual LCDs cameras category.



The 3-inch LCD screen at the rear of the camera flips 180 degrees vertically - perfect for the spontaneous self-capture moments. The only disadvantage is the inability to swivel the screen sideways - an added mobility option that would have enhanced the user-friendly experience.

The newly-revamped Smart Touch 3.0 interface does a sufficient job of providing users with a wholly accurate and responsive touch screen experience with improved components like Storyboard Mode - transforming users into creative directors in their own accord.

## KASSETTE ESKUCHÉ HEADPHONE

High sound quality, lightweight, comfortable and packed with a contemporary aesthetic, Eskuché's Kasette on-ear headphones make for an ideal listening experience. Plus, you don't have to worry about plastic breaking or the cord getting tangled because the body is aluminum and the cord is covered in woven cloth.



To win 1 of 3 pairs (RRP SGD \$59.90), cast your vote in our Update Your Maté contest. Check out the "Photo Showcase" app on or Facebook page to enter!

## BATTLEGROUND

THE WANTED

RELEASE DATE: 7 NOV

Backed by hoards of flailing tween fans and world concerts in tow, The Wanted look poised for a more subtle, defined sound in their 2nd studio release. Fans and new-listeners can expect a variation of catchy melodious pop tunes with the occasional "move-your-feet-to-the-beat" tracks.



## FASTLIFE

JOE JONAS

RELEASE DATE: 10 OCT

For his debut solo album, Joe Jonas mixes an electro-pop and R&B vibe into his music - changing direction from the pop-rock genre of Jonas Brothers. Joe told MTV that his new songs are "more urban and dance electronic".



WIN albums & eskuche headphones!

Stay tuned to our Facebook page throughout October & November to win one of these CDs, and one of 3 pairs of Eskuché Kasette Headphones worth S\$59.90 each!



## DANCE!

RECOGNIZE STUDIOS

Join Recognize Studios as a member in October and get 8 free open classes at Recognize Studios in November!

21 Oct-2 Nov, 5pm-11pm (Mon-Thurs); 1pm-12am (Fri-Sun)  
\*SCAPE Warehouse

The Museum of Horrors @ \*SCAPE

Your greatest fears are about to come alive at The Museum of Horrors! Tickets range from \$19-\$22 and you can get up to \$10 retail vouchers with each ticket purchase. Buy tix @ [www.scape.com.sg](http://www.scape.com.sg) or from \*SCAPE customer service counter.

## WHAT'S HAPPENING:

21-23, 27-30 Oct,  
Tix from \$48 - \$60  
Universal Studios Singapore  
Halloween Horror  
Nights

Come face to face with terror and wander around six scare-zones at the first ever Halloween Horror Nights® in Universal Studios Singapore®, Resorts World™ Sentosa. Book tickets online at [www.rwsentosa.com](http://www.rwsentosa.com) or at the door.

22-30 Oct | FREE & Ticketed Events  
More than 170 events @ various times & locations  
Singapore Writers Festival (SWF)

With close-ups of international and local authors, workshops, panel discussions and more, the biennial literary festival, which started in 2001, is one of Asia's premier literary events. For exact event listings, go to [www.singaporewritersfestival.com](http://www.singaporewritersfestival.com).

Contest Deadline: Oct 30  
Exhibition of Best Photos: Nov 7 - 21 @ NUS Central Library  
The Hunt 2011

Send in your three favourite shots that embody the theme, "Gone, but not forgotten" to [thehunt2011.vpc@gmail.com](mailto:thehunt2011.vpc@gmail.com) for a chance to win one of three Samsung cameras. For more information, see <http://www.nussu.org.sg/vpc>.

26 Nov, Door Opens 5:30pm  
Marina Promenade  
Sunset Festival 2011

Feel the magic of top musicians from Korea, Japan and Taiwan! Show Luo, Hebe Tien, Zhang Yun Jing, ViViD, and Teen Top will perform on 1 stage for 1 night only! Purchase tickets at Sistic. For more, see [www.sunsetfestival.sg](http://www.sunsetfestival.sg).

Till 11 Nov | FREE  
Singapore Arts Museum 2F Lobby

## Made for SAM

Intelligently revamped and recycled everyday objects go on parade at the Singapore Arts Museum as local designers gather for a fashionably green cause. Expect to buy original creations on sale at wallet-friendly prices.

# UPDATE YOUR MATE

## korean version



Vote for the best makeover by November 14!

Winner gets 2 TICKETS to the SUNDOWN FESTIVAL with 2 MEET-AND-GREET PASSES to see TEEN TOP!

THERE'S MORE!  
STAY TUNED TO OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR THE ANTICIPATED MUSIC VIDEO!

VIDEO BY Videographer Ajir runs Nine Aperture Blades, which is dedicated to event coverage and weddings - so you never miss a moment.  
<http://vimeo.com/nineapertureblids>



JUSTIN



ALTON



BEATRICE



FIYANA

WHO HAS THE BEST K-MAKEOVER?

SEE MORE PHOTOS AND VOTE HERE > [www.facebook.com/Campus.Singapore](http://www.facebook.com/Campus.Singapore)

Leading manufacturer of cameras and camcorders, so you can capture every moment in stunning image quality.  
[www.samsung.com/sg](http://www.samsung.com/sg)

This popular Korean cosmetic brand stays on top of the latest trends, and gives you glowing, healthy skin - effortlessly.  
[www.etudehouse.com](http://www.etudehouse.com)

Specialising in both sneakers and sporting gear, K-swiss caters to the young and the outdoorsy. Check out their store in Marina Square.  
[facebook.com/KSwissSG](http://facebook.com/KSwissSG)

Specialising in Korean-styled perms and rebonding, Jiwon hair salon gives their customers a whole new look to be confident about.

Red Spade manages the staging of large scale entertainment events, like concerts and music festivals.  
[www.redspade.sg](http://www.redspade.sg)

A platform for anyone who aspires to groove, Recognize Studios will have you moving like a dance star in no time with its qualified trainers and comprehensive courses.  
<http://recognizestudios.com>

Helmed by stylist Julia Blank, Dial for Style is a shopping and image consultancy that provides styling services for both men and women.  
<http://dialforstyle.com>

Run by freelance photographer Eugene Soh, DUDE.sg offers a number of services including weddings, portraits and event photography.  
<http://dude.sg>

A vintage store that keeps up to date with all K-pop related trends, Dream Vintage has 2 shops, located at Orchard Central and Victoria Street.

A lifestyle store focusing on men's modern apparel, Recoil is a designer-driven fashion expression without the hefty price tag.  
[www.recoil.com.sg](http://www.recoil.com.sg)



# UPDATE YOUR MATE

korean version

# BEHIND the SCENES

BEATRICE



FIEYANA



ALTON



JUSTIN



Photos and videos captured with  
**Samsung NX**

SEE MORE PHOTOS AND VOTE  
www.facebook.com/Campus.Singapore



## The Couch Cometh

By: Prabhu Silvam

Man's affinity for couches has been a longstanding affair. Edgar Allan Poe once attributed his vulnerability to lazing in couches by describing them as an "otherworldly indulgence". Nicola Tesla attests part of his scientific prophecies towards the hours he spent snuggled in his worktable couch. "I'm Only Sleeping" by The Beatles reinstated the couch as a time travel device. It is in this tradition of glorifying couches that redefined the notion of travel, by paving way for the travel phenomenon that is CouchSurfing.

### COUCHSURFING: A BRIEF INTRO

CouchSurfing is the brainchild of a futuristic ideal. An ideal that revolves around the conviction that one less stranger in the world, is one more friend in the universe. With 8 million dedicated CouchSurfing members across 7 continents, it is an ideal that has fast become a reality.

Once a part of the CouchSurfing movement, members are presented with options to host or surf. As hosts, members accommodate fellow CouchSurfers by being unofficial guides in their location while at the same time offering their friendship - something impossible for a tour agent to replicate. For surfers, a myriad of opportunities await. Potential travellers use the site to liaise with hosts who will then try to accommodate and enrich their duration of stay.

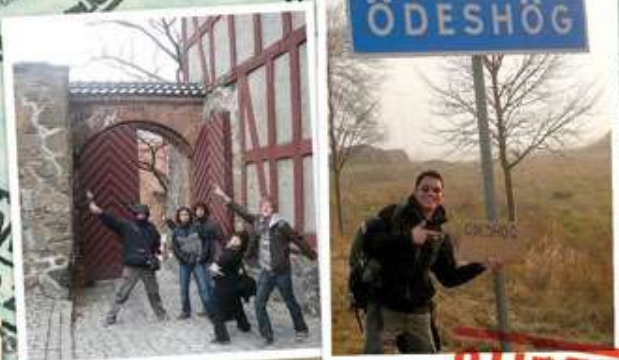
For those willing to trod down the unfamiliar path, CouchSurfing is more than an alternative means of travel. It is an odyssey of the senses - a homage to the idea of a world without strangers. So seek the world, one couch at a time.



NAME: Jesslyn Sim  
CITY/TOWN: Grenoble, France

COUCH EXPERIENCE: "My host, Pierre Lecoq and his sister Katherine were absolute gems. My most memorable incident has to be when we were having supper at night and a French Mob were on the prowl outside. The restaurant owner shut off the lights and we found ourselves crouched under the table for 2 hours!"

**SURFER**



NAME: Franck Cheung  
CITY/TOWN: Oslo, Norway

COUCH EXPERIENCE: "Because Norway is very expensive, we decided to couchsurf for 2 nights. When we showed up, the guy just gave us the keys to his flat, spoke with us for about 5 minutes, then went off to work. He didn't care at all. During the day alone in his flat, we accidentally discovered he was gay by the looks of some dodgy pictures we found... but that's another story! At night he showed us around and honestly it's one of my best CS experiences despite the interesting surprise!"

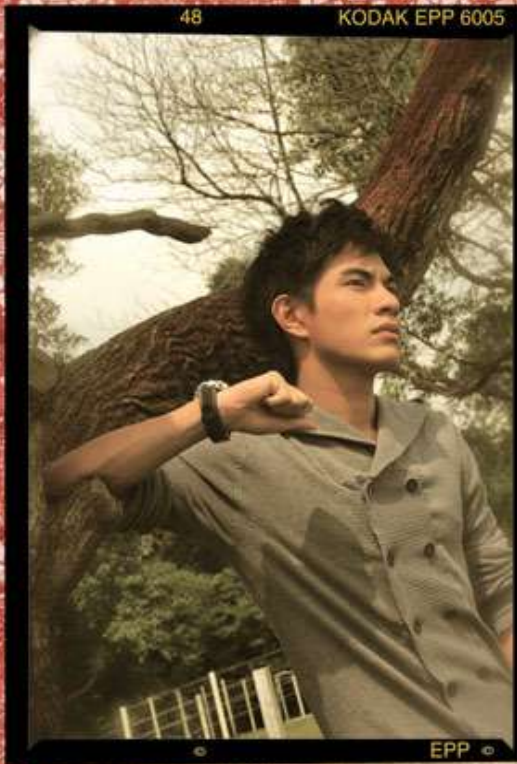
**SURFER**



NAME: Kelly Morse  
CITY/TOWN: Singapore

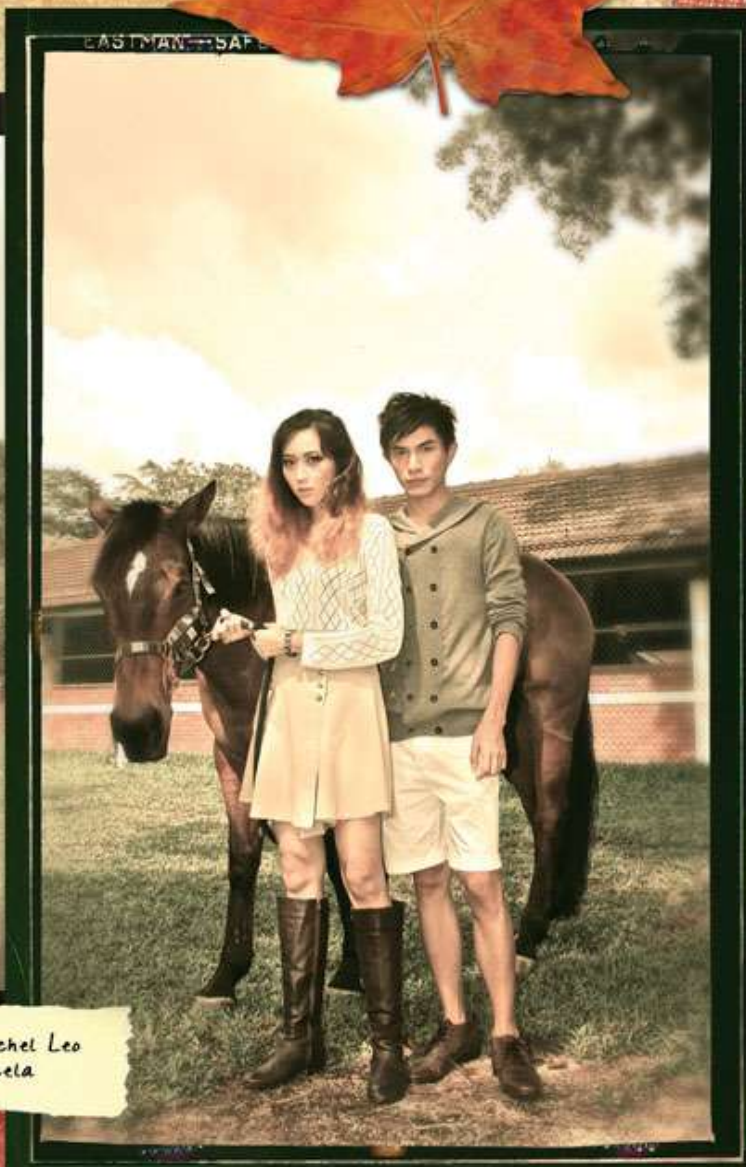
COUCH EXPERIENCE: "I hosted Viviane from Shanghai, China when she a place to stay during a bachata festival in Singapore. To be honest, I was a bit worried about letting someone I didn't know stay in my place, but she was very respectful and trustworthy. We had a blast reminiscing about studying in the States and eating runny eggs with toast!"

**HOST**



Photos and Concept  
by Chione Zhang

# FALL FLAVOUR



Models: Wayne Ben Koh, Rachel Leo  
Makeup Artist: Deborah Marcela



illustrated by warisa oh

Artwork by Marisa Oh / Ngee Ann Polytechnic School of InfoComm Technology (ICT), Multi-Media & Animation (MMA)

One has to admit that studying in Europe appeals to anyone with an itchy foot. Where else in the world can you run with the bulls, stuff yourself with a thousand varieties of sausages, or try to find the Holy Grail underneath some museum, and not require a passport? Thanks to a hodgepodge of history, culture and guttural languages, Europe is also a hotspot for education, where universities here rank prominently among the top 100 in the world year after year.

It's a place where cutting-edge technology meets centuries-old academic legacy, a place where you can study subjects from polar research to modern medicine alongside a range of languages that challenge your throat muscles.

Whether you're here for a solid education in business, arts or sciences, you can also indulge in some original afternoon English tea, ride a Swiss mountain train, or drive through 3 countries without stopping. How's that for incentive?



This clog's too big for me...

# 1 NETHERLANDS

If I only had one country to visit, this would be it. It could be because my boyfriend and his lovely family live here, or perhaps Nana's coffee (no, not the Amsterdam "coffee shop" sort) and *lekker appeltaart* I indulged in almost everyday. It was also the easiest place to converse in English. It has clean trains, friendly people and the least scams.

My personal favourites – must go: Zaanse Schans; must eat: *frikandel speciaal*, *bitterballen*, *stroopwafels* & all sorts of cheese (*jong*); must do: *fietsen* (cycling)!

# 2 BELGIUM

Eyes on the waffles...

We explored Belgium through day trips starting with Antwerp, conveniently only 20 minutes drive away from Holland. Bruges and Brussel required longer trips but still worth the slightly lengthier drive (munching chocolates at the back seat, I'm not one to complain really).

Only four words for Belgium: frites, chocolates, waffles & beer! Don't forget to visit the magnificent *grote markts* and churches, check out the Atomium (although not worth going up, to be honest) and Mannekin Pis (he's just a small statue, don't expect much! If it's any consolation, there are waffle shops beside him to reward your hard work).



Bonjour Tour Eiffel! :)

# 3 FRANCE

Paris will always be at the top few of everyone's must-visit European cities list (hopeless romantics, raise your hands!). Albeit the smelly subways, I have to admit it truly deserves its city of love reputation. There's way too much to see in this lovely city so do prioritise. I personally feel that the 3-day museum pass and Paris Visite (metro and buses concession) would be a good value-for-money option if you intend to be a "hardcore" tourist – it covers most popular sights like The Louvre, Arc de Triomphe, Versailles (though not the garden). Last but not least, the must eats: crepes, Latin Quarter gyros and Pierre Hermes macarons!

# 4 ITALY

Oh, where to start! Pizzas, pasta, gelatos, more pizzas, more pasta, and even more gelatos (we had at least one 3-scoop daily; spell OINK). I loved Rome's coliseum and ruins as well as the Spanish Steps (boys, watch out for men giving your made-moiselle "free flowers" – it's free for us, but you have to pay!). Bring a bottle of wine and people-watch while waiting for the sunset. No wine? No worries, there are plenty of ambience-killer beer/drinks touts. And who can go to Italy without taking creative pictures with the Leaning Tower of Pisa (a day trip here will do – just leave your big bags at the station's luggage storage service or lockers: most big train stations have them). For art and museum lovers, spend at least two days in Florence. One night in Venice is sufficient unless you have lots of mooah and enough time to get lost. Experience it at night (leech off the two orchestras' music at St Mark's square) and ride a *traghetto* at the Grand Canal for just 50 euro cents for a 3-minute preview of the €80 gondolas (HAHA).



POKE!

Hi! My name's Muriel, and I won an air ticket to Europe from Lufthansa in last year's competition! Follow me on my journey across parts of Europe to get an inspiration for your own trip!



# MURIEL'S EUROTRIP!

# 5 AUSTRIA

If you think the gelato diet ends in Italy, I have good news: Austria has lots of yummy gelatos too! We spent a day surrounded by snow-capped mountains in Innsbruck cycling around the city and to Ambras Castle (pack some sandwiches and enjoy the lush greenery at the park for lunch). For the next two (rainy) days, we explored the city of Mozart and Sound of Music. For the not so fanatics, hike up Salzburg's Hohensalzburg Fortress (you save a few euros from the funicular and enjoy an exquisite overlooking view of this city). Take a break from the hustle and bustle of the cities and spend a night in the quiet but picturesque town of Hallstat – my personal favourite (take note: book accommodation early)! A daytrip in tourist-filled Vienna was sufficient for us. I enjoyed the Sisi museum the most and my slice of delish apple strudel too.



The huffing is worth it for the views!

by Muriel Amable



Muriel's trip started in The Netherlands, and she made her way through 7 countries in a counter-clockwise rotation by train, ending in Munich where she took a direct flight back to Singapore.



Flower Power @ Lennon Wall

# 6 CZECH REPUBLIC

As much as we wanted to explore Eastern Europe, Prague was the closest we got. But other than non-potable tap water, the use of *kuronas* (crowns) and everything being relatively cheaper, it didn't really feel very "Eastern Europe-ish." Join hoards of tourists and cover the main areas: Old Town, New Town, Jewish Quarter and the Prague Castle. Pick a hostel near the Old Town/Charles Bridge so you can just walk everywhere. Conclude the day at the river on a pedal boat or rowboat and watch the sunset (or for the less romantics, chasing the ducks). Accommodation here is really cheap, so spend more days and enjoy Prague.

# 7 GERMANY

Running (very) low on funds, we had to choose one German city and it was down to Munich or Berlin. Since our ultimate aims were to: eat *bratwursts* and *schweinshaxe* (pork knuckles), drink in a beer hall, see a castle and of course, visit a concentration camp, Munich won us over by a distance. On top of successfully completing our to do list, I really enjoyed feeding the ducks and sitting on the grass at English Garden. For those who want to visit the Neuschwanstein Castle, pre-book your tickets and make sure you walk to the view point at the back of the castle (worth the short hike, I promise).



The Glockenspiel is a sight to behold at 11am!

Muriel's air ticket to Amsterdam and back from Munich were sponsored by Lufthansa. For more on their deals and destinations, visit [www.lufthansa.com](http://www.lufthansa.com).





# STUDYING IN THE U.K.

BY PRABHU SILVAM

The United Kingdom has garnered a widely envied reputation in delivering academic excellence dating back to hundreds of years. A birthplace of the English language, the UK is also known in areas of legal, cultural, financial and architectural advancements. No matter what kind of learning environment you seek, you will find ample choices from among the 3,600 diverse higher education institutions in the country.

## LAW

A law degree in the UK will provide you with access to a diverse range of legal careers and also springboard you to a wide range of other professions in areas of education and politics.

Studying law in the UK equates to a 3-year undergraduate degree programme which results in an LLB (Legum Baccalaureus) - a bachelor's degree. Students are generally advised to start applying for legal jobs, training contracts or pupillages during the final year, as these will ensure a greater chance of a vocational post-grad course being paid for by impressed firms. As post-grads, students can then choose to define their career paths as barristers or solicitors.

Commonly known as the bar vocational course, the barrister's course lasts throughout an academic year. At the end of the course, successful students will be 'called to the bar', granting them the qualification to practice as a lawyer.

To be a full-fledged solicitor, students will need to complete a Legal Practice Course lasting 2 semesters. Students should be looking to complete at least a 2-week work placement at a law firm during breaks in the final semester to increase their chances at gaining a position there after graduation.

## SELINA'S LONDON EXPERIENCE

Hi! Read up on what happened next on my trip to London in the article "Selina's London Experience" on [www.campus.com.sg/](http://www.campus.com.sg/)



Selina Tan, NTU

"Several days after checking into the Commonwealth Hall for students doing a summer programme at LSE, I decided that it was time to give the hostel dinner a try.

Only thing was, I forgot that I had to purchase a red ticket which entitles bed + breakfast stayers to a meal worth 6 pounds. Flashing an (innocent, I think) smile, I put a tray up and happily asked for my dinner.

The lady behind the counter was unmoved. She said in a matter-of-fact tone, "You must present your red ticket." I must have looked confused because she proceeded to explain, albeit impatiently, that meal tickets are sold at the lobby. Which was fine by me.

I nodded and turned to leave when...

## MEDICINE



With constant interaction with patients, the infusion of problem-based curriculum, self-directed learning and increasing emphasis on community-based education, a UK undergraduate medical training is designed to provide a firm grounding for medical, clinical and diagnostic skills.

Medical education standards are accredited by the British Medical Association. A 4-6 year clinical course comprises the medical component and leads to a BM or BCH degree. In the first 2.5 years, the core clinical curriculum is taught and assessed, and during the last 6 months, students pursue their chosen electives (ie. pediatrics, orthopedics, etc) as a first-year doctor.

The emphasis on self-directed learning and evaluation of medical literature recognises that the biosciences and the practice of evidence-based healthcare underpin clinical training: students are expected to become competent in searching for and evaluating information - equipping them to assess advances in medical practice throughout their professional career.

## SOCIAL SCIENCES WITH ECONOMICS

A BA in Social Sciences covers a broad range of subjects, which includes programmes like politics, psychology, sociology, social policy, social research, criminology, gender studies and development, which are available either academically or vocationally (some programmes combine both, giving you professional training as well as a higher degree).

As a Social Sciences student majoring in Econs, the 3-year graduate programme covers human development and international conflict, with rigorous emphasis on economic and econometric modeling - or the study of global changes that affect the economy. During the 2nd year, students are usually presented with the option of coursework or thesis research where they begin preparing for their 3rd year thesis on a topic of their choice.



Generally, Social Sciences graduates move on to work in academia or policy-making, or to train in such areas as social or youth work. Those with higher-level qualifications in government and politics have good prospects as civil servants and government advisers.

## ENGINEERING

Giving its grads great skills bandwidth and high-employability, it's not surprising that Engineering is one of the top fields of study in the UK. There are several hundred programmes in roughly 20 disciplines, from Chemical to Civil and Nuclear Engineering. Usually taking just 4 years to complete a Bachelors + Masters, graduate engineers are generally well-paid and in demand, with 3 of the 5 most popular Master's degrees being Computer, Electrical and Mechanical Engineering.

Depending on their field of study, engineers are employed everywhere from aerospace and IT to pharmaceuticals, and while engineering curriculums vary greatly, what remains the same is the extensive foundation engineers get in computing, mathematics and the sciences. This in turn makes engineers great at career cross-overs, with many working in high-level management, thanks to their strong overall background.



## BUSINESS

Students completing degrees in business and related fields will find themselves with a vast array of career options upon graduation. With industry specific programmes, completing a degree in the UK prepares you for the world of business.

The Global MBA Rankings 2011 provided by the Financial Times, lists the London Business School as the best in the world with their three year ranking average further securing their placement in the top spot. Over 10 additional UK business schools snagged spots in the top 100, making this tiny region packed full of some of the world's best programme offerings.

On average, a Bachelors degree, such as a Bachelor in Business Administration (BBA), takes 3 years to complete, with MBA programmes running about 1 year. Choose from specialised areas such as business management, finance, marketing, human resources, and more.



## LITERATURE

Because Britain is the starting point for virtually all classical English literature, a BA in English Literature will provide students with a more attractive and stimulating journey since their courses will intersect with cultural, literary, and political institutions and events in the UK.

# THE INN THING: EUROPE'S HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

BY KELLY MORSE

## WHERE TO STUDY

An ideal place to begin the hunt for the right hotel management school would be Switzerland, with half of the top schools located in the country: Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne, Les Roches International School of Hotel Management, Glion Institute of Higher Education, César Ritz Colleges and Ecole hôtelière de Genève. Additional top schools to consider are Hotelschool The Hague - Netherlands; Les Roches International School of Hotel Management - Marbella, Spain; Hotel School Vatel - France; and Oxford Brookes University - United Kingdom.

The concept of hospitality - the friendly reception and treatment of guests - is believed to have begun hundreds, possibly thousands of years before the Shangri La's and Hotel 81's. The industry has seen some changes since the ancient Greek and Roman times, but the most exciting factor is that business is still booming. With nine out of the top ten hotel management schools in the world based in Europe, what better place to learn about the industry, than where it's all happening.

## DEGREE AND PROGRAMME OPTIONS

Under the hospitality umbrella, students can choose from a number of specializations ranging from human resources, culinary, sales and marketing, entrepreneurship, sustainable development in tourism, event management, and more. Most intakes are twice per year - early January/February and July - September and most provide opportunities for paid practical training. Across the board, a number of degree options are available for those just starting their studies and for others wanting to gain further qualifications.

### DIPLOMA

- Qualifications: High School Diploma or equivalent
- Objective: Learning the basics
- Duration: 1.5 to 3 years

### BACHELOR DEGREE

- Qualifications: High School Diploma or equivalent
- Objective: Building a strong career foundation
- Duration: 3.5 to 4 years

### MBA

- Qualifications: Degree/Post Graduate Diploma in a hotel/tourism industry field or other Degree paired with professional experience
- Objective: Preparation for senior management positions
- Duration: 1 - 1.5 years



## CAREER PROSPECTS

Many career opportunities are available in the hotel and resort industry, in addition to a number of further sectors with over 60% of graduates from hotel management schools actually working in areas such as consultancy, government, human resources, and more. An education based in hospitality equips students with skills that are highly sought after by employers.

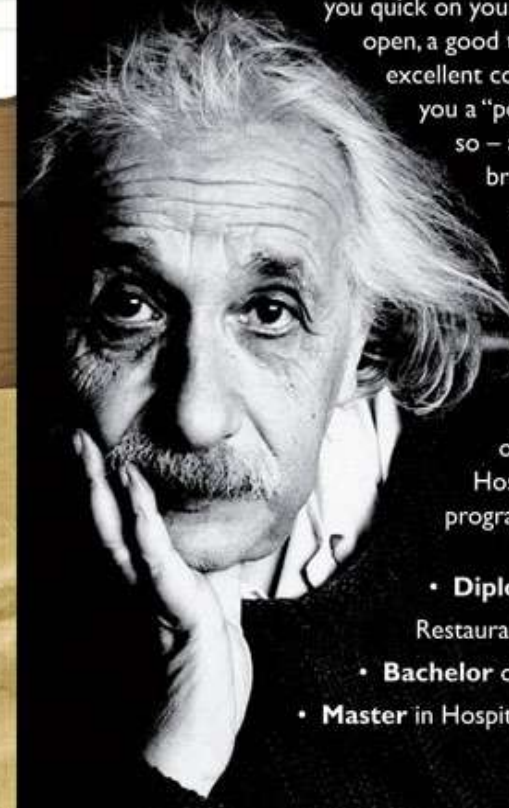
As for the outlook of the hospitality industry, the next decade is expected to see an upward trend in growth, according to the latest report from the World Travel & Tourism Council (WTTC). As for this year specifically, even with the world economies still recovering, the hotel industry in Europe is experiencing a "muted but upward path" claims Deloitte. This translates into available positions and good job stability.

\* Taken from a global market survey of hotel hiring managers in 2007 and 2010. Taylor Nelson Sofres PLC (TNS) - a leading market research and information group and is the world's largest provider of custom research and analysis.

Would Einstein get in? maybe...

He definitely would have met our rigorous academic standards! But at the Ecole hôtelière de Lausanne, the world's leading management school for the international hospitality industry, we demand not just excellent academic performance, but more...

Our students also need to have the talent that drives this business. Have you got a creative streak? Are you quick on your feet? Flexible, open, a good team player, an excellent communicator? Are you a "people person"? If so - and you have the brains to succeed in an academically demanding environment - **contact us.**



We may have a place for you in one of our international Hospitality Management programmes:

- Diploma in Hotel and Restaurant Management
- Bachelor of Science Degree
- Master in Hospitality Administration



Start thinking about it at [getin.ehl.edu](http://getin.ehl.edu)  
1000 Lausanne 25, Switzerland  
Tel: +41 21 785 11 11 Fax: +41 21 785 11 21  
E-mail: [admissions@ehl.ch](mailto:admissions@ehl.ch)





This is the beginning of your professional success

- Master in International Management
- Master in Communication
- Master in International Relations
- Master in Global Environmental Change
- Master in International Legal Practice
- Masters in Finance

Ranked as one of the world's top ten business schools by the *Financial Times* and *The Economist*, IE's Master programs for recent graduates are taught in English or Spanish. They are designed to fit the needs and trends of the ever-changing global marketplace in terms of both general management and sector specific knowledge. Students are immersed in a multicultural environment, making their experience more rounded.

IE is made up of 7 specialized schools. It is an international institution dedicated to educating leaders through programs based on our core values of global focus, entrepreneurial spirit, and a humanistic approach. With over 90 nationalities represented on the Madrid and Segovia campuses, our alumni, now standing at over 40.000, hold positions of responsibility in over 100 countries.

Business School • Law School • School of Arts and Humanities • School of Architecture and Design  
School of Communication • School Social and Behavioral Sciences • School of Biology

www.ie.edu

IE • Madrid, Spain • Tel. + 34 91 568 96 10 • admissions@ie.edu

# THE PARENT TRAP *Trip*

BY: RATNA MAS AYU

"Pack your bags! We're going on a holiday!" During the pre-puberty-where-your-parents-are-the-coolest-pair-on-Earth era - you would have ran into your room and started packing in an instant. Those were the days. Now when you hear these words, you know you're in for an onslaught of sequential events that my mother would liken to the adage "What won't kill you will only make you stronger."

Disclaimer: The following scenarios are commonly applicable to the typical Asian parents - if you happen to be the typical sulky-teenager that is disagreeable to everything typical parents do.



"When you're stuck in a moving prison with your folks, an iPod and headphones are essential."

## IN THE CAR

Think you are in for a peaceful ride during your road trip? Think again. Parents have a knack for suddenly having too much to say (not that they don't already). You find yourself having to repeatedly lower the volume on your iPod just to hear them talking to/nagging at you. Solution? Do all that you have been doing - but with your eyes closed. Or wear shades. If by now you have yet to realise, parents are silent only when your eyes - or theirs - are shut. But no wait, there IS a time when they DO bother you when your eyes are shut.



"Why are breakfasts so early? My stomach isn't even awake yet!"

## BREAKFAST TIME

You think holidays are meant to unwind and sleep in with no schedules, right? Wrong. The moment the clock strikes 8am, you'd be bellowed at to wake up for breakfast. "But Mom, I don't even eat breakfast at home!" But no, for as long as that complimentary hotel breakfast is valid, your beauty sleep and your argument are invalid. But what's new - this happens every other day at home on a school day anyway.

## SAY "CHEESE"

Next thing you know, you're being ushered in front of tourist attractions forced to pose for the camera. The only excitement you can muster is an awkward smile - if you can be bothered to smile at all. The thing with parents is they never fail to get all hyped at EVERY tourist attraction, rallying everyone to take a picture. And this does not count the non-tourist-attractions like random hotel lobbies, or that street market your mom loves, or just random resting spots. The list goes on. But not your patience.



"Another horrible shot of some no name hotel lobby. You could be in any hellhole."

## THE WORLD IS OUT TO KIDNAP YOU

You're itching to explore on your own instead of trudging behind your mom with a long face as she does her endless rounds of tourist-like shopping. But no, your mom would rather tolerate your non-tolerance-for-her-shopping-face than you wandering off in fear of you getting kidnapped and being sold off somewhere. You are a weak, fragile, helpless and hopeless child who can neither defend nor fend for yourself. You might as well be handcuffed to your parents' wrists for extra security and protection.



"This is probably how our parents think we appear to the general public."

If this sounds familiar, cheer up, you are not alone in your woes. Solutions to get out of this parents' trap? None. If you are the kind with little or no productivity during your holiday breaks, then you are the kind that just have to deal with this sort of holiday trip - you probably deserve it. Just remember to pack along your **patience and tolerance** before you set off.

Singapore's first bank by day,  
financial playground by night

Experience **DBS Remix @ \*SCAPE**  
at 2 Orchard Link, #02-37

## BE YOUR OWN BOSS

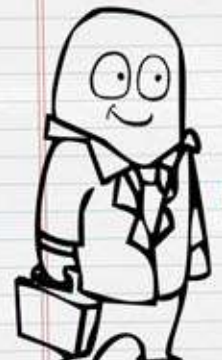
You've got the **ambition, energy and ideas** to be your own boss. But probably also know that in order to be successful, you're going to need to be creative, resourceful and smart - especially when it comes to your money.

And that's where having a reliable business partner like DBS makes all the difference.

### ENTREPRENEUR'S ACCOUNT FOR START-UPS

The Entrepreneur's Account for Start-ups, offers a range of simple tools and business services geared towards the needs of **first-time entrepreneurs** and new startups. Here's how it works:

- The **initial deposit is just \$500**, with **no fall-below fee** for the first 6 months.
- DBS offers special **FREE services** for the first 2 years of your start-up, including managing your payments (salaries, CPF or other monthly costs) with **free GIRO facilities** for 24 months.
- You'll also get a **DBS Business Advance Corporate Debit Card** (no annual fee for the first 2 years) and a monthly e-statement which cuts down on the accounting hassles and paperwork for day-to-day purchases.
- You get a **FREE 2-year** subscription to DBS IDEAL, a one-stop shop for **virtually any business transaction or banking service**, from updating accounts, to applying for lines of credit to purchase goods, to making investments.



→ You'll get your first **3 DBS IDEAL** security devices for **FREE**, along with services like e-mail notification of your bank statements via eAdvice so you can run your business even when you're away from the office.

The **DBS Enrich Start-up bundle** is great for aspiring business owners. It's an Entrepreneur's Account for Start-ups, DBS Remix eSavings Plus Account, DBS Visa Debit Card, iBanking and optional Money Care Insurance Plan!

Check out the cool in-branch postcards!

I am ready to be my own boss.



Think big, dream bigger! Those are words to live by when you're young, and have a bright future ahead of you. Maybe you're focused on acing your first big job, or building your savings early on, or even becoming your own boss. No matter what your goals are, if they involve being successful and financially secure, DBS has a plan for you.

Lo! My own spending plastic!



### DBS Remix eSavings Plus

DBS Remix eSavings Plus offers perpetual waiver for fall-below fees

The **DBS Enrich First Job bundle** is great for newbies like me. I've got a DBS Live Fresh Credit Card, DBS Remix eSavings Plus Account, DBS Visa Debit Card, as well as iBanking and optional Money Care Insurance Plan!

## FAST TRACK SAVINGS

If you:

- Live at home, so don't have to worry about rent
- Don't have to pay a mortgage or other big bills
- Only spend money on shopping and clothes and food and friends



I am ready to start savings. Seriously.

The **DBS Enrich Savings bundle** is great for super savers, giving you a MySavings Account, a DBS Remix eSavings Plus Account, a DBS Visa Debit Card, plus iBanking and optional Money Care Insurance Plan!

## ACING YOUR FIRST JOB

It's been a long road and you've managed to pass every challenge along the way. And now that you've got your dream job, there are all new challenges to manage - your limited time, your busy workload, even your looks (goodbye shorts and tees!). And of course your **salary**.

Even with the best job, without proper financial planning and savings, you'll never achieve your full potential - whether it's **buying a home, having a family or retiring young and rich**.



I am ready to take on the working world.

## CHOOSING THE RIGHT SAVINGS ACCOUNT

It starts with picking the right kind of account that fits your circumstances. A good strategy is to keep two accounts - one for daily spending (a transactional account) like DBS Remix eSavings Plus and another for disciplined savings (a savings account) like MySavings Account that you don't dip into.

What to look out for:

### Transactional Account

- Minimum balance required and fall-below fees (ensure there are no penalties for having too little in your account)
- Daily interest rate (make your money work for you)

### Savings Account

- Consider an account with an automatic savings feature
- Daily interest rate (the higher, the better)

### MySavings Account

MySavings Account lets you choose between \$50 and \$3,000 (in multiples of \$10) and a savings date (between 1st and 25th), to be made automatically each month

Check out [www.dbs.com/remix](http://www.dbs.com/remix) or like us at [www.facebook.com/dbsremix](http://www.facebook.com/dbsremix) to find out more about our calendar of in-branch activities specially organised for you!

Then it's the perfect time to build your nest egg. And if going to the bank to fast-track your future by opening up a savings account ASAP isn't part of the plan, you better think again.

By starting to save up early - given time - even a little today will turn into a lot more tomorrow as your money matures and grows.

Here are a few tips to help you start saving:

### 1 Dedicated savings account

Make savings a habit. And unlike your other habits like Facebook stalking, saving is one practice that actually pays off later. If possible, keep a dedicated savings account (put away 10% of your take-home pay) so you're not tempted to dip into it for casual spending. Also, set yourself a budget and stick to it.

### 2 Endowment plans

It's insurance & regular savings rolled into one. Basically you make small regular payments for a set number of years, and at the end of the term, you get

your money back plus interest, often equaling far more than you originally invested. And if something happens to you before the plan matures, (ie. permanent disability or death), you or your loved ones receive the entire "mature" amount and extra coverage similar to a life insurance policy.

### 3 Unit Trust Regular Savings Plan

With the help of professional fund managers and analysts, a Unit Trust invests many peoples' money together in a concept called "Dollar Cost Averaging", where by investing a little, you're protected against dips in the market, letting you reap bigger benefits later.

Through a Unit Trust Regular Savings Plan, you can opt to invest a little at a time directly from your savings each month, which over a longer period helps you supplement your savings with real investments. Unit trusts are often very specialised and each offers different risks and returns, so it's important to talk to a financial professional.



Things to note:

MySavings Account is insured by the Singapore Deposit Insurance Corporation for aggregated coverage of up to S\$50,000 per insured depositor.

This is for information and general circulation only and does not have any regard to the specific investment objectives, financial situation and the particular needs of any specific person. Investors should seek advice from a financial adviser regarding the suitability of the investment product, taking into account the specific investment objective, financial situation or particular needs of each person before making a commitment to purchase the investment product. In the event an investor chooses not to do so, he should consider carefully whether the investment product is suitable for him. The opinions expressed are subject to change without prior notice. DBS accepts no liability for any loss whatsoever arising from any use of or reliance on the opinions expressed.



INTERVIEW WITH

# SINGAPORE WOMEN'S EVEREST TEAM

BY CHERYL TAN KAY YIN



The Singapore Women's Everest Team (SWET) is comprised of 6 young women who successfully reached the summit of the world's highest mountain in 2009. Being the first all-female team from Singapore, they have certainly shown us that dreams can turn into reality by silencing their cynics through their successful ascent of Mount Everest.

## 1. OUT OF THE MANY OUTDOOR SPORTS TO CHOOSE FROM, WHY CHOOSE A MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY TASKING ONE LIKE MOUNTAINEERING?

**ESTHER:** I've always been a huge fan of the great outdoors. I feel dwarfed when I'm among the mountains, and it reminds me of how small I am in the grand scheme of things.

## 2. WHAT IS ON YOUR MIND WHEN YOU'RE GOING THROUGH THE DAILY GRUPELLING TRAININGS IN PREPARATION FOR THE MOUNT EVEREST EXPEDITION? AND HOW HAVE YOUR TEAMMATES HELPED YOU TO COPE WITH THE PRESSURE?

**ESTHER:** We realised that the thoughts of giving up seeped in not when we were on Everest, but when we're going through our daily training in Singapore. Imagine having to go climb HDB stairs after a long day at work, or rushing to the gym for a weights session during your lunch break. It wasn't easy training 6 days a week for 5 years, sometimes up to twice a day. When thoughts of giving up seeped in, it was knowing that my teammates will be training with me that kept me going. I believe that's what being in a team is all about.



ESTHER



© NATAS/SWET



© NATAS/SWET

## 3. DO YOU FEEL YOUR PERSPECTIVE ON LIFE HAS CHANGED EVER SINCE YOU JOINED THE SINGAPORE WOMEN'S EVEREST TEAM AND HAVING GONE THROUGH THE VARIOUS MOUNTAIN EXPEDITIONS?

**PEH GEE:** Perhaps, I learnt not to sweat the small stuff. My top priorities are my family and relationships. With the limited time that we have in this life, perhaps, it is more worthwhile to focus on our relationships with our loved ones. I also learnt the value of surrendering, that is to trust that whatever happens, happens for a reason. There may be a lot of problems that I face but I have the ability to handle each of them with ease.



PEH GEE

## 4. WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO YOUNG ADULTS (ESPECIALLY WOMEN) IN PURSUING A SPORT OR CAREER THAT IS GENDER-STEREOTYPED BY SOCIETY?

**YIHUI:** I would say just follow your passion and go where your heart leads you. Because once you do that, you will probably find others in similar positions and together, a network of like-minded people pursuing the same passions will be forged. Gender stereotypes wouldn't really matter anymore as there is a network of support. And once people see that, it might even be accepted as the norm!



YIHUI

The SWET continues to be an inspiration to Singaporeans as well as people around the world. Perhaps after reading about these women's experiences, you will be motivated to take action in your life, be it organising a major event, pursuing a dream you thought to be impossible, or even acing that exam.

Portraits © Chu Ngée Heng

Be mine.



If you're in a long-distance relationship, then you're very lucky. To have found somebody completely devoted to you, even in your absence, and to be able to reciprocate that feeling - it's truly incredible.

On the other hand, long-distance relationships suck. A lot. They're long, barren, and unremitting; and after several months you might be questioning whether your long-distance relationship was such a good idea after all. The answer, however, is simple. If you're not in love, then don't do it; if you are, then you can't do anything else.

It's a paradox, I know, but it's only the first of many that partners in a long-distance relationship will have to wrangle with. To be in a long-distance relationship is to court a contradiction - to attach oneself to another who doesn't seem to physically exist.

In an international hub like Singapore (with 18% foreign enrolment in 2011), there are bound to be a number of students committed to someone 'back home.' In this article, I interview 2 students from NTU asking about each of their long-distance relationships, and ways they've found to cope with them. Go to [www.campus.com.sg](http://www.campus.com.sg) to read more on student experiences in long-distance relationships.

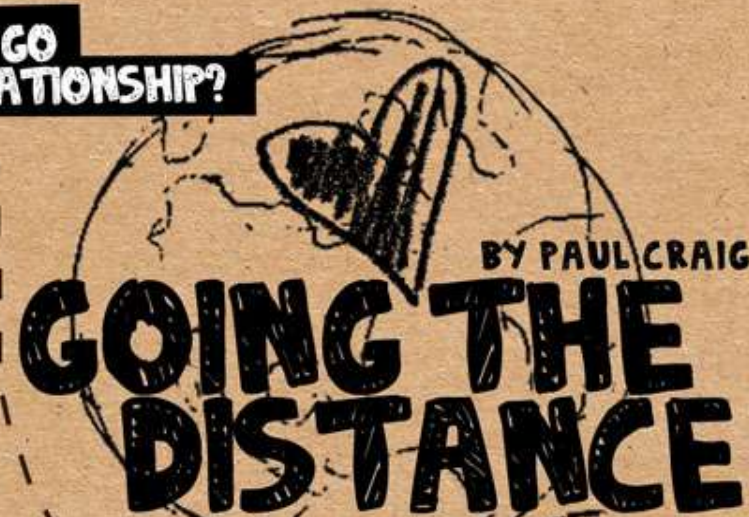
## Q: HOW DID IT FEEL CHOOSING TO GO INTO A LONG-DISTANCE RELATIONSHIP?

"... WE TALKED ABOUT OUR CHOICES: TO BECOME FRIENDS, OR TO PRESERVE IT AND THEN COME AND VISIT IT ANOTHER TIME, LIKE A TIME CAPSULE. [IN THE END] WE CHOSE THE THIRD OPTION, [WHICH] WAS TO JUST GIVE IT A SHOT, BE OFFICIAL, AND DO THE DISTANCE."

- EMERSON XU, 23

Many long-distance relationships are born in spirit of charming naïveté. The concept is an abstraction, perhaps unsurprisingly. It's pretty hard to picture yourself sunbathing in Singapore when you're stuck in a Swedish blizzard.

Instead, travelling to some exotic destination sounds like a great experience, and you'll be back together in a few months. Besides, you tell yourselves, 'between phone cards and the Internet, staying in touch will be no problem.'



BY PAUL CRAIG

# GOING THE DISTANCE

I miss you.

## Q: HOW OFTEN DO YOU TALK TO ONE ANOTHER?

"[I USE SKYPE] ALMOST EVERY DAY. ALWAYS FOR ABOUT AN HOUR AT LEAST."

- EMERSON XU, 23

"I ACTUALLY TALK TO HIM EVERYDAY ... I DON'T THINK I WOULD BE ABLE TO SURVIVE IF I DIDN'T."

- NEAGHAN FRENCH, 19

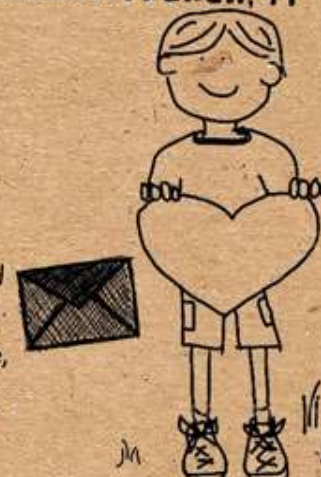
I love You



In our electronic age, separated partners have plenty of ways to stay in contact, from writing letters to chatting on Facebook. Perhaps the most typical medium, though, is Skype. Providing both users have web-cams and microphones, Skype (or any similar video calling programme) allows couples to speak face-to-face over the Internet - so it's become pretty standard for modern long-distance relationships.

And why not? It's easy to use, it's available for free, and it's the realised fantasy of every 1970's sci-fi movie.

Although many partners are unprepared at the beginning, long-distance relationships often evolve to be surprisingly durable. Just remember to keep busy, stay active, and meet new people and you'll be able both to enjoy your exchange and keep your relationship intact.





# Cheat Sheet by Kay Lee Tan

## #14 Bargaining

"Pretty lady, special price for you!" Awww...how nice, right?! Little do you know, that special price might just be 5x more than what the item is really worth. Our best piece of advice? Learn the basics of bargaining before going abroad.

### BARGAINING FOR BEGINNERS

When negotiating, the aim is to strike a fair deal, but remember, merchants will not sell when they are not making a margin. No need to feel bad. Keep in mind, as a tourist you will quickly be sized up and sellers can tell who can bargain and who is a novice. Know your stuff or prepare to pay top dollar.

### WHERE TO BARGAIN

This is straight forward, but some grey areas exist. Obviously, if you're in a mall with air con and employees are required to wear shoes, you can't bargain. However, sometimes there are shops along the road with signs of "apparently" fixed prices - politely try it anyway. For the bargaining havens though, head to the markets. The areas with the lowest rent will have the lowest prices. Ask the locals for advice.



Bargaining is essential in flea markets

### STRATEGIES

Okay, so you've found that perfect coffee mug for your mom (she's gonna love it for sure), but you want the best price so you can make more exciting purchases. Here's how to secure the best deal.

Too Expensive!!

1. **ANCHORING:** Whoever throws out their price first is able to tip the bargaining outcome in their favor. Offer the lowest price you sense they will take, but don't go too low or they will think you are ignorant.

2. **SURPRISED FACE:** For the first number a seller throws out (and subsequent numbers if they are still being ridiculous), give them your best surprised face. Open your eyes and mouth as wide as you can, and say, "Too expensive!"



Practice your surprised face in the mirror before going shopping.



5. **THE WALK AWAY:** If the seller refuses to budge - walk away. If you were in the range of what they would sell the item for, they will most likely concede, or let you keep walking.

The Walk Away usually works as a last resort

6. **TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT:** Keep what you are willing to spend in your wallet and put the rest somewhere else. To close a deal say, "Okay, this is all I have. Will you take it?"

3. **FAKE!** Let's be real. Prada is not making shipments to flea markets in Cambodia. That purse is fake. If the seller tries convincing you otherwise, simply say, "Come on, we both know that's fake. Gimme your best price." Smile.



**FAKE!**



A smile can work wonders!

### DO'S & DON'TS

- DO use local currency
- DON'T bargain too soon - establish credibility first
- DO be confident
- DON'T be afraid to be bold
- DON'T be rude
- DO have fun
- DON'T just ask for discounts
- DO suggest prices
- DON'T settle for a preconceived good discount
- DON'T let the seller know you love an item, they will charge you more

# DOGS ON a PLANE

text and illustration by Melissa Ang

A few months back, a Miniature Schnauzer named Ceres began planning for a semester long overseas exchange programme with her mistress. Ceres's buddy Rex, a Pembroke Welsh Corgi is accompanying his owner on the same program too. Unlike Ceres, Rex is not familiar with the rules of air travel as he has no prior travel experience to speak of.

Hi Rex, did you get your vaccinations for the trip yet? I heard that there is a vet in the East who provides standard travel vaccinations...

Wah lau eh, what you mean travel vaccinations?! Got needles not? I'm needle phobic leh!

You need a medical certificate that shows your health condition and the vaccinations you had a month before your flight or you could be a Resident Evil disaster, doggy-style!

LIKE THIS

Fine, anything lor. Anyway Ceres, you got your airline approved carrier yet? I saw my Dogbook friend's blue truffle - or was it duffle - bag with stars which is super stylo milo!

Better change my Dogbook status to Looking for a blue plastic carrier with stars! Wait, we got no in-flight meals meh?

Your owner will secure food and water containers to your carrier, silly.

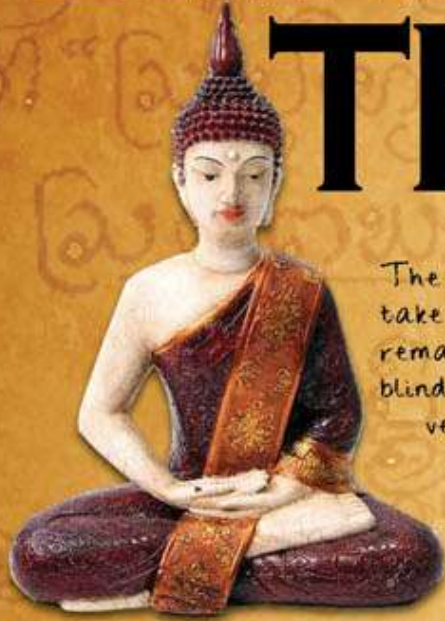
I'm sure it is but you may want a hard plastic carrier with sufficient space to move around. Once you're inside, the carrier will be secured with nylon zip ties and trust me when I say, you don't want to have leg cramps then.

Wah, luckily got food! So I'll be in the cargo hold right? If I get lost then how ah?!

Don't worry, if you are lost, the airport personnel will use the information on your carrier tag to contact your master. Have a good flight!

# BAREFOOT IN THAILAND

BY RAHIMAH RASHITH



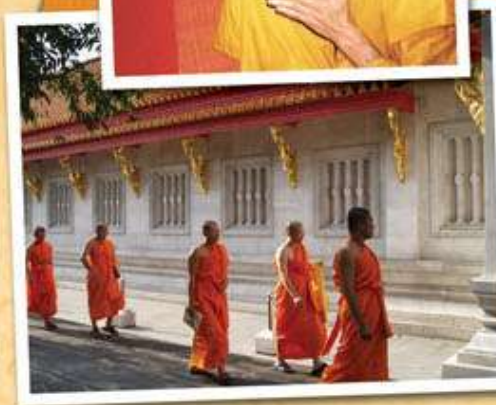
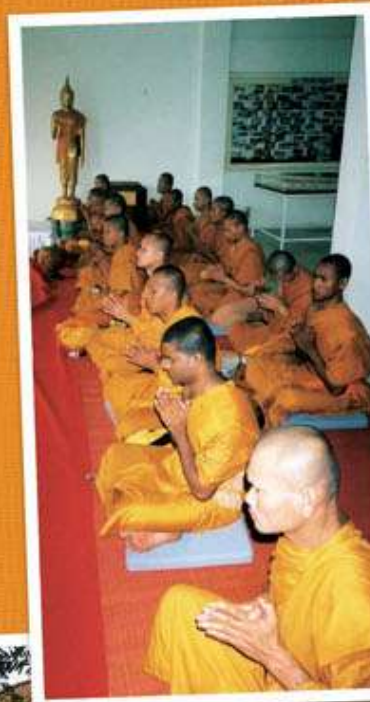
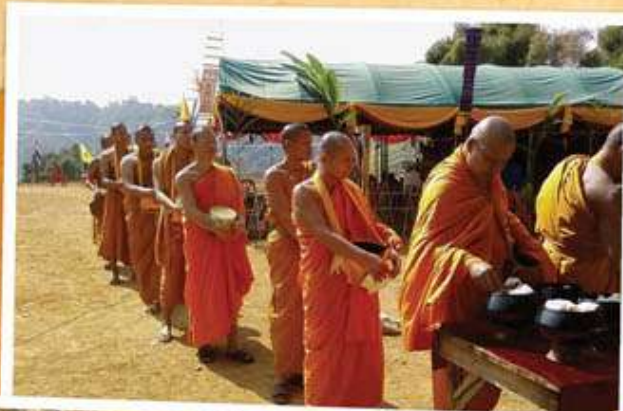
The human feet are amazing. They keep you grounded, and can take you far. They are exposed to the harshest of conditions, yet remain supremely resilient. The feet see beyond the eyes. They are blind to prejudices and feel only what is truly there. It was this very connection and the search for a higher meaning, which led Singaporean educator Norman News's feet to take him to the insightful world of Thailand. Norman left all worldly possessions behind and embarked on a month long journey to Thailand to practice Buddhism as a monk.

## LAND OF ENLIGHTENMENT

Buddhism in Thailand is an authentic, unique experience in itself. Norman tells me Thailand practises the Mahayana tradition. Originating from India, the Mahayana teachings are one of the two main types of teachings of Buddhism. The other is the Theravada tradition, which Norman experienced when he previously went to Myanmar.

Thailand is a deeply religious country. At a staggering 95%, it has the largest proportion of Buddhists around the world. Buddhism is so prevalent in the Thai society that all Thai kings in recorded history are Buddhist. In fact, it is a constitutional requirement that all kings of Thailand must practice Buddhism. It is safe to say that there is no place more etched in Buddhism than Thailand.

It was in that context that Norman, together with 8 other novice monks who were ordained in a Singapore Mahayana temple, travelled to a cave temple located at Hatyai, Thailand. Once there, they began their month-long journey of self-discovery and enlightenment.



## MEDIATION - THE MIND AND BODY AS ONE

A monk's day starts as early as 4am. They congregate to meditate in the wee hours of dawn. Every day without fail, Norman made his way to the prayer hall to be a part of the believers' voices echoing in unison.

Meditation helps stabilize the mind, but not without heavy mental effort. It involves the body and mind behaving as a single element. The idea is to control the mind so that it becomes peaceful and focused.

But focus does not always come easy, especially at dawn. More than once had Norman, in a flurry of embarrassment nodded off and dropped his prayer books down the steps of the prayer hall. Having enough energy was crucial because Norman could only have two meals a day - both before the strike of noon.

Meditation is a test of physical as well as mental strength. Monks are expected to refrain from frivolous chatter and entertainment.

The lack of stimulus is toruous to untrained minds, but its focus is to allow the mind to be aware in the present.

This is not just centered on the Thai culture. Most of us are either so preoccupied in thoughts of the future or past that we don't live in the present.

Even language became an unintended barrier for Norman. In Thailand, monks chant in Thai. This differed from the typical form of chanting in Pali that Norman was accustomed to. Pali is the ancient language of the earliest Buddhist scriptures. While he had memorised verses in Pali, the Thai chants he could not follow.

Nonetheless, things get easier for those who try and believe. For Norman, the monotony of the unfamiliar sound eventually became a testament of faith, as the echoes of a common chant reverberated from his lungs down to his feet.



## IT IS IN GIVING THAT WE RECEIVE - ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

After the morning meditation, Norman and the other monks walked barefoot to the nearest village about 2 kilometers away to beg for alms. Monks walk barefoot to denounce the want of any materialistic possessions and they do not prepare their own food. They rely on the leniency of the lay Buddhist for sustenance.

In Buddhism, almsgiving is not charity but respect given by the laymen to a Buddhist monk or other spiritually developed person. It is often perceived as an opportunity to attain merit religiously.

In the village, every household, without fail, would be up at the crack of dawn preparing food for the monks. Their devotion is strong. These villagers are poor and barely have enough food of their own, yet they give compassion with whatever they can share.

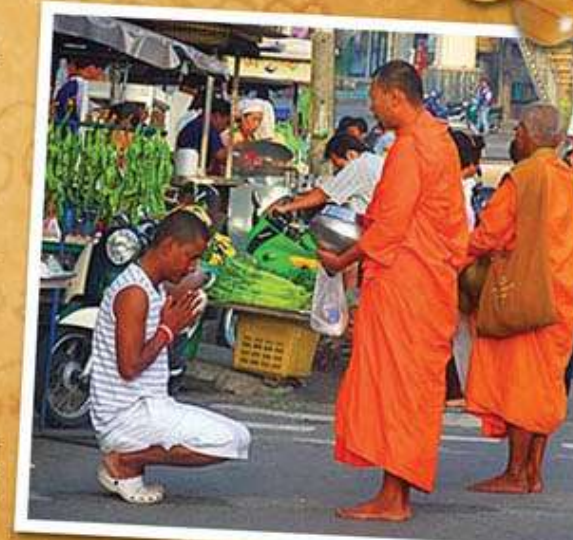
Because of this very reason, Norman could not stop his barefoot journey. It was not an easy feat. The journey started with walking out of the temple compound and onto the debris-laden road. Unfortunately, debris is usually swept onto the side of the road, where people walk. His

will was bruised against the dirt and the gravel poked at his pained feet. This was still only the gravel poked at his pained feet. This was still only the journey with the empty food canisters. Norman says, "The first week or so was pure suffering as you are not used to the pain".

But there was no turning back because the villagers were waiting for them. Upon reaching the destination, the villagers would come out and offer the food and the monks would bless them. The first time Norman begged for alms, blood shot up his ears - overwhelmed with humility.

"It was a humbling experience to depend on them for food," said Norman. They have so much less and yet they give more willingly than most of us. As it rained one day, muddy puddles formed around the village houses. The villagers still came out to offer food. Then they knelt in the mud to receive blessings and soiled their clothes in the process. Their faith was unbreakable, strengthening Norman's. While walking, Norman was told to be mindful of the sensations of his feet.

He felt the pain and roughness of his exposed flesh as well as the softness of the mud, marking him part of mother earth. Being barefoot allowed him to connect to the ground where he came from. Norman knows that for centuries it was this path that his predecessors took. It is where nourishment and sustenance comes from. And it is back to the ground that we will all return.



By Julailah Lucker

# THE LIST

## The World's Greatest Parties

**Oktoberfest | Munich, Germany | Sep/Oct**  
Munich's Oktoberfest is one of Germany's most popular events offering massive flows of Munich-brewed beer as well as food like Reiberdatschi (potato pancakes) and Käsespätzle (cheese noodles).



Oktoberfest

**Full Moon Party | Koh Pha Ngan, Thailand | Every month**  
Lasting all the way till sunrise, the party has international DJs spinning the hottest tunes under the enchanting glow of the full moon.



Full Moon Party

**Mardi Gras | Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and more | Feb/Mar - the day before Ash Wednesday**  
Mardi Gras, or "Fat Tuesday" in French, signifies the last night of eating fatty food before the Lenten season begins. Loud costumes and pure ecstasy ensue.



Rio Carnival

**Carnival of Venice | Venice, Italy | Feb/Mar - 40 days before Easter**  
Since the 12th Century, the carnival has celebrated the coming together of different social classes. For everyone to be seen as equals, masquerade-like Venetian masks are worn by attendees.



Carnival of Venice

**Jamaica Carnival | Jamaica, Islandwide | April - During Easter Week**  
Byron Lee's devotion to sharing fun and creating an escapade-like atmosphere, culminates in this festival of the senses.



Jamaica Carnival

**La Tomatina Tomato-Throwing Party | Buñol, Spain | Last Wednesday in August**  
This festival pulverizes approximately 240,000 pounds of succulent tomatoes every year in what is called the "World's Biggest Food Fight". Now that's what I call an overripe mess.



La Tomatina

**Glastonbury Festival | Pilton, Somerset, England | Last weekend in June**  
First conceived in 1970 by farmer Michael Eavis after being inspired by a Led Zepplin concert, the festival has grown to feature legendary likes of The Who and Coldplay.



Glastonbury

**Nevada's Burning Man | Black Rock Desert, Nevada | August/September**  
Dedicated to amplifying art within a community, an orgy of sculptures, performances and theme camps run riot in this week-long festival.



Burning Man

**Louisiana Mudfest | Colfax, Louisiana | Open All Year Round with Highlight events on Memorial Day, 4th of July and Labor Day**  
Music, all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and female mud-wrestling are up for grabs in this smorgasboard of all things muddy. A stain on your soul indeed.



Louisiana Mudfest

# STRESS RELIEF

So, you've gotten yourself and a friend or two on a little trip! You may or may not have plans when you hit the ground at your destination, but have you considered what you guys will be doing while you're en route? Twiddling fingers? Playing mp4s on your iPhone? Snoozing? Well, here's a fun little game you and your friends can play together and probably annoy your neighbours at the same time!

## DO THIS FIRST

1. Cut out all the cards individually. These are in rhyming sets of FOUR pictorial cards.
2. We've left 2 sets of templates blank for you to fill up yourself to add to the fun.

Created by Jessica Teh

 QUIRT	 SKIRT	 SHIRT	 DIRT	 TACK	 RACK	 SACK	 SNACK
 HONEY	 MYKEY	 MONKEY	 MONEY	 TRAP	 MAP	 CAP	 CRAP
 BONE	 PHONE	 CONE	 SHARONSTONE				
 BOOK	 SPOOK	 ROOK	 HOOK				

**OH, SNAPPED!** **HOW TO SNAPPED!**

1. Shuffle all the cards so that they are randomly stacked, and then the dealer should dole each card out one at a time.
2. Look (and listen) carefully at the cards to see if the words rhyme.
3. When you hear or get the same rhyming words, shout SNAP!
4. But don't get Snap Happy: it might be tricky.
5. Also, use a slower to faster mode to increase the challenge.



# The SCARY TIMES

HALLOWEEN EDITION

21 OCTOBER 2011 - 2 NOVEMBER 2011

WWW.SCAPE.COM.SG



## EYE-POPPING 3-DIMENSIONAL HORROR AT THE \*SCAPE TAKEOVER

The scariest have banded together, issuing a stern warning to all who dare trespass The Museum of Horrors, formerly known as \*SCAPE. "Your greatest fears will come alive at The Museum of Horrors," warns a monster. Exclusive report:

1. Entrants were forced to wear glasses that made the horrors come alive!
2. Intricate sets play up to each legendary horror genre's expertise
3. Entrants were killed, tortured and dismembered live on video.



### FIRST-EVER 3D HORROR SPECTACULAR!

The heart of Orchard Rd is no longer safe for anyone.

**YOU ENTER AT YOUR OWN RISK.**

## Singapore's Scariest 3D Experience

DBS/POSB cardholders enjoy an additional 10% discount! Plus, early birds who purchase online get \$20 worth of retail vouchers while all other ticket purchases get \$10 worth of retail vouchers.

**Date:** 21 Oct - 2 Nov 2011  
**Time:** 5pm - 11pm (Mon - Thurs); 1pm - 12am (Fri - Sun)  
**Venue:** \*SCAPE Warehouse  
**Pricing:** \$19 for 21 Oct - 2 Nov (except 28 - 30 Oct); \$22 for 28 - 30 Oct  
**Tickets:** [www.scape.com.sg](http://www.scape.com.sg) (link to Gatecrash) or from \*SCAPE customer service counter

## Vampires offer free gifts in blood donation drive

Simply spend \$30 (a maximum of 2 same-day combined receipts) to qualify for a chance to win some very exciting prizes daily. In further efforts, the Vampires will be joined by \*SCAPE Zombies in a Monster Parade to drum awareness for the much-publicised Museum of Horrors takeover. Monster Parade: 7 & 8, 14 & 15, 21 & 22, 28 & 29 October. Venue: \*SCAPE Alfresco Area



THIS OCTOBER IS SCARY AT \*SCAPE  
 THE SCARY TIMES. 21 OCTOBER 2011 - 2 NOVEMBER 2011. ONLY AT \*SCAPE.

PRESENTED BY:

**\*SCAPE**  
[www.scape.com.sg](http://www.scape.com.sg)

PARTNERED BY:

**MOVIE MANIA**  
[www.moviemania.com.sg](http://www.moviemania.com.sg)

**POSB**