

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**LIVE ACTION FILMS WITH STRONG FEMALE REPRESENTATION WIN BIG  
AT THE 6<sup>TH</sup> NATIONAL YOUTH FILM AWARDS 2020**

- *"Sunday" and "Lady E's Wedding Revenge Plan" each claimed three awards in the Open Youth and Media Student categories respectively*
- *Vicki Yang, Actress of "Sunday" clinched the "Best Actress" Award*

**25 July 2020, Singapore** – Live action films with female leads emerged as the top favourites at the 6<sup>th</sup> National Youth Film Awards (NYFA) ceremony. Organised by \*SCAPE, the annual awards took place over Facebook live on Saturday and announced a total of 26 winners.

"Sunday" depicts a young woman with a full body rash, driven to violence during a forbidden encounter with her sister's boyfriend. Directed by returning NYFA participant Kris Ong and produced by Tan Si En, who has worked with industry veterans such as Anthony Chen and Kirsten Tan, the film was conferred Best Screenplay and Best Live Action in the Open Youth Category. Best Cinematography went to Lincoln Yeo, who is a returning NYFA participant and now second-time winner. 32-year-old actress Vicki Yang, who played the lead role in "Sunday", walked away with the Best Actress award.

"Lady E's Wedding Revenge Plan" written, produced, and directed by Ngee Ann Polytechnic students was awarded Best Editing, Best Director, and Best Live Action in the Media Student category. The film follows an eccentric young girl's journey to stopping her older sister's wedding due to fears of growing up.

Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, young filmmakers are still passionate about their work. During the online NYFA Conference in April 2020, the conference saw a 130 per cent increase in attendance.

*"In a time when we are still practising safe distancing, I am happy to note that our young filmmakers still strive to share stories through their craft. I hope that our young filmmakers will continue to showcase their talents and remain active in the digital space," said Sim Ann, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Communications and Information & Ministry of Culture, Community, and Youth. "In a post-Covid world, digital skills and media skills will become very important for so many sectors."*

**Animations tell a darker side of reality amongst Media Students**

Animations tackling issues such as societal pressures and suicide fared strongly in the Media Student category this year. "GUNKWORLD" gives audiences a glimpse of

modern horror as seemingly innocent cartoon characters begin to invade every aspect of life. Directed and written by Mark Chee, and sound design by Johan Rashid Jesmee of LASALLE College of the Arts, the film clinched the Best Sound Design award.

“セクシーな寿司 (Sexy Sushi)” centres around a suicide mascot's rude awakening to the true meaning of his life. Directed by Calleen Koh of LASALLE College of the Arts, the animation was recognised as Best Art Direction.

However, it was “Caught Off Guard” – a sweet, endearing story about fulfilling dreams – that clinched the Best Animation award in the Media Student category. Directed by Paul Ng of 3dsense Media School, the animation follows a security guard's dream of becoming a ballet dancer. This is also the first time a student of 3dsense Media clinched an award in NYFA.

Best Documentary was awarded to “Bhanja” by Cheong Wan Ting of Nanyang Technology University, while Best Original Music goes to Ridz Razali, composer for GurJeevaan Singh BalRose's documentary “विहोरा (Vichora)”.

“Being a NYFA jury member for the first time, it was an eye-opening experience. I am impressed by these young filmmakers' ability to offer fresh perspectives. I hope to be able to work with these youths one day, and I am looking forward to see where the next generation of filmmakers takes us,” said Actress Yeo Yann Yann shot to fame in 2013 for her striking performance in Cannes Caméra d'Or winning ‘Ilo Ilo’, directed by Anthony Chen.

### **Returning participants continue to build their careers in the Open Youth category**

Returning for the second time is 28-year-old Tan Wei Ting who won Best Editing for “Under The Same Pink Sky”. The live action film depicts a woman's life after being diagnosed with breast cancer. This is Wei Ting's second NYFA win. Her first was with her directorial debut film, CA\$H, which won Best Direction in 2018.

Andre Quek and Jerrold Chong are also returning participants of NYFA. Both directors worked with Eric Khoo on the animation – The Brown Dog – which follows a dog's struggles to survive in a harsh cruel human world. Based on a true story, the animation sound design was by Chong Xin Ying who received the Best Sound Design award.

The Best Animation goes to “看瞓 (Kua Bo)”. Directed by Ang Qing Sheng and produced by Jamin Wu, the animation follows the journey of a 60-year-old who made a mistake with the lottery results due to his cataract. The jury lauded the vivid film for capturing the Singapore heartland with surprising authenticity while taking the viewer on a trippy fantasy ride.

Earning a Special mention in the Open Youth category is Jerome Ng – an architect turned filmmaker. Proclaimed by a jury member as a “gorgeously made animation”, “*Metabolist Regeneration of a Dementia Nation*” documents the lives of a series of residents living in Golden Mile Complex, urging the audience to resist the power structures that would see urban memories erased.

The full list of winners can be found in ANNEX A.

### **Inviting opportunities**

Up to six filmmakers from this year's winners will stand a chance to embark on a learning journey at the SeaShorts Film Festival which will be going online. The shortlisted filmmakers will have the chance to showcase their film at the festival as part of a NYFA showcase, have post-show dialogues with audience and fellow filmmakers in the region, and gain access to all films, masterclasses, and forums throughout the entire festival period. This opportunity is part of NYFA's continuous efforts to offer young talents a multitude of exposure, gain regional film festival experience, and foster collaborations with other like-minded filmmakers.

The NYFA alumni from 2019 and 2020 will also be invited to pitch their stories where five teams will be given seed funding to produce a short film each.

“NYFA has recognised over 700 young, aspiring filmmakers since 2015. Some have become renown directors or producers, representing Singapore at regional or international film festivals. Others have ventured to start their own film studios,” said Goh Kok Wee, Executive Director of \*SCAPE. “NYFA will continue to be the national platform that fuels the passion for “Singapore-flavoured” filmmaking, and provide our young filmmakers with opportunities to further develop and exhibit their talents.”

This year's winners will also walk away with sponsored prizes worth over \$70,000. The full list of prizes can be found in ANNEX B.

### **For media enquiries, please contact:**

ADK Connect for \*SCAPE  
Rachelle Tan / Debbie Song  
9011 0055 / 8360 9705  
[scapepr@adk.com.sg](mailto:scapepr@adk.com.sg)

### About \*SCAPE

\*SCAPE Co. Ltd is a non-profit organisation with its mission and vision rooted in support of youth, talent and leadership development. The organisation aims to facilitate youth-oriented programmes and support within various communities of youth interest in Singapore. The youth of today will be inspired and empowered to **DREAM IT AND LIVE IT at \*SCAPE!**

\*SCAPE exists to serve and support youths to live their dreams and realise their full potentials. As the integrated talent and resource hub for young people in Singapore, \*SCAPE offers a holistic network of programmes, communities, partners and facilities for youths to explore, create and strive. No dream is too small, no dream is too big. \*SCAPE wants youths to be inspired to come forward and share their interests, share their dreams. Through guidance and facilitation, \*SCAPE wants to see their dreams turn into ideas, and ideas into reality. Living their dreams should no longer be a dream at \*SCAPE.



@scapesg #scapesg

[www.scape.sg](http://www.scape.sg)

### About National Youth Film Awards

Since its inception in 2015, NYFA has been cultivating a community of like-minded media enthusiasts and is the connecting point for youths to network and collaborate.

Through NYFA, some of our alumni have been commissioned for various video campaigns by corporate and industry partners such as Adobe, PAVE and SONY.

Together with industry partners, veterans, and institutes of higher learning, the NYFA programme is designed to spark deeper conversations amongst like-minded individuals and hone their crafts in filmmaking. NYFA supports artistic works from both aspiring and professional filmmakers and is committed to nurture the aspiration, vision, and creative spirit of these youths.

## ANNEX A: WINNERS

### Media Student Category

Film (Type)	Logline	Award	Winner	School	Anecdotes / interesting points
GUNKWORLD (Animation)	Cult cartoon characters become increasingly popular but something is going on behind the scenes...	Best Sound Design	Johan Rashid Jesmee	Lasalle College of the Arts	
セクシーな寿司 (Sexy Sushi) (Animation)	A suicide mascot's rude awakening to the true meaning of his life.	Best Art Direction	Calleen Koh Yee Lin	Lasalle College of the Arts	
Lady E's Wedding Revenge Plan (Live Action)	An eccentric young girl, frightened by the fears of growing up, tries to stop her older sister's wedding.	Best Editing	Rios Morales Carlos Antonio	Ngee Ann Polytechnic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Idea stemmed from Kathleen's childhood</li> <li>The film was a way to honour the time she spent with her sister</li> </ul>
		Best Director	Kathleen Bu Rui Xuan		
		Best Live Action	Niger Lim		

Film (Type)	Logline	Award	Winner	School	Anecdotes / interesting points
Elephant in the Room (Documentary)	Two years prior to the death of his father, a son takes over the mantle of caring for the elephant that killed his father.	Best Cinematography	Kayson Lau	Lasalle College of the Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The original intention of the film was to speak about the impact of elephant tourism</li> <li>This changed during the research process where the team began to empathise with both the elephants and their caretakers</li> </ul>

Film (Type)	Logline	Award	Winner	School	Anecdotes / interesting points
The Greatest Adventure to Nowhere (Live Action)	After cluelessly mourning the passing of his grandfather, 7-year-old Ethan is determined to die to get to this better place in the afterlife his parents speak of, in their attempt of explaining what death really is. He tries to light himself up like a christmas tree in his bathtub the way his grandfather did, but he needs a little help (because the socket is too far).	Best Screenplay	Kylen Ho	Nanyang Technological University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The team had to move post-production online due to circuit breaker</li> </ul>
ਵਿਛੋੜਾ (Vichora) (Documentary)	A docudrama on Sikh, Muslim and Hindu families sharing how they survived during the breakout news when British India Empire was partitioned into India and Pakistan in 1947.	Best Original Music	Ridz Razali	Lasalle College of the Arts	

Film (Type)	Logline	Award	Winner	School	Anecdotes / interesting points
Bhanja (Documentary)	Following a Bhanja who was raised in Singapore, we explore his struggles of balancing between his Nepalese and Singaporean identities while uncovering the multi-layered meaning of home.	Best Documentary	Cheong Wan Ting	Nanyang Technological University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The crew of four members went to Nepal for the shoot</li> <li>While it was cold, they were met with warmth hospitality of the locals</li> </ul>
Caught Off Guard (Animation)	A security guard's dream of becoming a ballet dancer.	Best Animation	Paul Ng Kwok Yang	3dsense Media School	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This is the first time a 3dsense Media School student has won an award in NYFA.</li> </ul>



Film (Type)	Logline	Award	Winner	School	Anecdotes / interesting points
Baby Boy (Documentary)	At a major crossroads in his life, a 17-year-old ex-gang member struggles to change as he wrestles with strands of his abused past and ongoing family tension.	Special Mention	Bambby Cheuk & Toby Wu	Nanyang Technological University	

**Open Youth Category**

Film (Type)	Logline	Award	Winner	Anecdotes / interesting points
Sunday (Live action)	A young woman with a full body rash is driven to violence during a forbidden encounter with her sister's boyfriend.	Best Screenplay	Kris Ong	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kris Ong is a returning participant of NYFA (Her previous film, "You Idiot", won three awards in 2019 but this is her first personal win)</li> </ul>
		Best Cinematography	Lincoln Yeo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lincoln Yeo is a returning participant of NYFA (He won Best Cinematography in NYFA 2019 for "You Idiot" which was also directed by Kris Ong)</li> </ul>
		Best Live Action	Tan Si En	
The Brown Dog (Animation)	A brown dog, with a severed foreleg, struggles to survive amidst a harsh cruel human world.	Best Sound Design	Chong Xin Ying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The animation is based on a true story</li> <li>The team used a combination of live-action backgrounds with animated characters to show the separation between dog and how it feels about the harsh urban environment.</li> </ul>

Film (Type)	Logline	Award	Winner	Anecdotes / interesting points
Still Standing (Live action)	When uniform high-rise government housing began sprouting up in newly-independent Singapore, a young and idealistic architect Tan Cheng Siong aims to bring the “kampong spirit” back into the city sky with the Pearl Bank Apartments, only to be faced with struggles he never imagined.	Best Art Direction	Hanning Yap	
Under The Same Pink Sky (Live action)	As a breast cancer diagnosis shatters a woman's life, an encounter with a kind stranger has a ripple effect on both their lives.	Best Editing	Tan Wei Ting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tan Wei Ting is a returning participant of NYFA (Her directorial debut for CA\$H won her best direction in 2018)</li> </ul>
		Best Director	Gladys Ng	

Film (Type)	Logline	Award	Winner	Anecdotes / interesting points
Class Mates (Animation)	Two classmates, two worlds. They may share the same class, but their stories are vastly different.	Best Original Music	Vivien Yap & Nigel Cheah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vivien Yap is a local poet and singer-songwriter.</li> </ul>
The Believers (Documentary)	Documentary film on rituals of the secular and religious, in search of an underlying humanity.	Best Documentary	Dave Lim	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dave Lim is a returning participant of NYFA</li> </ul>
看瞓 (Kua Bo) (Animation)	60-year-old Tat Chuan made a mistake with the lottery results due to his cataract.	Best Animation	Jamin Wu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The team had to convince an Eye Specialist Centre to allow them to physically observe a cataract surgery</li> </ul>
Metabolist Regeneration of a Dementia Nation (Animation)	This animated film documents the lives of a series of Golden Mile residents, urging us all to resist the power structures that would see our urban memories so readily erased.	Special Mention	Jerome Xin Hao Ng	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jerome is an architect turned filmmaker</li> </ul>

**Best Actor and Actress**

Film (Type)	Logline	Award	Winner	Anecdotes / interesting points
What We May Be (Live Action)	An ex-convict of substance abuse tries to win his 9-year-old son over and reintegrate himself into society.	Best Actor	Aric Hidir Amin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aric has worked with Eric Khoo, Boo Junfeng for Folklore - a HBO original horror anthology series</li> </ul>
Sunday (Live Action)	A young woman with a full body rash is driven to violence during a forbidden encounter with her sister's boyfriend.	Best Actress	Vicki Yang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Vicki is a 32-year-old actress who has worked with Director Daniel Hui for "Demons"</li> </ul>

**Youth Inspiration Award**

Recipient	Anecdotes / interesting points
Huang Jun Xiang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jun Xiang is a law student turned filmmaker</li> <li>He has produced films including Eric Khoo's Ramen Teh (2018), Mike Wiluan's Buffalo Boys (2018) and the acclaimed film Apprentice (2019) by Boo Junfeng</li> </ul>

## ANNEX B: PRIZES

S/N	Media Student Category	Prizes
1	Best Sound Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>2-day Short Film Final Cinema Mix in Dolby-certified dubbing theatre (including theatrical &amp; online deliverables) worth \$7,000 presented by Mocha Chai Laboratories</li> <li>Sound Blaster X3 worth \$189 presented by Creative</li> </ul>
2	Best Original Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>Creative SXFI TRIO worth \$199 presented by Creative</li> </ul>
3	Best Art Direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>\$400 Cathay Photo Accessories Voucher presented by Cathay Photo</li> </ul>
4	Best Editing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>One year's subscription of Red Giant Complete worth S\$835 presented by Red Giant</li> <li>Intuos Med Bluetooth worth \$290 presented by Wacom</li> </ul>
5	Best Cinematography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>\$500 Cathay Photo Accessories Voucher presented by Cathay Photo</li> <li>Sony a7SII worth \$4299 presented by Sony</li> </ul>
6	Best Screenplay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>Script consultations and complimentary membership worth \$500 presented by Screenwriters Association (Singapore)</li> </ul>

S/N	Media Student Category	Prizes
7	Best Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$1000 Cash</li> <li>• 1 x DCP + the winner's film to be made available on apple tv / iTunes movie store for purchase and rent - TVOD) worth S\$2000 presented by Mocha Chai Laboratories</li> </ul>
8	Best Live Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$1000 Cash</li> <li>• \$300 Cathay Photo Accessories Voucher presented by Cathay Photo</li> </ul>
9	Best Animation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$1000 Cash</li> <li>• 50% off scholarship for Dip./Adv. Dip. for 3D animation worth \$7,500 presented by Mages Institute of Excellence</li> <li>• Intuos Med Bluetooth worth \$290 presented by Wacom</li> </ul>
10	Best Documentary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$1000 Cash</li> <li>• \$500 Cathay Photo Accessories Voucher presented by Cathay Photo</li> <li>• One year's subscription of Red Giant Complete worth S\$835 presented by Red Giant</li> </ul>

S/N	Open Youth Category	Prizes
1	Best Sound Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>Sound Blaster X3 worth \$189 presented by Creative</li> </ul>
2	Best Original Music	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>Creative SXFI TRIO worth \$199 presented by Creative</li> </ul>
3	Best Art Direction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>\$400 Cathay Photo Accessories Voucher presented by Cathay Photo</li> </ul>
4	Best Editing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>One year's subscription of Red Giant Complete worth S\$835 presented by Red Giant</li> <li>Intuos Med Bluetooth worth \$290 presented by Wacom</li> </ul>
5	Best Cinematography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>\$500 Cathay Photo Accessories Voucher presented by Cathay Photo</li> <li>Sony a6600M camera (body + SEL18135 lens) worth \$2449 presented by Sony</li> </ul>
6	Best Screenplay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>Script consultations and complimentary membership worth \$500 presented by Screenwriters Association (Singapore)</li> </ul>
7	Best Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>1 x DCP + the winner's film to be made available on apple tv / iTunes movie store for purchase and rent - TVOD) worth S\$2000 presented by Mocha Chai Laboratories</li> </ul>



S/N	Open Youth Category	Prizes
8	Best Live Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>Short Film Online Colourgrading cum DCP package worth \$10,000 presented by Mocha Chai Laboratories</li> </ul>
9	Best Animation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>50% off scholarship for Dip./Adv. Dip. for 3D animation worth \$7,500 presented by Mages Institute of Excellence</li> <li>Intuos Med Bluetooth worth \$290 presented by Wacom</li> </ul>
10	Best Documentary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>\$300 Cathay Photo Accessories Voucher presented by Cathay Photo</li> <li>One year's subscription of Red Giant Complete worth \$835 presented by Red Giant</li> </ul>

S/N	Actor and Actress	Prizes
1	Best Actor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>The Actors' Society membership (valid till 31st Dec 2021) worth \$75 presented by The Actors' Society</li> </ul>
2	Best Actress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$1000 Cash</li> <li>The Actors' Society membership (valid till 31st Dec 2021) worth \$75 presented by The Actors' Society</li> </ul>