



NUS Rag and Flag 2011

Every year on a day in early August, students from all faculties at the National University of Singapore (NUS), dressed in the same t-shirts, spill onto the streets of Singapore. The students dot every corner of the city, each holding a white donation tin. It is indeed a sight to behold. This event is the NUS Students' Union (NUSSU) Flag Day, where the entire NUS student body goes forth in a combined effort to raise funds for charity, and has become an important and memorable part of each student's freshman year in NUS. All donations collected during Flag Day, held on 3 August this year, will be fully channelled to 24 beneficiary organisations that have been adopted by NUSSU.

In addition to Flag Day, there is also Rag Day. Students from each faculty spend months constructing floats and rehearsing performances to put up a dazzling show on Rag Day. It highlights the creativity and diversity of the different faculties in NUS, reflecting the fine balance that the students strike between work and play, and is also a gesture of appreciation to the donors who have contributed on Flag Day. In conjunction with our nation's 46th birthday, Rag Day was held at the Promontory @ Marina Bay on 9 August this year.

Rag performers from YLLSoM

The Rhythm of Life

Rag

By Teo Ting Zhang and Chloe Ting

"Dancing to the Rhythm of Life" – that was the theme of the Rag Day performance that we put up at the Promontory @ Marina Bay on National Day itself, which helped us clinch the first runners-up position for Best Performance.

Attempting to make our performance one that was more relatable to Medicine, we constructed a larger than life thorax along with other medical equipment for our float. Alongside were the all familiar Netter's *Atlas of Human Anatomy* and the schedule for interview letter that all of us once anxiously awaited to arrive in our mailboxes. They were also built to rotate and display two amazing x-rays drawn with just chalk on black paint.

As the overall theme for Rag Day this year was "Experience NUS", our performance took the five years of university life for a Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine (YLLSoM) student and condensed it into a vibrant seven-minute performance, ending with a graduation ceremony where we put on the famous white coats. It was undoubtedly an emotional moment for all of us when we saw our hard work come to fruition.

As such, we would like to thank everyone who has made our Rag performance a possibility, and helped us in one way or another. Firstly, to our Dean, Prof John Wong, who took time off despite his busy schedule and rushed down from the airport just to support our performance. Also, to Dean Designate A/Prof Yeoh Khay Guan, who also took time off to give us the encouragement that we really needed.

Thanks also go out to the faculty members and our beloved professors and teachers, as well as the staff members who came down to cheer us on despite it being a holiday. A big thanks goes out to the NUS Medical Society and our seniors, especially



YLLSoM's performance on Rag Day

the President and Vice-President, Mayank and Benjamin, who gave us invaluable help and guidance.

Finally, we are most thankful for the committee and each and everyone who lent us a helping hand and made everything possible. We hope that everyone enjoyed themselves to the fullest throughout this process, and continue to keep the memories made and friendships forged from this wonderful experience. **SMA**



Teo Ting Zhang (left) and Chloe Ting are second year students at YLLSoM.

Flag

By Nathanael Foong

On 3 August this year, freshmen from NUS poured into the streets of Singapore in an appeal for donations for 24 charities, as part of NUS Flag Day 2011. YLLSoM also played a part to help the needy and managed to raise more than \$20,000 for the charities.

Following the approach adopted by the previous Flag Committee, this year's Flag Day efforts included reaching out to alumni working in healthcare, the corporate environment and the public in a multi-faceted effort to raise as much money as possible. The Flag Committee also expanded its effort in fundraising by reaching out to schools and ministries.

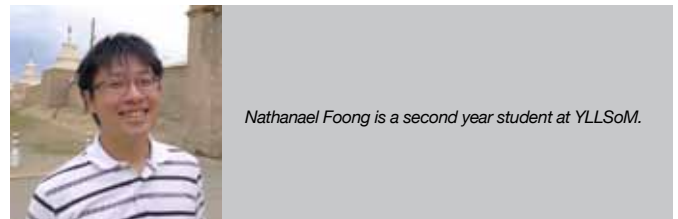
Planning Flag Day has been a tiring process, involving many, many late nights, countless phone calls and trips to meet with potential donors and sponsors. Despite this, we believe that our efforts have not gone to waste, and we are happy to have been able to do our part for the 24 charities. As Rag and Flag 2011 comes to a close, we believe that our successors will always remember the needy, and put in their best efforts in making a difference in their lives through Flag Day.

There are several groups of people who have supported us along the way, without which Flag Day 2011 would certainly not have been possible:

- Firstly, the medical and nursing students who went out to garner donations for the adopted charities. We hope you have had an enriching experience.
- Our Rag and Flag predecessors, who set a high standard to follow and were always there for advice.
- The Rag and Flag 2011 Committee whom we have worked with, and especially for helping out during manpower shortages.
- The NUS Medical Society and the YLLSoM Dean's Office for their logistical support.

- Last but not least, our donors and supporters for their kind support and generous donations which will definitely go a long way in making a difference to those that need our help. They include:

- Dr Ana Patricia Alcasabas
- Dr Chai Ping
- Mr Chia Soo Keng
- A/Prof Chow Yeow Leng
- Mr Gan Kim Yong
- A/Prof K Rajendran
- Dr Gerald Koh Choon Huat
- Dr Lee Le Ye
- A/Prof Aymeric Lim
- Prof Tan Eng Chye
- Prof John Wong
- Bukit Panjang Government High School
- Clementi Primary School
- Hwa Chong Institution
- Nan Hua High School
- Pei Tong Primary School
- St Margaret's School
- Raffles Institution
- Jurong Health Services Pte Ltd (JurongHealth)
- Singapore General Hospital
- Singapore Health Services Pte Ltd (SingHealth)
- Thomson Medical Centre **SMA**



Nathanael Foong is a second year student at YLLSoM.



YLLSoM students doing their bit for charity on Flag Day