

Merit awards given to talented youths and the young at heart



Back in secondary school, Jack Png was what people might call a ‘trouble student’. He was more interested in scoring goals in football than exploring the fascinating world of physics. But at 47-year-old, Jack is now an accomplished graphic designer and a merit award recipient of the Singapore 2010 Logo Design Competition.

He attributed his success to his teacher in his secondary school who always knew that he had a creative streak in him. With her encouragement, he applied to an arts school and has been in the design field for 25 years.

Jack joined the competition because of his enthusiasm for sports and talent for design. “Because this subject - sports - was close to my heart, I had the inspiration to come up with a colourful representation of the future stars of the nation. “They will shine here in this great sporting arena and will continue to strive for distinction on a bigger stage,” he said.

Although his logo was not selected as the official logo for the Singapore Youth Olympic Games, Jack felt that his work has been given due recognition. “My effort has been worthwhile and the merit award has reassured me that my work is still relevant. I am still able to keep up with the times alongside the inspiring work from the youths.”

He was not the only one who thought the youths’ works were very impressive. Berwin See, 47, a creative director, also felt that having to compete against the youths was a challenge. Out of the more than 1800 entries received from 44 different countries, about 54% came from youths.

Among the youth merit awardees was Iffah Dahiyah, a 20-year-old student from NTU. The three-dimensional look of her “Olympic Torch” logo awed the judges. She hoped the value of Olympism could be brought to life as she used “deliberate and energetic strokes of lines” in her design.

View the top 100 designs, including the ten merit award designs, on the SYOGOC website at www.singapore2010.sg/logo.