

Image credit:

Steady Stash, Ho Ying Yun, Nurul 'Asyiqin Binti Amir, Pwee Oon Lin Natalin (Year 3 Students)  
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Design Practice  
Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts

# Highlights of NAFA 2024/2025

2024/2025 was a significant year for the Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts (NAFA) and the University of the Arts Singapore (UAS), marked by outstanding achievements, meaningful collaborations, and impactful contributions to the arts and design community locally and across the region.

NAFA students continued to excel on the global stage. Their work won multiple Gold awards including a Best of Category Win and 22 Bronze awards across various disciplines at the Crowbar Awards in 2024. The wins continued at the SILA Student Design Awards 2024 where NAFA landscape and architecture students clinched both the COEN Design Award (Gold) and ONG & ONG Award for Social Impact. In 2025, NAFA students continued their success, bagging the D&AD New Blood Awards 2025 in advertising and design.



The Crowbar Awards 2024, Chang Kai-Ju and Chang Kai-Chu (BA (Hons) Design Practice) – Gold in Activation & Social (Best of Category – Digital/Innovation)



To support the elderly community in Singapore, NAFA students participated and won the top prize in the Visa Financial Inclusion Designathon 2024, developing a creative payment solution with added location tracking and text notification to support dementia sufferers. Success continued at the School of Design where students took part in the prestigious event that challenges designers to explore the theme “Seat for the Future” which focuses on sustainability and social impact, and won the ASEAN Furniture Design Award 2025.

As part of its mission to research arts, NAFA’s Southeast Asian Arts Forum partnered with ADPRex in 2024 and held a conference to exchange ideas and insights about global challenges disrupting art-making. This conference coincided with the NAFA-UOB Southeast Asian Arts Forum, which featured vibrant performances and digital projects, launching the Southeast Asian Arts Alliance to further regional collaboration.

The academy also welcomed former Minister for Education Mr Chan Chun Sing and Senior Parliamentary Secretary Mr Shawn Huang in 2024, where they explored the creativity and innovation of NAFA’s fusion of art, technology, and sustainable design. This included an immersive 360-degree music installation, AR-enhanced Chinese ink paintings, and an educational game developed for the Children’s Museum Singapore.



Visa Financial Inclusion Designathon, BA Design Practice Year 2 students – Michelle Angeline Sutandi, Maria Felicia, Van Rene Rasmei, and Keane Tay



Dialogue session with presenters from across Southeast Asia at the NAFA-UOB Southeast Asian Arts Forum, sharing their diverse perspectives and thoughts on the theme of discussion.



NAFA faculty, students, and alumni with distinguished guests from the Ministry of Education, including Minister for Education, Mr Chan Chun Sing, Senior Parliamentary Secretary, Mr Shawn Huang, and colleagues from the University of the Arts Singapore.



In celebration of Singapore's birthday last year, NAFA students and alumni also designed costumes for the performers and hosts of the 59th National Day Parade.

2025 saw stronger industry ties and partnerships with the renewal of an MOU between NAFA and Singapore Chinese Orchestra to nurture the Singapore Chinese music ecosystem through a range of internships, masterclasses, and performances.

Looking ahead, as NAFA prepares for its centennial celebration, the academy continues to seek new and innovative ways to transform arts education, empower budding artists, and forge partnerships to create social impact through art and design. The rejuvenation of the NAFA campus buildings will create vibrant, future-ready spaces that preserve its heritage while nurturing the next generation of creative leaders across Singapore and the region.

Celebrate our **2024/2025 achievements** with us.



59th National Day Parade costumes designed by Diploma in Fashion Design alumni Max Tan.



Student performer at Campus Rhapsody SCO-NAFA MOU Signing

“My time at NAFA was a truly meaningful journey. It was filled with challenges, but even more with opportunities to grow and overcome them...Through its strong connections, NAFA gave me the chance to present my craft on a global stage and supported my education beyond the classroom with overseas learning opportunities.”

**Muhammad Raihan Syahmi Bin Abdul Hadi**  
Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Design Practice,  
Nanyang Academy of Fine Arts, 2025