

Advertising feature

THE NATIONAL SCIENCE CHALLENGE 2014

Singapore's premier science competition returns for its 11th edition filled with knowledge, intelligence and teamwork!

From the 16 secondary schools, three emerged victorious after overcoming all manner of challenges in the Grand Finals, which tested the extent of their scientific knowledge, as well as their nerves in front of a live audience. Our heartiest congratulations to the Grand Winner and all the outstanding teams who braved the Challenge.



Grand Winner

Though thoroughly prepared and full of great chemistry that could only arise from true friendship, the winning team from Raffles Institution still had to contend with the new format of the competition this year, and strong efforts from rival teams. Tan Li Kang, 15, recalls, "During our training sessions, we learnt how each other worked and how we could complement each other's strengths and weaknesses. Still, we were quite unsure of what to expect, and as the competition progressed, we met many strong contenders and resolved to focus on tackling the problems to the best of our abilities, making friends, and enjoying the process!"

What could be more rewarding than the Grand Winner's Trophy? Li Kang has this to say, "NSC 2014 was filled with learning opportunities and with great people who were enthusiastic in teaching and guiding us. It has kept us open to the possibilities of science that are unfolding before us every moment of every day, and to pursue the spirit of scientific inquiry even in simple and everyday things."



First Runner-Up

Beyond the thrill of competing and testing their abilities under the pressure of a live audience, Belle Sow, 15, from the NUS High School of Math and Science, acknowledges that the greatest takeaways for her team were the opportunity to experience hands-on learning and the privilege of enjoying her school's support. Says Belle, "We learnt many wonderful things, like the awesome experience of visiting a microfluidics laboratory and other research centres. We were touched by the support of our schoolmates and learnt that we must never doubt ourselves, or hesitate to pursue our dreams."



Second Runner-Up

Looking back at the competition, Jeremiah Ong Ray, 15, maintains that his team from the School of Science and Technology did well to focus not on their rivals, but on doing their best with the challenges in front of them. Looking ahead, he is filled with optimism for the role of science in Singapore's future. He enthused, "Science has been an important factor in Singapore's development and growth; as such, we are now a small but significant research and development hub in the region. This could only have been possible with citizens who have the interest and aptitude in science and its fields."

Raffles Institution



NUS High School of Math and Science



School of Science and Technology



Judges

Launched in 2004, the National Science Challenge aims to promote science among students and the local public. It is jointly organised by the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A*STAR) and the Science Centre Singapore, with support from the Ministry of Education. We are honoured to have the following esteemed panel of judges to officiate this year's Grand Final:



Dr Shawn Hoon
Molecular Engineering Lab,
A*STAR



Professor Jackie Y. Ying
Executive Director, Institute of
Bioengineering and Nanotechnology



Dr John Yong Ming Shyan
Director, SIMTech

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