

11TH ANNUAL REPORT 2006 / 2007

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DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION (SINGAPORE)

Message from the Chairman

Dear members, supporters and friends,

Thank you very much for your support and participation in DSA programs, services and activities.

I have the privilege and honor to officially announce that Mr. Tan Soo Khoon, ex-Speaker of Parliament has kindly accepted our invitation to be DSA's patron, for a period of 2 years starting Aug 2007. All of us are delighted that together with advisors, Dr S Vasoo and Dr Balbir Singh, DSA will get the guidance and support to continue to strive to be the Centre for Excellence for people with Down syndrome.

Through the collective efforts of present and past DSA Board members, members, staff, parents, volunteers, supporters and the government, we have made very positive contributions to improve the quality of life of people with Down syndrome. over the past 11 years.

DSA started out by providing parent support. Over the years we expanded our services to provide enrichment programs. Our Speech & Drama, Fusion Dance, Creative Dance and sports enjoy continued and strong participation by members.

The participants have benefited from these enrichment programs and have been invited to many performances with a two-fold objective to promote awareness about Down syndrome and to also show off their talents and abilities.

The present Board aims to build upon the excellent work of the previous Boards of Management. Our immediate focus will be to strengthen one of our more recently established pillar of services – Education and Support Services covering education, support, integration of children with Down syndrome and for the adults. We need to review and adopt the best practices from others around the globe and supplemented with research and pilot projects push the boundaries further. For adults with Down syndrome, we recognized a vast need to develop and establish social enterprises to provide gainful employment, in addition to our attempts in searching for supported open employment opportunities.

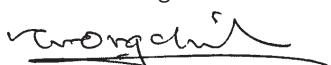
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I believe that the next decade promises even better opportunities to accomplish the above because at the national level more key policies and initiatives are being put into place. Some of these are the Enabling Master Plan, enhancing the Financial Security of people with special needs and Mental Capacity Bill etc.

DSA needs more people, who believe in its vision and mission - to come forward to renew the DSA Board of Management, enlarge the Specialist Advisory Board and organizing committees. These additions and renewal are critical because achieving the DSA vision and mission is a long journey - a marathon.

I thank you again for your support and look forward to your continued support and participation on the DSA Board and committees.

Warmest regards



Ong Chin Wah
Chairman

DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION (SINGAPORE)

Secretary's Report

It is my pleasure to present the 11th Annual Report of Down Syndrome Association (Singapore) for the period from 01 September 2006 to 30 September 2007

The Down Syndrome Association (Singapore) was registered with the Registrar of Societies on 16 September 1996 and registered as a charity with effect from 17 January 1997 under the Charities Act,1994 (Registration no.1229). Since 4 July 1997, we acquired full membership with NCSS and were granted IPC (Institute of Public Character) status with the Central Fund. All outright donations are tax-deductible.

Vision To be the Centre of Excellence for persons with Down syndrome and their families.

Mission Develop individuals with Down syndrome and their families through life long learning
Support families through specialist services, information and education.
Advocate for equal opportunities, quality of life and their contribution to society.

Patron: Mr. Tan Soo Khoon

Advisors: Dr. S Vasoo
Dr. Balbir Singh

Board of Management

Chairman	Mr. Ong Chin Wah
Deputy Chairman	Mr. Dennis Tang
Honorary Secretary	Mr. Ratnasabapathy Sivanandam
Honorary Treasurer	Mr. Khairul Alam
Board Member	Ms. Patricia Ho
Board Member	Ms. Lia Delvia Marahusin
Board Member	Ms. Jean Wang
Board Member	Mr. Roderick Tan
Board Member	Mr. Peter Seow
Board Member	Mr. Sivaraj Mahaindra
Immediate Past Chairperson	Ms. Kristin Van Burm

Specialist Advisory Board

Medical Advisor	Dr. Bhavani Sriram
Legal Advisor	Mrs. Christine Sekhon
Children Education / Research	Prof. Levan Lim
Children Education / Research	Ms. Thana Thevar

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Staff of DSA

Executive Director	Dr. Saba Iqbal
Assistant Director ESS	Mr. Moses Lee
Research Coordinator	Mr. Timothy Chan
Senior Executive Events and Fundraising	Ms. Pauline Cheong
Social Worker	Mr. Ronald Castro
Program Executive	Mr. Daniel Su Han
Special Education Teacher	Ms. Melissa Loh
Special Education Teacher	Ms. Myra Agasen
Special Education Teacher	Ms. Ng Su Li
Accounts / Human resource Officer	Ms. Fatimah Bibi
Fundraising / Events Coordinator	Ms. Lavannya Elangovan
Education and Support Services Coordinator	Ms. Linda De Cruz
Training Officer	Ms. Gillian Boon Sok Peng
Training Officer	Ms. Loh Foong Peng
Program Coordinator	Mdm. Nallamah Siva

Instructors

Bowling	Mr. Tan Kim Joo
Creative Dance	Mr. Shawn Akira Lau
Speech and Drama	Ms. Jean Ng and Mr. Julius Foo
Fusion Dance	Ms. Kavitha Krishnan
Swimming	Mr. Melvin Cheong
Soccer	Mr. Balachandran

Board Meeting

A total of 12 board meetings were held during this period.

Representation to various organizations and Boards/Executive Committees.

Dr. Balbir Singh	Down Syndrome International/APDSF
Mrs. Christine Sekhon	Legal Council
Ms. Kristin Van Burm	SDSC/APDSF/IASSID
Ms. Jean Wang	Special Olympics Singapore

DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION (SINGAPORE)

Members/Affiliations

AFMR (Asian Federation of Mental Retardation)
 APDSF (Asia Pacific Down Syndrome Federation)
 Down Syndrome Educational Trust - Portsmouth
 DSI (Down Syndrome International)
 IASSID (International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual Disabilities)
 NCSS (National Council of Social Service)
 NDSS (National Down Syndrome Society) New York
 Singapore Disability Sports Council
 Special Olympics Singapore

Membership

The current membership as at 30 September 2007 stands as follows:

a. 167 Life members	c. 91 Associate Members
b. 83 Ordinary Members	d. 67 Family Members Total Membership: 408

Addresses and Contacts

DSA Centre

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 E-mail: admin@downsyndrome-singapore.org

DSA @ J8

Junction 8 (Office Tower)
 9 Bishan Place, #06-04, Singapore 579837
 Tel: 62556112 Fax: 62550337
 Website: www.downsyndrome-singapore.org

R Sivanandam
 Honorary Secretary

Lia Delvia Marahusin
 Asst. Honorary Secretary

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Treasurer's Report

We began the year 2006 with new goals and aspirations to improve our services. We embarked on this challenging journey with renewed energy and vigor.

The key milestones in financial terms are:

- Developed partnerships with corporations and organizations such as HDB Club, ICAP, CB Richard Ellis, ISG and UPS. We were also chosen as one of the beneficiaries for the President's Challenge 2007.
- Brought DSA Financial operations to a new height by revising the Accounting and Financial Procedures. This is done to ascertain better financial controls in view of the new guidelines for IPCs.

Although we progressed but it was not easy as we encountered a number of setbacks on our way. We had to tap on our financial reserves in the second half of the year because of the high staff cost and postponing of fundraising activities to the next financial year. The funding from NCSS for the Adult Enhancement Program was discontinued and additional expenses were incurred due to expansion of the Education Support Services for Children.

On behalf of the Association. I would like to thank our book keeper Curtin Reeaz Management and our Auditors PG Wee & Partners for providing their professional services.

We begin Financial Year 2007- 2008 with new resolutions and a renewed commitment to raise the performance bar. Our priorities for 2007 are:

1. Improve staff competencies through structured Training Programs by allocating a training budget.
2. Set up a social enterprise (a business with a social mission) in the form of a thrift shop. This will provide training and employment opportunities to adults with Down syndrome.
3. Secure Recurrent Funding from NCSS for the Adult Enhancement Program. Explore other funding options and innovative ways of raising funds. Nurture relationships with our supporters and donors as well as develop new partnerships with high net worth individuals and corporations who share our passion to serve people with Down syndrome.

While our Association counts on the continuous generous support of its well wishers and supporters, I hope that the members would come forward to lend their support to DSA to raise funds as well as to create public awareness of our services to the DS Community in Singapore.

Khairul Alam Bin Mohd Zaini
Honorary Treasurer

Patricia Ho
Asst. Honorary Treasurer

DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION (SINGAPORE)

Fundraising Report

Down Syndrome Association (Singapore) [DSA] celebrated a major milestone in 2006 with its year-long 10th Anniversary celebrations. The highlight of which was a Charity Gala Dinner held on its anniversary – 16 September at the Meritus Mandarin Hotel. This was both a fundraiser and a means to thank long-standing donors, supporters and volunteers of the Association. A commemorative book on the history and achievements of DSA and its members was launched by Mr Teo Chee Hean – Minister of Defence and Guest of Honor for the evening.

DSA, along with other Voluntary Welfare Organisations (VWO), continue to face an uphill battle in the search for funding. This has not been made any easier with the negative publicity on certain VWOs. Despite all this, DSA remains grateful to the individuals, foundations and corporations who continue to believe in DSA's cause and support it wholeheartedly. Notable are Mrs Uma Balji for organising the fundraiser - "IA Platinum Awards for Indian Women" which saw over \$71,000 being raised for DSA; Corporations who have made sizeable donations to DSA - The National Forwarder (S'pore) Pte Ltd; LFI (Singapore) Pte Ltd; Stalwart support from staff and students of NTU, SMU, Singapore Polytechnic, Temasek Polytechnic and Lee Foundation, a committed supporter of DSA whose assistance has enabled the publication of the Commemorative book thus turning it into a reality for DSA and Kwan Im Thong Hood Cho Temple for believing in DSA's educational pursuits. Noteworthy are also the many individuals such as Mr Desmond Decker, Mr Lim Boon Kheng, Ms Poon Wai Hing and Mr Lim Junhan who continue to donate to DSA regularly over the years.

No donation is too small and we acknowledge the contributions of all donors and supporters who have given their all. It is their unstinting support which we cherish and gives us hope that the same compassion and generosity exists in the human spirit.

This financial year saw a change in management with a new Board of Management elected on 27 January 2007. We thank the outgoing Chair of Fundraising, Mr Pritpal Singh, for his contributions and tireless efforts in raising funds for DSA over the last two years. Both Peter and myself, embrace the challenges we face as we, together with our fellow Board Members and staff, look to the changing landscape of the social service sector and the growing needs of our members which translates to an increasing amount of funds required to operate current programmes and services and establish new ones.

As we take the first of many steps ahead we extend out our hand to you. You can refer personal contacts from organisations and individuals who will contribute because of you or work with us on a Fundraising project to raise the charity dollars.

Together, we can make a difference to the lives of people with Down syndrome.

Roderick Tan

Peter Seow

Second World Down Syndrome Day



The second World Down Syndrome Day (WDSD) was commemorated in Singapore on Sunday, 25 March 2007 at the Bishan Community Library. The theme for this year was "Celebrating Diversity", to continue creating awareness about Down syndrome and promote acceptance of diversity.

DSA took this outreach programme to the heartlands of Bishan to share information on Down syndrome. DSA has been building on its efforts of creating an inclusive community, one that welcomes and embraces diversity into our lives through the partnerships with various educational institutions, associations and the community.

The objectives of this event were:

- To celebrate the lives and abilities of all people with Down syndrome through a showcase of performances such as dance and skits performed by talented children with Down syndrome
- Continuously create awareness amongst the public about Down syndrome and to promote the acceptance of diversity among the community slowly whilst changing their mindsets and attitudes about Down syndrome through information sharing
- Promote integration and acceptance – socially, educationally and occupationally, of persons with Down syndrome into the community.

Prior to 25 March, DSA procured storybooks on Down syndrome and distributed them to various kindergartens and schools and encouraged teachers to read the books to their pupils on 21 March – World Down Syndrome Day. These mainstream schools had children with Down syndrome enrolled in them and the purpose of the storytelling session was to introduce typically-developing children to those with special needs and to educate the children on accepting other children who were different from them.

Apart from the storytelling session, the outreach programme at Bishan Library included interactive games on Down syndrome, talks on "Understanding Down syndrome" and the "Joy of Volunteerism" and a sharing by a young adult with Down syndrome and a Parent of a Child with Down syndrome on what "Inclusion" means to them. The commemoration of World Down Syndrome Day 2007 by Singapore was well received by the general public and people with Down syndrome and their families who attended the event. Loud cheers of support echoed at the Bishan Community Library where the event was being held. Young performers from the Speech and Drama group at Down Syndrome Association (Singapore) put up an entertaining performance to the delight of the audience. Apart from the Performing Arts, the flair for Visual Arts by persons with Down syndrome was showcased at an art exhibition entitled "The Art of Communication" at the event. Through the performances put up by our young members with Down syndrome and the art exhibition displayed, we were also able to accentuate the potentials and abilities of persons with Down syndrome.

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20 countries around the world celebrated and commemorated the World Down Syndrome Day which signified a unified international movement towards better life and rights for people with Down syndrome. DSA (Singapore) is honoured again to host the World Down Syndrome web site for the second year. A total of 21 countries posted excepts of their celebration on this web site.

Down Syndrome Association (Singapore) is grateful to Mayor Zainudin Nordin for gracing the World Down Syndrome Day; International Down Syndrome Associations and bodies for supporting and contributing to the success of this special day; the National Library Board for providing the venue and working with DSA in collaboration; corporate donors for making this event possible; volunteers and staff for assisting at the event and last but most certainly not least, all persons with Down syndrome who have taught us so much.

Education and Support Services

ADULT SERVICES

ADULT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM (AEP)

The AEP is a skills enhancement program targeted at persons with intellectual disabilities who have graduated from (special) schools at 18 years old. It is a weekly 5-day program from 9.00am to 4.00pm that focuses on:

1. Work Activities (Work)
2. Activities of Daily Living (ADL)
3. Leisure Activities (Leisure)

AEP seeks to enhance the clients' skills in the above three areas so as to maximize their potential and to help them become more independent and productive in the course of their life. Clients in the program are placed in three tracks of specialization, namely Open Employment/Social Enterprise, Project-based, and Leisure-based tracks, respectively. There are currently 15 clients enrolled in AEP, of which 7 clients are in the Open Employment/Social Enterprise (OE/SE) track, 5 clients are in the Project track, and 3 clients are in the leisure track.

Open Employment/Social Enterprise (OE/SE)

The objective of the OE/SE track is to provide open employment/social enterprise opportunities for clients through the capitalization of their strengths and interests. Training in this track focuses on vocational, social and interaction skills for 12 months, before they transition to a more rigorous training platform, under the framework of a social enterprise (e.g. Push Cart). Training in this aspect would enhance the clients' work hardening skills, to better prepare their readiness for transition into potential open employment work opportunities. In the course of the weekly community-based training in travelling, two of the clients have acquired greater independence in their travelling skills. Another two clients have also been successfully placed as part-time office cleaning assistants since March 2007.

Project

The objective of the Project track is to support the Social Enterprise unit in producing items for sales. New items that have been developed include recycled paper products such as fridge magnets, gift tags, greeting cards, and salt dough products such as hanging charms. These items were sold at our Cart21 at numerous DSA events: 'Natural', World Down Syndrome Day at Bishan Library, DSA Fashion Show, Charity Corporate Stationary Bikeathon with Love, and Charity Bowl Challenge. The Cart21 was also set up at various external events such as Temasek Polytechnic Open House, NUS Arts Festival, as well as Arts from the Heart at Harbour Front Centre. Three of the clients have also undergone coaching externally in needle and sewing work to develop products such as tissue paper cases, handphone pouches, and sling bags. Since mid-September 2007, this initiative has also now been introduced into AEP to provide more opportunities for AEP clients to be coached in needle and sewing work.

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Leisure

The objective of the Leisure track is to enhance and facilitate socialization and interaction development among peers through recreational activities in the community. Training in this track focuses on social interaction, participation in group activities, and engagement in self-directed leisure activity.

Apart from the various tracks, AEP clients are encouraged to adopt a well-balanced lifestyle through various activities such as community sports (e.g. swimming, basketball, soccer), weekly aerobics sessions, and more recently, usage of gym facilities on a weekly basis. Other activities include weekly community learning outings such as the National Museum, Singapore Discovery Centre, National Heritage Centre, Police Heritage Centre, Civil Defence Heritage Gallery, and the Botanical Gardens. Clients also participate in the Visual Arts programme conducted by Ms. Esther Joosa as part of their enrichment.

This program empowers AEP clients with greater independence and confidence to be more independent as well as be a contributing member to society. This is aligned with DSA's mission of developing individuals through lifelong learning and social integration.

Sivaraj Mahaindra

Ong Chin Wah

Kristin Van Burm

Education and Support Services

CHILDREN SERVICES

DSA's Children Services endeavours to promote services for children with Down syndrome from pre-school ages up to the age of 16. Over the past year, the team has conceptualised plans to provide more services and support to its members. In the next year, Children Services plans to expand on its current provision of services to foster closer working relationships to support the schools, students and their families.

Integration Facilitation Support Programme (IFSP)

As part of its ongoing efforts to provide support for children with Down syndrome in mainstream education, DSA's Integration Facilitation Support Programme (IFSP) serves to support children with Down syndrome in mainstream pre-schools and primary schools.

In its continuing outreach and partnership with mainstream schools, DSA is providing a range of school based consultancy services, which include:

- Providing teacher training in the school through imparting specific strategies in assisting children with Down syndrome to make academic gains.
- Training teachers in behaviour management strategies to remediate behaviour problems for the child with Down syndrome by directly working on-site with the teacher in the school and classroom.
- Providing workshops and talks to schools in understanding and working with children with Down syndrome.

Our Children Services team currently works with 2 mainstream primary schools with an enrolment of 6 students with Down syndrome. With several other schools expressing their interest in DSA's teacher training support, we will expand our consultancy services to other mainstream primary schools serving students with Down syndrome in 2008.

Social Interaction Skills Support

In addition to the integration facilitation programme, Children Services will be providing social skills training to equip our young members with Down syndrome with age appropriate social interaction and communication skills with a new run of the highly popular 'Developing Social Aptitude' series of workshops in 2008.

Educational Support

DSA's Children Services also plans to offer more support to children with Down syndrome through tuition /remedial programmes which will be offered during school holidays or after-school hours.

Looking into the future, DSA strives to serve as a link between schools, students and parents and will coordinate the

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programmes to ensure that its set objectives are met. It will also establish integration friendly environments through practical on-site recommendations and on-going consultation.

Research Study on the Inclusion of Children with Down syndrome in Mainstream Primary Schools

In 2007, DSA started a research project to study the inclusion of children with Down syndrome in mainstream primary schools.

DSA strongly believes that new efforts need to be invested in providing opportunities for students with Down syndrome to be included within mainstream schools in Singapore. In light of the successful inclusion of children with Down syndrome in many countries throughout the world, the evidence of which is documented in the international research literature, DSA believes that academic and social inclusion for children with Down syndrome are possible within mainstream schools, given the appropriate accommodations and supports.

As this possibility has yet to be explored through systematic research in Singapore, DSA hopes that this project will constitute the documentation of the development of a viable model of inclusion for the local context.

DSA hopes to present and publish findings from this study at upcoming conferences and seminars.

Kristin Van Burm

Dennis Tang

Education and Support Services

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES (FSS)

The DSA Family Support Services maintains and provides support to four groups to ensure continuous development for the parents/caregivers of persons with Down syndrome –

1. New parents (of newborns, toddlers and pre-school children);
2. Young parents (of young children/young teens);
3. Mature parents (of teenagers and young adults);
4. Siblings (of persons with Down syndrome).

We have served a total of over 100 families, with 279 parents/caregivers over the past year.

For the past year we have conducted parent support group sharing sessions for the various groups. A total of 121 parents/caregivers participated in these sessions to enhance their knowledge and capability. The support group sessions provide a conducive platform for sharing and providing emotional and psycho-social support to parents/caregivers.

We have also successfully organized sessions exclusively for MOMs and DADs.

DADS SG (Dads Appreciating Down syndrome –Singapore) is an acronym created by a group of fathers in US who shared a very unique common bond i.e. they are all dads of children with Down syndrome. These sessions link up dads who share common concerns and hopes for their children. This network of dads provides opportunities to exchange experiences, support one another, as well as be an effective catalyst for advocating for persons with Down syndrome.

MOMs Only is a unique group of mothers who have children with Down syndrome. The Moms get together on a regular basis to share and exchange best practices and information on bringing up a child with Down syndrome.

We have also organized various talks and workshops such as the Kinder Art workshops, Kindermusik workshops, presentation on the Hanen Programme, a Dental talk, a Speech Therapy training session, and an Oral-muscle therapy presentation by Mr. Sara Rosenfeld-Johnson from Talk Tools International USA. A total of 158 parents/caregivers participated in the said activities. These educational parent workshops hosted by various professionals' aim to empower parents/caregivers with skills and knowledge to provide best in class care to their children.

The FSS also provides other services which include information and referrals for respite care, residential care, medical concerns, information about schools, and relevant resources. Our outreach efforts have gone beyond Singapore. We regularly respond to queries and host visits from countries such as India, Vietnam, Korea, Bahrain, Thailand, Indonesia, and Malaysia.

Patricia Ho

Jean Wang

Kristin Van Burm

DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION (SINGAPORE)

Resource and Information Centre

DSA's Resource Library comprises print, audio-visual materials and a Toy Library to provide members with the latest resources and materials on Down syndrome. There are currently a wide variety of books and educational toys at our centre.

We now have a library software system in place to serve our clients better. This library system allows members to browse the materials available, as well as allow for a more efficient library inventory management.

We have also started regular book reviews of our Library's material to recommend to our members. DSA always welcomes recommendations of new resource material.

Programs and Enrichment

YEAR IN REVIEW

2007 was an ambitious and worthy year for DSA arts and enrichment programmes. DSA recognizes that public awareness is crucial to the integration of people with Down syndrome into society. Most children with Down syndrome are artistically gifted, especially in the area of visual and performing arts. Given enough support and training, they will have an opportunity to scale new heights. With an emphasis on integration through arts, DSA arts and enrichment programmes have been geared towards the process of developing their creative abilities, increasing their capacities, acquiring necessary life skills and knowledge for the future realization of their potential.

DSA is dedicated to the notion that creativity and community service go hand-in-hand. Art has an intrinsic value that is best revealed when it connects and engages with real life concerns. We view members' expressions and community interests as equally important, and believe each can enhance the other through performances and art exhibitions. We provide platforms and opportunities so that people with Down syndrome whose concerns really need to be seen, and should be heard, will be understood through their artistic presentation.

FUSION & CREATIVE DANCE

As DSA dance programmes soar to new heights, we continue to have the professional support from Ms Kavitha Krishnan, creative director of Maya Dance Theatre Limited. Kavitha works together with three more choreographers, Khairul Shahrin, Max Chen and Zhou Yiming from Apsara Asia, to provide continuity in service but more importantly to also expose our members to different dance styles. Kavitha and team train teenagers and young adults with Down syndrome.

Mr Shawn Lau, creative director of Pathz Productions, who trains the younger members with Down syndrome, works with volunteers, as some members require one-to-one guidance and intervention

Having been the resident trainers for our fusion dance and creative dance classes for the past years, they have helped to transform our students from mere amateur dancers to matured and independent performers.

Arts was given an ethnic twist when DSA Fusion Dance members performed their well known Indian dance item, 'Chouma Chouma' at 'Art from the Heart' on 10 February – an outdoor concert and fun fair organized by NTU Cultural Activities Club at Harbor Front Pavilion.

At the DSA Fashion show on 13 July, the group took center stage with their opening number "Mystique Angels" performed together with siblings and instructors. This mystical integrated performance took the breath away from a 500 strong audience that included President and Mrs. S R Nathan, and other distinguished guests.

During the Healthcare Charity Run on Sunday 26 August, our Fusion Dance members performed a Salsa and Hip-Hop at KK Hospital, drawing standing ovation from the audience, including President S R Nathan. Credit has to be given to our instructor, Kavitha, for her meticulous training. Of course, the event cannot succeed without the relentless support from the parents and caregivers, who lent their hands at the backstage.

As a testament to their capabilities and independence, four members from our Fusion Dance class performed, in the absence of supervision from their instructor, at the Mid-Autumn Charity Lantern Parade on 22 September at NTUC Downtown East.

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Members from DSA Creative Dance class were also given opportunities to improve their skills and more importantly boost their self-confidence. The group showed off its skills at a public performance during the World Down Syndrome Day 2007 on 25 March at National Library (Bishan), and subsequently at Sharity Birthday Celebration on 29 September at Junction 8 Shopping Centre.

SPEECH & DRAMA

Drama classes and performances have been on-going at the Down Syndrome Association (Singapore) since 2002. It's been a beautiful and memorable journey for all involved.

Despite their tight performance schedules, members from the DSA Drama and Dance Ensemble managed to awe the audience when they performed Scene 4 from the play 'Natural' at Voices for Hospices. Extensive rehearsals were scheduled over a span of 5 weekends, preparing our young dancers and actors for the big event which was staged at Victoria Theatre on 6 October.

"This year marks the fifth year that we have been conducting drama classes at DSA. Last December, we staged a full-length performance, "Natural", at the Victoria Theatre. It was an important achievement for us. With almost one year of preparation and involving more than seventy members, care-givers and professional artists, "Natural" was a remarkable journey of growth. We are grateful to all who had made it possible. We are blessed with the love that our students had taught us to give and to receive. We will continue to refine the drama curriculum and to stage worthy performances; to welcome new members into our family and to guide existing members to greater potentials. Thank you all."

Jean Ng
Julius Foo

NATURAL

In commemoration of DSA's 10th anniversary, we staged a full-length play entitled "Natural" at the Victoria Theatre on 16 Dec 2006.

It was the biggest show that DSA has undertaken and was an intense and very fulfilling process. We all learned a lot and are very grateful that many who came to watch us were very touched by our work.

THE PLAY

Natural is a play about and performed by people with Down syndrome. Using confessional theatre, devising, interviews, multimedia, song and poetry, it will lend insight into a fascinating, beautiful world that exists at a pace and rhythm of its own. We live in a world that exists in accordance to a defined logic and play by the rules of social norms. Anything that falls outside of these boundaries has the potential to make us uncomfortable, because it's not 'natural'. Natural takes an honest peek into an aspect of life that will challenge us to reflect upon our own.

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THE PRODUCTION TEAM

Director:	Jean Ng
Assistant Director:	Julius Foo
Playwright:	Natalie Hennedige
Choreographers:	Kavitha Krishnan & Shawn Lau
Sound Design/Music:	Darren Ng
Lighting Design:	Lim Woan Wen
Set Design:	Sebastian Zeng
Multimedia Design:	Mathilda D'Silva
Costume Design:	Betty Png
Production Stage Manager:	Grace Low

VISUAL ART

ART IS TO SHOW MY LOVE

"When asked what the visual art is further all about the AEP clients came up with a long list. True to this list, each time the visual art classes provide new discoveries and opportunities for communication, creative exploration, individual meaning making and active participation. For Esther Joosa, working with individuals with Down syndrome and the arts has been an amazing journey. In her work as an educator, consultant and lecturer she has been able to combine different aspects of the enhancement and awareness of the lives of individuals with Down syndrome."

Quek Hong An

REACHING OUT TO THE COMMUNITY

The various artworks of members e.g. Su An and Gabriella, have generated attention to their artistic talents and qualities, as well as generating funds each time their artworks have been either sold or auctioned during events or to members of the public.

INDIVIDUAL TRIUMPH

There is no greater thrill then when one is able to reach out to the person with Down syndrome and discover what motivates him/her, to see creative responses and individual abilities and strengths. Therefore, for each person the visual arts classes have been ongoing opportunities for being included.

TEACHER EDUCATION

Working with the arts is a long process. With the support of NIE, students of the NIE Diploma in Special Needs (DISE) are able to gain deeper understanding of teaching through the arts. They did their assignment on the arts with the DSA-Adult Enhancement Program clients and their artworks are now a permanent feature in the ECSE department at NIE.

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OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCH

DSA's ongoing support of Esther Joosa's interest in research on the arts and Down syndrome has provided increased awareness of opportunities through the visual arts. She presented the findings during the 9th World Down Syndrome Conference in Vancouver in 2006 and an NIE Symposium earlier this year.

KINDERMUSIK

Kindermusik's curriculum focuses on the development of the total child , pretty much like the different domains our children would be required to fulfill in school - motor skills, language skills, social skills and also the cognitive side of things. All these are integrated into a fun time of music, movement and literacy.

After a couple of months of making music, close rapport began to build between parents, children and the teacher. The children also show an interest towards one another. It's extremely rewarding to see children who were shy, unsettled and defensive at the initial stage, are now a lot more open and willing to explore in class. All these are achievements for our little friends.

"My first placement in a special school was in a class where a majority of the children were those with Down syndrome. Therefore, I jumped at the opportunity when Kindermusik gave me an opportunity to work with DSA. I could not wait to introduce the wonderful world of music and movement to DSA children."

Yin Yin

BOWLING

DSA held its 2nd Charity Bowl Challenge on 5th August 2007 at SAFRA Mt Faber with much success. Pairing up with the Airline Club of Singapore for the second year running, twenty six DSA members had 'a ball of the time' during this event that raised almost \$20,000.

The DSA-ACS 2nd Charity Bowl Challenge 2007 held on Sunday saw teams competing for the Challenge trophy. The winning team, from Orchid Country Club, hit a superb combined score of 1850 pin-falls over 3 games.

We are grateful for the support from Singapore Bowling Federation, Silkair and Team Singapore, and the generous sponsorship from M1 Pte Ltd, Singapore Petroleum Company, Amara Hotel, Pan Pacific Hotel, Hyatt Hotel, Grand Mercure Roxy Hotel, Marina Mandarin Hotel and Rendezvous Hotel.

OTHERS

DSA always strives to offer variety in programs as part of our effort to encourage active participation from our members and their families. Using our programmes as platforms for interaction among members, we aim to create a sound social support network for people with Down syndrome. In this view, our Computer and Swimming programmes continue to equip members with essential skills for effective learning and success in different areas of their lives.

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Photo Collages for the year 2006 & 2007



10th Anniversary Gala Dinner



President's Star Charity 2007



Star Fish Competition

DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION (SINGAPORE)



World Down Syndrome Day



21st March 2007

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Arts from the Heart



Launch of Com-Care



North-East CDC Dance Festival



Health Care Charity Run

DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION (SINGAPORE)

Mystique, Fund Raising Dinner and Fashion Show

IASSID



International Association
for the Scientific Study
of Intellectual Disabilities

2ND Asia Pacific – International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual Disabilities (IASSID) Congress 2009

**24 – 27 June 2009
Singapore**

About IASSID

International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual Disabilities (IASSID) is an international and interdisciplinary scientific non-governmental organization with official relations with the World Health Organisation. IASSID is the first and only world-wide group dedicated to the scientific study of intellectual disability.

About Asia Pacific IASSID Congress

The scope of IASSID's Congresses is to provide recent findings on major advances in the biological, behavioral and social sciences related to intellectual disabilities. These advances will be addressed in presentations concerned with progress in the provision of services and support for persons with intellectual disabilities.

The Asia Pacific IASSID Congress held in Taipei in June 2005 was the inaugural congress. IASSID hopes to have it held once every 4 years in the Asia Pacific region. The 2nd Asia Pacific IASSID Congress, sponsored by IASSID, is scheduled for 2009 in Singapore. Its aim – just like the world congress – is to provide a forum for researchers to share their theoretical understanding, research methodologies, empirical findings and views about scientific developments both amongst themselves, and with administrators, practitioners, people with disabilities and others interested in advancing scientific knowledge about intellectual disabilities.

2nd Asia Pacific IASSID Congress 2009 – Representatives of the Local Organising Committee

- Down Syndrome Association (Singapore)
- National Institute of Education
- Ministry of Health
- National Council of Social Service
- Special Olympics Singapore
- Movement of the Intellectually Disabled MINDS
- St Andrew's Autism Centre
- Association for Persons with Special Needs
- Rainbow Centre
- Ministry of Community Development for Youth and Sports
- Ministry of Education

DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION (SINGAPORE)

Down Syndrome International

Much has evolved at Down Syndrome International. I handed over the appointment as President to Ms. Josephine Mills (Past Executive Director of Down Syndrome Research Foundation and Chair of the 9th World Down Syndrome Congress) on 26 August 2006. It was 2 eventful years (see following report), and I would like to acknowledge the support of the DSI Board. DSI's Secretariat is hosted at DSA, UK (London) at the Langdon Down Centre. The DSI Executive Board has ongoing email discussions and meetings, and tries to meet annually at a convenient venue. The Board met at the premises of DSA (UK) from 21 to 23 March 2007. It was not only a fruitful meeting, but also very befitting as this is the original home of Dr John Langdon Down, and it coincided with their World Down Syndrome Day Seminar and celebrations.

WORLD DOWN SYNDROME CONGRESS

The 9th WDSC at Vancouver, Canada was very successful, efficiently organised and well attended. Many of the Delegates were still reminiscing about the 8th WDSC in April 2004 in Singapore; accolades and pleasant memories were forthcoming.

The 10th WDSC will take place in Dublin from 19 to 23 August 2009 under the very able Chairmanship of Patrick Clarke. Please contact the organisers at info@downsyndrome.ie to register your interest and to be kept informed.

WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY (WDSD)

WDSD has turned out popular and successful and has added to creating awareness of Down syndrome globally. WDSD was celebrated with great vigour and passion in various ways. DSI is very grateful to DSA (Singapore) for hosting the official WDSD website www.worlddownsyndromeday.org

MISCELLANEOUS

DSI publishes the Down Syndrome Quarterly. Academics and others are invited to submit papers/articles (please contact jomills@telus.net). Special subscription rates are available for members.

The IASSID-DSI Agreement has progressed well and a D.S.-SIRG has been formed. It is proposed that the DS-SIRG will meet in Singapore in June 2009.

2nd ASIA PACIFIC-IASSID 2009 CONFERENCE

It is proposed that this conference be hosted in Singapore in June 2009. Presently a local organising committee comprising key VWOs, Institutions & Ministry representatives has been formed.

It is planned to have a Down syndrome track at the 2nd AP-IASSID 2009.

- The DSI website www.down-syndrome-int.org is in the process of being re-vamped. Updated information and relevant links will be made available.
- DSA acknowledges and appreciates the tremendous effort put in by staff, professionals, volunteers, families and persons with Down syndrome who are committed to ensuring the quality of life and rights for all people with Down syndrome.

Dr Balbir Singh
Immediate Past President
Down Syndrome International

Advisor & Founding Chairman
Down Syndrome Association (Singapore)

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2.	Mr.	Alex Seet Yan Xing	06/0624
3.	Mdm.	Alhamdu Bin An'am	06/0631
4.	Mr.	Ali Sabri Bin Samsudin	06/0595
5.	Ms.	Aurora Lui-Hamons	07/0635
6.	Mr.	Caleb Gan Jia Le	07/0683
7.	Mstr.	Chan Hong Da	07/0697
8.	Ms.	Chan Kayne	06/0604
9.	Ms.	Chan Yun Xin	06/0590
10.	Ms.	Chan Yun Xuan	05/0546
11.	Mr.	Chang Kheng Song Cavan	97/0102
12.	Mr.	Cheng Ching Kang	05/0535

DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION (SINGAPORE)

No.	Title	Name	Member's No.
13.	Mr.	Chia Wei Chong Shawn	03/0467
14.	Mr.	Chia Weikang Luke	07/0657
15.	Ms.	Chin Mei Amanda	02/0408
16.	Mr.	Chua Rui Yang Ryan	07/0673
17.	Mr.	Cui Yan	03/0463
18.	Ms.	Furtado Carmelina Sonia	01/0339
19.	Ms.	Gan Chun Hui Sarah	05/0551
20.	Mr.	Gan Soong En	06/0629
21.	Ms.	Geok Hui Xue Michelle	05/0553
22.	Mr.	Goh Jia Chun Shawn	05/0568
23.	Mr.	Goh Jiang Ker	99/0245
24.	Ms.	Hana Dnial Mok	07/0686
25.	Mr.	Hee Yuan Sheng	03/0461
26.	Ms.	Hosler Elizabeth Joyce	03/0444
27.	Ms.	Janelle Lee Hui	07/0679
28.	Mr.	Joshua Chen Fung	07/0700
29.	Ms.	Khanal Kokila	06/0579
30.	Mr.	Khanal Reuben	05/0547
31.	Mr.	Koh Qikang	00/0270
32.	Ms.	Koh Sze Chyi	02/0397
33.	Ms.	Koh Sze Yen	04/0497
34.	Ms.	Lam Mae Ern Anna	05/0561
35.	Mr.	Lee En Ci Samuel	03/0465
36.	Ms.	Lee Wei Ling Sarah	03/0442
37.	Mr.	Lee Yen Sun Bryan	07/0680
38.	Ms.	Lee Zhi Yan Michelle	01/0374
39.	Ms.	Lim Ai Chinn	05/0562
40.	Mr.	Lim Han Yang	00/0265
41.	Mr.	Lim Junhan Lleyton	05/0537
42.	Mr.	Lim Kian Say	05/0552
43.	Ms.	Lim Li Jun Nadine	07/0672
44.	Mr.	Lim Tee Hao Jeremiah	01/0373
45.	Mr.	Loh Fwu Shyang	05/0570
46.	Ms.	Loke Qian Ni	04/0495
47.	Mr.	Lu Qijun Tyler	07/0641
48.	Mr.	Matthew Hubert Lee Xi	07/0681
49.	Mr.	Muhammed Muhyiddin	04/0516
50.	Mr.	Muhammed Nor Hakim	97/0131
51.	Mr.	Muhd Badrul Hafyz	05/0555
52.	Ms.	Nadrah Binte Daud	04/0506
53.	Ms.	Nadya Bte Ahmad Loqman	07/0687
54.	Mr.	Ng Jun Ming Bryan	02/0415
55.	Ms.	Ng Kai Li	06/0598
56.	Mr.	Ng Ming Xuan Kenrick	04/0519
57.	Mr.	Ng Qing Kai Zach	04/0521
58.	Ms.	Ng Xin Yao	07/0650
59.	Ms.	Ong Kye Ting	04/0508
60.	Ms.	Ovinis Theresa Ann	05/0549
61.	Mr.	Parekh Zubin	00/0303
62.	Mr.	Paul Curto	06/0626

ORDINARY MEMBERS			
No.	Title	Name	Member's No.
1.	Ms.	Ang Leng Leng Linda	04/0520
2.	Mdm.	Ang Siew Ping	05/0544
3.	Ms.	Apple Wang Huey Ming	06/0607
4.	Mr.	Cannane Irissappane	07/0695
5.	Mrs.	Chan Peck Yoke	97/0024
6.	Ms.	Chang Choong Siong	07/0651
7.	Mr.	Chang Peng Hong Desmond	97/0145
8.	Mdm.	Chee Lye Sew	06/0609
9.	Mr.	Chen Zhao Ming Kenny	99/0219
10.	Mdm.	Chew Choy Pheng Irene	99/0192
11.	Mr.	Chow Thian Kee	00/0271
12.	Mr.	Chua Siew Khim	07/0636
13.	Mr.	Daud Bin Awi	98/0165
14.	Mr.	David Wu Tuck Wai	06/0616
15.	Mdm.	Ding Fuong Fuong	05/0545
16.	Ms.	Emilia Bte Razali	07/0689
17.	Mdm.	Esther Kho	06/0620

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18. Mdm. Fu Mei Leng Magdalene	98/0154	68. Ms. Teoh Li-Shuen Rebecca	06/0607/4
19. Ms. Girija Rajagopal	07/0670	69. Mdm. Tham Kwai Chan	03/0443
20. Ms. Goh Lay Tin Angie	07/0685	70. Mr. Tim Hamons	07/0634
21. Ms. Goh Seok Wan	07/0678	71. Mdm. Toh Keow Yin	06/0571
22. Ms. Govindaraj Kalai Selvi	03/0440	72. Mr. Tung Kok Khien	07/0655
23. Ms. Grance Wee	07/0654	73. Ms. Tung Pik Yin	07/0656
24. Mr. Guerrero P. Navoa Jr	07/0671	74. Ms. Vanelslander Sarah	07/0690
25. Mdm. Hee Michelle	03/0482	75. Mr. Wong Jun Quan	99/0224
26. Ms. Hui Doris	03/0454	76. Ms. Wong Li Ting Fern	00/0279
27. Mrs. Irene Gan Mei Ling	07/0638	77. Mdm. Woo Sau Peng	01/0372
28. Mr. Jaya Raj	04/0524	78. Ms. Wu Wei Wen	06/0610
29. Mr. Khairul Alam Bin Mohd Azini	06/0628	79. Mrs. Yap Josephine - Mdm Seetoh	97/0117
30. Mdm. Kwong Lin Fong Irene	04/0500	80. Mr. Yap Wee Kim	01/0371
31. Ms. Lee Soo Hong	07/0677	81. Mr. Yeo Kok Leong Alan	06/0572
32. Mr. Leong Wai Chung Timothy	02/0403	82. Ms. Zakiah Abdul Halim	07/0688
33. Ms. Lew Yuan Loo Jennifer	07/0646	83. Mdm. Zuraidah Abdul Patah	06/0617
34. Mr. Lim Zhicong Kelvin	99/0200		
35. Mrs. Lim-Low Shui Mei	05/0536		
36. Ms. Loh May Pin	07/0696		
37. Mdm. Loh Mee Chun Doreen	99/0243		
38. Mrs. Lorri Curto	06/0625		
39. Ms. Mabel Wong Poh	07/0647		
40. Ms. Margaret See	06/0619		
41. Ms. Ng Bee Lin Maureen	07/0648		
42. Mdm. Ng Hwee Hiang	98/0186		
43. Ms. Obelia Cutiongco	07/0692		
44. Mr. Pore Nilesh Gajanan	05/0530		
45. Mrs. Rabinder Kaur Sekhon	97/0072		
46. Ms. Rachel M Osi	07/0691		
47. Mdm. Raffick Mariam	06/0594		
48. Mr. Rajkumar Rajagopal	98/0184		
49. Mr. Raoul Le Blond	06/0618		
50. Mr. Rizwaan Ahamed Marican	07/0675		
51. Mr. Roderick Tan Tiong Own	06/0627		
52. Mr. Roslan Bin Suip	02/0393		
53. Mrs. Shirley Christine Jaya Raj	05/0529		
54. Mdm. Soh Chuey Li Adeline	05/0534		
55. Mdm. Soh Guek Eng Alice	06/0580		
56. Mr. Takeshima Shingo	07/0639		
57. Mdm. Tan Ah Lay April	06/0573		
58. Mr. Tan Chuan Tat Alexander	01/0352		
59. Mdm. Tan Liang Huang Joyce	03/0490		
60. Mdm. Tan Sin Ying	06/0630		
61. Mr. Tan Wei Kian	06/0596		
62. Ms. Tan Yee Tjun Jeannie	06/0592		
63. Mdm. Tang Kwai Hong Serene	05/0538		
64. Ms. Teo Jennifer	07/0669		
65. Mr. Teoh Chee Meng	06/0607/2		
66. Mr. Teoh Cheng Kiat John	06/0607/3		
67. Ms. Teoh Li-Ann	06/0607/1		

FAMILY MEMBERS

No	Title	Name	Member's No.
1.	Mr.	Suriadi Trisno Lee	01/0330
	Ms.	Suriadi Gracia Romana	01/0330/1
	Ms.	Suriadi Maria Anastasia	01/0330/2
	Mrs.	Suriadi Myrna Riasari	01/0330/3
2.	Mr.	Ho Meng Huat Philip	01/0334
	Ms.	Ho Zhi Xin Carolyn	01/0334/1
	Mdm.	Han Su-Ling Patricia	01/0334/2
	Mr.	Ho Zhi Qiang Luke	01/0334/3
3.	Mr.	Lee Siew Kuan Francis	01/0343
	Mr.	Lee Shi Xin	01/0343/1
	Mdm.	Tan Lee Meng Vivian	01/0343/2
	Ms.	Lee Wan Xiang	01/0343/3
	Mr.	Lee Zhao Yong	01/0343/4
4.	Mrs.	Allan Siew Bee Francesca	01/0350
	Mr.	Allan Robert M	01/0350/1
	Mr.	Allan Brenden	01/0350/2
	Mr.	Allan Earl T	01/0350/3
	Mr.	Allan Shannon M	01/0350/4
5.	Mr.	Cheung Chak Shi Hardy	06/0585
	Ms.	Cheung Seok Yee Lynette	06/0585/1
	Mdm.	Chan Soo Chung	06/0585/2
	Mr.	Cheung Cheong Chi Alexander	06/0585/3
	Ms.	Cheung Seok Yan Sandra	06/0585/4

DOWN SYNDROME ASSOCIATION (SINGAPORE)

6.	Ms. Josephine Tan Lee Joo	06/0622	17.	Mr. Juremah Ahmad	06/0574
	Ms. Jolene Koh Wen Qi	06/0622/1		Mr. Akbar Ali Bin Mohd Salleh	06/0574/1
	Ms. Lim Ah Lek	06/0622/2		Ms. Nurlydia Liyana	06/0574/2
7.	Mdm. Han Yen Ting	07/0637		Mr. Alyffie Ali	06/0574/3
	Ms. Joy Koh	07/0637/1		Mr. Alfian Ali	06/0574/4
	Mr. Joel Koh	07/0637/2			
	Mr. Koh Hock Soon	07/0637/3			
	Ms. Han Lee Kian	07/0637/4			
10.	Ms. Monica Lim	07/0642			
	Marie Ann Lim Rui Yan	07/0642/1			
	Mr. Mark Lim	07/0642/2			
	Victoria Ann Lim	07/0642/3			
	Timothy James Lim	07/0642/4			
11.	Ms. Charmaine Athaide	07/0643			
	Schenan Syed	07/0643/1			
	Shaneeq Syed	07/0643/2			
	Ms. Shane Syed	07/0643/4			
12.	Mr. S. Iswaran	07/0653			
	Mr. Sanjay Robert Iswaran	07/0653/1			
	Ms. Monisha C Iswaran	07/0653/2			
	Mr. Krishan Z Iswaran	07/0653/3			
13.	Mr. Low Fay Tuck Leonard	07/0694			
	Mr. Josh Low Xin Rui	07/0694/1			
	Ms. Lin Hiay Tsu	07/0694/2			
	Mr. Jeryl Low Xin Kai	07/0694/3			
14.	Mr. Kim Mu Sung	07/0698			
	Mr. Kim Dong Hee	07/0698/1			
	Mrs. Kim Shin Hee	07/0698/2			
	Ms. Kim In Hyung	07/0698/3			
15.	Mr. Lee Siew Kuan	01/0343			
	Mr. Lee Shi Xin	01/0343/1			
	Ms. Tan Lee Meng Vivian	01/0343/2			
	Ms. Lee Wan Xiang	01/0343/3			
	Mr. Lee Zhao Yong	01/0343/4			
16.	Ms. Hidayat Kristi	02/0413			
	Ms. Hidayat Dyan Ilyiana	02/0413/1			
	Mr. Hidayat Dahril Andia	02/0413/2			
	Ms. Sarifoodin Siti Janah	02/0413/3			
	Ms. Maryam Andy	02/0413/4			