

**PRESS RELEASE  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**476 Raffles Graduates, Unveiled!**

**Singapore, 19 December 2012** – Prominent designers, key industry figures, foreign emissaries and numerous distinguished guests gathered at the Fairmont Singapore to witness the ‘Unveiling’ of the graduating cohort last Thursday, December 13, 2012. The much anticipated Graduation Exhibition and Showcase 2012 of Raffles College of Higher Education wrapped up with much fanfare and compliments from guests who attended the symbolic event.

“I am superbly impressed by the high standards of the students’ work, creativity as well as practicality and it was so fascinating to be able to see all these designs! I would like to congratulate all the Raffles graduates and I am looking forward to the day where these graduates could come to Japan and build the interaction between Singapore and Japan designers, as well as lead the fashion and design industry in the future.” said Mr Toshihide Ando, Director of the Japan Creative Centre, Deputy Chief of Mission and Minister-Counsellor for The Embassy of Japan.

Observing the graduation ceremony, visitors were enthralled by the outstanding and innovative works from a total of 476 promising young leaders, many of them award-winning designers and business graduates with remarkable portfolios.

Celebrating her achievements with her family at the ceremony was high-flying Raffles Business graduate, Joyce, who spoke with heartfelt sincerity, “I learnt a lot more than marketing here; I learnt how to interact with people, how to overcome challenges, and manage my time and projects. I have also built a strong network of business contacts to help me in my career when I enter the working world”.

Amongst the graduating cohort, many of them had won awards in big-scale competitions and participated in major collaborations with noteworthy brands. One such graduate was Raffles Jewellery Designer, Michelle Doho, who was second runner-up in the Singapore Jewellery Design Award 2012, an annual prestigious event, which attracted more than a thousand entries from the Asian region. Besides Michelle, two other outstanding Raffles Fashion Designers, Virginia Liu and Aurelia Evelyn Santoso were selected to represent Raffles College of Higher Education in the esteemed Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week Australia 2013, to be held in Sydney next April.

At the exhibition, Professor Maureen Wayman, a recipient of the Order of the British Empire (OBE) for her services to local and higher education, was visibly impressed with the high standards of the

Institutes of Raffles College of Higher Education

graduates. “It is a very interesting cohort of students. The collection of ideas that they have presented were very valid and some of them were quite innovative in addressing the design problems. It was really encouraging to see their works in the exhibition.”

Months of hard work finally paid off for graduating Raffles Fashion Designers as they showcased their distinctive and spectacular collections to guests at the evening’s fashion show. Adhering to Raffles’ constant striving for innovation, audience members were able to view on their tablets or smartphones the intricate workmanship of every piece of fashion garment during the fashion show.

Towards the end of the fashion show, Madam Raffaella Orsini, Secretary General of the Italian Chamber of Commerce in Singapore was generous with praises from what she saw. “I honestly think the work Raffles College of Higher Education is churning out is amazing! I personally know Joe Spinelli and I think he is doing a wonderful job in raising students who can create such creative and unique pieces of work.”

Without a doubt, the fashion show obviously left an impression on Mr Daniel Boey, the most sought after fashion and lifestyle event producer and fashion creative director in Asia.

“There were a couple of students whom I think have so much potential and I had the privilege of seeing the collections close up before the fashion show. The amount of workmanship, the knowledge of the silhouettes, the cuts and all, they were quite exemplary and I am very excited for these designers to make their debut in the fashion world.”

While at the backstage and bursting with emotions, Raffles Fashion Designer, Patricia, shared her moment. “It’s been a tough journey and I really learnt a lot! I found myself here – who I am, my passion, learning all the different skills, defining myself – the experience was amazing!”

Raffles College of Higher Education is proud to unveil our graduates to the real world, fully equipped with knowledge and skills to pursue their dreams, and would like to congratulate each and every one of them.

-End-



**Raffles**  
College of Higher Education

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## Appendix

### TOP STUDENTS

Divya Tulsidas Sughand	Advanced Diploma in Interior Design
Soh Qiu Ling	Advanced Diploma in Visual Communication
Jonathan Christopher Dana	Advanced Diploma in Animation
Ananda Annisa Praetyanto	Advanced Diploma in Product Design
Michelle Doho	Advanced Diploma in Jewellery Design

### BEST COLLECTION AWARDS FOR THE ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN FASHION DESIGN

Mita Andriani	Winner
Luo Xiaotong	First runner-up
Swaralipi Banerjee	Second runner-up

### TOP COLLECTIONS FOR THE BACHELORS DEGREE IN DESIGN MAJORING IN FASHION DESIGN

Aurelia Evelyn Santoso	<i>Metropolis</i>
Zhang Chi	<i>SHERLOCK CHIC</i>
Debbie Kamil	<i>Through O'Keefe's Eyes/ The Unseen, Unknown Beauty/ Irresistible Beauty</i>
Virginia Liu Killory	<i>THE BALLETS RUSSES</i>
Marie De La Roche	<i>THE ORGANIC CORE</i>
April Seng Nwe	<i>DANDYISM</i>
Chen Mei Yan	<i>ANDROGYNISM</i>
Daisy Yuan	<i>Transgender</i>
Petrack Sutrisno	<i>A Living Work of Art</i>
Shao Bo	<i>Emperor and Empress</i>
Kwek Teck Chuan	<i>BODY TRANSFORMATION</i>
Putu Diah Putri Utami	<i>THE SURREAL BODY</i>
Paulette Leigh Bañez Tecson	<i>Shamanic Metamorphosis, Raw</i>
Li Xiao Ting	<i>GLAMOUROUS</i>
Patricia Apolo	<i>Egon Schiele</i>
Cynthia Fransisca Haryono	<i>Men Redefined</i>
Doris Wang Yao Qi	<i>Organic Architecture</i>
Chen Xiao Hui Anmy	<i>Feminism</i>
Angelica Zhang Yang Zhi	<i>POWER DRESSING</i>
Zhao Yibo Chris	<i>Gothic Nightmare</i>
Ee Xuan Lau	<i>Le Style Moderne</i>

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**Raffles**  
MerchandisingInstitute

**Raffles**  
Academy of Continuing Education

Australia • Bangladesh • Cambodia • China • India • Indonesia • Malaysia • Mongolia • New Zealand • Philippines • Singapore • Sri Lanka • Thailand

### **MERCEDES BENZ AUSTRALIA FASHION WEEK, SYDNEY AUSTRALIA 2013**

Ms. Aurelia Evelyn Santoso
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Ms. Virginia Liu
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### **PARAGON WINNERS (FOR RAFFLES PRIVATO)**

Angelica Zhang Yang Zhi
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Aurelia Evelyn Santoso
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Petrick Sutrisno
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Li Xiao Ting
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Virginia Liu
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Doris Wang Yao Qi
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Marie De La Roche
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Ee Xuan Lau
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Kwek Teck Chuan
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### **About Raffles College of Higher Education**

Raffles College of Higher Education (“RCHE”) is a subsidiary of Raffles Education Corporation (“RafflesEducationCorp”), the largest private education group in Asia Pacific. RCHE currently operates four education brand names, namely - Raffles Design Institute, Raffles Merchandising Institute, Raffles School of Business and Raffles Academy of Continuing Education (“RACE”). RafflesEducationCorp has an extensive network of 33 colleges in 30 cities across 13 countries in Asia Pacific: Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Thailand.

### **Raffles Design Institute**

Raffles Design Institute (Singapore) was established in 1990 as an educational institution dedicated to the professional design disciplines of Fashion, Interior Design, Interactive Media (Multimedia Design, Animation and Games Design), 3D (Product Design, Jewellery Design and Transportation Design), and Visual Communication (Graphic Design).

### **Raffles Merchandising Institute**

Raffles Merchandising Institute (Singapore) (formerly known as Raffles Merchandising School) was established in November 2006 as an educational institution dedicated to the professional disciplines of Fashion Marketing and Management, Retail Management, and Fashion Communication and Journalism.

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### **Raffles School of Business**

Raffles School of Business (formerly known as Raffles Education Corp College) was established in 1999. It is one of the leading business institutes in Singapore, offering undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in Marketing, Management, Banking, Finance, Tourism and Hospitality Management, Applied Psychology, Infocomm Security and Biomedical Sciences.

### **Raffles Academy of Continuing Education (“RACE”)**

RACE was established in December 2011 to provide quality continual learning to adult learners who aspire to upgrade their existing skills and expand their knowledge horizon. Classes, conducted by subject-matter-experts, are complete with practical sessions to enhance the learning experience at the Academy. RACE is a programme partner of the Employment & Employability Institute (“e2i”) and the Workforce Development Agency (“WDA”).

All RCHE programmes follow modern, international curriculums of the highest standard designed to nurture creative professionals and entrepreneurs. Its unique emphasis on both academic theory and practical experience, coupled with state-of-the-art technology applications and opportunities to work with industry professionals, ensures that all RCHE graduates are equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills that are demanded by employers worldwide.

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