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RAFFLES FASHION DESIGNERS OFFERED APPRENTICESHIPS AND

INTERNSHIPS WITH ALFIE LEONG

Singapore, December 14, 2010 – Six budding young fashion designers from Raffles

College of Higher Education, Singapore ("RCHE") are now a step closer to realising

their dreams as fashion designers. RCHE and local fashion designer, Mr Alfie Leong

have collaborated to offer apprenticeship and internship opportunities to RCHE

fashion design graduates, with the aim of fostering young creative talents and

providing them a platform to put theory into practice.

The names of the winning fashion apprentices and interns were announced at

RCHE's Graduation Fashion Show held at Fairmont Hotel yesterday.

Grace Eliana Sugiarto, Zhang Xiaoging and Anissa Mirabel were selected for the

apprenticeship programme while Sophia Eng, Khoh Siow Lin and Sir Lukito Sari

Poetronegoro ("Sari") were chosen for the internship programme. All six were

interviewed and handpicked by Mr Alfie Leong, acclaimed Fashion Designer and

owner-creator of fashion design labels "MU" and "All Walks of Life ("AWOL")", from

the 47-strong graduating cohort in Fashion Design.

"We are delighted that Alfie has decided to offer our students with apprenticeship

and internship positions at his labels, "AWOL" and "MU" respectively. At RCHE, we

stress the importance of practical experience. Working alongside an established

designer like Alfie provides these fortunate few insights into entrepreneurship in

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addition to what they have learnt in the studio," said Associate Professor Giuseppe (Joe) Spinelli, Principal of RCHE.

The three apprentices will begin their three-month apprenticeship in January 2011 under Mr Alfie Leong's guidance. They will conceptualise and develop a Fall/Winter capsule collection for "AWOL", a premium label. They went through a 3-stage selection process and designed two pieces of outfits each for "AWOL" Fall/Winter women's wear collection to stand a chance to become Mr Alfie Leong's apprentices.

"The apprentices were chosen because they clearly demonstrated the ability to develop their own individual creativity into an innovative yet commercial product. Craftsmanship was an important consideration for me when I interviewed the students," said Mr Alfie Leong. "Overall, I am very impressed with the level of professionalism, creativity and skills Raffles students have displayed."

The apprentices believed that the apprenticeship was more than they could have bargained for as fresh fashion design graduates and are looking forward to the experience. "It is really a dream come true for me. This apprenticeship provides the platform to become a full-fledged designer some day. With the education we have received at Raffles, I believe we will all rise up to the challenge," said Grace Sugiarto, one of the three selected apprentices. Grace is also the winner of Singapore's Triumph Inspiration Award 2010 and her design piece was donned by English Pop Star and style icon Cheryl Cole in her latest music video, '*Promise This*'.

While the apprentices are engaged in the capacity of junior designers, the three interns will immerse and familiarise themselves with "AWOL", "MU" as well as the Singapore fashion industry as a whole. They will also learn the ropes of creating and managing a commercially-viable collection from Mr Alfie Leong and his team. Their two-week internship will start tomorrow and end on 31 December 2010.

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About Raffles Education Corporation

Raffles Education Corporation Limited ("RafflesEducation Corp") is the largest private education group in Asia-Pacific. Since establishing its first college in Singapore in 1990, the Group has grown to operate 38 colleges in 35 cities across 14 countries in the Asia-Pacific region: Australia, Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam.

More than 28,700 students enrolled in RafflesEducation*Corp*'s tertiary programmes benefit from a quality education that provides graduates with a well-rounded hands-on experience that is relevant to the industry.

The Group also owns the Oriental University City in Langfang, Hebei Province, China – a 3.31 million square metre self-contained campus. Within this campus, Oriental University City provides education services to 9 colleges with a total student population of over 27,000.

Headquartered in Singapore, RafflesEducation *Corp* employs over 3,000 academic and administrative staff, and is listed on the Mainboard of the Singapore Exchange. For more information on the Group, please visit the RafflesEducation *Corp*'s website at www.raffles-education-corporation.com

About Alfie Leong

Alfie Leong, Designer and Owner of fashion label "MU" and "AWOL" is an acclaimed Singapore fashion designer. Since the establishment of his label "MU" in 2004, he has enjoyed a cult following in the local fashion scene and counts Singapore celebrities as his patrons. Alfie Leong's philosophy behind MU is the fusion of the east and west to unconventionally construct designs without the re-construction of the main stream trends and colours. His premium label "AWOL" seeks originality, refinement and unconventional construction, emphasizing details that are complimentary to modern women.

For more information on Alfie Leong and his labels, please visit MU's website at http://www.mu-apparel.com/

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