



For Immediate Release

NIPPON PAINT MALAYSIA REVEALS THE NEXT GENERATION OF ECO DESIGNERS

Nippon Paint: Malaysia Can Be Eco-Design Hub

Petaling Jaya, November 2, 2010 – Nippon Paint (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd, a leader in total green solutions, today announced the winners of the Nippon Paint Young Designer Award 2010. The competition themed, “Raising The Next Generation of Eco Design”, was an opportunity for Malaysian interior design and architecture students to propose design ideas that would promote environmental responsibility and sustainable living.

This year, the Nippon Paint Young Designer Award received submissions from 336 aspiring interior designers and architects from a total of 26 colleges and universities nationwide, marking a 170 per cent increase in submissions from last year. Each entry presented cutting edge, creative interior and architecture designs of outstanding quality.

The winning design in the interior category came from Low Poh Shi a student at the Malaysian Institute of Art, while Bernadette Quah Paik Choo of KBU International College won the silver award. In the Architecture category, the gold award went to Tee Khay Mee of Universiti Putra Malaysia, while Nurhayati Nordin of Universiti Malaya received the silver award.

Due to the popularity of the contest amongst students, a new award category was introduced this year - the Student Choice Award – for the shortlisted entry that received the highest number of online votes. Securing a total of 12,946 votes, the Student Choice Award for the Interior Design category was presented to Ng Ann Kee of University College Sedaya International. In the Architecture category, the Student Choice Award was presented to Khor Yih Chau from Universiti Sains Malaysia who secured 24,351 votes.

Speaking during the awards ceremony, Ms. Gladys Goh, Nippon Paint (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd's General Manager commented, "Looking at the submissions, I felt a great sense of pride that Malaysia has so much talent, especially in this field of eco-design. I look forward to the day when the country is recognised as a hub for eco-design. The winners were chosen from 12 finalists in each category. They all showed remarkable talent and innovation. It was no easy task for the judges to choose the best. The entries just keep getting better each year. Nippon Paint Malaysia is very happy to be able provide the country's young, promising interior designers and architects with the opportunity to showcase their creativity and ideas in designing eco-friendly spaces that will help promote environmental sustainability in the long term".

The theme for this year's Nippon Paint Young Designer Award , 'Raising the Next Generation of Eco Design', was in line with the company's commitment to sustainability and the preservation of the environment. Based on the given concept and theme, students were evaluated on the successful use of materials and scarce resources that would increase efficiency, conserve energy, reduce the impact on human health, and ultimately improve the quality of life and environment.

"The projects submitted were highly innovative and done with the utmost professionalism. It is amazing to see such enormous talent and creativity among students. We believe that these designers of tomorrow will reinvent the design industry and raise the standard for a paradigm shift in sustainable design," added Goh.

The gold winners of the Nippon Paint Young Designer Award 2010 will each receive RM3,000 cash scholarship and an Apple Mac Book Pro, while the silver winners from each category will each receive RM2,000 in cash scholarship. The honorary mentions in both categories will each receive RM1,000 in cash scholarship.

In addition to boosting the student's profile and portfolio, the top eight winners of the Nippon Paint Young Designer Award 2010 will each receive employment opportunities with an Interior Design or Architect firm.

"From the very first year, we have seen how this competition has helped bridge the gap in the design employment market; between skills available among candidates and the skills required of industry. We also hope that the Nippon Paint Young Designer Award will help to provide the interior design and architect firms with a pool of talents skilled in eco-friendly design to cater to the future requirements of the country and possibly the region," concluded Ms Goh.

Launched in 2008, the Nippon Paint Young Designer Award is an annual competition open to students enrolled in schools of interior design (ID) and architecture located in Malaysia, in the final year of their diploma or at least in the third year of their degree programme. The inaugural Nippon Paint Young Designer Award (in 2008) received 87 entries. Last year (2009) it received an even more encouraging response, with a total of 167 entries submitted for interior and exterior categories.

The award is supported by the Malaysian Society of Interior Designers (MSID) and Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (PAM). Together with MSID and PAM, Nippon Paint Malaysia aims to nurture and encourage the young talents within the interior design and architect student fraternity.

About Nippon Paint (Malaysia) Sdn Bhd

Incorporated in 1967, Nippon Paint Malaysia Sdn Bhd (NPM) manufactures paint and coatings for both home and industrial applications. To date, NPM has three manufacturing plants in Malaysia. One located in Shah Alam, one in Johor Bahru and one in Kota Kinabalu. NPM currently manufactures over 10,000 different paint formulations for the decorative and architectural, automotive, industrial, protective coatings and fishing vessel markets. Nippon Paint has been awarded the prestigious Green Excellence Award by Frost & Sullivan in recognition of its achievement in promoting and improving environment sustainability within the paint industry.

About MSID

Malaysian Society of Interior Designers (MSID) was established in 1990 with the purpose of coordinating the activities of interior designers. It aims to maintain high standards in education, professional practice and communication with statutory bodies and private sectors in related fields. It provides contacts with industry, design organisations and individual designers in this country and overseas.

About PAM

Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia (PAM) was established as the Institute of Architects Malaya (IAM) in 1920 has a history of some 70 plus years. Pertubuhan Akitek Malaysia – The Malaysian Institute of Architects, under the present constitution was registered in 1967. It aims to promote and enlarge knowledge, study and practice of architecture, as well as to provide a central organisation of a learned and scientific society for art and science of architecture. It provides assistance and advice to the government, local authorities, or other private or public bodies, on questions relating to the art and science of architecture, the development of property, town and country planning, built environment as well as the design and construction of buildings.



Nippon Paint Young Designer Award 2010

Finalists - Interior Designer Category

Awards	Winner	College/University
Gold	Low Poh Shi	Malaysian Institute of Art
Silver	Bernadette Quah Paik Choo	KBU International College
Honorary Mention	Choy Rui Hua	PJ College of Art and Design
Honorary Mention	Teng Chee Hoong	Malaysian Institute of Art
Honorary Mention	Angel Ng Ann Kee	UCSI University

Finalists - Architecture Category

Awards	Winner	College/University
Gold	Tee Khay Mee	University Putra Malaysia (UPM)
Silver	Nurhayati Nordin	University Of Malaya (UM)
Honorary Mention	Meor Naim Meor Kamarul Zaman	Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM)
Honorary Mention	Yap Yan Xun	UCSI University

Winner – Student Choice Award

Name	College
Ng Ann Kee	University College Sedaya International
Khor Yih Chau	Universiti Sains Malaysia

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