

NYAA-NEXUS Project Grant

Project Proposal

Name of Project: World War II (WWII) Battlefield Workshop/Tour

Aims and Objectives of Project:

The aim of this project is to expose students, from the ages of 14 to 18, to the many historic WWII battlefield sites in Singapore, thus creating an awareness and interest in our war history and how WWII has shaped the post-war history of Singapore.

The students from this pioneer group would eventually form the Youth Historian Club that aims to provide a platform for young people with an interest in local history to do research and discussion that would further enhance their interest in history.

Project Description:

Our war history is rich and full of surprises. Though this is already covered in our history and social studies textbooks, the very details that shape post-war Singapore are seldom obvious. The war changed Singapore and helped us to understand that we need to stand up for ourselves. It taught us that no outsiders, no matter how powerful or influential, should have a say in how we govern this land which we call “home”. That is why this part of history is so uniquely Singaporean.

The youths on the project would not only be educated on our rich war heritage, they would also be exposed to various techniques in instructions and delivery, enabling them to be proficient in implementing this tour for their fellow schoolmates..

The end product of this project would be a mini-exhibition on the Battle of Singapore, highlighting key battles and significant events that led to the surrender of the British to the Japanese. The mini-exhibition would be open to the public at the end of the workshop/tour.

Implementation:

At this three-day weekend workshop/tour, the students will retrace the Japanese advancement from Malaya into Singapore. They will first attend lectures on the key events leading up to the battle of Singapore. Following the lectures, they will be brought on a one-day tour on the many battlefield sites in Singapore, and be briefed on the historical events that took place at each site. After the one-day tour, the students will participate in small group discussions on various key events that led up to the fall of Singapore. During the discussions, they will also prepare their presentations for the mini-exhibition.

After the three-day workshop/tour, students will be invited to join the Youth Historian Club, so that they can continue to work on other aspects of our nation’s history.

The Youth Historian Club (YHC) will be an informal setting for students interested in Singapore's history to continue networking, and to also provide them with a platform to come together and do research on our nation's history.

Monthly discussion could be coordinated, which may result in members embarking on other projects on Singapore's history.

The YHC could come under the umbrella of the National Education Sub-Committee of the National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA)'s Gold Award Holders' Alumni (GAHA).

Timeline:

Beginning July: Planning and research of educational materials (ongoing till August)

End July: Recruitment of student participants

Early August: Preparation of workshop materials for leaders and student participants
 Printing of workshop t-shirts and certificates for leaders and student participants.

End August: Battlefield workshop/tour

Budget:

No	Description	Unit Price	Quantity	Total
1	Workshop folder & notes	\$ 5	45	\$225
2	Workshop T-shirt	\$ 10	45	\$450
3	Workshop certificate	\$ 2	45	\$90
4	Transportation	\$ 250	3 trips	\$750
5	Refreshments	\$ 10	45	\$450
6	Stationery	\$ 200	-	\$200
7	Admission to centres*	\$4.50	45	\$202.50
8	Miscellaneous	\$200	-	\$200
Grand Total				\$2567.50

* Bukit Chandu and Battle Box.

* Student participants will pay a nominal sum to take part in the workshop.

Amount of Grant Applied for: S\$1500 (Approximately 60% of total cost)