

Student Case Study

Lin Min Khant

Myanmar

Lin Min Khant is an exceptional young man who impressed our judges at this year's BTEC Awards so much that they awarded him not only the title of BTEC Construction Learner of the Year 2020 but also selected him from among this year's very worthy group of sector winners to be Young BTEC Learner of the Year 2020.

As an HND student in Construction and the Built Environment at Myanmar Noble University's International Centre in Yangon, Head of Department, Mr Arkar MgMg Aung Kyaw, says of him:

"Lin Min Khant portrays vocational excellence with devotion to his studies and a focus on community development."

His community spirit, passion and ambition are evident not only in his participation in the HND programme, but also in college life, national festivals and local initiatives. For the group project unit of the course, he stepped up to take on the dual role of structural designer and architect, helping to design a sustainable precast concrete structure complete with a detailed structural analysis. "Lin Min Khant tried his best in every unit that he has taken, attempting all criteria presented in the assignment and is vigilant to participate in every activity of our school too," says Mr. Htet.

Lin Min has taken the skills he has developed through the programme, as well as self-taught interior design skills, and applied them to the creation of furniture that blends traditional Myanmar culture with green, sustainable design. He has participated in the 'new and upcoming' category of the Myanmar International Furniture Expo in each year of his course, resulting in him winning a 'Best Innovation' award in 2017, and becoming the only member under 20 of the Myanmar Furniture Industry Association.

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As our judges noted: “Lin Min Khant is not shy of going the extra mile.” He gives freely and copiously of his time to advance various social causes, promote traditional Myanmar culture, and improve the local environment. This includes volunteering and presenting at the traditional annual Hta-ma-nae festivals, helping on the ground with the ‘Clean Up Yangon’ project along the drainage systems of the city, and teaching marginalised young people from the suburbs who can’t afford normal education. Indeed, Lin Min’s kindness shines throughout his nomination. When one of his teachers broke an ankle and needed support, Lin Min was there. “He is like a son to me. He gathered his friends and came to my house in the hardest time of my life to support me,” says Daw Marlar Myint.

Lin Min was drawn to BTEC because he saw that the more vocational approach to learning offered greater opportunity for critical thinking and practical learning that would benefit him in his career. “When I searched for educational programs after my basic education, I found the BTEC Higher National Program in Construction and the Built Environment with the learning outcomes that are very practical to the existing standards of the industry. They also include sustainable aspects and health and safety systems to be implemented which would be beneficial in my future career,” he says.

“In BTEC courses, they are mostly assignments systems and sometimes viva tests. So, I can put all of my critical thinking in them and it helps me get motivated. In our country’s university course, we can’t put our critical thinking so much and only definitions can get the marks. So, when we arrive to work, I think critical thinking can help our skills to be developed and to be innovative. Thus, I am passionate about the BTEC course to help me succeed in the very near future.”

Highly motivated, Lin Min also takes personal responsibility for developing skills above and beyond the content of the course: “I have taken on initiatives in absorbing as much knowledge as possible throughout my learning. More than attempting criteria for the tasks, I make myself sure that I am preparing to develop as many skills as I can. I have researched updated changing technologies, facilitate myself with software and systems that would help me become a better engineer while going through the tasks assigned and knowledge myself with every data that I have come. I find social and communicative skills very important too for my intrapersonal development and I analyse how I can communicate myself better in group assignments.”



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