

Virtual Award Ceremony: “Celebrating champions – Cultivate academic dreams”

Part 2: Winner announcement and scholarship awarding & The “exchange of inspiration” with talented candidates

With the most anticipated part of today's ceremony, HSBC & IDP would like to announce the excellent candidates who have received the contest's scholarships. And on behalf of the Organizing Committee, Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha & Ms. Nguyen Thanh Trang will respectively announce the results of the contest.

First, we will announce the consolation prizes and third prizes, including 06 consolation prizes worth VND 5,000,000 in cash and a VND 500,000 Skillset learning discount voucher at ACET English center. Next will be 4 third prizes, with a prize of VND 10,000,000 in cash and VND 1,000,000 Skillset learning discount voucher at ACET English Center and an exclusive test preparation kit of IELTS IDP worth VND 1,500,000.

I would now like to invite Ms. Nguyen Thanh Trang from HSBC Premier announce the winners of the Consolation Prize and the Third Prize.

Thank you Mai Anh. Hello to all parents and talented candidates, and distinguished guests. I am very honoured to be able to present these awards at the ceremony today. Before announcing the winners of the Consolation Prizes as well as the Third Prizes from the programme, I would like to share my thoughts as I was one of the Judges in Phase 1. I must say I was very surprised by your talent and acumen in terms of language and your studious spirit. You are very hard-working and very creative in how you formatted your presentations. I could see clearly your desires and dreams, and especially the way each of you came up with your financial management plan. All finalists showed a certain amount of effort and they all have a very short time to do it. Most of you searched the internet, or sought advice from your parents, or your brothers and sisters who have studied abroad before while also entering your personal thoughts. What I am most impressed with is that you all want to become independent and reduce the financial burden on your parents. You all desire to become successful people in the future and to make your parents proud. I believe that your parents will indeed be very proud when their children have such dreams and thoughts. So now, I would like to honour the candidates who won the Consolation Prize of the First Phase.

- Congratulations to the first contestant: Ha Phuong Linh

- Full name: Ha Phuong Linh
- Name of school in Vietnam: Hanoi Law University
- GPA: 3.23
- IELTS Score: 7.0
- Achievements:
 - Global Excellence Scholarship (University of Exeter).
 - Think Big Scholarship (University of Bristol)
- Choice of country to Study abroad: United Kingdom
- Name of the overseas institution: University of Exeter
- Academic major: Commercial Law

- Next, congratulations: Phan Quoc Bao
- Full name: Phan Quoc Bao
- Name of school in Vietnam: University of Finance- Marketing
- GPA: 3.4
- IELTS Score: 6.0
- Achievements: Third prize in chemistry at the provincial level in 2018
- Choice of country to Study abroad: Australia
- Name of the overseas institution: Deakin University
- Academic major: Marketing

- And the third contestant to win the Consolation Prize of the programme is Nguyen Thi Thu Huyen
- Full name: Nguyen Thi Thu Huyen

- Name of school in Vietnam: Chuong My A high school
 - GPA: 9.1
 - IELTS Score: 6.5
 - Achievement: Swinburne University Excellence Scholarship
 - Choice of country to study abroad: Australia
 - Name of the overseas institution: Swinburne University of Technology
 - Academic major: Communication
- And the fourth contestant won the Consolation Prize of the programme: Tran Quynh Van
- Full name: Tran Quynh Van
 - Name of school in Vietnam: Dong Phu Secondary School
 - GPA: 9.2
 - IELTS Score: 7.0
 - Achievement: Full scholarship at Peninsula Grammar School
 - Choice of country to study abroad: Australia
 - Name of the overseas institution: Peninsula Grammar School
 - Academic major: Criminology
- And we have two more prizes – the fifth Consolation Prize: Nguyen Yen Ngoc
- Name: Nguyen Yen Ngoc
 - Name of the school in Vietnam: Ha Tinh Specialized High School – Specialized English 1
 - GPA: 9.3
 - IELTS Score: 7.0

- Achievements: Won full scholarship of Peninsula Grammar School, 50% scholarship of Ocean Edu Center
 - Choice of country to study abroad: Australia
 - Name of overseas institution: Peninsula Grammar High school
 - Academic major: Business Administration
- And the last person on the list to win the Consolation Prize of this round: Vu Huy Duc
- Full name: Vu Huy Duc
 - Name of school in Vietnam: Hanoi – Amsterdam High School for the Gifted
 - GPA: 9.5
 - IELTS Score: 7.0
 - Achievement: 30% UOW scholarship
 - Choice of country to study abroad: Australia
 - Name of overseas institution: University of Wollongong
 - Academic major: International Business

Many thanks and congratulations to you all for winning the Consolation Prize of the ‘HSBC Premier scholarship programme – Give wings to your dream overseas study.’ And now continuing, I would like to announce the winners of our Third Prize.

Before announcing the award, I would also like to share that in order to finalise the marking results, it was very difficult for the Judges to be able to mark the candidates many times and determine the final result. Thus the results will be the fairest score results as well as the most accurate assessment for our competitors.

- Congratulations on the first Third Prize: On Van Kiet
- Full name: On Van Kiet
 - Name of school in Vietnam: Nguyen Hien High School
 - GPA: 8.9

- IELTS Score: 7.0
- Achievements: Third Prize in Chemistry Competition in Ho Chi Minh City
- Choice of country to study abroad: Australia
- Name of overseas institute: Monash University
- Academic major: Pharmacy

- The second friend to win the Third Prize of the programme: Do Minh Quan

- Name: Do Minh Quan
- Name of school in Vietnam: VNU-HCM High School for the Gifted
- GPA: 9.1
- IELTS Score: 7.0
- Achievements: First Prize for the best student in city physics in 2018
- Choice of country to study abroad: Australia
- Name of the overseas institution: Swinburne University of Technology
- Academic major: Architectural Engineering

- And the final Third Prize, congratulations: Le Thi My Toan

- Full name: Le Thi My Toan
- Name of school in Vietnam: Le Khiet Specialized High School
- GPA: 9.2
- IELTS Score: 8.0

Achievements: Second Prize of Provincial Level HSG Grade 12 English subject in 2021, Third prize of "Talk to the future you 2018" contest organised by ACET English Center and Hoa Hoc Tro Newspaper

- Choice of country to study abroad: Australia
 - Name of overseas institution: University of Adelaide
 - Academic major: Communication-Marketing
- I have one more third prize, congratulations: Nguyen Do Thuc Anh
- Full name: Nguyen Do Thuc Anh
 - Name of school in Vietnam: Sunway International School
 - GPA: 9.5
 - Achievement: Swinburne University 75% Scholarship
 - Choice of country to study abroad: Australia??
 - Name of the overseas institution: Swinburne University of Technology
 - Academic major: Bachelor of Health Science/Bachelor of Business

Thank you to Ms. Thanh Trang for sharing this joy with the contestants, and next we will announce the three talented and dedicated young people who won the First and Second Prizes – these extremely prestigious awards will fuel your upcoming study abroad journey. The value of the prizes is as follows, we will have two Second Prizes, each prize is VND 25 million cash prize and VND 2,000,000 Skillset learning discount voucher at ACET English Center and an exclusive test preparation kit of IELTS IDP worth VND 1,500,000 and a special prize for outright winner in first place is a cash prize of VND 50 million, VND 3,000,000 Skillset learning discount voucher at ACET English Center and an exclusive test preparation kit of IELTS IDP worth VND 1,500,000. We would now like to invite Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha to name the winners.

Thank you to the MC. I am very nervous when representing the Organisers to announce two Second Prizes as well as the First Prize. By announcing the Second Prize, we will surely know who is the First Prize, right? Like Trang, I am one of the Judges. To be honest, the

Judges had to work very hard to choose these three contestants. To share more about these three contestants, in addition to being judged by four judges in their interview round, they are also judged by four other independent judges to choose the best candidate. It proves that the winners are very deserving and when we have the opportunity to talk to these people, we will understand why they received the top prizes. And now, not to make you wait longer, I will reveal the name of the first candidate to win the Second Prize. Hopefully, after reading this profile, you know that you are the one who won the first Second Prize.

- Congratulations to you: Nguyen Quynh Trang
- Full name: Nguyen Quynh Trang
- Name of school in Vietnam: Hanoi – Amsterdam High School for the Gifted
- GPA: 9.7
- IELTS Score: 8.0
- Achievement: 50% Scholarship of Melbourne International Undergraduate
- Choice of country to Study abroad: Australia
- Name of overseas institution: University Of Melbourne
- Academic major: Finance and Management

Nguyen Quynh Trang is the last contestant selected for the final round. Due to family reasons, she was arranged to present her contest entry last. And we were surprised to the last contestant because we often say “Save the best for last”. And we still have the first runner-up from the last contestant.

- Now we come to the other person to win Second Prize, congratulations: Cao Hai Son.
- Full name: Cao Hai Son
- Name of school in Vietnam: Nguyen Sieu School
- GPA: 8.9
- IELTS Score: 8.5

- Achievement: 5 A* Cambridge IGCSE
- Choice of country to study abroad: Australia
- Name of overseas institution: Queensland University of Technology
- Academic major: Computer Science

I am the judge who remarked to Cao Hai Son and I am really convinced because you not only have a dream to study abroad for university level but you have a bigger dream after graduation such as you determine that what company you will work, what the Master program you will study. And we believe that your confidence as well as your preparation, you will achieve your dreams.

So by knowing that the second place is Cao Hai Son, we know that the first place belongs to a girl with an impressive profile.

- And now I am very happy to name the contestant who won First Prize —
congratulations to you: Ngo Viet Nam Phuong
- Full name: Ngo Viet Nam Phuong
- Name of school in Vietnam: Saigon South International School
- GPA: 3.55
- IELTS Score: 8.0
- Achievements: Honors Roll, Math Phoenix Award.
- Choice of country to study abroad: Australia
- Name of overseas institution: University of Technology Sydney
- Academic major: Bachelor of Business, major in Finance

In the next segment of our event today, when the champion shares her story, you will all understand how carefully this person prepared her presentation. Even though she was marked by four judges and then again by four different judges, her score remained unchanged. That

shows that she can prove her ability very well. Indeed, after listening to her sharing, we could see that the results she achieved thanks to her skill and preparation, it's clear she is an outstanding candidate. Congratulations once again to Ngo Viet Nam Phuong. This exciting announcement reminds me of Miss World or Miss Vietnam! I am very grateful to the Organisers for for giving me the honour to announce the names of the two Runner-ups and the Winner. Once again, congratulations to all 13 winners. I will now return the stage to MC, thank you.

Thank you, Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha – what a joy it is to know that the winners' efforts during the contest received very high evaluations from the Judges. You are all deserving of your scholarships. I would now like to invite the First and Second Prize Winners to interact directly with the audience participating in today's event and share your current feelings. At the same time, to all the contestants, please inform other students who have a dream of studying abroad to register for the Phase 2 of the scholarship contest. Tell them how you are now on a path to achieve your dream of studying overseas and offer advice on how they can receive valuable scholarships. First of all, I would like to invite you, Cao Hai Son, a talented contestant who won the Second Prize in the programme to join me in interacting with the audience. Dear Cao Hai Son, you can turn on your microphone and video for us.

Hello everyone, it is really a great honor to learn that I won this award today. Before telling you about my journey to winning a scholarship and receiving Second Prize, I would like to share a few words about myself first. As Ms.Mai Anh mentioned later, I'm Cao Hai Son. I have been in Australia for more than a week now. Soon I will be a new student at the Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, majoring in Computer Science. Since I was a child, I have had a dream to study abroad, but when growing up I had no specific plan on how to achieve this. Only in the last two years, thanks to the process of self-study and the help of the counsellors at IDP, I have clearly outlined my own path. The motivation for me to study abroad is the creation of financial development opportunities. I also want to expand my global knowledge. Through this programme, I have clearly outlined a financial management plan, learned how to better divide spending plans as well as strengthen my confidence to cope with challenges and changes while living away from home.

In my opinion, the secret to winning this scholarship is having a specific strategy, and clear goals; when you decide to participate, try your best; if you are unsure, seek advice, don't mess around. As for the presentation, I think it's ok to speak frankly and coherently. I would like to thank my two friends, Nhat Ha and Lan Huong, who have greatly strengthened my spirit as well as given many valuable suggestions to improve the quality of my application and presentation as well as my parents, who gave me a lot of opportunities and created an environment for me to develop myself. Finally, if I were to use three words to describe my spirit on this journey of winning this scholarship, they would be 'confident, steady, and determined (to win)'. I joined with a goal that I would make myself proud and right now I think I have done it.

Thank you, Cao Hai Son, may I ask if your parents are participating today? Congratulations to Cao Hai Son's parents – you will definitely be very proud of your child. As a member of the Judges, I watched and reviewed Cao Hai Son's presentation, and I think you are very deserving of this prize. Cao Hai Son's spirit is worth learning from!

Now to continue the programme, I would like to introduce the outright winner of the first prize, who has won the HSBC & IDP scholarship that will fulfil her dream of studying abroad. As she is studying in Sydney, and also busy attending another school event, unfortunately, she cannot attend the webinar tonight, so IDP invited her to prepare a video to introduce herself and share her experiences. Please listen to this video made by Ngo Viet Nam Phuong, a talented girl.

Hello everyone, first of all I want to say thank you to IDP Education and HSBC Premier for giving me the opportunity to participate in this contest and make it to the final round. I also want to say sorry that I can't attend the Award Ceremony webinar today as I have to attend a university event at the same time. My name is Ngo Viet Nam Phuong. I graduated from Saigon South International School in Ho Chi Minh City and I've been in Sydney for a week. I applied for a Bachelor's degree in business and I am majoring in Finance and Human Resource Management. I'm a freshman and I've been in university for a week now. About my inspiration and plan to study abroad, when I was in 10th grade, I walked with my mother in the morning, then I noticed that the air in Vietnam is polluted, especially in Saigon. I could see the dust clearly with my naked eye and it was early morning too. I think one of the reasons why the atmosphere is like that is the widespread use of plastic bags, the main source

of energy that we use is gasoline or coal. The main means of transportation is motorbikes so the air is heavily polluted. That inspired in me a dream to one day create a startup project for which I would collect old clothes then recycle, redesign cotton masks and bags that can be washed and reused. During COVID time, having masks that are washable and reusable became even more purposeful. Moreover, the project produced cotton bags made from recycled materials could be used whether you're going to the supermarket, hanging out, going to a meeting.

I chose to study abroad because in Australia there are many resources, opportunities, and good examples, especially for people who want to start a sustainable business like me. Especially this is a place where I can step out of my comfort zone and interact with many different cultures, perspectives and opinions. This will be helpful for me to modify my plan to make it more specific and practical for the startup project. This scholarship is a great encouragement as well as a great reward for me because of the time and effort I spent to practice listening, speaking, reading, writing, and presentation skills in English along with how to make a coherent, concise, and clear presentation in front of everyone paid off. Financially, this scholarship is a great help, a huge donation that will partly pay for my rent and school fees in Sydney, which has a high-cost of living

Three words to describe my spirit on the path to winning the HSBC and IDP scholarship is first "confidence" — I felt confident as I have prepared very well. I also practiced a lot so I am quite satisfied with my test. The second word is "worry" — I was worried because the exam is online, so I was afraid that if there is a technical problem, or something happens to my computer, I won't be able to take the exam. And the third word is "gratitude", I'm grateful that this opportunity came to me because I didn't think that by the end of 2021 there would be a contest to win a scholarship like this. I was able to participate and I made it to the final round. Through the programme, I developed some essential skills, such as personal financial management, how to open a bank account, and how to use a credit card — skills that are not taught in school. Thanks to this programme, I read the book *Rich Dad, Poor Dad* and learned how to manage personal finance; I also talked to my dad a lot about how to handle money and researched the cost of living in Sydney as well as the cost of public transport, rent fee, water, electricity, Wifi, school fees, and other incidental expenses. Thanks to that, I have a very specific excel file, I have calculated how much I will limit my spending, and at the same time, I have selected the jobs that can be done more, such as continuing to teach English, or

developing a YouTube channel, or finding other part-time work in Sydney to help cover my living expenses here.

As for having a 'secret' to winning the scholarship, I think the biggest tip I want to share is careful preparation. In addition to my research, I practiced answering questions so I could meet the requirements set by the Judges. I listed additional questions which are on the same topic but deeper, or even fringe questions related to my personality, about what kind of person you are, what personal difficulties I have faced. I then wrote the answers down on paper and practiced answering the questions out loud. Also, I wanted my presentation to be as smooth as possible so I practiced about 20 times, so I set the timer and I also filmed myself, recorded my voice. I also pretended to have a lot of Judges in front of me when I practiced, and thanks to that, I knew that whether my voice tone sounded loud enough, my pronunciation was clear, and I recognised when my answers were wrong. I analysed my videos and saw where answers were too long or confusing, and where else needed to be edited. Thanks to that, I think I had a very complete and thorough preparation. I felt more confident with my presentation and exam, which I think is one of the biggest factors that I got into the final round. This is the end of my speech, I would like to thank everyone who came to the Webinar today and listened to the presentation. At the same time, I would like to thank once again the study abroad company IDP and HSBC. Before I say goodbye, I would like to say that everyone please take care of your health especially during this ongoing pandemic. I also hope everyone has a happy and prosperous new year with lots of luck and happiness, thank you, everyone.

We just heard from the First Prize Winner - Ngo Viet Nam Phuong. Now I would like to go back to Nguyen Quynh Trang, I don't know if Nguyen Quynh Trang is ready. Please invite Trang to introduce herself to the audience and share her secret to winning scholarships.

First of all, I would like to say hello to everyone present at the Award Ceremony today. My name is Nguyen Quynh Trang. I am 19 years old and a freshman at the University of Melbourne, majoring in Finance and Management, I have just finished my first semester in 2021. On the 26th February, I will fly to Melbourne to continue my overseas journey. At first, when I joined this contest, I didn't think I could go far and even win a prize from the Organisers. Actually at first my intention when participating in this programme was just to have a chance to share my story and so having been recognised by everyone, I feel that my

hard work has been properly rewarded. My plan to study abroad started quite late compared to my peers. At the end of 10th grade and the beginning of 11th grade, I started to make a specific plan for myself and chose the country that I would spend three years in to study. I think I wanted to share this with everyone, especially those who intend to study abroad and I want to convey a message that it's never too late to start, because I'm a pretty shy person myself and I started quite late compared to the others, and I think I'll still make it to my final destination. As for this scholarship, first of all, financially, this is a great source of support for me. Now I can meet the estimated costs of the first chapter of this journey – flying to Melbourne, purchasing household items, and groceries at the supermarket so I can cook for myself. As I said earlier, especially when I started taking part in the final round, I didn't think that the Judges would be people in very high positions at IDP and HSBC and I was recognized by everyone for my efforts as well as financial plan. Then I think this is a source of encouragement, a source of mental reassurance for me that I am going in the right direction. A few pieces of advice that I would like to give to those of you who want to apply for the Second Edition of this scholarship programme is that everyone should be brave to apply — don't be afraid to express yourself and individuality; find the most obvious way to be bold and to stand out from more than 200 other applications. And please feel free to speak up, don't be shy; because when I did so I received encouragement and very useful advice from the two Judges here with us. If there were three words that I wanted to say about the process of taking this exam, I would first say “puzzled”, because, at the first stage, I really didn't know which work I should submit to the preliminary round! If I submitted just an essay or audio, the Judges wouldn't pay much attention to me and perhaps I would be disqualified from the start, so I tried to choose something that was a little different so I took a risk of making a video of drawing and dubbing that explained how I recounted the process for my plan to study abroad.

Next came the stage where I knew I'd made it to the next round. I started to have a little more direction, and have little bit of confidence. I said to myself I've come this far so I will give it my all. But I also told myself the award isn't too important, it's okay if I don't win it. Those are some of my experiences. Finally, I also want to thank the sponsors from IDP and HSBC as well as the brothers and sisters who have accompanied me, especially IDP staffs who supported me from the time I applied for the scholarship until after I arrived in Melbourne. I thank you all and wish you all a good evening.

Thank you Quynh Trang and congratulations for winning the Second Prize of the programme; thank you also for being able to share your experiences directly with the audience today. This will be a great motivation for the next round of candidates in the scholarship contest.