

# Parklife

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Website

[www.desaparkcity.com](http://www.desaparkcity.com)

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# EDITOR'S MESSAGE

While doing the groundwork for this issue about different generations living together in a community, we learned that multigenerational households are on the rise in the US. A concept we are quite familiar with in Asia. It wasn't so long ago when families in this region lived together under one roof. Families stuck together (literally), all their lives. They lived in the same house, raised families together and even worked together, in some cases. While this tradition hasn't completely disappeared, families in Asia, especially in the urban areas, still prefer a certain degree of independence, more so after marriage. A trend started by the baby boomers.

Looking back, there is reason to believe that families chose to live together in those early days, for economic reasons. It made financial sense to maintain one household and share the responsibility to take care of their family. As times got better and property prices were conducive for them to strike out on their own, many adult children decided to leave the nest and settle down separately with their own families.

According to one of the articles on the rise of multigenerational households in the US, the recent Great Recession was a major factor in bringing families together. Children are going back to live with their parents after university so they can save and pay off their student loans and three generations are coming together to mitigate living costs. Still, many of the families say

that money wasn't the only factor. Most adult children chose to invite their parents who were either widowed or having health problems into their homes, to care for them. If we consider Asia, while many children did move away, they didn't stray too far away from their parents for the same reason.

Multigenerational households can be beneficial but it is not for everyone. Living together in close quarters can be challenging. The lack of privacy, differences in opinions about way of life, cleanliness, etc., can be tiring. Although the rise of this living situation in the US suggests that families are making it work, many of them invest a lot of money to reconfigure the home

to make it friendly to the different generations' unique needs (usually with the elders downstairs, for ease of movement and children and kids upstairs, with a few communal spaces).

In Asia, at least in the urban setting, the preferred trend seems to be still be gravitating towards "living together, yet apart". The senior citizens today, who are the baby boomers, are also different from their parents. They value their independence and consider old age a new lease in life. Many of them are enjoying their golden years travelling, indulging in new found interests and spending time with their old friends.





*Alone we can do so little;  
together we can do so much  
– Helen Keller, author.*



“What seems to bind the different generations together is the need for community, whether its family, friends or neighbours. The need for human connection and the love, understanding, comfort, support, safety and belonging that it confers, is something we need in all stages of our life and is intrinsic to our happiness and wellbeing.”





## GETTING PLACEMAKING DOWN TO A FINE ART

A pioneering self-sustaining community renowned for its living concept and established neighbourhoods, a wholesome embodiment of its five guiding principles - **FAMILY, NEIGHBOURHOOD, COMMUNITY, CONVENIENCE & CONNECTIVITY**, where each space is made for life, each moment a call to live absolutely.





# Celebrating the Heart & Soul of DPC

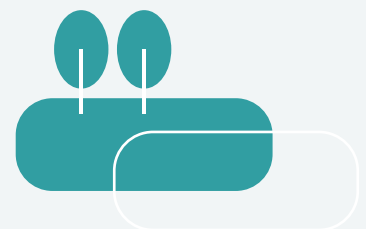


## Desa ParkCity Picks Up FIABCI Award

On 17 November last year, Desa ParkCity was crowned winner of the FIABCI Malaysia Property Award under the Master Plan category. As a developer of master-planned townships, this accolade, bestowed by the prestigious International Real Estate Federation, FIABCI, was the ultimate nod to our efforts in realising our vision of a self-contained township that integrates all the components of urban living while centered on fostering valuable family and community ties.



This award also signifies that we have come full circle since we first envisioned a New Urbanist community in Malaysia where concepts of community, public places and conveniences converge.





**“FIRST  
ENVISIONED  
A NEW  
URBANIST  
COMMUNITY  
IN MALAYSIA”**

Still, reflecting on our 18-year long journey from a once barren quarry to sprawling 473-acre master planned township, it is clear that Desa ParkCity would have remained just a dream without the unwavering support of its residents.

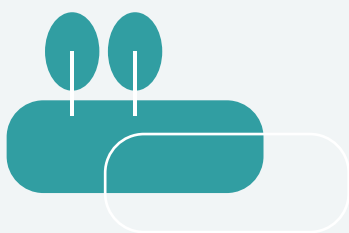
From the initial buyers who put their trust on us when all we had was a vision to the successive home buyers, investors and business tenants who helped us forge ahead to become one of Kuala Lumpur's most appealing, desirable and livable addresses.

Being centered on the ideals of wholesome living, our residents are the backbone of our community. Through the everyday living experiences of the residents



whether a morning stroll along the tree-lined pathways or tai chi at the Central Park, picking up weekly groceries at Plaza Arkadia, dropping the kids off at the International School or catching up with the neighbours at the many communal spaces, it is what keeps the vision of this incredible township alive.

More so, it has helped pave the way for two other master-planned communities - Marina ParkCity in Sarawak and ParkCity Hanoi in Vietnam.







## FIABCI awards won:

Desa ParkCity has previously picked up 3 FIABCI awards under the Residential (Low Rise) category for:

- 1 Adiva in 2009
- 2 Casaman in 2014
- 3 The Mansions in 2015







# *Living* the seniors' life



As Malaysia advances towards becoming an ageing nation by 2030, we are increasingly compelled to deal with the stigma of aged care. An issue that we have long grappled with as a society due to our strong family traditions, inherent social values and frankly, the dire state of retirement homes in the country (until recently), could finally see a breakthrough owing to the transformed aging population who value their independence and in leading an active lifestyle.

Transformed  
aging population  
who value their  
independence  
and in leading  
an active  
lifestyle.



A demographic led by baby boomers (those born between 1945 – 1964), the “new” aged are not only challenging the way we view them but also the healthcare system and housing solutions. The 2015 Asia Pacific Silver Economy Business Opportunities Report found that services that would entice baby boomers are access to elderly housing and wellness and healthcare programmes that support active ageing and ageing-in-place.v

“ The “new” aged are not only challenging the way we view them but also the healthcare system and housing solutions. ”

# Looking West

Countries like America, the United Kingdom and Australia – recognised as a model nation for aged and retirement communities, have long offered a diverse range of long-term facilities for the elderly based on personal preference and needs.

Offered a diverse range of long-term facilities

## 2 concepts of senior living

The Australian concept of senior living can be broadly classified into two – aged care that caters to those who need to be looked after and a retirement community for those who are still independent but would require some form of assistance (home care support or medical support).

Retirement Villages provide living arrangements such as village homes, serviced apartments and co-location (with the village situated or integrated with aged home care facilities), whilst the newer, Resort Communities is targeted at younger retirees (50 years and above) looking for affordable yet upmarket housing options among their cohort.

Living Arrangement





# Helping Malaysia embrace retirement homes

Besides creating a community for seniors where they are able to live independent and active lives, while providing the necessary facilities for the unique needs of seniors like medical facilities on site and transport system, we should consider:

**1**

## Building a retirement village within an existing community

While it is often the case that a retirement village is a standalone community, incorporating it within an existing community can foster a sense of belonging, improve emotional health and allow for learning opportunities for both young and old through community activities

**2**

## Calling it a different name

With the stigma attached to retirement homes, it is probably best to avoid the term. Calling it by a different name such as independent living units could help to endear to the idea.





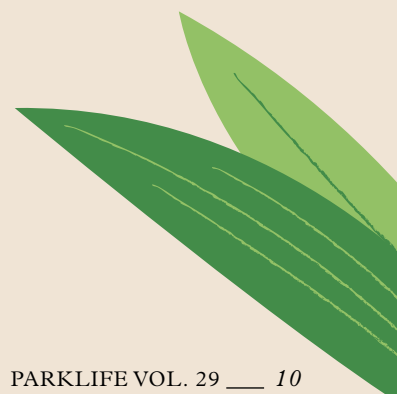
### 3 Create resort or hotel like atmosphere

Focus on the ambiance of the retirement village, with the underlying component being the necessary facilities needed for the occupants unique needs, instead of the other way around. This will require the joint efforts of developer, specialised operators to run the facilities and hoteliers to manage the retirement village.



#### Did You Know?

Aged-care is a fastest growing sector in Australia. Aged care is a \$20 billion plus industry, employing over 224,000 staff across more than 1,800 businesses who care for over 270,000 elderly and disabled across the country.



→ <https://www.ageingasia.com/index.php/market-intelligence/3rd-asia-pacific-silver-economy-business-opportunities-report.html>

→ <https://www.bhg.com.au/retirement-living-types-australia>

→ <https://www.projectresourcepartners.com.au/blog/2018/2/13/get-ahead-of-the-crowd-and-join-the-fastest-growing-sector-in-australia-aged-care-1>





# Settling in at Westside III

## DESA PARKCITY

### CONDO LIVING IN AN EXCEPTIONAL PLACE

For young, aspiring first-time homeowners, acquiring their first home is a time of great excitement, nervousness, anticipation and stress, combined.

The search for the perfect home that not only promises good long-term investment returns but also satisfies their personal checklist **i.e. location, design, amenities and accessibility**, can be challenging. Especially for those who aspires to start a family and are looking for a balance between community living and conveniences.



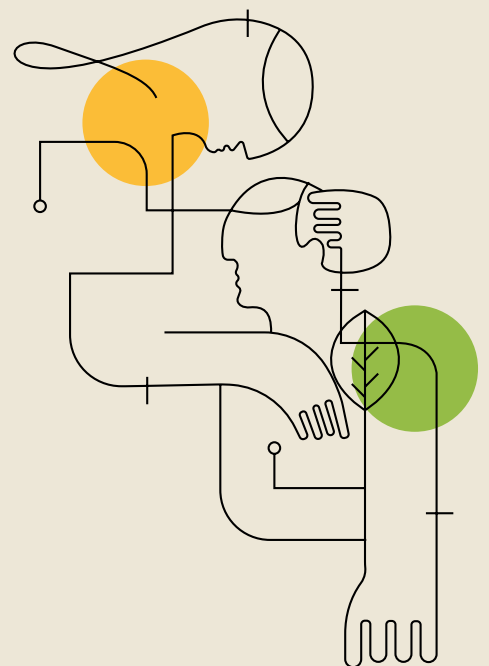
It was certainly a strenuous time for Shin Nee and her then fiancée (now husband) Lai Yihong. More so for Shin Nee, there was also the hope of finding a home within a community like Desa ParkCity.

Having lived here for 10 years when her family became the first residents of Davinia, the township was home to her. In the midst of house hunting and almost losing hope, Westside III was launched. Finally, they had found their dream home.





**“ The search  
for the perfect  
home that not  
only promises  
good long-term  
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also satisfies  
their personal  
checklist ”**







**“My father knew we were having a hard time finding a home we liked and immediately called us when Westside III was launched.”**

Here, Shin Nee reflects on the past decade living in Desa ParkCity, finding her own home and what she looks forward to as she starts her own family in this community:

### **1. Life in Desa ParkCity these past 10 years**

has given my family and I a treasure trove of great memories from countless family gatherings, Sunday breakfast at The Waterfront after a morning jog at Central Park, yearly New Year countdowns together to annual Chinese New Year celebrations with extended family and friends. This is where all the significant milestones in my life are also recorded - graduating from high school, entering university and then workforce, to now marriage and getting my first home.





## 2. Finding a home

has been a struggle but with a perfect ending. We truly lucked out with Westside III, that it was launched just when we were looking for our own place. Compared to the homes we looked at prior to that, we knew immediately that Westside III was the one for us. We are so happy to have found a home within this community, which we love.

## 3. Westside III was introduced

and recommended to us by my father. He knew we were having a hard time finding a home we liked and immediately called us when Westside III was launched. He even offered to help us monetarily but as young professionals, my fiancée and I have no trouble purchasing the unit.



## 4. My dream home checklist

includes good security and location, beautiful environment, great community, easy accessibility to amenities and importantly, within our budget.

## 5. When we moved into our home

we continued an accidental family legacy of also being the first residents of Westside III as our family was when we moved into Davinia 10 years ago.

## 6. What I look forward to living at Desa ParkCity

is continuing family traditions that we started since living here. One of it is ringing in the New Year as a family by gathering to watch the fireworks light up the sky over our home. Also, having my very own family, seeing my children grow up here as they achieve their own significant milestones.





# *The Official Opening /* *Plaza Arkadia*

While residents of Desa ParkCity and visitors alike have been enjoying Plaza Arkadia, indulging in its lively F&B scene, making memories with family and friends or browsing and shopping for some months prior, Plaza Arkadia had its official opening ceremony on 21st October.

Held at the open central courtyard, which was designed for such grand occasions, the event was officiated by the **Minister of Federal Territories YB Tuan Haji Khalid Abdul Samad**.



While accompanied by ParkCity Group Executive Chairman, Datuk Seri Yaw Chee Siew and Group Chief Executive Officer Datuk Joseph Lau, the Datuk Bandar of KL, YBhg Dato' Nor Hisham Bin Ahmad Dahlan and Executive Director (Planning) of DBKL, YBhg Datuk Hj. Mahadi Che Ngah, YB Khalid Samad marked the momentous event with the signing of the plaque. The minister applauded ParkCity for an excellent job in creating a well-planned township in Kuala Lumpur. **"It is indeed an exemplary township in Kuala Lumpur and what ParkCity has done is in line with the Federal Territories objective".**





As a celebration, the students from International School @ ParkCity came together to perform a rendition of “**Saya Anak Malaysia**” by Malaysian artist Dr. Sam. The launch was doubly momentous with the annual Desa ParkCity Run kicking off for the first time at Plaza Arkadia. The event ended with an award giving ceremony for the marathon winners and cheque handover to two charities - Sweet Care Welfare Society and Selangor Rasa Sayang Society.

*Plaza Arkadia is soaking up its distinct old colonial inspired architecture with a modern twist.*



**Fun Fact:** Since its completion in December 2016, Plaza Arkadia has reached a tenancy rate of more than 70% with anchors like Village Grocer, Maybank and a variety of F&B outlets. Plaza Arkadia is fast becoming one of the hot spots for dining & leisure in KL.



# Living — Together



**While multigenerational households still remain in Asia, it is not as prevalent as it used to be, especially in urban areas.**

Compared to the US where latest research indicates a rise in households where three different generations live under one roof, in Asia, the trend to establish independent households persist. Still, many Asian families tend to stay close to each other even when they set out on their own.

Often, families end up buying properties next to each other or within a short distance.

**The reason is simple, extended family are a great support system.**

Helping with taking care of the grandkids or nephews and nieces, preparing meals for the family, providing care for aging parents and even as emotional support for each other.



## ParkLife recently sat down with a mother and daughter of a family of three generations, residing in ParkCity Hanoi - Mrs. Dang and Mrs. Doan, to learn about their experience living together:

**PL:** When and why did you move to ParkCity Hanoi?

**Mrs. Doan:** I discovered ParkCity Hanoi in 2010 and was impressed with the unique concept - the green environment and linear parks facing the living room of the homes, so I bought a townhouse in Evelyn Gardens for my family and I. When my parents came to visit, they too fell in love with the township for the same reasons I did and decided to get a home at PCH themselves where they can enjoy their lives after retirement. They live in a semi-detached villa in Nadyne Gardens.



**PL:** Did you ever plan to live together before?

**Mrs. Dang:** No. It just happened and it was really because we loved what we saw. My husband and I were mesmerised by the beautiful green atmosphere for one. We were also impressed by the modern facilities, unique concept of each neighbourhood for different lifestyles and the walkability. It seemed like the perfect haven to settle in after retirement.

**Ms. Doan:** If it were not PCH, I don't think we would be living close to each other really. I'm glad it worked out this way because having my parents close by gives us the chance to have more precious family moments, which would have been not possible if they were living far away. My son also gets to enjoy having his grandparents around as he grows up and creating lifetime memories.



**PL:** What has your experience been like living close by?

**Mrs. Doan:** It's been wonderful. It is easy to get together and spend time with them whenever we like. Weekend gatherings are a must and we often have BBQ parties, which we also have friends and neighbours over. Besides that, we take workout classes together at the ParkCity Club.

**Mrs. Dang:** The greatest part is having my children and grandchildren over at my house. Our house is really lively with them nearby. Also, I used to suffer from insomnia because my previous house was facing a busy street. After moving in to Nadyne Garden, my sleep quality has improved greatly because it is such a quiet and peaceful environment. I also often go swimming in the Olympic size swimming pool at the ParkCity Club, which is helping with my backache. In the evenings, I enjoy reading and having a cup of tea in the back garden facing the linear park.



**PL:** As a mother, what do you appreciate most about living at PCH?

**Mrs. Doan:** I love that my son can ride his bicycle on his own or go out and play without my supervision because it's safe. I also appreciate that I don't have to drive out of the township to shop for groceries and such. It is also why I look forward to the International School opening. I'm not only happy that my son will be educated under the Cambridge programme but also that the school is within the township, which is incredibly convenient.







# Choosing the Right Preschool For Your Child



Ms. Tracy Lewis  
Head of The Early Years Centre

Children are our future and pride and joy! As a parent, you want nothing but the best for your child and choosing the right preschool is possibly one of the most crucial decisions you will have to make. Preschools can be as diverse as the children themselves, so what should you look for when choosing the right preschool for your child?

To help you with your search, here are a list of key points for you to consider:



## ◆ Location

Where is the school located?



## ◆ Educational Environment

What facilities does the school have to offer?



## ◆ Curriculum

How and what do the children learn?



ABC

## ◆ Staffing

Who will be teaching and caring for your child?



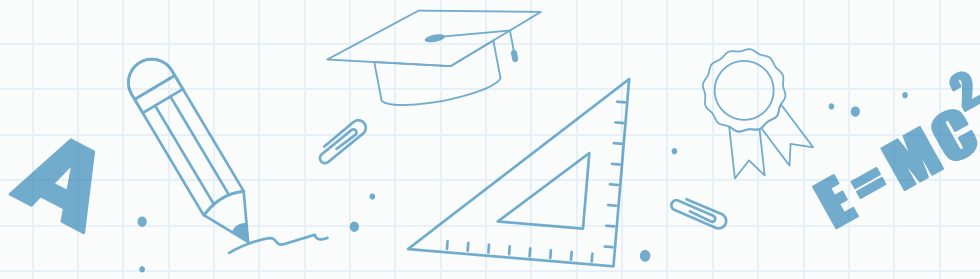
## ◆ Organisation

How are the children organised? How is the day organised?



## ◆ Communication

How can you find out about your child and how can you participate in their educational journey?



With all of these in mind, why should you consider **The Early Years Centre @ The International School @ ParkCity (EYC @ ISP)** for your child?

## 1. Location

It is conveniently located in Desa ParkCity (DPC). For children who live within the community, the pathways and pavements that link the school to the entire township, enable them to scoot and walk to school. It is also easily accessible through major highways and transport links for children who live around KL.

## 2. Educational Environment

The purpose-built centre is designed to create a natural, calm and comfortable learning environment with bright, open plan indoor spaces and a safe, green outside environment. It is also equipped with high quality resources that encourage creativity and problem solving skills in the children.

## 3. Curriculum

We follow the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) framework from England, which states that children learn best by playing and exploring. Our carefully prepared curriculum, which is 'powered by play' enables children to learn new skills, acquire new knowledge and demonstrate their understanding through the seven areas of learning and development.

## 4. Staffing

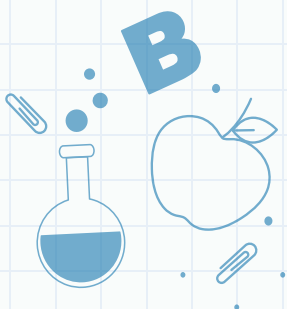
Our teachers are trained in the UK and Australia and supported by a dedicated team of classroom assistants, a school nurse, an administrator, security guards and housekeepers. Each class have their own teacher and classroom assistant who provide the children with safe and challenging environments, giving them the time, space and resources they need to support and extend their learning.

## 5. Organisation

School starts at 8.30am and ends at 2.15pm. The children spend the day partaking in a balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities, which are enhanced by a wide variety of specialist lessons including Mandarin, Swimming, Performing Arts and Baking. We offer a supervised, shuttle bus service to the ISP main school to enable younger siblings to meet their older siblings at the end of the school day.

## 6. Communication

We love to meet and greet parents each morning and afternoon, we are easily contactable via email and share key information via our website and the online application FlexiBuzz. We also have parent-teacher conferences throughout the year.

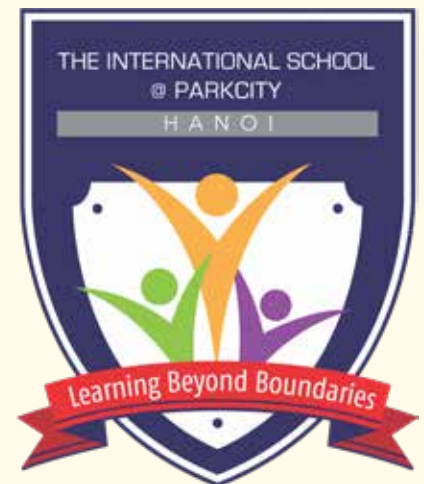


**The best way to decide whether you and your child will be happy in your chosen preschool is to visit. We welcome you to come and meet us!**



# ISP<sup>2b</sup>

@ ParkCity Hanoi



After more than seven years of establishing academic excellence and promoting the joys of school through a comprehensive learning experience, The International School @ ParkCity Kuala Lumpur (ISPKL) is expanding to Hanoi, with the foundation of our new school: The International School @ ParkCity Hanoi (ISPH), opening in August 2019. Bringing its distinct brand of education that encourages the pursuit of passion, offers a broad curriculum beyond academics such as sports, the arts and community outreach programmes and fosters a culture that instills ideals like inclusiveness, tolerance and respect, ISPH will ensure that its students evolve into well-rounded individuals. With total investment of 115 billion Viet Nam Dong, ISPH will comprise of purpose-built sites covering total built-up area of 24,608m<sup>2</sup> for Early Years Centre to Sixth Form.





## What to expect

at The International School @ ParkCity Hanoi (ISPH):

### Facilities

State-of-the-art teaching, learning and sports amenities including soccer field, playgrounds, comprehensive sports, creative arts and performing arts facilities, multi-purpose hall, laboratories and more.

### Curriculum

Following the UK curriculum and enhanced for an international setting, complemented by arts programmes and sporting opportunities. Learning is encouraged through first-hand experience and by instilling habits like resilience, collaboration, reflection, enquiry, independence, risk taking and more.

### Students

An international and culturally diverse student population, from kindergarten to sixth form.

### Stages of learning

Students are able to join school from the age of 3 years old at the Early Years Centre (EYC) and continue a seamless education until their graduation at the age of 18. Namely Year 1 – 9 (International Primary Curriculum & National Curriculum for England), Year 10 – 11 (Cambridge IGSCE) and Year 12 – 13 (A-Levels)

Learn more:

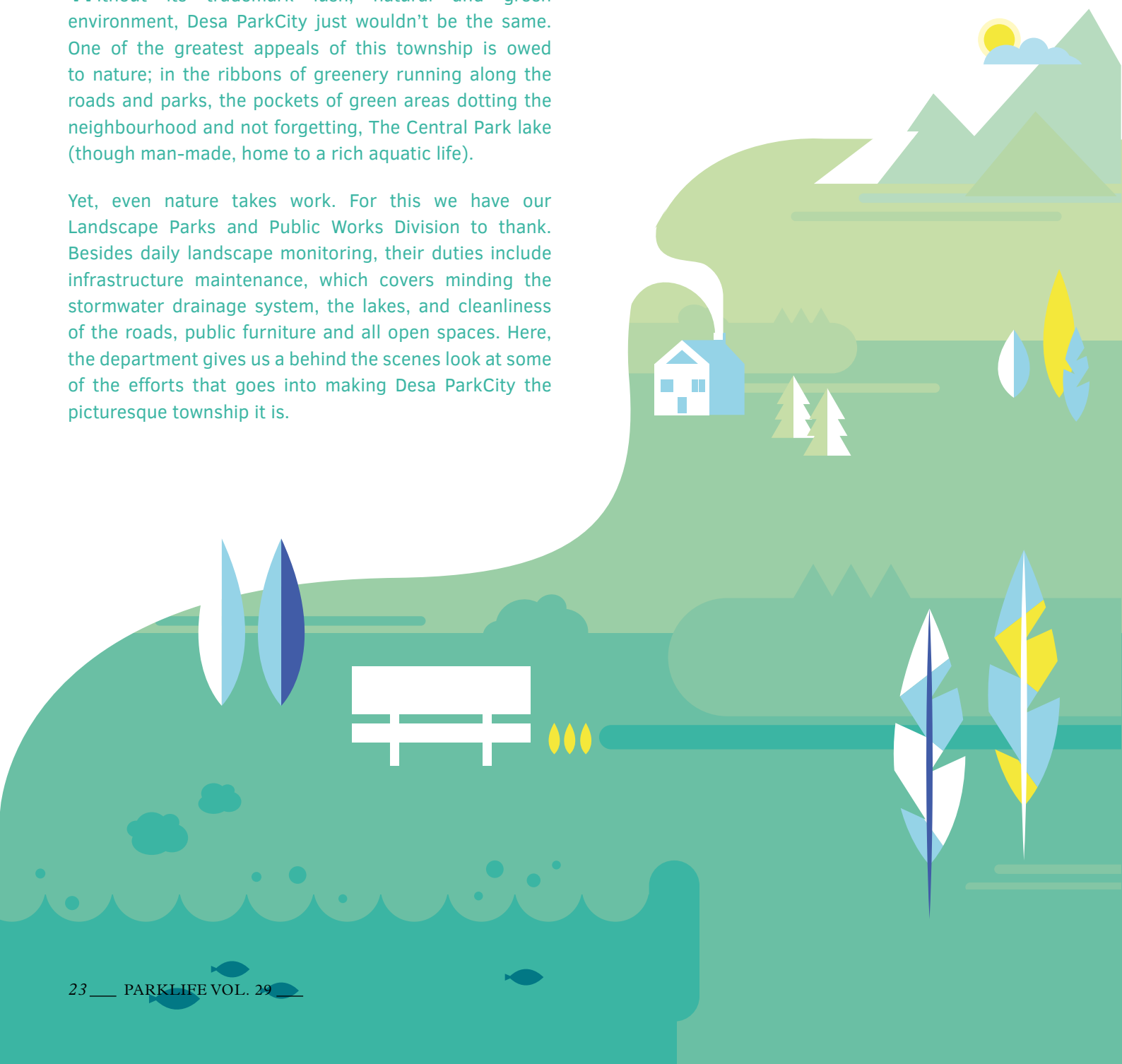
To find out more about The International School @ ParkCity Hanoi (ISPH), go to [ISPH.edu.vn](http://ISPH.edu.vn)



# Hand in Hand with Nature

Without its trademark lush, natural and green environment, Desa ParkCity just wouldn't be the same. One of the greatest appeals of this township is owed to nature; in the ribbons of greenery running along the roads and parks, the pockets of green areas dotting the neighbourhood and not forgetting, The Central Park lake (though man-made, home to a rich aquatic life).

Yet, even nature takes work. For this we have our Landscape Parks and Public Works Division to thank. Besides daily landscape monitoring, their duties include infrastructure maintenance, which covers minding the stormwater drainage system, the lakes, and cleanliness of the roads, public furniture and all open spaces. Here, the department gives us a behind the scenes look at some of the efforts that goes into making Desa ParkCity the picturesque township it is.







## Did You Know?

The greenery that runs along the roads, parks and pockets of green areas in Desa ParkCity covers more than 40 football fields.



## Composting Organic Waste

More than 20% of the land in Desa ParkCity is covered with vegetation, which means that there is an abundance of organic waste collected daily. Instead of getting rid of the dried leaves and branches, they are used for composting. Besides reducing waste, composting is a sustainable and cost-effective practice, which yields organic fertiliser that can be added to soil to help plants grow.

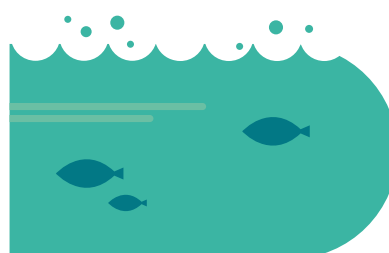
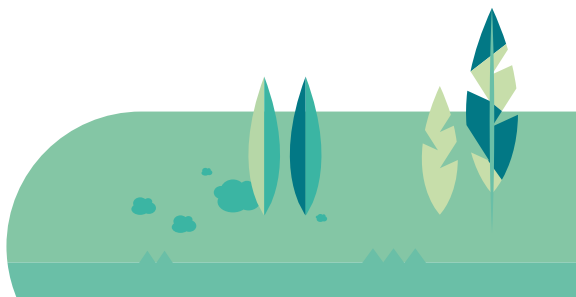






## Cleaning The Lake

While lake preservation is largely taken care of by systems put in place by Desa ParkCity management such as a biofilter to treat the lake water and biotreatment and hydrological application to maintain water quality, the landscape division is in charge of maintaining its functionality. Regular inspection and maintenance are carried out to clear the pollutant and trash load from the biofiltration system. The department is also tasked in maintaining the health of the lake's ecosystem.







## Transplantation

Instead of simply clearing the vegetation found in the area for construction, as many of them are saved and transplanted at various parks around Desa ParkCity. When the original site is ready, the trees, plants or shrubs are transplanted back to its initial home or is maintained as part of the park. A fully operational nursery also acts as a temporary home for young trees, flowers and bushes where they are nurtured until they are ready to be introduced back into the community.



### → Fun Fact:

Prior to starting of earthworks, we saved and replanted the following trees/plants from Jalan Persiaran Residen at The Central Park to make way for construction:



**Hopea Odorate**  
(Cengal Pasir)

A popular local ornamental shade tree



**Ixora coccinea**  
(Flame of the Woods)

A beautiful flowering rounded evergreen shrub





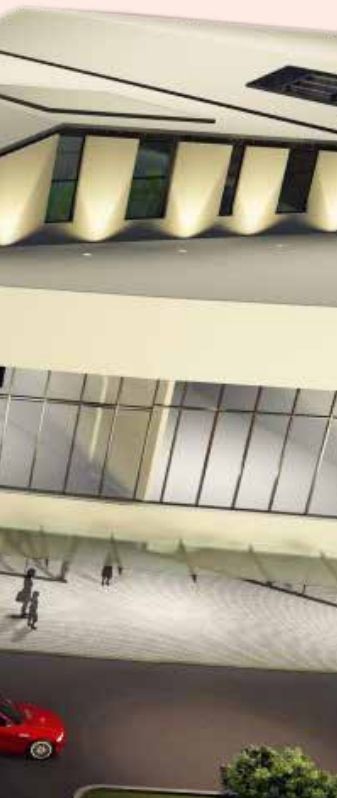
## Work In Progress:

The Waterfront @ Desa ParkCity is getting an upgrade

A favourite haunt for residents and visitors, The Waterfront at Desa ParkCity has been a steady crowd puller since it opened 10 years ago. With its ideal mix of shops, convenient location and open-air, leisurely ambiance, the neighbourhood mall holds its own with just the right amount of everything you need, encompassed in a cozy setting. By end of 2019, The Waterfront will have more to offer. Residents may have already noticed the upgrading works in progress and the first signs of new outlets opening with McDonalds and The Barn setting up shop this past Dec.

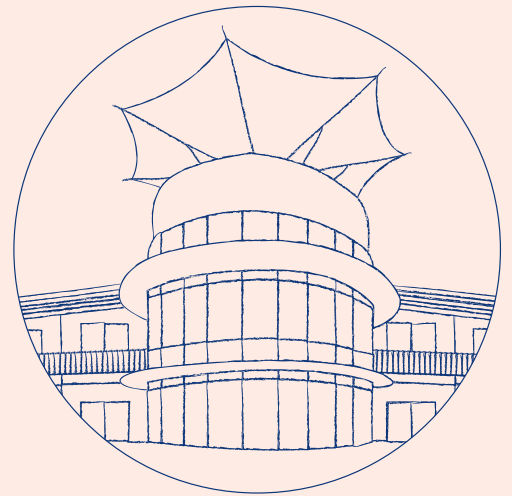
The major refurbishment works will take place mid 2019 with the supermarket and retail areas on the ground and first floor getting an upgrade, with completion expected at end of the year.





## Here are what to look forward to at The Waterfront

1. An upgraded grocery area that will provide better variety and offerings for the community
2. Level 1 will be accessible from the Central Park playground with additional offerings of International and Asian cuisines together with retail stores
3. Approximately 15 to 20 more units will be added, providing more variety of retail and F&B outlets including extensions and upgrades to the The Barn and Social



“By end of 2019,  
The Waterfront will  
have more to offer.”





## Farmer's Market

**Time — Every 1st Sunday of the month (8.30am to 1.30pm)**  
**Venue — The Waterfront**

**Every first Sunday of the month**, the open-air area at The Waterfront is abuzz with activity as it transforms into a vibrant farmer's market offering everything from local farm produce, homemade treats to fun activities. Dotted with a myriad of stalls, the marketplace is a feast to the senses with colourful organic vegetables and fruits on display along with perfumed herbs and aromatic treats like

pastries, tarts and breads. Besides edibles, there are flowering plants and handmade fashion accessories. Those with furkids should check out the pet's bazaar offering clothes, accessories and grooming services. It's a fun outing for the kids too with the mini zoo corner and other exciting activities. ↓



## Small Wheelaton II rolls back into DPC

**Time — 2nd December (7.30am – 10am)**  
**Venue — Plaza Arkadia**

For a second second year running, the SMALL Wheelathon Charity Ride took place at Desa ParkCity. Organised by WeCareJourney, the SMALL Wheelathon II was held on 2 Dec in conjunction with International Day of Person with Disabilities. The inclusive event, which aimed to raise awareness for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), saw residents and visitors alike, join in the fun on bicycles, wheelchairs, rollerblades, strollers and more. Participants included 170 people with various disabilities as well as their family members. Also in attendance was YB Hannah Yeoh who was the guest of honour. Besides the ride, participants also got a chance to enter the "Immersion Zone", which was set up to help educate the public on the cause.







## A Double Mid-Autumn Celebration

**Time — 1st September (8.30pm to 11.30pm)**

**Venue — Desa ParckCity & ParkCity Hanoi**



The Mid Autumn festival united two ParkCity communities – **Desa ParkCity and ParkCity Hanoi** in the spirit of celebration of life, family and community. Celebrated according to the unique customs and traditions of the respective countries, at Desa ParkCity, it was a two-day affair featuring delicious mooncakes, colourful lanterns and cultural performances. Held at The Waterfront followed by Plaza Arkadia, the events saw people of all races gathering to enjoy the festivities. There were food trucks and stalls, festive workshops, a bazaar, mooncake eating competition, voucher giveaways and a Chinese fan performance. The highlight of the festival was of course the much anticipated and customary lantern walk and the release of the floating lotus on the night of the full moon,

which got the kids and adults equally excited.

Over at ParkCity Hanoi, more than 7000 people gathered for the Mid-Autumn festivities or as it is locally known, Tet Trung Thu. On the brightest full moon night of 19 September, guests were treated to one amazing experience after another including a magic show, circus performance, street music, meet and greet with The Moon Lady and Moon Boy, lion dance and mooncake making workshop. There were also more than 80 types of cuisines and shopping booths lined up on ParkCity Boulevard for visitors to enjoy. ParkCity Hanoi also awarded great giveaways to the delight of the guests.





# Spreading Yuletide Joy & Goodwill

MiriTimes Square was brimming with the spirit of joy, goodwill and togetherness as ParkCity fete three children's homes to a Christmas celebration. The children and disabled from special needs homes namely Miri Methodist Children's Home, MRCS Sunflower Center and Pusat Pemulihan Dalam

Komuniti (PDK) Sunflower Miri were treated to a feast courtesy of the Lion Club of Miri Mandarin, entertained by a clown who had a bunch of tricks up his sleeve and received gifts from Starbucks. There were cheers at the sight of ol' Santa Clause who dropped by to mingle and spend time with kids.





The occasion brightened up even more with the lighting of the Christmas tree at the Central Plaza. Trimmed with glittering baubles, intricate ornaments and sparkling lights, the tallest Christmas tree in Miri was officially alighted by Miri City Council Mayor, YB Adam Yi.

He also witnessed as the heads of the Samling Group of Companies presented a cheque totaling RM26,010 that was contributed by generous donors, to the three homes.







# “The Power Of Art”

“What art offers is space  
– a certain breathing  
room for the spirit”  
– John Updike, novelist

Since the dawn of mankind, creative expressions such as music and dance; paintings and sculptures; and storytelling and acting, have been an essential part of our existence. Collectively known as ‘the arts’, they play a pivotal role in society, not only as a source of beauty and inspiration but also as the keepers of history and a vehicle of change – challenging society into breaking down barriers of traditional thoughts, igniting the fires of creativity and forging communities together for the benefit of the marginalised and a better world.

The power of the arts to bring people together lies in its ability to surpass cultural, ethnic and gender barriers, in favour of stretching our hearts and minds, reminding us essentially of how deeply connected we are to each other.



## How the arts benefit us?

Source from: <http://dishbyili.com/foodie-adventure-penang-edition/processed-with-vsco-with-hb2-preset-12/>

### ◆ Boosting Local Economies ◆

The arts benefit local communities by attracting visitors, creating jobs, developing skills and revitalising neighbourhoods and districts. A Malaysian example would be the famous Penang street art.

### ◆ Health & Well-being ◆

Studies have shown that applied arts and cultural interventions positively impact certain health conditions such as dementia, depression and Parkinson’s disease. The arts are also known to help facilitate social interactions, reducing loneliness and alleviating anxiety.

### ◆ Community & Well-being ◆

The arts tend to foster community cohesion, reduce social exclusion and isolation and make communities feel safer and stronger. Those who take part in the arts have been reported to be more likely to volunteer and are more civic and socially-minded citizens.



### ◆ Developing Young Minds ◆

Children who take part in the arts such as music have shown improved abilities in maths, early language acquisition and literacy. Children from low-income families who engage in some form of art activity in school, are three times more likely to get a degree than those who do not.



# Impacts Of Art

Source from: <https://www.theartstory.org/movement-performance-art.htm>



↑ Classified as performance art, this powerful piece by Yoko Ono is called Cut Piece. Performed in 1964, Yoko Ono sat silently on a stage as her audience walked up to her and cut away pieces of her clothing with a pair of scissors. The whole concept of this piece of art was to force people to take responsibility for their voyeurism and realise that even passive witnessing of an act could potentially harm the “subject of perception”. A strong feminist statement, it depicted the dangers of objectification of women.

## The arts teach us

Many artists produce works focused on specific elements such as poverty, sexuality and racism. By appreciating these art forms, we gain a better understanding of humanity as a whole. It broadens our awareness and allows compassion and tolerance to grow. It also instills lessons on :-

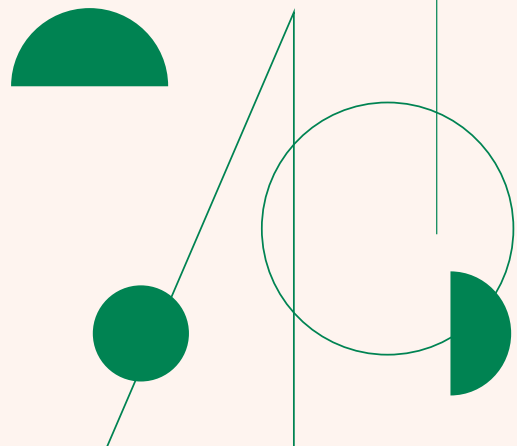
- ◆ Inclusiveness ◆ Equality ◆ Cooperation
- ◆ Acceptance ◆ Diversity

↓ The Tank Man, an iconic photograph taken after the Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989. The man standing in front of the tanks has never been identified making his anonymity a universal symbol of resistance to unjust regimes everywhere.

Source from: <http://100photos.time.com/photos/jeff-widener-tank-man>



“By appreciating these art forms, we gain a better understanding of humanity as a whole.”



\* This article was written by Anita Shree Jacob, a ParkLife contributor.



# THE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL @ PARKCITY



## Early Years Centre Ages 3 to 5 years

**Providing the very best start to your child's education.**

Located next to the ParkCity Club House, the Early Years Centre (EYC) is a purpose built facility providing bright, open-plan indoor spaces and green outside environments.



## Primary School Ages 5 to 11 years

**A vibrant and cheerful welcome awaits all students.**

The Primary School builds on the foundations laid in the Early Years, helping the students transition towards becoming increasingly independent and self-reflective whilst fully preparing them for the Secondary phase of their education.



## Secondary School Ages 11 to 18 years

**Dynamic and enjoyable, with a focus on academic excellence.**

The Secondary School offers a challenging, meaningful and enjoyable setting for our students. They are guided and challenged by our team of highly skilled teachers as they journey towards academic success in their external examinations at the end of Year 11.



## Sixth Form Ages 16 to 18 years

**Preparing our students for A-Levels, university and beyond.**

Students in the Sixth Form follow an academic programme based on the AS and A-Level syllabuses from AQA and Cambridge Assessment International Education. A-Levels are often considered to be the 'gold standard' qualification and are highly valued by universities and employers.

The International School @ ParkCity (ISP), located in the award-winning township of Desa ParkCity, offers an extensive programme of study for students aged from 3 to 18 years old. Since opening in 2011, our mission has been to provide a high quality education, set high and achievable expectations, and create a safe school in which every student is happy and treated as an individual. The school was judged to be an "Outstanding School" through accreditation with the Educational Development Trust and awarded The International Schools Quality Mark at Gold Level.

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\* Terms & conditions apply, this scheme is subject to changes without any prior notice.



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