

## Motivation Letter

Coming from a futuristic country/city, Singapore, I have always wanted to push the limits of architecture. My goal is to compete for the RIBA/AIA Award in the future.

Perusing a master's degree would open my mind to greater possibilities. Learning from my travels through Europe/Asia/America, it sparks an excitement towards Different approaches of architecture. If given the opportunity of winning this prize, I would maximise it by exchanging as much knowledge as I can. The goal is to give back to others.

I would also like to explore the future of inclusiveness and universal design. My main motivation is to explore outcomes and produce ideas that could improve the current situation as it is personal to me (my childhood best friend is wheelchair-bound and I want to do my best if given the chance through design).

With a strong BIM background from training under Kajima, I would like to challenge and take things to new heights. I participate in many design competitions to benchmark myself against the architectural ecosystem. In 2015, I was a semi-finalist in the CTBUH Tall Building International competition (Jury chaired by Moshe Safdie and exhibited in New York). Therefore, I was willing to compete for the IE prize. Ideally, this resonates towards how I want to shape my portfolio. Alongside the previous goals, I would also like to design in the public housing sector(in the future) in Singapore as recently it is a law that all public housing buildings must be accessible for the handicapped(about 70% of the population lives in public housing)-but instead of just meeting the building code, are we able to deliver more?

Apart from architecture, I was also once a soldier in the navy. This made me understand and empathise with people from around the world through humanitarian training and deployment. Sailing to distant countries and experiencing different cultures allowed me to gain a new perspective from a military point of view (that is unique and different from being a civilian). This perspective made me more aware of certain things such as the layout of military structures and buildings and how they function differently from the normal world.

I hope my motivation and the compilation of my experience would gain me the opportunity of the prize. It would be an inspiring chapter in my life.