

# SSEAYP NEWS

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THE SHIP FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN AND JAPANESE YOUTH PROGRAM

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## **SIGA** **PATTAYA 2024**

<b>THE 47<sup>TH</sup> SHIP FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN AND JAPANESE YOUTH PROGRAM (SSEAYP)</b>	2
<b>SSEAYP INTERNATIONAL'S PROJECT · ONE FRAME FOR ALL</b>	3
<b>CONFERMENT OF DECORATIONS ON FOREIGN NATIONALS · SSEAYP ALUMNI</b>	4
<b>BRUNEI DARUSSALAM · PERSATUAN BERSATU</b>	6
<b>CAMBODIA · SI CAMBODIA</b>	7
<b>INDONESIA · SSEAYP INTERNATIONAL INDONESIA INC.</b>	8
<b>JAPAN · INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EXCHANGE ORGANIZATION OF JAPAN</b>	9
<b>MALAYSIA · KABESA</b>	10
<b>PHILIPPINES · SSEAYP INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES INC.</b>	11
<b>SINGAPORE · SSEAYP INTERNATIONAL SINGAPORE</b>	12
<b>THAILAND · ASSOCIATION OF THE SHIP FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN YOUTH OF THAILAND</b>	13
<b>LAO P.D.R. · LAO SSEAYP ALUMNI ASSOCIATION</b>	14
<b>VIET NAM · VIETNAM ALUMNI CLUB OF YOUTH FRIENDSHIP EXCHANGE PROGRAMS</b>	15
<b>THE 33<sup>RD</sup> SIGA · SSEAYP INTERNATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY: PATTAYA 2024</b>	16
<b>ANNOUNCEMENT · THE 48<sup>TH</sup> SSEAYP</b>	17
<b>DIRECTORY OF SSEAYP INTERNATIONAL</b>	18

# THE 47<sup>TH</sup> SHIP FOR SOUTHEAST ASIAN AND JAPANESE YOUTH PROGRAM

The purpose of the 47<sup>th</sup> **Ship for Southeast Asian and Japanese Youth Program (SSEAYP)** is to promote friendship and mutual understanding among the youths of Japan and the ASEAN member countries by participating in various exchange activities both online and face-to-face. It aims to broaden their perspective on the world, and furthermore to strengthen their spirit of international cooperation and practical skills for international collaboration. As a result, it is expected to cultivate the leaders of the next generation who are capable to exercise their leadership skills in various fields in the globalizing society.

While utilizing the characteristics of the SSEAYP implemented in the past, the program that combines online and face-to-face exchanges was conducted with the commemorative event for the **50<sup>th</sup> Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation**.



Ms. KATO Ayuko, Minister of State for Youth Affairs of the Cabinet Office and National Leaders Commemorative Event for the 50<sup>th</sup> Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation (December 7, 2023)

Dates	Program
November 12 & 19, 2023	<b>Online Exchange Program</b> Orientation, Keynote Speech, NL Session, Group Discussion, SG Meeting
November 29 - 30, 2023	<b>Face-to-face Exchange Program</b> <b>&lt;Program in Tokyo, Japan I&gt;</b> Arrival in Japan, Inauguration Ceremony, Voluntary Activity
December 1 - 4, 2023	<b>&lt;Local Program in 5 Prefectures, Japan&gt;</b> <b>(Yamagata, Yamanashi, Aichi, Nagasaki, and Kagoshima)</b> Courtesy Call, Homestay, Interaction with Local Youths
December 4 - 8, 2023	<b>&lt;Program in Tokyo, Japan II&gt;</b> Group Discussion, Field Study, Post-Program Session, Commemorative Event for the 50 <sup>th</sup> Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation, Presentation of Discussion Results, Farewell Ceremony
December 8 - 9, 2023	<b>Meeting Related to SSEAYP</b> Conference of the Representatives of the Southeast Asian Countries and Japan, SSEAYP Alumni Meeting



# 50<sup>TH</sup> YEAR OF ASEAN-JAPAN FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION GOLDEN FRIENDSHIP, GOLDEN OPPORTUNITIES



Mr. KUDO Shozo, State Minister of the Cabinet Office and All Participants Inauguration Ceremony (November 30, 2023)



The year 2023 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> commemorative year of ASEAN-Japan relations. ASEAN-Japan relations have made remarkable progress since 1973. To commemorate this occasion, the Cabinet Office invited the representatives of governments and SSEAYP alumni associations to Japan to express gratitude to all governments and concerned parties and to ask for further cooperation in the future.

The representatives of the governments and SSEAYP alumni associations attended the Commemorative Event for the 50<sup>th</sup> Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation held at Hotel New Otani Tokyo on the afternoon of December 7. The NLs and PYs of the 47<sup>th</sup> SSEAYP also attended the Commemorative Event, which was also attended by the ambassadors of the respective embassies of the Southeast Asian countries in Tokyo.

## SSEAYP INTERNATIONAL'S PROJECT ONE FRAME FOR ALL

On the occasion of the 50<sup>th</sup> Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation, SSEAYP International held a profile picture frame design competition on social media. The winner's design was distributed to SSEAYP alumni from all ASEAN member countries and Japan to frame their profile pictures and symbolically express the solidarity of SSEAYP alumni, who have been an important part of the ASEAN-Japan friendship since its inception in 1974.



Profile Picture Frame Design Competition



1st Winner

Raf Sopia Centeno (Batch: 2019)

@sseayp.international

s.id/sseaypinternational

# CONFERMENT OF DECORATIONS

## On Foreign Nationals • SSEAYP Alumni

We have three SSEAYP alumni who were awarded “The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays” between 2021 and 2023 for their invaluable contributions to youth exchange and friendship between Japan and ASEAN member states. To date, a total of five SSEAYP alumni have been awarded “The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays.”

- **2021 Autumn: Dr. Rino Wicaksono**, Indonesia, PY of SSEAYP 1983  
The former President of SSEAYP International Indonesia Inc.
- **2022 Autumn: Dr. Chai Nimakorn**, Thailand, PY of SSEAYP 1977  
The former President of ASSEAY Thailand
- **2023 Autumn: Mr. Tan Soon Hoe, BBM, PBM, PBS**, Singapore, PY of SSEAYP 1980  
The former President of SSEAYP International Singapore

### Message from Dr. Rino Wicaksono



Going abroad to travel is everyone's dream, but going abroad at a young age and taking on the responsibility as a representative of the nation and state with the national emblem and flag attached to the chest, as well as meeting, discussing and sharing experiences with the best young people from other countries is an irreplaceable blessing.

The SSEAYP in 1983 was the first international program I participated in. SSEAYP is a cooperation program between the Japanese government and ASEAN countries that aims to realize the noble ideals of regional peace and prosperity. SSEAYP used a ship that traveled across several oceans and visited several countries, through that ship I learned more about the ambassadorship, collegueship, friendship, partnership, worship and leadership. **Unity in diversity is real and joint-cooperation is a must.**

After returning from the program, together with my beloved Indonesian SSEAYP alumni' friends, I built the SSEAYP alumni organization in Indonesia (SII) as a medium for service to the government and the people of Indonesia. On an international scale, I am also very fortunate with the alumni Japan and ASEAN countries, we were together have the opportunity to build SSEAYP International (SI), SSEAYP International General Assembly (SIGA), SSEAYP Traveling Network (STN) and Council of the Presidents (COP). Because of SSEAYP, I have family and friends from ASEAN countries, Japan and all over cities in Indonesia. My deepest appreciation and gratitude to my dearest SSEAYP alumni, the SII Inc. Assembly, the President and Committee of SII Inc., all Alumni Associations (AAs), the Indonesian government, IYEO, CENTERYE and the Japanese government, and to God the Almighty.

### Message from Dr. Chai Nimakorn



To my surprise and beyond my expectations, I am very honored to learn about the conferment of the Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays from the government of Japan. The SSEAYP itself is already precious enough from the hospitality of Japanese government to the ASEAN youths which can sends impacts to the Region and along with Ship for World Youth together to make peace and friendship to the world at the time of international conflicts, on this special occasion, I feel thankful to Japanese government who sponsor great projects de-spite of economic crisis. And I would like to say, I receive this honor on behalf of the ASSEAY Committee, my COP and SSEAYP friends in ASEAN and Japan who have been working on projects since the alumni associations are formed, until today, to grow friendship, creating love and care for our community and positive impacts for our countries and beyond.

This conferment is the announcement to spread the philosophy friendship to our society and the world like what we sing in our song that I would like to make a summary: **Nippon Maru, riding the waves over the deep blue, bringing young hearts and mind, over to the ports of the world, to tell people that the world is our home.** Thank you, Nippon Maru!

# CONFIRMATION OF DECORATIONS

## On Foreign Nationals • SSEAYP Alumni

### Message from Mr. Tan Soon Hoe, BBM, PBM, PBS



I am thrilled and honored to have been nominated by SIS to receive the prestigious Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Rays in 2023. I extend my gratitude to the President, Ex-Co Members, and volunteers of SIS, both past and present, for their invaluable contributions. Their support has been instrumental in formulating and executing numerous youth exchange programs directly linked to my nomination. These programs, led by SIS, aim to foster friendship and mutual understanding among the people of Japan, Singapore, and other ASEAN member states.

SSEAYP International (SI) was founded in 1987 as a coalition of all Alumni Associations of SSEAYP, with the objective of contributing to the development of ties and understanding for coexistence among nations, and the strengthening of world peace, harmony, and prosperity. Under the guidance of the SI Charter, IYEO and SSEAYP Alumni Associations of ASEAN have successfully hosted 32 SIGA (SSEAYP International General Assemblies) in the past 36 years.

My utmost respect goes to the pioneer batches of PYs who worked tirelessly to establish the SSEAYP Alumni Association in the 10 ASEAN countries, comprising 13,358 former participants as alumni members who benefited from SSEAYP sponsored by Japan since the inaugural voyage on October 10, 1974.

Having served as a member of the Council of Presidents (COP) of SI for 14 years, including two terms as Deputy Secretary General of SI, I have enjoyed robust support from the President of IYEO-Japan, the President and staff of CENTERYE of Japan, and the unreserved sharing of best practices among the Presidents of ASEAN Alumni Associations. I have learned much from their sharing, and I would like to highlight the invaluable secretariat support led by the Secretary General of SSEAYP International, based in Japan, ensuring the meticulous planning and implementation of every SIGA organized to further SSEAYP objectives.

In 2023, we celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Year of ASEAN-Japan Friendship and Cooperation. **It is both timely and necessary for us to review, renew, and revitalize the connections among the people of ASEAN and Japan** made possible by the impactful international Youth Exchange program called the SSEAYP.

I would like to express my deep gratitude to the Japanese government for sponsoring SSEAYP for the past 47 years, along with the strong support from ASEAN countries in providing educational local programs during our visits. Special acknowledgment goes to the foster parents who have made homestays enriching experiences for every participating youth since 1974!

Thank you very much!