

SKILLS IN DEMAND

TAR UMT 'tax pro' advances to global finals

Tan will be sole M'sian representative vying for coveted title

PROVING she has what it takes to make an impact as a tax professional, commerce student Tan Hui Theng earned herself the "Ernst & Young (EY) Young Tax Professional of the Year (YTPY) 2023 Malaysia" title recently.

In addition to bagging a cash prize of RM8,000 and securing a paid internship of no less than eight weeks or a conditional offer of employment in tax services at EY Tax Consultants Sdn Bhd, the 21-year-old will be representing Malaysia at the competition's international finals, where she will compete against winners from other countries for the coveted "EY YTPY 2024" title.

Expressing her gratitude for the support she received, the undergraduate from Tunku Abdul Rahman University of Management and Technology (TAR UMT) also acknowledged the organiser for "letting young voices be heard".

"To the younger generation, I encourage you all to join this challenge and see how far you can go. You will definitely be surprised," she said in a press release.

Claiming second and third spots at the national finals held in Kuala Lumpur on Sept 7 were Taylor's University accounting (fintech) student Marvin Hing Majin and Universiti Tunku Abdul Rahman (UTAR) accounting student Lam E Vaine, who



Young talents: (Third from left) Tan, Lam and Hing posing with their awards, together with (from left) Farah, Wan Ramiza and Hisham.

received RM6,000 and RM3,000 for their win, respectively.

Both aged 21, they also won a paid internship or a conditional offer of employment.

EY Tax Consultants Sdn Bhd Malaysia tax managing partner Farah Rosley said the organisation is committed to providing opportunities for the younger generation to explore careers in tax.

"Diverging from other undergraduate programmes, the EY YTPY competition is a global competition that encourages young talents to transcend the confines of their campus walls and delve into real-world scenarios.

"It serves as a platform for undergraduates to experience real-life business issues and use the opportunity to work with

industry leaders to solve challenges that go beyond borders and cultures," she said.

EY YTPY programme director Hisham Halim, who is also EY Tax Consultants Sdn Bhd partner, said the competition challenges participants to demonstrate their capacities for creative interpretation and analysis of the issues at hand, and their ability to innovate under

demanding circumstances in developing cutting-edge business and tax solutions.

"The global competition will take the challenge to yet another level. Our international judges will test our participants for evidence of out-of-the-box analytical prowess, alongside pragmatism and the ability to convincingly articulate their ideas.

"Participants will be expected to be able to showcase their aptitude for amalgamating critical thinking, business insights and practical appreciation of tax concepts to address real challenges encountered by global businesses. We are certain Hui Theng will do us proud," he said.

Inland Revenue Board (LHDN) deputy chief executive officer (Tax Operation) Wan Ramiza Wan Ghazali, who graced the event, expressed hope that the national participants had gained a clearer picture of how rewarding a tax career can be.

The international finals will take place in January next year. Judging will take place in February and the top three winners of the EY YTPY 2024 will be announced at an award ceremony in March.