



PRESS RELEASE

5 May 2018

An Inclusive Space for Serious Coffee and Meaningful Interactions

Rainbow Centre's (RC) newest space, Seeds Cafe, offers an inclusive space where the public and people with disabilities can mingle meaningfully.

Beyond its specialty coffee, tasty food offerings and inviting decor, the cafe champions community efforts to build an inclusive, interactive space for everyone by bringing together members of the public, students with disabilities and caregivers.

The cafe's Seeds Market, held on the first Saturday of each month, features activities that promotes interaction between the public and persons with disabilities.

At the launch event on 5 May 2018, for example, there will be a sports session for children of all abilities led by Special Olympics, terrarium-making, tote bag design and painting, as well as a chance to buy crafts handmade by RC students. Guests will also have the opportunity to learn the art of brewing good coffee from Tiong Hoe Specialty Coffee, and enjoy lunchtime music performances by our students.

On top of that, Seeds Cafe provides a platform for RC student interns to hone their work, communication and social skills in preparation for jobs after graduation.

Executive Director of Rainbow Centre, Ms Tan Sze Wee, says, "What makes us different from other cafes is our mission of inclusiveness. We hope that Seeds will introduce the lives of persons with disabilities to the public, and encourage mutual interaction without fear or uncertainty. The activities allow participants, regardless of abilities, to share a common space over activities that we all enjoy. We are not so different after all."

Member of Parliament for the area, Ms Joan Pereira, who will help launch the cafe on 5 May, says, "Seeds Cafe sends a message to the public that doing social good can be fun. They can support the students through little actions, such as doing sports together or buying their crafts. Regardless of whether one has a disability, everyone can share fond memories over food and fun, and this will help to strengthen the social fabric of the community."