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ST photojournalist Kevin Lim wins alumni award for Trump-Kim Summit snaps



Chief Straits Times photojournalist Kevin Lim was given the Nanyang Alumni Achievement Award by the Nanyang Technological University. ST PHOTO: THE STRAITS TIMES



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SINGAPORE - Chief Straits Times photojournalist Kevin Lim was the only Singaporean photographer to get a shot of former United States president Donald Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong Un at their historic summit in Singapore.

The photo he took at the meeting in 2018 made it to the cover of TIME magazine, while another photo of the two leaders, captured in an unscripted moment at Capella Singapore, where the summit was held, was picked as one of TIME magazine’s Top 100 Photos of 2018.

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For his achievements, Mr Lim, who graduated in 2009 with a degree in Communication Studies, received the Nanyang Alumni Achievement Award, said the Nanyang Technological University (NTU) on Friday.

Mr Lim, 41, said: “The most fulfilling part of being an alumnus is knowing that, through the achievements and sharing of experiences by fellow alumni, future batches of NTU graduates are in good hands.

“They can wholeheartedly enjoy the process of learning and discovering, and be driven by the passion which will eventually take them to where they envision themselves.”

The photojournalist, who has been with ST for 14 years, has covered elections in Malaysia and Indonesia, the destruction brought by Typhoon Haiyan in Tacloban in 2013, the aftermath of the AirAsia QZ8501 disaster in 2015 and the Rio Olympics in Brazil in 2016, among other things.

At a ceremony held at NTU on Nov 17, awards were also presented to Tan Sri Dato’ Seri Mohd Zuki Ali, Mr Ng Siew Quan, Ms Suman Mishra, Mr Kevin Goh Wei Ming and Dr Avishek Kumar.

A total of 26 alumni were honoured at the awards ceremony.



Mr Lim's photo of then US president Donald Trump (right) meeting North Korean leader Kim Jong Un in Singapore made it to the cover of TIME magazine. ST FILE PHOTO

Malaysia's top civil servant, Mr Mohd Zuki, 61, received the Nanyang Distinguished Alumni Award for his contributions to public service.

He graduated with a Master of Business Administration from Nanyang Business School in 1999 and was appointed as the 15th Chief Secretary to the Government of Malaysia on Jan 1, 2020.

His leadership was instrumental in steering Malaysia's civil service through the challenging early days of the Covid-19 pandemic, especially when the Movement Control Order was introduced in March 2020 to combat the wave of Covid-19 infections in the country, said NTU.

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A total of 26 alumni were honoured at the Nanyang Alumni Awards ceremony. PHOTO: NTU SINGAPORE

Singapore's first chess grandmaster in two decades and the nation's fourth grandmaster, Mr Kevin Goh Wei Ming was one of the seven to receive the Nanyang Outstanding Young Alumni award.

Mr Goh, 40, who graduated with a degree in Accountancy in 2007, was an eight-time national chess champion and a three-time South-east Asian Games bronze medallist.

He is currently the chief executive officer at the Singapore Chess Federation. Under his leadership, it partnered with the Singapore Prison Service to launch "Chess for Freedom", an initiative that uses chess as a rehabilitation tool for inmates, in August.

The response was reported to have exceeded expectations, with over 30 inmates signing up and even asking to double the number of weekly sessions.

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