

**The artistic talent of engineers**

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## The artistic talent of engineers: 2013 writing competition and 2014 photography competition

Who said engineers are robots? Engineers are predictable and very structured? Be aware, engineers are ‘humanoid’ with excellent soft skills and intellectual minds. Read on to believe...

*It is not an easy path for most women to continue practicing engineering due to the challenges faced in this male-dominated (construction) industry. Engineering can be tough and dry for ladies and I must admit that the journey was trying. At some point I was at the crossroad, tempted to make a career switch.*

But what made Engr. Lee Ying Yu stayed on?

*I still remember her (mentor: Ms. Pang) words vividly till the present day, “I always give injection, even if it is painful, so that you will realize your mistake.” ...There is a Chinese saying that good advice often jars on the ear, just like good medicine tastes bitter. So, I learn to persevere and be a stronger person. ...When things go wrong, she never blame others but instead take responsibility in analyzing the situation, take corrective action and move on to the next challenge. Engr. Lee Ying Yu, our first prize winner, not only stayed on as an engineer but was inspired by her mentor to learn how to swim and be a tough survivor.*

That was one of the excerpt stories submitted to WE very first writing competition, organized in 2013 which was opened to both male and female engineers. The writing competition offers a platform for fellow engineers to inspire, share valuable experiences, and to connect with others

through their creative writing on engineering story. With the theme ‘Women in Engineering’ various submissions were received, content related to their journey in becoming an engineer, achievement, experiences and engineering role model.

During WE inaugural meeting and annual gathering the winners of the writing competition were announced. It was a tough decision to be made by Engr Habibah Haron, Engr Gowry Thambirajah and Ir Raftah Maftar as the panel of judges to decide on the winners as the submissions were all interesting compositions. Nevertheless, the judges arrived at a consensus: First prize went to Engr. Lee Ying Yu, second was Ir. Siva Priya and third went to Engr. Adiba Azhani binti Mohamad Ayop. WE presented a certificate and RM 1000 to the first prize winner, RM 750 to the second, RM 500 to the third winner, and 5 consolation prizes. Full write-up of 2013 submissions can be found on WE webpage. WE congratulate the winners and all participants for taking part in the 2013 writing competition...taking part is already a winning step!

Another interesting competition organized by WE, closing date due this July is the Photography competition. With the theme “Engineering Art” to capture photographs that are inspiring and amazing, artistic and creative; of buildings, scenery, automotive, nature and anything under (and above) the sky but related to engineering art, the competition is opened to all engineers. This competition shall showcase the artistic talents of engineers, of which the valuable photos shall be our future IEM publication reference and proof of the modern art engineering world. Attractive prizes of RM 1200 for first place, RM 900 for second and RM 600 for third place, with additional two consolation prizes of RM 300 each, including certificates of participations are up for grab. Do not wait longer....31<sup>st</sup> July 2014 deadline is fast approaching. If you have not submitted your entry please get in touch with the secretariat, Zainun at [zainun@iem.org.my](mailto:zainun@iem.org.my).