

NTUC CAREER FESTIVAL 2026

13 – 14 Feb

SANDS EXPO &
CONVENTION CENTRE
HALLS A & B



PROGRAMME – 14 February, afternoon

***This is an indicative programme and may be changed without prior notice.*

Main Stage

Time	Programme
1:00pm	<p>SkillsFuture Insights: Map Your Career, Master Your Skills</p> <p>Are you finding it challenging to stay ahead in today's dynamic workplace? This workshop will help you take charge of your career and skills development.</p> <p>Participants will learn about key SkillsFuture initiatives, programmes, and resources to identify courses that align with their career goals. Get a quick glimpse into the future of work! Discover emerging workforce trends, future work skills and simple self-assessment tools. Participants will also learn how to leverage SkillsFuture Credit and funding support to enhance their professional development.</p> <p>Speaker: Mohd Ridhuan, Manager (Skills Advisory), Lifelong Learning Singapore (LLSG)</p>
1:30pm	<p>Navigating AI-Driven Corporate Culture</p> <p>As AI becomes more embedded in daily work, the way we communicate, collaborate, and demonstrate value at work is quietly changing. This session looks at how AI is shaping workplace culture, from how messages are written to how performance and initiative are seen.</p> <p>Participants will explore where AI helps, where it creates challenges, and how to stay visible and relevant without losing their personal voice. Using real workplace examples, live polls, and practical</p>

	<p>insights, this talk helps professionals understand what is changing at work and how to adapt with confidence in an AI-driven environment.</p> <p>Speaker: Mitesh Soni, Founder & Creative Director, Kopi Break</p>
2:30pm	<p>From Ideas to Video: Building AI Design Skills with Wan Models</p> <p>This workshop highlights the emerging career path of the AI-based designer. Regardless of IT background, participants can upskill or reskill through this session and explore opportunities in designing images and creating videos using AI. Alibaba Cloud will showcase its proprietary AI models, Qwen and Wan, demonstrating how anyone can develop AI-driven designs for visual and video content. The workshop also covers practical techniques such as creating storyboards and screenplays for cinematic-style productions using AI tools.</p> <p>Speaker: Dr. Ferdin Joe John Joseph, Senior Training Advisor, Alibaba Cloud Singapore</p>
3:30pm	<p>Beyond Certification: Building a Sustainable Career in Coaching</p> <p>The coaching market is growing, the data is encouraging, and yet many qualified coaches struggle to find consistent work. In this 30-minute session, Ramya Eva shares ICF data on coaching rates, market size, and trends in APAC and Singapore, painting a realistic picture of today's coaching landscape. While demand exists, it is fragmented and often hard to access, leading to an oversupply of coaches competing for visibility and credibility. The real gap in her view? Entrepreneurship skills. This session surfaces the skills rarely taught in coach training; how to build a business, market yourself, sell with integrity, and price your work sustainably so participants can make informed, grounded decisions about coaching as a career.</p> <p>Key Features for the topic:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A clear, data-backed view of the coaching market in APAC/Singapore and what it means for you • Realistic insight into demand, oversupply, and why good coaches still struggle to be found • Clarity on whether coaching fits your career stage, risk appetite, and lifestyle goals • An understanding of the entrepreneurship gap in coaching and why it matters • Practical perspectives on building, positioning, selling, and pricing your coaching work <p>Speaker: Ramya Eva, Director of Partnerships, The Singapore Chapter of the International Coaching Federation (ICF)</p>

4:15pm	AI x Creative Playground
	<p>Speaker: Jason Wong, Creative Director, Omnicron Films</p>

Amphitheatre

Time	Programme
12:30pm	<p>Building a Future-Ready Career in Financial Services</p> <p>Artificial intelligence and digitalisation are transforming the financial services industry and reshaping the nature of work. Today's roles in the industry require more than technical expertise; employers increasingly value problem-solving ability, adaptability, and strong communication skills.</p> <p>In this session, we explore how careers in financial services are evolving, the emerging capabilities and in-demand skills employers are seeking, and practical steps individuals can take to build resilient, future-ready careers in a rapidly changing financial landscape.</p> <p>Moderator: Min Chan, Career Advisor, The Institute of Banking and Finance (IBF)</p> <p>Speaker: Lim Chai Leng, General Manager, Randstad Pte Ltd</p>
1:00pm	<p>From Passion to Profession: Opportunities in Early Childhood</p> <p>This session offers insights into the early childhood sector, highlighting emerging roles, career pathways, and professional development opportunities for individuals at all stages — from fresh graduates to mid-career switchers and retirees. Grounded in brain science and current sector trends, the talk explores why the early years are critical to human development and why early childhood education is increasingly valued.</p> <p>Participants will learn about the skills and qualities valued in the sector, including a passion for working with children, empathy, adaptability, and a commitment to inclusive, strength-based practices. The talk outlines clear education and training pathways, from certificates to diplomas, and how structured training equips learners with practical, job-ready skills.</p> <p>Attendees will gain an understanding of career prospects and why pursuing professional development with a recognised institute like KLC International Institute can provide both practical experience and strong support for career growth.</p> <p>Speaker: Charmaine Ng, Head Admin of Early Childhood (English Programmes), KLCII</p>

1:30pm	<p>Into The Pandora's Box: AI, Ethics and Morality</p> <p>AI's transformative benefits and harms have both been well explained by experts. How do we maintain our agency when AI's presence is increasingly inevitable in our lives and future? Unfortunately, there is no free pass or easy blueprint to an ethical use of AI. Critical to this is an understanding of AI, how it works, and how we can be more discerning in our use of it.</p> <p>Key Takeaways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An accessible understanding of AI, and the ethical and harm considerations of each of its essential components. • A practical starting point for how to think about where it appears in our lives and work, and how to use it intentionally. <p>Speaker: Amanda Teo, Senior Product and Experience Designer, Kontinentalist</p>
2:15pm	<p>The Resilience Blueprint: Architecting Your Future</p> <p>In a world where roles change faster than industries, job security is no longer guaranteed. What matters now is having skills you can carry with you—anywhere.</p> <p>Join global HR leaders Vanessa Teo and Vanessa Illoste for an executive masterclass on navigating the 2026 workforce. This session moves beyond traditional career advice to introduce a practical Resilience Blueprint—helping you shift from reacting to change to intentionally designing your career.</p> <p>You'll learn how to build an agility mindset for complex career pivots and gain insight into what senior leaders really look for in future-ready talent.</p> <p>Don't just adapt to change. Shape it.</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanessa Illoste, Founder, HR Lab and Former HR VP, Sephora Asia • Vanessa Teo, SVP, HR, ST Engineering
3:00pm	<p>Mapping the Tracks: A Masterclass in Skills-First Navigating</p> <p>Join Gary Gan, CEO of JobKred, for a deep dive into how AI is fundamentally changing the way we work. In this interactive session, Gary pulls back the curtain on how "Skills-First" hiring really works in 2026. Learn how to identify your hidden "transferable tracks" and discover why the most successful "Human Navigators" aren't just technical—they're adaptable. No slides, no jargon—just the raw data and real stories you need to steer your career.</p> <p>Speaker: Gary Gan, CEO and Co-Founder, Jobkred</p>

4:00pm	<p>Clarity Before Visibility: How AI Helps You Articulate Your Personal Brand on LinkedIn</p> <p>This session explores why clarity matters more than visibility in building a credible personal brand, and how AI can be used responsibly as a thinking partner rather than a content generator. Participants will learn how to articulate who they are and what they stand for on LinkedIn before seeking attention, ensuring their visibility is intentional, coherent, and sustainable.</p> <p>Speaker: Adrian Chin, Generative AI Instructor at Vertical Institute and AI & Digital Marketing Strategist and Lecturer</p>
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Skills Lab

Time	Programme
12:30pm	<p>Mid-Day Masterclass: AI in Accounting, Reality, Limitations and Opportunity</p> <p>Growth of AI is good only up to 2028 due to limitation of LLM's. A study from Stanford shows where AI is used by the current accounting firms and where the gap is. This talk will give you insights to where you as an accountant can take advantage of what is available in the market to explore how to use AI to your advantage versus a firm that still does things the traditional way. Everything is backed by data and case studies within the industry.</p> <p>Speaker: Jay Sen Lon, Sales Director, Tofu</p>
1:15pm	<p>CTRL+ Productivity: Automating Tasks & Workflow</p> <p>Speaker: Rachel Poo, Lead Trainer, Brew Interactive</p>
2:45pm	<p>CTRL+ Ideate: Generate Ideas & App Screen Flows with AI</p> <p>A fast-paced, hands-on ideation session where you'll learn how Design Thinking practitioners at 55 Minutes use AI to brainstorm better ideas, faster. You'll use two AI tools: one to generate a breadth of solution ideas, and another to ideate a more concrete digital solution concept. You'll also learn prompting techniques to move beyond generic AI outputs so you leave with more innovative ideas.</p> <p><i>Note: Please bring a fully charged laptop and a pen/pencil to participate in the hands-on activities.</i></p> <p>Speaker: Lynn Wee, Senior UX Researcher, 55 Minutes</p>

4:15pm

CTRL+ Clarity: Using AI Agents to Achieve 10x Efficiency in Communications

This hands-on workshop focuses on how professionals can use AI agents to dramatically improve the speed and quality of written communication. Participants will learn how generative AI can be applied to everyday workplace tasks such as drafting and polishing emails, summarising long documents, and producing clear, well-structured responses in minutes instead of hours. Through practical case studies, attendees will be introduced to using Manus together with MCP to orchestrate AI agents that understand context, apply consistent tone, and automate repetitive communication workflows. No programming background is required – this session is designed to be immediately applicable for PMETs across functions.

Speaker:

Kong Yu Ning, Co-Founder, Heicoders Academy