

# IGNITE YOUR PASSION

## SUMMARY NOTES

This is a recap of what was covered during the Webinar on 5th April 2023.

### PART 1: MOTIVATION AT THE BEGINNING OF THE LEARNING JOURNEY

- Passion Projects are student-led initiatives that enable them to turn their interests or passions into practical projects, either for-profit or non-profit, which allow them to showcase their skills and face real-life challenges
- It will help students understand themselves and research their interests in a practical application sort of way!
- Will help them think beyond academics, about other things that matter in the world and how the world works. Expand their horizons and perspective towards life. Make them prioritize better
- Make them look at themselves in a more holistic way, and not just academically. Help them become more complete individuals
- Passion projects allow for self-discovery and the development of new skills. Whether it be entrepreneurial, sport, hobby, or research. It will allow the individual to gain insight into their personal interest and perhaps serve to guide them in their life direction.
- To explore the many possibilities of life and find interests beyond the world you know.
- To highlight other aspects of your character, like leadership, and initiative, to test yourself and understand your potential and interest



### PART 2: HOW CAN A PASSION PROJECT HELP ME?

- I'm a musician and what I wouldn't give to have gotten the opportunity to be able to learn to write my own songs when I was younger, or learn how to handle my finances when I was younger, or learn to setup and market my own business! Maybe I wouldn't have been capable of doing a number of things, but it would have set me up on the path to learning it and familiarize myself with it.
- Familiarity with things that I thought I liked and then realized I didn't after doing them, and with those that I thought I hated, but loved after doing them.
- Passion projects help you really open your mind up to possibilities and step into the real world early on, with the help of a guide. The guide prevents you from making mistakes and nudges you in the right direction while you choose the destination



- To expand your horizons and problem-solve in a controlled environment at a younger age
- I'm part of the unfortunate people who didn't grow up with a clear career direction. For me, passion came in many different forms and evolved as I grew up. I firmly believe that each of the various "projects" I've been a part of has helped me better understand myself, develop soft and transferable skills, and unintentionally directed me into my career. My push into studying business came from my experience serving as an officer in the Singapore Navy during my national service. It helped me discover my passion for managing teams and interacting with people of diverse backgrounds. Even though I graduated with my BBA, I did not intentionally find my interest in my industry (medical). I believe that by following your interest, and being open-minded to opportunities that present themselves, life does point you in the right direction

### PART 3: HOW DO I START DOING A PASSION PROJECT?

the first step to making a project happen that will not only open your eyes but also help you in your college applications because you can record and measure this impact and showcase it in a professional way.

- Choose a section of society you wish to help - fellow students, the poor, the homeless, the illiterate, the elderly, the neglected, or anyone else you feel deeply for and see how you can make a difference in their life on an individual level.
- It could be through education, fundraising, organizing events, helping them get heard, connecting them to the right people who can provide them further help, designing a product, or even just talking to them and hearing their problems out!

You can totally take an academic project centered around education where you do the teaching by creating courses or meeting directly with the target audience and helping them out with specific topics. As long as you're helping someone and impacting lives, you're good. The best start would be something close to what you are familiar with, subsequent projects that can branch away further and further.

Give some examples of real opportunities I think you can share a lot It is important to instill a sense of curiosity and self-discovery. Exposure to as many different paths will only aid you in finding your true passions. I would recommend starting small, whether that's researching a particular field, or furthering your interest through classes. Potentially reach out to people doing similar things and see if you can learn from them.

### PART 4: WHAT KIND OF PASSION PROJECTS CAN I DO?

Creating a course for a specific section of society - like underprivileged school students, or college students

Teaching English or a specific subject to those in need

Helping small businesses by creating websites and managing social media for them

Youtube Channel

Thrift clothing business by taking donations

Podcast to converse with people in your area of interest

Selling crepes, waffles, lemonades!



## PART 5 - HOW IS THE PASSION PROJECT GOING TO HELP ME IN AN EVOLVING WORLD?

- Standing your own ground in evolving times is important
- Getting your hands dirty early on will allow you to bring a fresh perspective to the industry you're stepping into! Maybe you come up with a completely unthought-of unheard-of idea because of your fresh perspective.
- The uncertainty of the future means that maybe the route your parents or your older siblings took might not work for you in the long run! Maybe you need to think differently and carve your own path.
- A passion project will help you discover new possibilities and test the water before stepping in full-time.
- How will ChatGPT and AI aid negatively impact passion projects and academics? (another tangent)
- AI is not at the level that can replace human minds, but the floor of creativity has been raised. Being creative is more important now than ever
- Technology can only do and know what is written and already thought, as a human we are capable to come up with unique ideas, so this is a good practice/exercise to lead in that direction
- Creativity, critical thinking, and soft skills will be key differentiators in an increasingly automated world.

## CONCLUSION



- **Practical Approach to Personal Interests:** Passion projects are student-led initiatives turning their interests into practical projects.



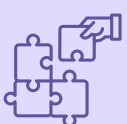
- **Personal Growth and Skill Development:** It helps students understand themselves beyond academics and develop new skills.



- **Insight into Life Direction:** It allows individuals to gain insight into their personal interest and life direction



- **Early Exposure to Real-World Scenarios:** Passion projects help you step into the real world early on with the help of a guide



- **Expansion of Horizons and Problem-Solving Skills:** It expands horizons and problem-solving skills in a controlled environment, bringing fresh perspectives and carving your path in the evolving world. Examples include creating courses, helping small businesses, thrift clothing business, teaching, YouTube channel, and podcasts.