

A 'Hairy' Music Festival at Republic Polytechnic

Friday, 2nd July 2010

This year, as part of its annual Ignite! Music Festival, Republic Polytechnic joins the Children's Cancer Foundation (CCF) in its act of shaving heads to garner support and raise funds for children affected by cancer. A total of 36 males and 4 females volunteered to lose their locks, with a target to raise \$4,000 by 21st August.

Apart from raising funds for CCF to offer free services to children with cancer and their families, Hair for Hope also strives to form a community of support with volunteer shavees helping to boost the confidence of children affected by cancer and to support them in overcoming their fear of losing their hair.



Amongst the female shavees we find Ms Neo Guat Chiu, whom for more than two years, had been proudly wearing her hair in a long mane that reached halfway down her back. The sporting 24-year-old found herself bravely shaving for Hair for Hope on Friday without second thoughts.

"Having a shaved head is nothing to be ashamed of. After all, you are doing it to help someone else. To me, it's just a normal haircut; the hair will grow again," said Ms Neo, an avid volunteer who has travelled to Thailand and Cambodia to help orphans. Her passion for making a difference in the lives of those in need gives her no worries about her new look.

CCF Executive Director, Ms Chee Wai Yee shared, "It is gratifying that people, especially the youths, are starting to come forward to shave. It shows receptiveness towards being bald, and it is no longer stereotyped as a mere sign of illness."

