

Virtual Award Ceremony: “HSBC Premier and IDP - Giving wings to overseas study ambitions” – Batch 2

Part 2: Batch 2 Summary

Mai Anh: Thank you. Now I'd like to invite Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha, Sales Director of IDP Education Study Abroad department, to say a few words and sum up the Second Batch of the contest.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Good afternoon, honorable visitors, business associates, HSBC partners, and IDP colleagues. As Mr. Pramoth mentioned, IDP is equally as proud to have organized the scholarship competition alongside HSBC Premier to fulfill students' dream of studying abroad. IDP always makes sure that students have access to the best scholarship opportunities from schools and partners thanks to its more than 50 years of experience providing global study abroad consulting services. When working with HSBC Premier, we are thrilled because we have the chance to not only create opportunities for students to have access to financial scholarships but also help them have access to a test to assess skills, particularly in essay writing, presenting skills, and financial planning before studying abroad. This scholarship is truly beneficial to students in many other ways as well as financially. As the scholarship name "HSBC Premier & IDP - Giving wings to overseas study ambitions", it has a total award value of VND 340 million, of which we have two batches. The highest value for each batch is the first prize with a cash value of VND 50 million, and a consolation prize with a cash value of VND 5 million. To participate in this contest, the contestants will go through 3 rounds. The first round of exams is registration and submission of study abroad applications. In the second round, students write a plan to share with the judges on how to achieve their dream of studying abroad. In the third round, students presented to convince the judges how their dream of studying abroad was formed, what they do to achieve their dream of studying abroad, as well as to organize their plans and manage their finances.

Moving to the next slide, our contestants would be extremely proud of the journey of becoming one of the 13 winners of both the Second and the First Batch because they did an amazing job proving their talent and worth. To compete in the first round, they have submitted a GPA of 8.0 if they are a high school student, and a GPA of 7.0 if being a college or university student. For

students to pass round 1, in round 2, they also write essays to express their dream of studying abroad. When participating as a member of the jury, I feel that students are very creative in this part. Students not only write essays and express their dream of studying abroad through essays, but they also have videos, infographics, and many different forms of expression, in easy words to understand to convince the jury. Stepping to the 3rd round is the part where they present, which is something I feel very proud of for Vietnamese students. First of all, they speak English very well. Second, their logical way of thinking is very expressive of their objectives and also very clear, and concise. Third, the fact that students genuinely participated in this presentation made me happy when I joined the board of judges. Because managing a large sum of money and exercising self-control with spending is difficult to do in Vietnam, this contest provided an opportunity to do extensive research on the topic. Thanks to this competition, students have a variety of models and know how to manage it themselves. We believe it is unlikely that we would think the same way if we were their age many years ago. This demonstrates that students should be pleased that their name is on the list of scholarship recipients because they worked very hard and gained knowledge and skills through the HSBC Premier and IDP scholarships.

Now we're going to take a look at our Second Batch, and how impressive the numbers are. Batch 2 is for applicants to study abroad for the entry of S2 or S3 in Australia and New Zealand in 2022, or fall or winter, fall or summer of 2022 in the US, Canada, UK, and Ireland, so we received 285 applications for studying abroad in 6 markets Australia, New Zealand, the USA, Canada, the UK, and Ireland. Out of 285 applicants, there were 228 applicants that met the criteria for round 1. And by round 2, 33 students achieved the essay in many different forms. Of these 33 students, we selected 25 finalists, and 13 winners after their final round. So that's the information for the Second Batch. Now I share more information about the two contests of the HSBC Premier and IDP scholarships. Move to the next slide, as Mr. Pramoth mentioned, for two batches, we received more than 500 applications to attend and 285 applications met the admission criteria, and there were 50 students are finalists for each batch, and 13 of each phase are selected to receive prizes. In phase 1, we awarded 13 students. In this phase, we will look forward to 13 of them who will be named in the awarding part.

Mai Anh: Thank you for your sharing. The organizers decided to honor the top 13 candidates of the second batch after evaluating the quantity and quality of the essay as well as the candidates'

presentations. The most anticipated part of the ceremony will now begin. Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha and Ms. Nguyen Thanh Trang, members of the organizers, will each announce the names of the outstanding applicants who were awarded scholarships. First up are the six Consolation Prizes for the program, each worth VND 5 million in cash plus a VND 500,000 preferential fee for the Skill Set online course at the ACET English Center. Now welcome Ms. Nguyen Thanh Trang.

- **Ms. Nguyen Thanh Trang:** Thank you, Mai Anh, and to parents and students. Before I reveal the winner of the Consolation Prize, allow me to share a little bit. Being a judge on this program made us feel like being young again. All of the students' dreams are adorable, crystal clear and they are very determined. Their presentation is very creative, expressing their desire and dreams, and in particular, the way they present a person's financial management strategy while studying abroad. They just have a very limited amount of time, and I'm impressed that they want to become financially independent and lighten the financial burden on the family. All parents, in my opinion, will be proud when their children reach this level of independence and freedom. The contestants who were awarded the consolation prize for the Second Phase are as follows: Congratulations to contestant Phan Nguyen Anh Thu, GPA of 9.3, IELTS score of 7.0 after graduating from Dao Duy Tu High School. You get a 30% scholarship from the University of Wollongong in Australia and majored in Marketing. Congratulations.
- The second contestant with an impressive achievement is Vo Le Thuy Anh, graduate from Le Hong Phong Gifted High School with an impressive GPA of 9.4 and IELTS 8.0. You go to the University of Cincinnati to study finance. Congratulations
- I also congratulate Nguyen Phan Hoang Ngan. You currently have a GPA of 8.9 and your study destination is Canada, Centennial College and Graphic Design major. Congratulations.
- I also congratulate Do Quang Duy on graduating from High School Specializing in Foreign Languages with a GPA 9.2 and IELTS 7.0. You get a special prize in the Color Competition

for Foreign Languages, and you will study abroad at the University of British Columbia, major in Computer Science. Congratulations.

- Thieu Minh Khue, graduate from Phan Dinh Phung High School, is notable for having won the National Consolation Prize at the Microsoft Office Specialists World Championship. Khue's major will be Communication and Media at the University of Wollongong.
- Nguyen Duc Anh, student of Dinh Thi Ly high school wins the next Consolation Prize with an outstanding IELTS score of 8.0. Anh enrolls at the University of Queensland to pursue a Computer Science degree.

Mai Anh: Thank you, Ms. Nguyen Thanh Trang. So, we have 4 Third Prizes worth VND 10 million each in cash along with a VND 1,000,000 preferential fee for the Skill Set online course at the ACET English center. Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha will announce the winners of this prize.

Bà Hoàng Thị Thái Hà: Ok. I'll say the name of the first one to change the mood. For the next student, I'll read their profiles out loud so that they can figure out that it's their profile. First, I want to say congratulations on behalf of IDP, student Nguyen Hoang Dung. Dung went to Viet Duc High School and got an IELTS score of 6.5. Your GPA was 9.3. Dung will go to Canada's Humber College to learn Accounting. Congratulations. And you'll get your certificate later.

Now, let's see who is the second one. The second winner has a very impressive resume. Firstly, this student took first place in science and technology at the provincial level in 2021, won the gold medal in the Innovative Excellence program at America's Science and Invention Expo in 2021, and won the Third Prize for excellent students in History in 2021. Additionally, he received a 25% scholarship from Deakin University in Australia where he will pursue a degree in Finance. He used to study at Vung Tau High School. Congratulations! Phan Nguyen Nhat Phuong.

We move on to the next student, who has a similarly admirable profile. This student won the second place in the City English Olympic in 2019, received a scholarship from the school for three consecutive semesters, won the Consolation Prize for outstanding students in literature in 2019 with a GPA of 9.5 in Hanoi Amsterdam, and an IELTS score of 8.5, and she 'll be attending the University of Toronto for Commerce in Canada. Congratulations, Doan Minh Khue. She is a very attractive and gifted girl, isn't she? And I hope that your time in Canada will be wonderful.

We'll now turn our attention to the next one. This student received the highest marks in Psychology and Art and Design. She'll pursue her education at the Australian University of Sydney. This university is well-known for its design computing programs. She has an IELTS score of 7.5 and an A-level GPA of ABB. Singapore International School is the school she studied at in Vietnam. Congratulations Hoang Lan Huong.

So, we already know who won the Third Prize. I'd like to pass to MC the next word.

Mai Anh: We will now be in Second Prize. Two second-prize winners will each receive VND 25 million in cash, a preferential enrollment fee of VND 2,000,000 at the ACET English Center's Skill Set online course, and an exclusive VND 1,500,000 IELTS test preparation kit from IDP.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Before revealing their name, Ms. Trang please tell their profile.

Ms. Thanh Trang: Yes, hope that I'll bring many surprises when it comes to the Second Prizes. I know that you are also nervous and unsure of whether your name will be called or not. This student, in my opinion, is very witness, has grit, and has a really well-thought-out plan. You also have an impressive IELTS score of 8.0 along with a GPA of 9.4. If I mention this accomplishment, you could probably figure out whether you received the award or not. This student has the achievement of a bronze medal at the 30th April Olympic Games in chemistry and you are in the top 5% of the best students in the whole block, and you will study abroad, on your way to study at the Queensland University of Engineering. Congratulation, Phan Anh Khoa.

This is a very strong competitor against Phan Anh Khoa, and the next winner is a very impressive achievement as well. This is the youngest winner out of all of the students in this Second Batch. Despite your youth, you possess wonderful logic and a well-defined path for pursuing your goal of studying abroad. She attends a bilingual Eurasian school, and due to her performance overall in the international program, she will attend Seattle Central College in the US to study abroad. Architecture will be her future major. Can everyone guess who will win the next Second Prize then? Congratulation to Tran Le Thao Nguyen, the program's youngest contestant.

Mai Anh: Thank you Ms. Nguyen Thanh Trang. We will now talk about the talented and courageous young student who received the program's First Prize. This prestigious award will help you on your upcoming study abroad adventure. I'd like to honor this contestant by inviting Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha. Our First Prize includes VND 50,000,000 in cash, VND 3,000,000 in preferential tuition for the ACET English Center's Skill Set online course, and an exclusive IELTS IDP test preparation kit worth VND 1,500,000. Welcome Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Thank you Mai Anh. I'm so nervous because it's a prize of great value, and after hearing the contestant's performance, we are also certain that you deserve it. In order to ensure fairness for the contestants who won the top 3 Prizes, the judges had to mark it twice. So, whoever wins the First Prize should feel tremendous pride in the work, time, and effort they put into entering the competition. This student is a girl who won the Silver Price International Youth Math Challenge with an SAT score of 1580.

She is awarded 50% scholarships from UQ, Deakin, and UTS as well as a 75% Swinburne scholarship. She'll be studying abroad in Australia, where she'll attend the University of Sydney and major in Business Analysis. She attends Ha Tinh Gifted High School, has a GPA of 9.5 and an IELTS score of 7.5. Congratulations to Nguyen Thi Huong Giang.

Mai Anh: Thank you Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha for honoring Nguyen Thi Huong Giang, who won the First Prize in the scholarship competition "HSBC Premier and IDP – Giving wings to overseas study ambitions" Batch 2. In celebration of all winners' well-deserved scholarships, I would like to invite the first and second-prize contestants to some sharing current feelings and reveal to other

students who are cherishing the dream of studying abroad how to achieve this dream, and how to get valuable scholarships. I would first like to invite Tran Le Thao Nguyen and Phan Anh Khoa, two of you can turn on microphones and cameras to express current feelings to the audience watching the ceremony today. You received some questions from the organizers to help you think of some suggestions. Thao Nguyen, please turn on your microphone.

Thao Nguyen: Hello everyone and the judges.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Hello, where are you now? Are you in Vietnam or have you already arrived in Sydney?

Thao Nguyen: I'm in Seattle, and it's nighttime here.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Thao Nguyen is in Seattle.

Thao Nguyen: Yes, I am.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Have you just arrived?

Thao Nguyen: Yes

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Hopefully, the jet lag will have passed. Let's make a natural sharing together, you are the youngest and also very good at outperforming many contestants who are older than you. Please share something with us.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Hopefully, the jet lag will have passed. Let's make a natural sharing together, you are the youngest and also very good at outperforming many contestants who are older than you. Please share something with us.

Thao Nguyen: Hello, everyone. My name is Tran Le Thao Nguyen, I'm 16 years old. I am currently enrolled at Seattle Central College. I didn't expect to win the second prize at this age, so

I'm both nervous and happy right now. Thanks to this prize I can relieve my mother's burden because both I & my brother are studying abroad in the United States. Because of this, my mother benefited greatly from the scholarship. Thanks to the program, my financial affairs are that I have explained in detail the things that will help me save time and money in the future. It can help to save the money my mother gave me and the cost of going to school. I believe that the scholarship from the school has helped me reduce the burden of having to work part-time, which will allow me to devote more time to studying rather than juggling work and school.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Ms. Mai Anh please switch to Thao Nguyen's profile slide so that everyone can understand and know about you. Which grade are you in when moving there?

Thao Nguyen: I'm in grade 11th this year.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: So, you're entering grade 11 this year?

Thao Nguyen: Yes.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Yes, that's excellent. So, do you feel more mature when you compete in this contest, aside from easing the financial burden?

Thao Nguyen: Yes. Because I was a little confused and unsure of what to do when I first joined. I quickly came to the realization that "I can do this too; I'm grown up now" after finishing the competitions.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Also, I hope that with the parts that you share about your financial management in the presentation, you can apply good management of your financial situation in the US, so that the spending will be reasonable for you and it will help your parents a lot. Thank you. I wonder whether Ms. Thanh Trang has any further questions or wants to continue talking to her.

Ms. Nguyen Thanh Trang: As I previously stated, I am also very impressed with you. You have a plan to go to school, a clear dream of studying abroad, and you have strong opinions. So I'm impressed by you as well. As you also mentioned, I had to repeat marking several times, so I am still very impressed with you, with your age, with that mature mind of yours.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Again, congratulations to Thao Nguyen. I am hoping that this scholarship will truly pave the way for you, not only to study abroad but also to future life and apply what you learned in the United States to your future work and adulthood. Thank you.

Thao Nguyen: Thank you very much.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Give the stage back to Ms. Mai Anh.

Mai Anh: Thank you for sharing, Thao Nguyen. And now I'd like to invite Phan Anh Khoa. Hello Khoa, can you turn on the microphone and camera to greet everyone?

Anh Khoa: Hello

Mai Anh: I can hear you now. Hello Khoa.

Mr. Khoa: Hi everyone. I'm Phan Anh Khoa, I'm currently a student at the University of Queensland. I'm in Australia right now, and in the next few days, I'll start going to Queensland.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Ms. Mai Anh, please switch to Anh Khoa's slide.

Ms. Nguyen Thanh Trang: How does it feel to be named second prize, Anh Khoa?

Mr. Khoa: To be honest, I'm also surprised because I think in this competition, I am the one who has the least achievements in the whole competition. So I thought I wouldn't get a very high award. When I received an email saying I was in the top 3, I was very surprised. I was pretty happy too.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: You have to be confident because the organizers don't just look at the achievements, but they also look at what the contestants show in the contest, what you show in the

part of the dream plan, how you plan to study abroad, your plan to make that dream come true, and the presentation in the final round is really impressive to the judges. How many days have you been in Queensland?

Mr. Khoa: I've only been to Queensland for 2 days.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Have you discovered the Saint Lucia area yet? Are you in the Saint Lucia area?

Mr. Khoa: Yes, I am.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Queensland is the school I used to go to, and it's very beautiful. So, I hope that before you start your semester, you could go explore around the school, go to the ferry city, visit attractions, and see how beautiful your school is as well as estimate how long it will take you to walk before you begin your semester. Because you frequently have to go between buildings to study, and they are rather far apart. I hope you have had a good experience there. Additionally, I know that students who studied Engineering major are introverted and do not talk much. So, in the contest, you have to give presentations and prepare, so do you feel like you've improved as a result of it, and are you more open to sharing your plans?

Mr. Khoa: I would say yes, because in the past, just like you said, I didn't talk much with other people. So, when it came to the time that I had to give a presentation to the board, I felt quite nervous. But after the presentation was over, I felt it was quite normal. I just said what I'd prepared, not as nervous as I thought.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Actually, if you have good preparation and determination, I think anything is possible. I hope that the study environment at the University of Queensland will help you step out of the so-called "unlock your potential." You will discover your hidden potential because I believe that there is so much potential in you. But first, you have to be confident, and I hope that the results of this competition prove that you could be. So, what you need to do is believe in that possibility and go to the end to prove it.

Mr. Khoa: Thank you very much.**Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha:** Thank you. So if you have any advice for those who are hesitant to enter competitions like this, what would it be?

Mr. Khoa: I would say give it a shot because there's no harm in trying it out. Well, if it does not work out, that's fine. If we still try and get something, then consider it a lesson.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Ok, that's great. Very good advice, right? Give it a shot. And I hope that you will seize every opportunity, not only in your work but maybe in communication or participate in extracurricular activities at school. Try to connect with as many international students as possible so that you will improve your English as well as create a network later on. Thank you very much. I'll leave the next part to Ms. Mai Anh.

Ms. Mai Anh: Yes. Now we will come to the next contestant. Welcome, Huong Giang. Can you turn on the microphone and video?

Ms. Nguyen Thanh Trang: Hello, Giang.

Ms. Nguyen Thanh Trang: How does it feel to be named the first prize?

Huong Giang: I am very happy and also surprised.

Ms. Nguyen Thanh Trang: Did you have a feeling or anticipate that you would get the first prize? Because for sure you got a head up that you were one of the last three contestants, right? But did you foresee that you would win first place.

Huong Giang: I don't. When they announced all the names of the second prizes, my hands were shaking. I didn't know if I was in the second prize or not. By the time I was informed that the two-second prizes weren't me, I knew I had won the first prize. I felt ecstatic. I kept laughing because I couldn't believe it.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: So, when you attended today's ceremony, did you invite your parents or close friends to come and share the joy with you at this moment?

Huong Giang: No. I'm currently in Australia. My friend, who is currently in Australia too, is preparing to return to Vietnam. My friend is a UTS student who has just finished their semester. I just got back from their farewell party, so everyone is still hanging out.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: OK, what about your parents? Why don't you invite your parents, or will you send this video to them later to say that you did it?

Huong Giang: Yes, I plan to keep it a secret until the end. I want to make sure I have a high score before sharing it.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: OK. I hope your parents will burst with joy when they receive this video. By the way, this video is live-streamed on IDP's Facebook page as well as HSBC's later, so you can download this video and share it with your loved ones to share your happy news. Now we will move on to the conversation. Ms. Thanh Trang will ask a few questions to the first prize winner.

Ms. Nguyen Thanh Trang: I think, as the one who won the first prize, when entering this contest, you must have shared a lot about your social activities and your dreams. Can you share with everyone again about your dream of studying abroad?

Huong Giang: Well, I was in Ha Tinh back in the day, Ha Tinh was a very small city in the central region. At that time, I didn't know what studying abroad was, but when I was in middle school, around 9th grade, my classmate's sister got a big scholarship to go to America. I started thinking that I can get a scholarship to go to a very developed country like that for a chance to study. So, at that time, I had just started to learn about studying abroad. I went on YouTube and found out that people have a lot of videos about studying abroad. I liked them very much and watched them every day. My dream has been built up from small things like that. Later, I persuaded my parents to take me to Hanoi so I could go to these seminars, go to experience sharing centers like IDP, and use social networks like Facebook and Instagram to message the seniors who I know have big scholarships to give me their advice. From that, I have built a resume that is most suitable for the school I am applying to.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Very good. I think that your proactive and your determination to achieve your dream are the elements that will help you achieve your dream in the fastest and most effective way. Thank you so much for sharing. What about when you participate in the HSBC scholarship contest? What do you think you get? I mean, the prize is important, but are there any other things that can be gotten so that everyone can be more motivated and eager to participate in these awards in the future?

Huong Giang: Yes. The first is that after trying a lot when I get the scholarship, I am very happy. I used to be sad because I thought I could have gotten a full scholarship, so I wasn't fully happy with myself. But the competition from IDP and HSBC gave me a chance to look back on how far I've come. I realized that it is not just a scholarship but a process that includes not only studying but also participating in extracurricular activities. I joined a volunteer program, and since then, I have made a lot of friends. I understand more about life and from many people, I have heard many stories. Since then, I also feel that I have undergone some changes. I gain more knowledge and know how to listen better. I know that each person has a different life so I can understand them better. And IDP's financial management also helps me understand what I need to spend so that I can balance my life abroad. Because I just came here to study abroad, I know that a university's freshmen tend to spend too much money and not be able to balance their finances. This program helps me to control my expenses, not go shopping too much, not be trapped in selling products, and focus on more important things.

Ms. Nguyen Thanh Trang: Very realistic. I have one more addition. It's a very big benefit, because it's important when going abroad. When we live abroad, the first thing is that we have a chance to see new things. Sometimes we will hunt for sales, but after you attend the program, I am sure after a while you will get used to it. You will know how to balance your finances when you are abroad.

Ms. Huong Giang: Yes.

Ms. Hoang Thi Thai Ha: Thank you very much for sharing. MC Mai Anh please continue.

Ms. Mai Anh: Thank you Huong Giang, Ms. Thai Ha and Ms. Thanh Trang for asking very meaningful questions, and we will definitely see the first and second prize winners of the contest

through the next IDP and HSBC published videos. We'll learn about their tips, more about the challenges that they have overcome to win these awards, and how they developed themselves.