

Presenter(s):

Stephanie Tan, Deputy Head (Adults), Content & Services National Library Board Singapore Stephanie_TAN@nlb.gov.sg

Future Skills: How Programming in Singapore's Public Libraries Support the Acquisition of New Skill Sets

With rising disruptive technologies and digitalisation changing the way businesses operate, the profile of workers around the world is also changing.

To help Singaporeans keep up with changing trends, programming at NLB is shifting gears, moving beyond literary aspirations and diversifying in format and content, to inform workers on what it takes to stay relevant and competitive.

Through *Future Skills*, NLB's suite of learning platforms that support upskilling and employability, NLB aims to connect Singaporeans to new avenues of learning, to obtain competencies needed for the future economy. Strategies include:

- A comprehensive programming scope that equip users with important skills needed for the new economy, covering career planning and job searches; emerging technologies; innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship; soft skills; as well as services to organisations.
- The library as a bridge to expertise and opportunities, connecting
 users to greater opportunities by bringing the experts to them,
 through inspirational talks; panel discussions with industry experts;
 peer to peer learning through interest groups; and walk-in interviews.
- Diversifying learning platforms to reach a wider audience, by including a variety of avenues and resources that provide learning opportunities to users. These include programme formats that support different learning needs and expansion into digital platforms for access to content anytime, anywhere.



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