

Prudential x SCMP Learn

PruNextGen

Rising Circle 2026



**Where tomorrow's leaders
rise to meet a changing world.**

Converse with leaders

Craft the story

Command the stage

Some of life's most important lessons don't come from the classroom.
They begin in conversation with the people shaping the world.

Explore



About The Programme

PruNextGen Rising Circle is a structured youth leadership programme by Prudential, in partnership with SCMP Learn, designed for students aged 13 to 17.

Through guided workshops, authentic conversations with industry leaders, and reflective storytelling, students build the confidence, clarity, and communication skills to lead in a changing world. No prior experience in public speaking or debate is required.

Why This Matters

The world young people are growing up in looks very different from any generation before. Academic excellence alone is no longer enough.

To lead in an era of AI, uncertainty, and change, the next generation needs:



Critical Thinking

Develop sharp, independent perspectives.



Impactful Communication

Express ideas with clarity and confidence.



Adaptability

Navigate change with resilience and an open mind.

Rising Circle is part of Prudential's PruNextGen commitment to empowering the next generation with future-ready skills. Helping your young leader build the confidence and real-world exposure to excel in future academic and career opportunities.

What Students Will Experience And Gain

01 Real Access, Real Conversations.

Meet senior executives and founders in intimate group conversations built around the issues that define today's world: AI, uncertainty, and what it means to lead. Students leave with new perspectives, greater confidence, and the ability to speak up in any room.

02 From Insight to Voice.

Guided by storytelling and critical thinking frameworks, students turn real conversations into structured reflections and polished presentations.

03 A Curated Journey. Real Recognition.

A structured journey from workshop to showcase — with top performers earning publication in SCMP Young Post and a potential pathway to StoryJam by SCMP (formerly known as STANCE), a storytelling competition for global youth organised by SCMP Learn.

The Journey



Stage 1

Show The Potential

Student Recruitment | 6 Jul - 4 Aug 2026

- 1 Submit a 200-word piece on the topic: "In a world shaped by AI and rapid change, what do you think are the most important qualities young people should develop for the future?"
- 2 Applications are jointly shortlisted by Prudential and SCMP Learn, with up to 60 participants selected.

Stage 2

Build The Foundation

Skill-Building Workshops | 12 & 19 Sep 2026

- 1 Think Forward: A Critical Mindset Workshop
- 2 Speak Forward: An Articulate Communication Workshop



Stage 3

Meet The Leaders

Real-World Encounters | 10 Oct 2026

- 1 Facilitated group conversations with industry leaders on AI, uncertainty, and what it means to lead.
- 2 Students listen, question, and build real perspectives through genuine, two-way exchange.
- 3 Building on these conversations, students will develop interview-based feature articles.

Stage 4

Command The Stage

Closing Ceremony And Showcase | 7 Nov 2026

- 1 Top performers take the stage to share key insights from their journey.
- 2 All participants receive a co-branded Prudential x SCMP Learn certificate.
- 3 Parents are invited to attend.



Meet The Leaders



Lawrence Lam

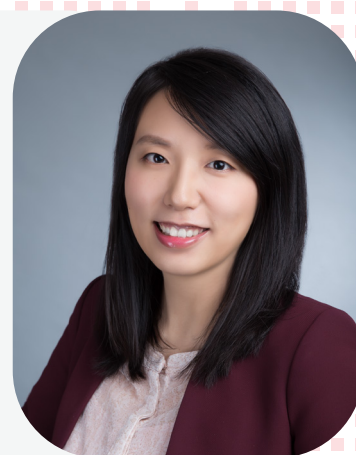
Chief Executive Officer, Prudential Hong Kong Limited

Leading one of Hong Kong's most trusted insurers, driving customer, digital and health transformation, with extensive experience in financial services industry.

Ang Jin

Chief Growth Officer, South China Morning Post

Two decades in media, tech, and investment banking; a sharp lens on how strategic storytelling, business transformation, and growth intersect.



Venetia Lee

AlipayHK CEO and Ant International Greater China General Manager

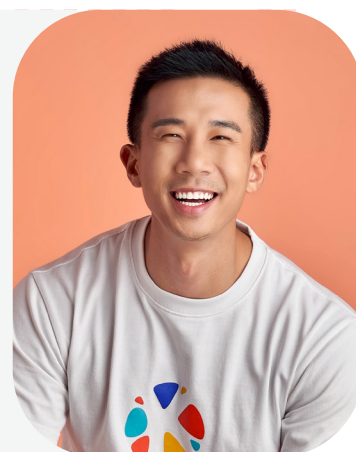
Driving major fintech and cross-border payment transformation globally and across Greater China with extensive global tech and finance leadership experience.



Ethan Lin

Co-founder & Chief Executive Officer, Klook

From investment banking to building one of Asia's most successful global travel experiences platform.



Meet The Coaches



Peter Chan

Founder of TreeholeHK

Think Forward: A Critical Mindset Workshop

TreeholeHK founder & YouTuber making psychology accessible. His workshop builds students' clarity, emotional intelligence.

Gary Lo

Managing Director and Principal Instructor
of Glo Consulting

Speak Forward: An Articulate Communication Workshop

TEDx speaker and Glo Consulting founder Gary equips students with practical tools to articulate ideas with confidence.



Recognition And Beyond

The journey extends far beyond the stage. For top-performing students, PruNextGen Rising Circle opens doors to meaningful media exposure and public recognition.



Published in SCMP Young Post

The Winner, First Runner-up and Second Runner-up will be published in SCMP Young Post, in print and online.



Featured on Young Post's Social Channels

Top performers will be featured on Young Post's Instagram and Facebook.



A Pathway to Global Recognition

The Winner and 1st Runner-up may be shortlisted for StoryJam by SCMP (formerly known as STANCE), a storytelling competition for global youth organised by SCMP Learn.

How To Apply

Eligibility

- Open to teens aged 13 to 17 of existing Prudential Hong Kong Limited customers.

Submission

- Applications must be submitted by a parent or legal guardian, either directly or through nomination by a Prudential financial consultant.

Requirement

- Submit a 200-word English writing piece on the defined topic.

Application period

From now until 4 August 2026.

Results notification

Sent via parent or guardian email between 20 - 25 August 2026.



Apply and explore the journey

Interested in PruNextGen Rising Circle for your young leader? Speak with your Prudential financial consultant to learn more, or scan the QR code to apply directly.

Terms and conditions apply.

Please refer to <https://pruhk.co/risingcircle2026-tnc-en> for details.