



N.03 V.01 NOV 2022

Mexico-Singapore Strategic Alliance



MESSAGE FROM THE AMBASSADOR

Singapore's education system is one of the best in the world.

According to the Programme for International Student Assessment (PISA), which the OECD administers, Singapore consistently ranks among the top five countries with the best results.

It outperforms countries such as Japan, Taiwan, Canada and Switzerland in science and mathematics disciplines.

That is why we enthusiastically welcomed 42 young Mexican students who participated in a Mathematics and Science Olympiad, winning several prizes.

We were also pleased to welcome 24 beneficiaries of the ULinks-JuventudES education programme from Guanajuato state, who learned about public policies on innovation, logistics, digitalisation and governance.

If we add the 10 students from the Tec de Monterrey who visited Singapore last October, we have 76 Mexican students who got to know the educational excellence of this City-State in just 60 days.

In November, two awards distinguished Mexico: the CAPA Award extended to the airline Volaris for having demonstrated leadership, commitment and innovation in environmental sustainability initiative, and the recognition extended to the Embassy of Mexico in Singapore by Gardens by the Bay for the exhibition “Hanging Gardens, Mexican Roots”, which was exhibited in August-September, with more than 205,000 guests. We closed the month with the presentation of the Ohtli Award to Lidia Riveros, as well as with a Peruvian-Mexican tasting, pisco-mezcal and the exhibition “Day of the Dead, Magic Migrations”, which had the monarch butterfly as the central theme, with its magical arrival to the oyamel forests of Michoacán and Estado de México at the beginning of November and as a metaphor for Mexican migrants and migrants in the world.

Agustín García-López Loaeza.



Day of the Dead Exhibition



For the third consecutive year, the National Museum of Singapore and the Embassy of Mexico joined forces, together with the Mexican and Singaporean community, to commemorate the traditional Day of the Dead with the exhibition "Day of the Dead, Magic Migrations", whose central figure was the monarch butterfly as a metaphor to celebrate our migrant communities. The arrival of millions of monarch butterflies to Mexico from Canada and the United States is considered by the Purepecha and Mazahua cultures as the visit of the souls of our loved ones, who return every year on the 1st and 2nd of November. The exhibition was curated by the artist Lidia Riveros.

Othli Award

As part of the celebration of the 112th anniversary of the beginning of the Mexican Revolution, and on the occasion of the opening of the exhibition "Day of the Dead, Magic Migrations" on 19 November, Lidia Riveros was awarded the Ohtli Prize, a distinction granted by the Mexican government to those who have had a positive impact on the lives of other Mexican migrants abroad. The Nahuatl word Ohtli means road, path, and alludes to the idea of opening the way for those who come behind. Originally from Mexico City, Lidia Riveros is a well-known community leader, educator and artistic and cultural promoter, with 14 years of residence in Singapore.





At the 10th-anniversary ceremony of Gardens by the Bay, and in the presence of the President of Singapore, Halimah Yacob; the Deputy Prime Minister, Lawrence Wong, and the Minister for National Development, Desmond Lee, Ambassador Agustín García-López Loaeza received on behalf of the Government of Mexico the recognition for the exhibition entitled "Hanging Gardens, Mexican Roots", presented by the Embassy of Mexico last August-September, to share the contributions of our country to the world and to commemorate Mexico's Independence Day. The exhibition Hanging Gardens, Mexican Roots was admired by more than 205,000 people.

Fintech Festival

The flagship FinTech Festival, organised by the Monetary Authority of Singapore and Elevandi, returned in person after two years of the pandemic. It was opened by Deputy Prime Minister Lawrence Wong, who highlighted the City-State's efforts to foster technological and financial innovation:

The SGFinDex service on financial planning.

Investment of \$150 million to innovate the financial sector in the areas of environment, society and governance.

Ending the use of cheques by 2025.





Fintech Ecosystem in Mexico

At the opening ceremony of the FinTech Festival, the Embassy of Mexico participated in the forum "FinTech Ecosystem in Mexico", which highlighted the country's macroeconomic and demographic strength, its proximity to the United States, skilled workforce, connectivity with North America and Latin America, and fertile conditions for the development of startups, unicorns, financial technology and information technology. The FinTech Ecosystem in Mexico forum was led by Ambassador Agustín García-López Loaeza and Juan Franco, founding member of the Singapore-Mexico Chamber of Commerce (SgMxCham).





Student visit to the Mexican Embassy



24 students from Guanajuato, beneficiaries of the educational programme coordinated by ULinks - JuventudES of the state government, travelled to Singapore to learn about the development and best practices of public policies on innovation, technology, digitalisation, FinTech, smart cities and sustainable urbanism, interconnectivity, automation and manufacturing 4.0. Similarly, 42 elementary and secondary school students from Campeche, Jalisco, Tlaxcala, Veracruz and Zacatecas participated in the STEAM Ahead 2022 competition, winning 2 silver medals and 13 bronze medals. Both student delegations visited the facilities of the Mexican Embassy and were briefed on the most relevant aspects of the Mexico-Singapore bilateral relationship.



CAPA Award



The Mexican airline Volaris received the CAPA Latin American Environmental Sustainability Airline of the Year Award for 2022 for demonstrating leadership, commitment and innovation in environmental sustainability initiatives, reducing CO2 emissions by 35.4% by 2030. Ambassador Agustín García-López Loaeza received the award in Singapore on behalf of Volaris.

Minister Alvin Tan in Mexico



Alvin Tan, Minister for Trade and Industry, travelled to Mexico for the second time this year to participate in the XVI Summit of Ministers of the Pacific Alliance. During his stay in Mexico City, he reiterated Singapore's interest in joining the Pacific Alliance as its first Associated State and contributing to sustainable development in both regions in the areas of innovation, logistics, value chains, food economy, digital economy and green economy.

Mezcal and Pisco



In collaboration with the Embassy of Peru and the Singapore-Mexico Chamber of Commerce, an event was held to promote and taste two of Latin America's most representative spirits: pisco and mezcal. The event consisted of two segments; during the first part, three pisco-based cocktails were served, paired with Peruvian appetisers. In the second part, two mezcals were tasted: one from the state of Guerrero (agave Cupreata) and one from Durango (agave Cenizo); a mezcal-based margarita from San Luis Potosí (agave Salmiana) was also served. Carnitas tacos and Baja California-style fish fillets accompanied all our drinks.



Mexican abalone in Singapore

The Embassy organised the work agenda for the National Abalone Fishermen's Co-operative (CEDMEX) from Isla de Cedros, Baja, California. They held meetings with restaurants, distributors and marketers of seafood products in the region. Singapore is one of the most important international markets for Mexican abalone exporters. Mexican abalone is one of the most consumed culinary delicacies during the Chinese New Year, a festival that takes place between 22 January and 9 February.



Magazine Casa de Mexico

Casa de México

NO. 11 / Vol. 2 / Noviembre 2022



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