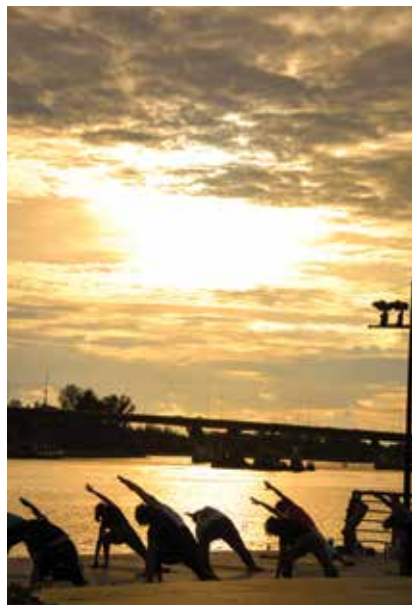


# Through His Lens



Photos: Dr Alvin Lum



SMA News catches up with Dr Alvin Lum (left, with his sons), a GP in private practice, to find out more about his passion for photography. Dr Lum's image of water droplets (facing page) was voted as the overall Grand Prize Winner of the Life in Pixels 2014 photo competition.

**What was the inspiration for your winning photo?**

I saw a similar photo in a magazine, and it captured my attention immediately. I was intrigued and wanted to know if I could produce an equally eye-catching photo. I experimented with different methods of dripping water to produce the drops. Eventually I found that by using an expired intravenous drip set, I was able to control the drops to my liking.

**How did you start this hobby of photography?**

I have always been fond of photography since young, hence it naturally became a hobby of mine.

**How do you find time to pursue your hobby?**

I do not set aside a specific time to shoot – I do so when I can. However, I do wish that I had more time to shoot.

**What are your favourite photographic subjects?**

My family! Nothing is more valuable than memories of my family captured in photos.

**How do you continuously improve your skills?**

My wife (Chu Cheng) and two boys (Aaron and Abner) will give me comments on my photos. They are my strongest supporters and main source of motivation. Their honest comments make me strive to improve. I try to read photography magazines and books to find out how to take better photos. The winning photo was taken after I had read up on the basics of taking such photos. With some experimentation and adaptation, I was finally able to achieve the photo.

**Could you share a secret tip you use when taking photos?**

No real secret – just enjoy the photography! There are photo opportunities everywhere, you just have to look out for them.

**How would you advise those who intend to pick up photography?**

Definitely try it out, and have fun! Meet up with like-minded folks for shoots, get ideas and discuss your photos. This way you make good friends, enjoy your photography and have great photos to accompany your good memories.

**Any other thoughts?**

I would like to thank all my family and friends, as well as everyone else who voted for my photo! A big thank you to SMA for organising this photo competition too! ■