



2 November 2007

MEDIA RELEASE

NOMINATIONS FOR OUTSTANDING AND INSPIRING YOUTHS FOR THE SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARDS 2008

The National Youth Council (NYC) is inviting nominations for the **Singapore Youth Awards (SYA) 2008**. The eligibility and selection criteria for the SYA are attached at Annex A.

2 The SYA was instituted in 1975 and was known as the National Youth Service Award until it was renamed in 1993. It confers national honour upon youths in Singapore who have significantly achieved excellence in their field of endeavour and contributed to society.

3 The SYA is the highest youth accolade in Singapore, and has honoured the likes of Ms Kit Chan, Dr William Tan Kian Meng, Mr Douglas Foo, Dr Mansoor Bin Abdul Jalil, Dr Benedict Tan Chi'-Loong, Ms Theresa Goh, Ms Eunice Elizabeth Olsen, The Boys' Brigade Sharity Gift Box and the T'ang Quartet, among other illustrious recipients.

4 Six outstanding young individuals were conferred the SYA 2007 by Deputy Prime Minister Professor S. Jayakumar at the Istana on 1 July 2007. One previous recipient was also honoured with the Medal of Commendation (MOC). The list of past recipients is attached in Annex B.

5 We would like to invite private organisations, public institutions and members of the public to nominate deserving individuals or teams in the following award categories for SYA 2008:

- (a) Arts and Culture;
- (b) Community and Youth Services;
- (c) Entrepreneurship;

- (d) Science and Technology;
- (e) Sports and Adventure.

6 Nominations can now be made online at the SYA website: **www.sya.sg**. Spotting a brand new look, the SYA Website contains further information on the SYA, such as details of the nomination process and the full listing of past recipients. The closing date for nominations is Tuesday, 15 January 2008.

This media release is transmitted via telebox by the Corporate Communications Section of the National Youth Council. The National Youth Council is Part of the People's Association Network. For further information, please contact:

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SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARD (SYA)
ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

ELIGIBILITY

- Nominees must be Singaporean citizens. Permanent residents of five years and longer are also eligible.
- Nominees should be 35 years old and below as of 1 January 2008.
- Nominees must be of good character.
- The achievements and community involvement of nominees must total at least three years. They can be accumulated over different time periods and in different fields.
- For teams, the majority of the members (60% of team or more) should meet all the above criteria.
- Teams should be in existence for at least five consecutive years.
- Nominees' achievements may be in the course of their work, an extension of their work or an extra-curricular activity.
- SYA Awardees who have continued to attain higher levels of achievements and contributions to society for at least five years after their Award may be considered for the Medal of Commendation.
- Nominees for the Medal of Commendation should be 40 years and below as of 1 January 2008.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Nominee's excellence in the area being considered.
- Nominee's contribution to the prestige of the nation.
- Extent to which nominee is an inspiration or role model to other youths.
- Nominee's other contributions to society.

- Other awards.
 - For the Medal of Commendation, the nominee's achievements and contributions after the Award should supersede and surpass previous accomplishments and contributions for which the Award was conferred.
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LIST OF PAST SYA RECIPIENTS

(a) Arts and Culture

Individual

- Mr Alvin Pang Khee Meng
Editor and Writer
- Ms Stephanie Sun
Singer

(b) Community and Youth Services

Individual

- Ms Melissa Aratani Kwee
Chairwoman, Halogen Foundation Singapore

Medal of Commendation

- NYAA Gold Award Holders' Alumni

(c) Entrepreneurship

Individual

- Mr Ivan Lee
Chief Executive Officer, ThaiExpress Concepts Pte Ltd

(d) Science and Technology

Individual

- Dr Yu Hao
Assistant Professor and Principal Investigator
Department of Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science
National University of Singapore

(e) Sports and Adventure

Individual

- Ms Valerie Teo Hui Ying
Former National Bowler
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