



21 June 2005

MEDIA RELEASE

Editors / Programme Managers

SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARDS 2005

AWARD PRESENTATION CEREMONY CUM BOOK LAUNCH

SATURDAY, 25 JUNE 2005, ISTANA

Young. Distinctive. Passionate. Exemplary. Every year, the Singapore Youth Awards (SYA) honours youth who possess these traits and whose achievements and service to the community are inspirational. This year, the SYA will pay further tribute to these youth role models with the launch of the SYA inspirational book, “Different” at the SYA Presentation Ceremony. “Different” celebrates the successes, achievements as well as setbacks and failures of our past SYA winners. It features their experiences, stories of what made them extraordinary and what gave them the will and courage to excel.

2 “Different” will reintroduce the SYA winners from the past 30 years to a new generation of young Singaporeans. These outstanding individuals have made a difference to the community through their “excellence with a heart” in the diverse fields of arts and culture, community service, entrepreneurship, sports and adventure, and science and technology.

3 A tribute to the strength of the human spirit, “Different” hopes to continue to enthuse youth and is based on recent interviews with more than 40 award winners. Sometimes cheeky, often provocative and always thoughtful, their candid stories of trials and tribulations and the zeal and struggles that follow, testify to the power of dreams and the lessons of failure.

4 SYA 2005 will see six individuals and one team conferred the nation's highest youth accolade by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, at the Presentation Ceremony on **Saturday, 25 June 2005 at the Istana.**

5 Receiving the SYA 2005 are:

AWARD

- (a) Mr Goh Boon Teck (Arts and Culture)
- (b) Mr Glenn Lim Kern Nien (Community and Youth Services)
- (c) Singapore Soka Association Youth Division
(Community and Youth Services)
- (d) Dr Ng Huck Hui (Science and Technology)
- (e) A/P Edward Teo Ho Khoo (Science and Technology)
- (f) Ms Theresa Goh Rui Si (Sports and Adventure)
- (g) Ms Li Jia Wei (Sports and Adventure)

MEDAL OF COMMENDATION

- (a) Dr Kong Hwai Loong (Science and Technology)
- (b) Mr Sheik Alau'ddin Yacoob Marican, PBM
(Sports and Adventure)

More details on the award recipients are attached at Annex A.

6 You are cordially invited to the SYA 2005 Presentation Ceremony and the launch of "Different". The programme is attached at Annex B. We would appreciate it if you could RSVP for the event by **23 June 2005 (5 pm)** to Ms Zalina Mohd Gazali at 68399103 (DID) or 96787034 (Hp). Due to stringent security requirements at the Istana, the Istana Security Unit will allow only media personnel who have confirmed their attendance and bear the MICA-issued Press Accreditation Card to enter the Istana on that day. We seek your understanding in this matter.

The news release is transmitted via telebox by the Corporate Communications Section of the National Youth Council. For further information, please contact:

Media Liaison

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SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARDS 2005

(AWARD)

MR GOH BOON TECK
Arts and Culture

Mr Goh Boon Teck is a multi-talented director, set and stage designer, playwright, visual artist, actor, and costume designer who is highly regarded and respected in the local theatre scene. His productions have been widely received both locally and overseas.

MR GLENN LIM KERN NIEN
Community and Youth Services

Mr Glenn Lim came close to a life sentence and 24 strokes of the cane for importing drugs. Thankful for his second chance when his charge was reduced, Mr Lim is now a dedicated youth counsellor who works tirelessly to spread the anti-drug message as well as engage youths. Combining his passion for music with youth work, Mr Lim founded Awakening Productions, a non-profit events and talent management organisation, which organises gigs for youth to express themselves and realise their potential through performance and music

SINGAPORE SOKA ASSOCIATION YOUTH DIVISION
Community and Youth Services
(Team)

Founded in 1972, the SSA Youth Division has a membership of 7,000 youths. Members and volunteers regularly take part in the National Day Parade as performers and support helpers. SSA Youth Division collaborates with other ethnic and faith-based organisations such as Perdaus, Mercy Relief and Yayasan Mendaki in joint activities such as the Youth Expedition Projects and organises regular inter-faith dialogues with organisations such as the Inter-Religious Organisation and MUIS.

DR NG HUCK HUI
Science and Technology

Dr Ng Huck Hui specialises in genetic research. Dr Ng has made key discoveries in the transcription of RNA. He is widely regarded as one of the leading scientists in the region. His recent accolades include the Singapore Young Scientist Award (2004) and the Biomedical Research Council Young Investigator Award (2003).

ASSOC PROF EDWARD TEO HO KHOON
Science and Technology

Assoc Prof Edward Teo Ho Khoon studies multi-black-hole solutions in string theory. A child prodigy, A/P Teo obtained his PhD at the age of 21 from the University of Cambridge. An inspirational teacher, he has also obtained the NUS Faculty Teaching Excellence Award for four consecutive years from 2001 to 2004.

MS THERESA GOH RUI SI
Sports and Adventure

Ms Theresa Goh Rui Si is a national swimmer who has represented Singapore at the ASEAN Para-Games, Commonwealth Games and the Athens Paralympics. She was awarded the Sportswoman of the Year by the Singapore Disability Sports Council in 2004.

MS LI JIA WEI
Sports and Adventure

Ms Li Jia Wei is the reigning SEA Games gold medallist since her debut in 1999. She was named Singapore's Sportswoman of the Year for four years running, from 2002 to 2005. Ms Li also actively promotes table tennis by participating at roadshows and community events.

**SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARDS 2005
(MEDAL OF COMMENDATION)**

**DR KONG HWAI LOONG
Science and Technology**

Dr Kong Hwai Loong was responsible for the planning, execution and funding of biomedical research in the public sector through his involvement in A*STAR and Biomedical Research Council. He founded the Singapore Genomics Programme and the Centre for Molecular Medicine. Dr Kong also contributed to the establishment of Biopolis, which opened in October 2003. He also sits on the Board of Directors of the Health Sciences Authority.

**MR SHEIK ALAU'DDIN YACOOB MARICAN, PBM
Sports and Adventure**

Mr Sheik Alau'ddin was a two-time world Silat champion. He is now the head coach and technical director of the Singapore Silat Federation. Mr Sheik was named the Coach of the Year by the Singapore National Olympic Council for three years and is a two-time winner of the Singapore Sports Council's Coaching Excellence Award. He is also active in the community and grassroots and received the Public Service Medal in 2000.

**SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARDS 2005
PRESENTATION CEREMONY
SATURDAY, 25 JUNE 2005, THE ISTANA**

PROGRAMME

4:00 pm

Arrival of Guests

5:00 pm

Arrival of Mr Lee Hsien Loong,
Prime Minister
Republic of Singapore

The National Anthem

Speech by Mr Tan Yam Pin, BBM
Chairman, Singapore Youth Award Panel

5:20 pm

Citations of SYA 2005 Recipients

Presentation of Singapore Youth Awards 2005
by Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong

5:45 pm

Reception and Viewing of Exhibits at the Banquet Hall

The SYA Inspiration Book, "Different" will be launched after the presentation of the SYA.