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NEWS RELEASE

NOMINATIONS FOR OUTSTANDING AND INSPIRING YOUTHS FOR THE SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARDS 2007

The National Youth Council (NYC) is inviting nominations for the **Singapore Youth Awards (SYA) 2007**. (The eligibility and selection criteria for the SYA are attached at Annex A).

2 The SYA was instituted in 1975 and was then 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. Six outstanding young individuals and one team were conferred the SYA 2006 by Minister Teo Chee Hean at the Istana on 2 July 2006. Three previous recipients were also honoured with the Medal of Commendation (MOC). They were:

(a) Arts and Culture

Individual

- Mr Tan Chee Lay
Writer & Educator

Medal of Commendation

- Mr Eric Khoo Kim Hai
Director
Zhao Wei Films

(b) Community and Youth Services

Individual

- Ms Eunice Elizabeth Olsen
Youth Counsellor/Former NMP

Team

- Malay Youth Literary Association (4PM)

Medal of Commendation

- NTU Welfare Services Club

(c) Entrepreneurs

Individual

- Mr Vikas Goel
Chairman & Managing Director
eSys Technologies Group

(d) Science and Technology

Individual

- Asst Prof Yeo Yee Chia
Assistant Professor, Dept of Electrical and Computer
Engineering
National University of Singapore.

Medal of Commendation

- Prof Wong Lim Soon
Professor, Computer Science & Pathology
National University of Singapore

(e) Sports and Adventure

Individual

- Dr Kua Harn Wei
Triathlete
- Mr Ronald Susilo
National Badminton Player

4 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 2007:

- (a) Arts and Culture
- (b) Community and Youth Services
- (c) Entrepreneurship
- (d) Science and Technology
- (e) Sports and Adventure

5 Nominations can be made on printed forms that can be downloaded from our website at www.nyc.pa.gov.sg/sya and be submitted by Fax: 67372025 or in person at the National Youth Centre (open Monday to Friday from 9.00 am to 6.00 pm, and Saturdays from 12.00 pm to 6.00 pm). The closing date for the nomination is Monday, 15 January 2007.

This news release is transmitted via telebox by the Corporate Communications Section of the National Youth Council. The National Youth Council is a Division of the People's Association. 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 at the time of nomination.
- 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 at the time of nomination.

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.