



MEDIA RELEASE
Embargoed till 29 June 2011, 12.00pm
20 June 2011

EXCELLENCE WITH A HEART - SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARD 2011

INSPIRING YOUTHS CONFERRED SINGAPORE'S HIGHEST YOUTH ACCOLADE

A film-maker, an entrepreneur, a research scientist, a youth leader and a voluntary welfare organisation – what do these five clearly disparate entities have in common?

2 They all share the traits of tenacity and passion in their pursuit of excellence and contributions to the community. Film maker **Mr Boo Junfeng** has been an inspiring role model to young people, while youth leader **Mr Terence Chia** has been regularly involved in the community and engaging other youths. **Touch Cyber Wellness** has been strongly committed in encouraging holistic youth development through promoting cyber wellness, healthy gaming and online safety.

3 Entrepreneur **Mr Darius Cheung** has been actively providing guidance to the local start-up community. Research scientist **Dr Teo Yik Ying** mentors students and is working on a research project that seeks to achieve greater efficiency in medical treatment.

4 In recognition of their achievements in their fields of endeavour and contributions to the community, these five outstanding individuals and team will be presented the **Singapore Youth Award (SYA) 2011** by Mr Teo Chee Hean, Deputy Prime Minister & Coordinating Minister for National Security & Minister for Home Affairs at the Istana on Sunday, 3 July 2011. Please refer to Annex A and B respectively for more information on the SYA and its 2011 awardees.

5 We cordially invite your journalist and photographer / camera crew to join us at the SYA 2011 media conference. Details are:

Date: Wednesday, 29 June 2011
Time: 10.00 am
Venue: 113, Somerset Road, The Lab (Level 1),
National Youth Council (NYC) Academy

The media conference will be followed by a Question-and-Answer session with the SYA 2011 awardees.

6 We would appreciate it if you could confirm your attendance by Thursday, 28 June 2011, 5.00 pm, to Ms Florence Ang, 6222 4704 or 96911404 (mobile).

Contact person/s : Florence Ang (Ms)
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About the National Youth Council

National Youth Council (NYC) is the Advocate, Connector and Enabler for Youth. Together with our partners, NYC develops a vibrant and supportive environment for youth who are inspired to dream and committed to action to bring about a future that they want. NYC is Part of the People's Association Network.

FACT SHEET

SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARD

BACKGROUND

The Singapore Youth Award (SYA) was formerly known as the National Youth Service Award (NYSA) until it was renamed in 1993. The SYA was instituted in 1975 to identify outstanding youths to be nominated for the Commonwealth Youth Service Award (CYSA). It is conferred on the first Sunday of July every year.

The SYA is the highest youth accolade in Singapore that honours youths who have significantly contributed to the society and achieved excellence in the following areas:

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

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SYA

The SYA is the highest national honour conferred on youths in Singapore.

AIMS OF THE SYA

The SYA aims to recognise, commend and encourage contributions made by youths in Singapore to the progress of our society. The SYA also aims to honour young people whose achievements will serve as an inspiration to others.

ELIGIBILITY

- Nominees must be Singapore 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.

Medal of Commendation (MOC)

- SYA awardees who have continued to attain higher levels of achievement and contribution to society for at least five years after their Award may be considered for the MOC.
- Only achievements and contributions made after the Award will be considered.
- Nominees for the MOC should be 40 years old and below at the time of nomination.

SELECTION

The final selection is made by the SYA Panel, assisted by an Advisory Committee for each Award category.

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; and
 - Other awards
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SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARD 2011 PROFILES OF AWARD RECIPIENTS

MR BOO JUNFENG Arts & Culture

Mr Boo Junfeng is a young filmmaker who connected deeply with his audience and received numerous awards for his richly evocative films. He was conferred the Young Artist Award by the National Arts Council in 2009 and his first feature film, "Sandcastle" won several awards at the Vietnam International Film Festival 2010 and the Hong Kong Asian Film Festival 2010. Junfeng's short films were also well received in film festivals abroad. These films are like a mirror, allowing Singaporeans to examine more deeply their histories and how the personal intertwines with the societal and national; they have also triggered thoughtful commentary and insights on youth and personal identity. Beyond his professional pursuits, Junfeng served as a panellist and jury member for *SCAPE's Storyboard 2008. He was also a youth ambassador for Youth.Sg's "Feed Me" campaign.

MR DARIUS CHEUNG Entrepreneurship

Mr Darius Cheung is a passionate and driven entrepreneur who made his first foray into entrepreneurship in 2005 when he co-founded tenCube, a start-up which pioneered applications in mobile security, most notably the award-winning WaveSecure software that guard against data loss or theft in mobile phones. Darius's bold ideas and visionary role in tenCube have earned him recognition as one of Asia's Top 25 Young Entrepreneurs by Business Week Asia in 2009. Darius believes strongly in helping to create a sustainable and vibrant community of entrepreneurs. Drawing from his experiences as an entrepreneur, Darius has been actively providing guidance to the local start-up community. He is an investor in and advisor to start-ups such as Neoteny Labs, PlayMoolah and Stickyery.

DR TEO YIK YING Science & Technology

Associate Professor Teo Yik Ying is a leading researcher in the core areas of genomics of population diversity and the genetics of common and complex diseases. As a statistical geneticist, he has developed several novel and important methodological solutions to challenges encountered in discovering the genetic causes to diseases such as diabetes, obesity and malaria. Associate Professor Teo is the 2010 winner of the prestigious Young Scientist Award, conferred by the Singapore National Academy of Sciences. He has authored and co-authored 57 regional and international articles, books and publications. Amidst his busy schedule,

Associate Professor Teo finds time to conduct regular talks at junior colleges to inspire pre-tertiary students in research as well as mentor two Science Research Programme students from Dunman High in their genetics-related project.

MR TERENCE CHIA
Community & Youth Services

Mr Terence Chia is a firm believer in nurturing and inspiring young people to bring about tangible benefits to the community. As such, he has taken on leadership positions in various community and youth organisations to engage youths and serve the community. Terence was a recipient of the National Youth Achievement Award (NYAA) (Gold) in 1998. In 2003, he was conferred the HSBC Youth Excellence Award by President S R Nathan for his achievements and contributions to the community. As Chairman of the NYAA Gold Award Holders' Alumni (GAHA) and a member of the National Youth Council since 2007, Terence steers the planning and execution of numerous community initiatives. Terence also volunteers regularly in his personal capacity with Darul Ihsan Orphanage, where he shares his experiences with fellow youths, in the hope of developing their skills, knowledge and character.

TOUCH CYBER WELLNESS TEAM
Community & Youth Services (Team)

TOUCH Cyber Wellness has made a significant impact in educating youths on cyber wellness through its key programme CRuSH (Cyberspace Risks and where U Seek Help) – a collaborative effort by schools, community and the government to help students surf safely. Since its inception in 2001, it has reached out to over 800,000 people through various platforms. To help parents and youths deal with cyber risks, the PlanetCRuSH Cyber Wellness Centre was set up in 2006 as a one-stop resource and training centre. Through counselling and the use of online games in a controlled setting, the centre helps parents and youths understand the importance of a balanced lifestyle. With its extensive track record and expertise in cyber wellness, TOUCH Cyber Wellness is a key partner in the government's education efforts.

**FACT SHEET
SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARD 2011 RECIPIENTS**

AWARD (新加坡杰出青年奖)

1. Name : Mr Boo Junfeng
 Chinese Characters : 巫俊锋
 Age as of 1 January 2011 : 27
 Occupation : Director
 Zhao Wei Films
 Award Category : Arts and Culture
2. Name : Mr Chia Yong Wei Terence
 Chinese Characters : 谢勇伟
 Age as of 1 January 2011 : 30
 Occupation : Industrial Relations Officer
 Public Service Division,
 National Trades Union Congress
 Award Category : Community and Youth Services
3. Name : Mr Darius Cheung Yik
 Chinese Characters : 张翼
 Age as of 1 January 2011 : 29
 Occupation : Director
 Consumer Mobile Technologies,
 McAfee Inc
 Award Category : Entrepreneurship
4. Name : Associate Professor Teo Yik Ying
 Chinese Characters : 张毅颖
 Age as of 1 January 2011 : 32
 Occupation : Associate Professor
 National University of Singapore
 Award Category : Science and Technology

5. Name : TOUCH Cyber Wellness
Chinese Characters : 触爱网络健全服务

Team Representatives : Mr Eugene Seow Soo Keng, PBM
萧树庆
Executive Director
TOUCH Community Services

Mrs. Low-Lim Chiang Chiang, Anita
林菁清
Director of TOUCH Youth

Mr Chong Ee Jay
庄贻杰
Senior Executive

Mr Yeong Bang Huat
杨邦发
Senior Counsellor

Award Category : Community and Youth Services