

Y FACTOR



A P U B L I C A T I O N O F Y M C A O F S I N G A P O R E

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developing body, mind & spirit

COVER STORY

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF Y CAMP CHALLENGE

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REMEMBERING MR LEE KUAN YEW

16 SEPTEMBER 1923 – 23 MARCH 2015

HONORARY LIFE MEMBER (1984 – 2015)

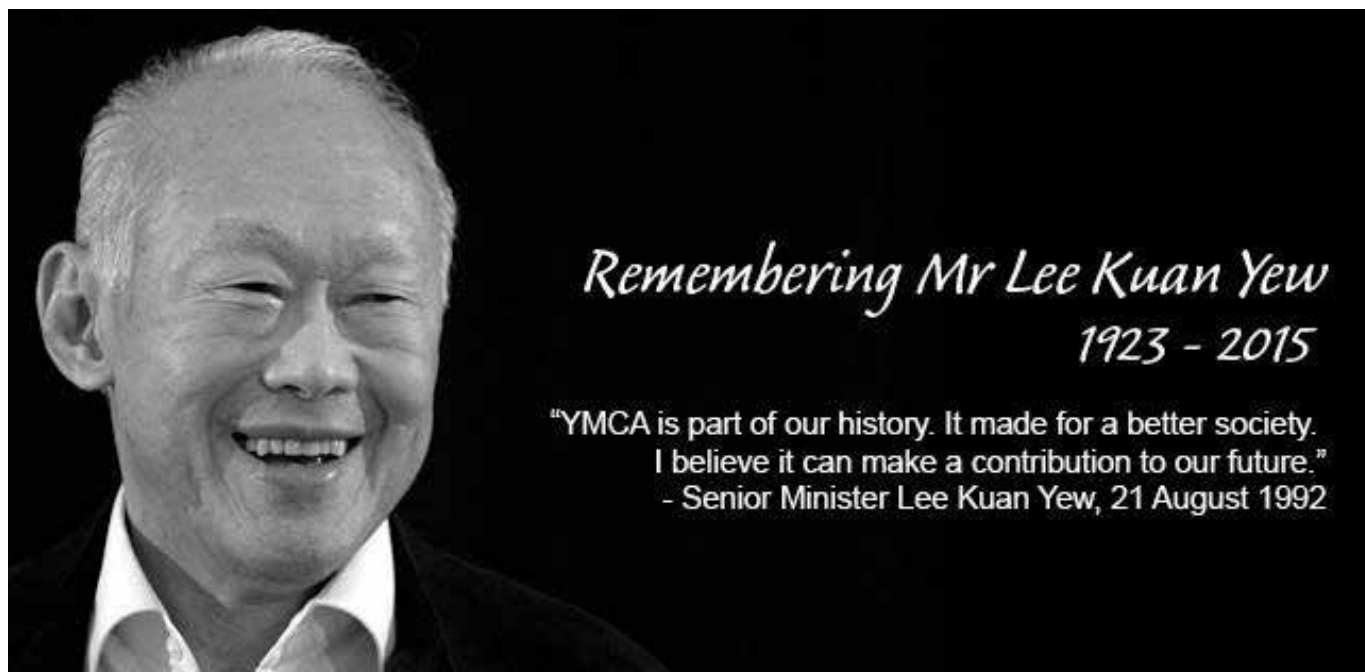


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The late Mr Lee was Honorary Life Member of the YMCA of Singapore since 1984.

YMCA was privileged to have Mr Lee pen messages for commemorative books in celebration of the new YMCA building's opening in 1984, YMCA's 90th Anniversary in 1992 and 100th Anniversary in 2002. In his messages, Mr Lee recognised that the YMCA has a long history in Singapore.

As we stood in mourning with all Singaporeans on the loss of our founding Prime Minister in March 2015, YMCA honours his memory as a selfless and visionary leader who helped transform our small island country into a respected and prosperous nation on the world stage today.

During the week-long national mourning, the YMCA corporate facebook page cover photo was replaced with a photo and quote by the late Mr Lee. A condolence message was displayed on all digital notice boards in the YMCA building, and the cover of the latest YMCA

Annual Report was rendered in grayscale. A special tribute page to the late Mr Lee was also included in the annual report. At a weekly staff meeting during the national mourning week, Mr Lo Chee Wen, General Secretary, YMCA of Singapore led all staff in observing a minute's silence before closing in prayer for the family of the late Mr Lee. A delegation of 12 YMCA Directors and staff, led by then President Mr Stephen Loh represented the YMCA of Singapore at the late Mr Lee's Lying-In-State ceremony at the Parliament House. A minute's silence was also observed by YMCA members, board directors, management and staff at the YMCA Annual General Meeting in May.

YMCA will always remember Mr Lee's words of encouragement – "The YMCA must meet the challenges of our changing society. It must offer programmes, activities and facilities relevant to the mood and fashion of the times. The fundamental objectives, though, are timeless: to improve the body, mind and spirit, to train youth leaders and to increase social awareness amongst the young."

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CHEW KWEE SAN ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE YMCA OF SINGAPORE

Mr Chew Kwee San was elected President of the YMCA of Singapore following the Association's Annual General Meeting on 28 May 2015.



Mr Chew brings with him a wealth of experience from both the corporate and social service sectors. He is Executive Director of The Tecity Group of companies, and Honorary Secretary and Council Member of both the Tan Chin Tuan Foundation in Singapore and Tan Sri Tan Foundation in Malaysia. Mr Chew has been a YMCA volunteer since 1999, serving in various YMCA committees.

He has also been serving as an Office Bearer of YMCA, first as Honorary Treasurer from May 2009 to May 2013 and subsequently as Vice President from May 2013. He is also a Council Member of the National Council of YMCAs of Singapore.

Among his many appointments in various YMCA committees, Mr Chew had served as Chairman of the YMCA Programmes and Community Services Committee from October 2008 to May 2013. Under his leadership, YMCA saw a 120% growth in its outreach to beneficiaries and an increase in volunteer engagement by 200% during that period. A strong proponent of youth empowerment and development, Mr Chew has contributed to the Citi-YMCA Youth For Causes youth development programme since 2007 as a committee member, awards panellist and mentor for the participants.

Commenting on his new appointment, Mr Chew said, "I look forward to working closely with the YMCA Board and management team in driving YMCA towards developing the "heartware" for Singapore through its programme and service infrastructure, building a resilient and caring society through sustainable community engagement programmes and nurturing socially responsible community champions. This includes engaging youth in programmes that provide opportunities for them to be attuned to the needs of the community, equipping them with the skills and knowledge to serve with excellence through structured training and development programmes, and providing them with the platforms to step-up and lead their peers and other like-minded youths in making a positive difference in the community."

HIGHLIGHTS OF YMCA SPECIAL AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETINGS 2015

The YMCA Special and Annual General Meetings were held on Thursday, 28 May 2015 at YMCA of Singapore.



A SGM was convened this year for the purpose of passing resolutions that included the creation of the position of an Honorary Secretary in compliance with the Registry of Societies' requirement as well as other proposed amendments to the YMCA Constitution. The meeting voted unanimously in favour of the resolutions and accepted the proposed amendments to the YMCA Constitution.

During the AGM, Mr Stephen Loh, then President, YMCA of Singapore, shared highlights from the various areas of YMCAs work in serving the community in 2014. The Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2014 and the 2014 YMCA Annual Report were also adopted by the members.

Four members were re-elected to serve a new 4-year term on the Board. They are Mr Leslie Wong Kin Wah, Mr Bryan Tan Suan Tiu, Mrs Magdalene Sik Swee Hiang and Mr Ho Chee Hon.

In the first Board meeting for the year 2015/2016 that was convened immediately after the AGM, the Board elected the following as Office Bearers for the year 2015/2016: Mr Chew Kwee San (President), Mr Leslie Wong Kin Wah (Vice President) and Dr Tan Sze Wee (Honorary Treasurer).

The Board also co-opted three members to serve a 1-year term. They are Mr Lee Liat Cheng, Mr Stephen Loh Sur Yong and Mr Lua Soo Theng.

YMCA OF SINGAPORE RECEIVES THE PRESIDENT'S CHALLENGE LOYAL SUPPORTER AWARD

The President's Challenge 2015 was officially launched by President Tony Tan Keng Yam at the President's Challenge 15th Anniversary Commemorative Dinner held at the Istana on 13 March 2015. At the event, President Tony Tan recognised 32 organisations and individuals that had made special contributions to the causes supported by the President's Challenge through the years. The annual Citi-YMCA Youth For Causes (YFC) programme has been an event of the President's Challenge since 2005.



Mr Stephen Loh, then President, YMCA of Singapore receiving the Loyal Supporter Award from President Tony Tan Keng Yam.

36TH INSTALLATION DINNER OF THE INTERNATIONAL Y'S MEN'S CLUB OF SINGAPORE (ALPHA CHAPTER) BOARD OF DIRECTORS

YMCA of Singapore congratulates the Board of Directors 2015-16 of the International Y's Men's Club of Singapore (Alpha Chapter) on their appointment. The Club is affiliated to the YMCA of Singapore and supports its community service and fundraising activities. Membership is open to likeminded people and all YMCA members who have a desire to serve the community and make the world a better place to live in through volunteerism. Past and present members include many leaders from the YMCA Board of Directors.

YMCA of Singapore also congratulates Mr Ivan Koh, the incoming President of the International Y's Men's Club of Singapore (Alpha Chapter) on his appointment.



TAINAN YMCA'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

YMCA of Singapore participated in Tainan YMCA's 60th Anniversary celebrations in May this year. Mr Stephen Loh, then President, YMCA of Singapore and Mr Lo Chee Wen, General Secretary, YMCA of Singapore, presented a limited edition YMCA of Singapore teddy bear as a congratulatory token to Mr Wu Tao-Chang, Chairman of the Board, Tainan YMCA and Mr Jimmy Lin, General Secretary, Tainan YMCA.



As part of a the 3 day celebration programme, delegates from YMCAs around the region were taken on a trip around Tainan. They visited places of interest including Chimei Museum and attended a carnival which featured a performance from by the local tribal communities. Tainan YMCA reaches out to these tribal communities by sharing the gospel and teaching them how to speak Taiwanese.

YMCA of Singapore applauds Tainan YMCA for its good work and tireless efforts over the past 60 years in developing the body, mind and spirit of individuals in Tainan. Through community service programmes, sports, personal development and education programmes, Tainan YMCA has succeeded in transcending all divisions and barriers of gender and

social class to touch the lives of all members in their community.

Tainan YMCA is a thriving movement that impacts the lives of many across the community everyday, and YMCA of Singapore has been very blessed to have had many opportunities to work with Tainan YMCA over the past few years. Members of Uni-Y Singapore, the university service club of YMCA of Singapore, were inspired and learnt much from attending the SHINE Camp organised by Tainan YMCA last year.

YMCA of Singapore looks forward to greater collaboration with Tainan YMCA in the years ahead to nurture and groom socially responsible community champions who will make positive social impact.

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NURTURING COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

THE YMCA CONVERSATION SERIES - SPECIAL SEEDS: GROWING YOUR CHILD'S POTENTIAL

The 5th installation of the YMCA Conversation Series was held at the YMCA of Singapore on 14 March 2015 and was themed: Special Seeds: Growing Your Child's Potential. Ms Denise Phua, Mayor, Central Singapore District attended the event as the Guest-of-Honour together with over 160 participants in attendance.



Organised by Uni-Y Singapore, the event aimed to advise parents and caregivers of children with intellectual disabilities on the support and opportunities available to increase their child's potential for training and employment. It revolved around a panel discussion between parents and invited panel speakers from different organisations to provide these insights. The panellists included Ms Chay Chee Sun, Mother of a child with intellectual disabilities, Ms Chia Ai Ling, Programme Director of SG Enable, Ms Jeanne Seah-Khong, Director of Joan Bowen, Mr Keh Eng Song, CEO of Movement for the Intellectually Disabled of Singapore (MINDS), Ms Lau Lee Fang, Behavioral Therapist at Joyful Steps and Ms Veronica Lim-Lowe, Senior Family Life Educator at Rainbow Centre. The dialogue was moderated by Mr Tan Wei En, an alumnus of Uni-Y. Mr Stephen Loh, then President, YMCA of Singapore, Mr Teo Zi-Ming, Chairman of the YMCA Youth and Volunteer Development Committee, and Mr Lo Chee Wen, General Secretary, YMCA of Singapore were also present at the dialogue.

Concurrently, Uni-Y volunteers and youth leaders held an arts and craft programme for the intellectually disabled children and youth aged between 7 to 18 while their parents and caregivers were at dialogue. The experience and interaction between the children and youth provided the volunteers with a deeper understanding of the special needs community.

Guest-of-Honour Ms Denise Phua also participated in the dialogue session as a panel speaker and answered questions posed by parents and caregivers of the intellectually disabled. In her closing address, Ms Denise Phua encouraged parents and caregivers to "Focus on what your child can do, not what they cannot."



MAKING THEIR MARK FOR 46 CHARITIES

Citi-YMCA Youth For Causes (YFC), an annual social entrepreneurship and youth development programme jointly organised by YMCA of Singapore and Citi Singapore was launched on 21 May at Anderson Junior College. Professor Leo Tan (Director, Special Projects), Faculty of Science, NUS, was the Guest of Honour at the event, which was attended by some 500 participants, mentors, YFC Selection Interview panellists, representatives from supporting voluntary welfare organisations (VWOs) and schools, and YFC alumni ambassadors.

The theme of the event was Make Your Mark. Everyone has a unique fingerprint. When we touch something, our fingerprints remain, even though it is not always visible to the human eye. In the same way, we have the power to leave behind a positive mark and legacy in our community. Guests were invited to stamp their thumbprint on the Make Your Mark signboard during the event, representing the unity of the various stakeholders to make a difference to those around them.

The Citi-YMCA Youth For Causes 2015 launch began with members of the YFC 2015 Alumni Committee opening the programme with a musical cover of "Fireworks" by Katy Perry, aiming to encourage participants to be a shining light in the community.

In his opening address, Professor Leo Tan spurred the youths to leave a lasting legacy through their projects. He brought up the example of Team EduTomahawk from ITE College West who once again made the cut as one of the 100 teams selected for the third time in three years. He added, "Beyond providing an opportunity to make a positive difference to the beneficiaries, the YFC programme creates a service learning environment that also affords you with hands-on experiences to handle real-life issues. You will learn how to work as a team, and strengthen your analytical as well as interpersonal skills. These skills will put you in good stead when you enter the workforce." He ended his speech by praising the mentors for their dedication to go the extra mile to journey with their youths.

To mark the launch of this year's Citi-YMCA YFC, Professor Leo Tan led the participants in releasing spinners in the air, creating a mesmerizing canvas of colors across the auditorium.

Mr Stephen Loh, then President, YMCA of Singapore said, "YMCA seeks to impact lives and nurture community

champions among youth, who are the future leaders of our society. This is central to why we exist, and how we work as a youth organisation. Through various youth development programmes, YMCA exposes youth to local and international community service, social entrepreneurship, character, confidence building programmes and more."

In his message, Mr John Denhof, Head of Cards and Personal Loans, Citibank Singapore Limited, said, "We have seen tremendous success in the programme over the past 12 years with the youth teams raising over \$7 million for over 150 VWOs and mobilising more than 130,000 volunteers in the process. We are excited to launch this year's programme for other 100 youth teams who will gain a higher level of social consciousness as they seek to fulfill the unmet social needs in Singapore. In addition to funding from Citi Foundation, we are pleased to support the programme with 55 volunteer mentors from Citi Singapore who will guide the teams on their projects."

From a field of 175 applications, 100 teams, comprising 4 youths each were chosen by a rigorous selection process whereby the teams' proposals were scrutinised and dissected by a Selection Panel comprising senior management executives from both corporate and non-profit sectors. The

criteria for judging proposals included innovation, feasibility, as well as level of public and volunteer engagement. These teams will undergo training in financial management, safety management, volunteer management, events management, marketing and fund-raising – conducted by YMCA in partnership with NUS Business School. In addition to these trainings, each team will have a volunteer mentor for guidance and support. The mentors comprise working professionals from sectors such as banking and social service, to various government ministries and statutory boards.

Since 2002, YFC has served as a youth development platform to empower youth volunteers in initiating community projects that benefit VWOs. For last year's YFC, the 100 teams raised more than \$936,000 within 15 weeks.

For more information about the Citi-YMCA Youth For Causes, please visit www.youthforcauses.com.



A CHANNEL OF BLESSING

MAKING A DIFFERENCE ONE TIN AT A TIME

On 21 March, more than 480 volunteer tin-bearers were spotted across Singapore to raise funds for YMCA Flag Day 2015. The event raised over \$66,000 for the YMCA Community Service Programmes. The YMCA Community Service Programmes comprise 16 structured and sustained programmes which are organised to enrich the lives of the intellectually and physically challenged, under-privileged and abused children, the hearing impaired, the elderly and the poor. These programmes are all volunteer-driven and allow individuals from all walks of life to contribute meaningfully to the community.

This year, 16 beneficiaries from two of YMCA's partnering Voluntary Welfare Organisations (VWOs) including Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN) Centre for Adults (CFA) and Handicaps Welfare Association (HWA) joined in and participated in YMCA's fundraising effort. YMCA staff and volunteers were seen in high spirits as they went about to ask for donations. To create greater awareness and facilitate public engagement, photo frame props manned by YMCA staff were deployed at strategic locations where donors were invited to pose, snap photos and write messages of support.

YMCA of Singapore would like to thank all donors for their generosity and support for YMCA Flag Day 2015.



A NEW CHAPTER FOR YOUTH-AT-RISK

Some 15 youth encompassing early school leavers and youth-at-risk aged between 15 to 21 years old gathered at Capella Singapore on 31 March as part of the Dream Big Programme. The programme allowed exposure for the youth to meet experts in the fields of hospitality, baking and beauty as part of their learning journey in the Vocational and Soft Skills Programme (VaSSP).

The VaSSP is an initiative by YMCA Project Bridge which aims to equip out-of-school youths and youths-at-risk, between the ages of 15 to 21 years, with job competency as well as specific vocational skills in Hairdressing, Baking, Makeup, Hospitality and Western Culinary.

The offsite training provided by Capella Singapore gave the youth a hands-on learning experience as they were supervised on providing good service for hotel guests by learning how to wait and lay tables, fold napkins, pack

clothing and learn tips on beauty and facial cleansing. With newly learnt social skills, these several learning journeys enabled the youth to slowly integrate back into society as they discover their niche in life.

They were joined by Ms Jacqui Brabazon, Managing Director, Head of Asia Marketing and Mr Darrell Wright, Head of Communications and Media Relations at JP Morgan Singapore who mingled with them and learnt about their stories.

Capella Singapore and JP Morgan Singapore have been long term partners with YMCA Project Bridge and have been present in following the youths' journey in the VaSSP.

The VaSSP comprises three phases: Core training which includes job search skills and interpersonal skills; a one month vocation training course of their choosing; and finally on-the-job training for three to six months with an employer. Since its inception in 2011, the VaSSP has trained 420 youths with an 80% success rate*.



* Success is defined as youths who have secured work attachments, employment or returned to school to continue education.

MOVIE OUTINGS FOR THE LESS PRIVILEGED



After a 7 year hiatus, beneficiaries can once again look forward to movie outings with the return of the Y Movie Treat programme. Between March to May, 22 beneficiaries from Bishan Home for the Intellectually Disabled and over 30 volunteers including 15 committee members from the Singapore-Industry Scholarship programme participated in 3 runs of Y Movie Treat.

The programme consists of a simulated movie experience in an auditorium, a private movie screening in a cinema and an outing to a public movie screening.

These similar but different cinematic experiences provide beneficiaries with an opportunity to acquire life skills and boost their confidence as they interact with the volunteers and come into contact with the general public.



About Y Movie Treat

Y Movie Treat is a structured 3-session programme for the intellectually challenged. The programme aims to create greater awareness of the challenges faced by the beneficiaries amongst the general public and teach the beneficiaries behavioural and basic social skills in public. The involvement from volunteers and support from care-givers provide great opportunities for social integration. The programme consists of one simulated movie experience, one private movie screening followed by a mass movie outing to a cinema theatre.

FIREFIGHTERS FOR A DAY



On 27 June, 20 children from Children's Aid Society – Melrose Home experienced life in the Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) where they learnt about the roles and function of a fire station. The children had the opportunity to experience riding on a fire engine and put out a simulated fire. They were accompanied by 12 volunteers from Superior Multi-Packaging Ltd (SMPL). Y Outing @ Melrose Home is currently adopted by Superior Multi-packaging Ltd (SMPL). Volunteers from SMPL bring children from Children's Aid Society – Melrose Home for outings and learning journeys on a monthly basis.

A CHANNEL OF BLESSING

CELEBRATING 10 YEARS OF Y CAMP CHALLENGE



A total of 106 beneficiaries from Association for Persons with Special Needs – Centre for Adults and Katong School, Christian Outreach to the Handicapped – Tampines and Toa Payoh, Mountbatten Vocational School, MINDS Woodlands Employment Development Centre and YMCA Special Talents, Arts and Recreation Society (Y STARS) participated in the June run of Y Camp Challenge together with 120 working adults and youth volunteers from junior colleges, polytechnics, universities and Institutes of Technical Education. The 4 day, 3 night camp was held from 4 to 7 June at Peirce Secondary School and Camp Challenge Sembawang.

Themed "LOVE", participants went through a series of camp activities which focused on team building to promote social integration between beneficiaries and the volunteers. These activities also challenged the preconceived limits and boundaries of the beneficiaries so as to increase their confidence and resilience.

In commemorating the 10th Anniversary of Y Camp Challenge, the beneficiaries and volunteers celebrated with a campfire. To mark the occasion, volunteers wrote and performed a song titled 'Special In My Own Ways'. Previous years' camp committee members were also invited to join the celebration which marked 35 runs of Y Camp Challenge over the past 10 years. Mr Bryan Tan, Director, YMCA of Singapore attended the campfire and gave a speech to encourage volunteers and beneficiaries. He said: "As we celebrate Y Camp Challenge's 10th anniversary and SG50 this year, we are thankful for the support and assistance from the volunteers, VWOs and staff, past and present. Let us continue to keep up our efforts in ensuring that Y Camp Challenge remains exciting, enriching and relevant to the evolving needs of our beneficiaries, so that their confidence will be built up over time and enable them to overcome the challenges that are ahead of them."

YMCA of Singapore would like to thank NTUC FairPrice Foundation and Tan Chin Tuan Foundation for their support for the Camp.

About Y Camp Challenge

Y Camp Challenge is a quarterly outdoor adventure camp for individuals who are intellectually or physically challenged. The camp aims to provide the beneficiaries with opportunities for social integration with the volunteers. It also allows the beneficiaries to challenge and overcome their preconceived limits through various confidence building activities including high rope elements and camp craft. Beneficiaries emerge mentally stronger and are more confident about themselves, providing new found hope for their families and loved ones.



MOVING TO THE BEAT



With support from the WeCare Arts Fund, a new activity named Y Visit (Dance) was added under the Y Visit Programme to engage the elderly from Thye Hua Kwan Seniors Activity Centre @ Macpherson through dance. The regular weekday 1 hour dance programme aims to keep the elderly connected with the community and promote active-aging and a healthy lifestyle. Professional dance instructors from Maya Dance Theatre taught the senior citizens how to dance with their needs and limitations taken into consideration. A total of 11 senior citizens participated in 12 weekly sessions conducted since April 2015. WeCare Arts Fund is a grant scheme by the National Arts Council and People's Association. This fund aims to support Voluntary Welfare Organisations (VWOs) in the 5 districts in Singapore through the Community Development Councils to broaden arts access for VWOs to engage their beneficiaries through artist-led projects, and enable VWOs to have a deeper engagement with their beneficiaries through the arts.



About Y Visit

Y Visit is conducted on a regular basis to various voluntary welfare organisations. YMCA volunteers would bring cheer to the beneficiaries by befriending them and participating in their classroom activities which include ADL (Activities of Daily Living), CLS (Community Living Skills) and Behavioural Modification lessons. Periodically, YMCA volunteers would also plan and conduct special enrichment activities like arts and craft, dancing, games, singing and sports for the beneficiaries to further enrich their lives.





CHAMPIONING VOLUNTEERISM

VOLUNTEERS AND CORPORATIONS LAUDED FOR IMPACTING LIVES

It was a night dedicated to the spirit of altruism and giving as YMCA of Singapore honoured 75 individuals and corporations at the YMCA-Lim Kim San Volunteers Programme Awards Night 2015.

people as well," he said. "I believe that I have gained much more than what I have given. The experience is priceless."

Co-operative Ltd, Pricewaterhouse-Coopers LLP, Superior Multi-Packaging Limited and United Parcel Service Singapore Pte Ltd

The awards ceremony was held on 16 January 2015 and Mr Stephen Loh, then President, YMCA of Singapore, hosted the volunteers who had given their time and effort to touch lives and lift spirits of the less privileged.

Describing volunteers as the "the backbone of the YMCA", Mr Lo Chee Wen, General Secretary, YMCA of Singapore, emphasised that volunteers were essential to the success of YMCA's programmes that serve the community. "We have witnessed time and again, your displays of compassion and servant leadership, and your exemplary efforts in going the extra mile to serve the beneficiaries," said Mr Lo. "Without your selflessness and sacrifices, our beneficiaries would not have experienced the love and support that you have so generously given."

Outstanding Volunteer Award winner, Mr How Zhi Yong shared that his volunteering experience changed his life. "I have learnt many life skills and gained invaluable friendships from volunteering. My volunteering journey has allowed me to self-reflect and learn from my mistakes and from other

The Outstanding Volunteer Award recognises YMCA volunteers who have served the community with distinction and have inspired others through their voluntary work.

Two other awards – Volunteer Award (Special Mention) and Sustained Volunteerism Award were also presented at the event.

In addition to individual volunteers, 12 corporations were recognised as well. Recipients of the Corporate Volunteerism Award (Special Mention) included 3M Singapore, Ciseern By Designer Furnishings Pte Ltd, Citi Singapore, Credit Suisse AG, DHL eCommerce (Singapore) Pte Ltd, ESRI Singapore Pte Ltd, Foo Kon Tan Grant Thornton LLP, KPMG, NTUC Fairprice



About the YMCA-Lim Kim San Volunteers Programme

Introduced in 2007, the key thrusts of the YMCA-Lim Kim San Volunteers Programme are grooming of volunteers and promoting Corporate Volunteerism. Through training and development programmes, YMCA aims to build a well-trained and sustainable volunteer corps to serve the community well. Various platforms are also provided for corporations to embrace Corporate Social Responsibility.



CHAMPIONING VOLUNTEERISM

VOLUNTEERISM RECEIVES A BOOST AT 16TH YMCA CHARITY GOLF 2015

More than \$260,000 was raised for the YMCA-Lim Kim San Volunteers Programme through the 16th YMCA Charity Golf to boost the Programme's ability of developing and recognising volunteers as well as promote corporate volunteerism.

The annual golf event was held at Tanah Merah Country Club (Garden Course) from 16-17 April 2015. YMCA had the privilege of being the first organisation to organise a golf tournament at the newly reconfigured golf course.

Mr Lim Swee Say, Minister, Prime Minister's Office, graced the event as the Guest-of-Honour which saw over 100 individual golfers tee off on the first day and 24 corporate flights competing for the Lim Kim San Corporate Challenge trophy on the second day.

The individual winners for the first day were: Wong Lock Kay (1st), Richard Yong (2nd), Tan Ching Khoon (3rd) and Koh Sock Hwee (Ladies' Champion). Mitsubishi Electric Asia, represented by Jonathan Yeo, Koh Teck Chuan, Raymond Chua Lee Meng, and Chng Chee Beow won the corporate challenge trophy, while Knight Frank Pte Ltd finished first runner-up on the second day.

At the post-tournament dinner, Mr Ee Kuo Ren, who has chaired the organising committee for the third year running, exhorted the corporations to do more for the community. "By pooling your resources together - your manpower and financial resources, with YMCA's expertise in developing and managing community service programmes, you have the power to make a tremendous impact in the lives of the less privileged in the community", said Mr Ee.





YMCA would like to express our deepest appreciation to the following sponsors and partners for their contributions:

Main Sponsor



Hole-in-One Sponsors



Official Media Partner



YMCA would like to thank the following corporations for participating in the Lim Kim San Corporate Challenge:



YMCA would also like to acknowledge the following organisations for their contributions towards the prizes and goodie-bag items:



ADVOCATING LIFELONG LEARNING

DIGITAL ARTISTS AT WORK

From November to December 2014, some 500 children aged 7 to 12 from 14 YMCA Student Care Centres (SCCs) islandwide took part in the second annual YMCA-Samsung Digital Art Programme.

The YMCA-Samsung Digital Art Programme is sponsored by Samsung and organised in collaboration with Popular e-Learning which provided facilitators who taught the children digital art techniques. Themed "Singapore Icons", the children used the Samsung tablets as their canvas to create their digital masterpieces.

The best art pieces from each centre were submitted for a final competition where 9 year old Tan Yan Zhen from YMCA SCC @ Jurong West walked away with a Samsung Galaxy Note 10.1 LTE Tablet. All finalists' paintings were on display at YMCA of Singapore in the month of June 2015.

YMCA of Singapore would like to thank Samsung Asia Pte Ltd and Popular e-Learning Holding Pte Ltd for their continued support for this annual programme.



ADVOCATING LIFELONG LEARNING

INTERGENERATIONAL BONDING

On 10 February 2015, 30 Kindergarten 1 and 2 children from YMCA CDC @ Zhenghua visited Bo Tien Day Activity Centre for the Elderly together with their teachers. The children and teachers led sing along sessions, gave a dance performance and assisted with Chinese New Year craftwork. In addition, parents of the children also played a part and contributed goodies and snacks for the senior citizens. Through this excursion, the children learnt about the importance of showing care, respect and responsibility towards senior citizens of the community.



A LEARNING JOURNEY IN CHINATOWN

On 24 April, over 140 students from YMCA School embarked on a heritage trail in Chinatown for them to learn about its' history and cultural developments over the years. The students worked in groups to identify and visit selected locations along the trail and solved quizzes and puzzles based on the history of each location at activity stations manned by YMCA School's teachers and staff. These included Chinatown Complex, Chinatown Food Street, Nanyang Old Coffee, Maxwell Food Centre, People's Park Complex, Tong Heng Pastries, Xiang Wei Bak Kwa and more. The group activities allowed the students to hone their leadership skills and foster better teamwork with each other. YMCA of Singapore would like to thank Nanyang Old Coffee, Tong Heng Pastries, Xiang Wei Bak Kwa for partnering the school on this heritage trail.



LEARNING OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM



In April this year, 113 students participated in YMCA School's annual three day, two night Adventure Learning Camp at Kahang Organic Rice Eco Farm in Johor, Malaysia. The camp's aim was to provide a holistic education to develop body, mind and spirit outside of the classroom. The students participated in activities such as rice planting, rubber tapping, trekking and water rafting which allowed them to build character and learn the importance of teamwork. The students overcame these elements which were new to them and without their mobile phones throughout the camp, it provided students ample time for reflection on their experiences and the importance of communication.

NETWORKING AT SINGAPORE STRATHCLYDE 100

The Strathclyde 100 networking event took place at Grand Park Orchard Hotel Singapore on 13 May. Strathclyde 100 is a network of entrepreneurial alumni and business people who, through a series of events, support emerging Strathclyde entrepreneurs. The event attracted 70 participants comprising Strathclyde MBA Programme students from the YMCA Education Centre (YEC), Strathclyde MBA Alumni and University of Strathclyde Alumni. The Guest-of-Honour was Professor Sir Jim McDonald, Principal and Vice Chancellor, University of Strathclyde. Mr Stephen Loh, then President, YMCA of Singapore and Dr Thomas Choong, Co-Chair, YMCA Education Committee, were also in attendance. The programme highlights included keynote speakers Mr Jack Sim, Founder, World Toilet Organisation giving a keynote presentation and the Strathclyde MBA Programme students from YEC giving a business presentation on entrepreneurship skills. YMCA Education Services would like to thank the Strathclyde Business School Alumni Office and the University of Strathclyde Alumni Singapore (USAS) – Singapore Branch for organising this event.



ADVOCATING LIFELONG LEARNING

LIVING BETTER THROUGH SPORTS

On 8 May 2015, 160 children aged 7 to 12 from 5 YMCA Student Care Centres participated in a Soccer Fiesta at Serangoon Sports Centre. The event was a joint collaboration between YMCA of Singapore, Serangoon Sports Centre and Football Association of Singapore with the main purpose of introducing soccer to primary school children as well as to form Football Interest Groups. The children were trained under certified football coaches and learnt games related to soccer while practicing on their flexibility and shooting skills. This programme is aligned with the Active SG's efforts to promote sports among the young and to encourage Singaporeans live better through sport.



OUT AND ABOUT AT THE SEA GAMES CARNIVAL

During the June school holidays, 580 children aged 7 to 12 years from 15 YMCA Student Care Centres were taken on a visit to the South East Asian (SEA) Games Carnival held at Singapore Sports Hub. They each received a limited edition SEA Games tee shirt and participated in games and activities at the carnival. The children also had the opportunity to go to the SEA Games venues to support Team Singapore. YMCA of Singapore would like to thank Active SG North East, Serangoon Sports Centre and Sport Singapore for their sponsorship and support for the food, souvenirs, tickets and transport for the children.



TERTIARY STUDENTS ENGAGE THE YOUNG THROUGH PLAY

On 17 June, YMCA Child Development Centre @ Zhenghua welcomed 7 Pioneer Junior College (PJC) students for a day of play with the children. The PJC students enthralled the Kindergarten 2 children with a series of fun activities including craft, games and storytelling sessions revolving around SG50 with the objective of creating a platform for young children to express themselves and to learn more about Singapore. This is part of YMCA's efforts to engage tertiary students through their service learning projects – a method of teaching and learning that combines academic classroom curriculum with community service. This provides the students with critical thinking skills a heightened sense of civic responsibility, which in turn contributes to their personal and social development.





Giving Gala 2015

Benefitting the YMCA Community Service Programmes to enrich the lives of the intellectually and physically challenged, abused and underprivileged children, the hearing impaired, the elderly and the poor.

7 October 2015

www.ymca.org.sg/givinggala

"We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give." — Winston S. Churchill

YOU / YOUR ORGANISATION CAN SUPPORT BY:

**TAKING UP A
TABLE FOR 10
VALUED AT
\$10,000
PER TABLE***

**PURCHASING
SEATS VALUED
AT \$1,000
EACH***

**MAKING A
DIRECT CASH
DONATION***

*YMCA of Singapore is an approved Institution of a Public Character (IPC).

All cash donations of \$50 and above made to YMCA are eligible for a tax relief of 300% the amount of donation made. For example, a donation or purchase of 2 tables priced at \$10,000 each (total \$20,000) will attract a tax deduction of \$60,000.

For more information, please call **6586 2353** or
email **givinggala@ymca.org.sg**.

ADVOCATING LIFELONG LEARNING

YOUTHS HONE PUBLIC SPEAKING SKILLS AT NATIONAL COMPETITION

The 9th YMCA Mandarin Speaking Awards (MSA) was held from 11 March to 22 May 2015. The MSA is an annual national public speaking competition aimed at sharpening Mandarin speaking skills and building self-confidence among youths.

This year, over 150 participants comprising Primary, Secondary and Tertiary students from 70 schools took part in MSA. In addition, a new Preschool category was introduced into the competition and attracted over 55 participants from as young as 5 years old. Finalists from the Secondary and Tertiary categories attended a half day experiential learning trip and crafted their scripts based on their experience at either The Peranakan Museum or the Sun Yat Sen Nanyang Memorial Hall.

The award ceremony was held on 22 May 2015 at Woodlands Regional Library Auditorium. Ms Sim Ann, Minister of State, Ministry of Education & Ministry of Communications and Information was the Guest-of-Honour at the event. During her speech, she praised YMCA for the 9th edition of the Mandarin Speaking Awards as it has grown from strength to strength. In her message, she added that the MSA plays a significant role in educating the younger generation on the importance of developing Mandarin speaking skills. "Through this, not only do students strive to deliver their Mandarin speeches with excellence, they also learn to think on their feet and develop public speaking skills."

In his message, Mr Kenneth Tan, Chairman, YMCA Speaking Awards and Mandarin Speaking Awards congratulated all participants in stepping out of their comfort zones and giving their all on the stage. Mr Tan added that he hopes the MSA experience will contribute to the participants' personal growth.



YMCA of Singapore would like to congratulate all winners for this year's YMCA MSA 2015:

PRE SCHOOL CATEGORY

- 1st: Lauren Wong** – Far Eastern Kindergarten
2nd: Leong Yu Sing – Far Eastern Kindergarten
3rd: Clarice Wu Ruoci – Everland Childcare & Development Centre

LOWER PRIMARY CATEGORY

- 1st: Berline Tan Zhuo En** – Palm View Primary School
2nd: Anna Oh Yen Ran – Innova Primary School
3rd: Cheong Cheng Kei – Canberra Primary School

UPPER PRIMARY CATEGORY

- 1st: Roman Sage Tan Tia Hee** – Anchor Green Primary School
2nd: Lim Kai Ling – CHIJ Our Lady Queen of Peace
3rd: Leong Guang Shian – St. Joseph's Institution Junior
3rd: Megan Sierra Chan – St. Hilda's Primary School

LOWER SECONDARY CATEGORY

- 1st: Mao Yuxuan** – River Valley High School
2nd: Ashley Ng Teng Siong – Nua Hua High School
3rd: Sui Qin Yi – River Valley High School

UPPER SECONDARY CATEGORY

- 1st: Liu Timing** – National Junior College
2nd: Chen Yiwei – CHIJ St. Nicholas Girls' School
3rd: Chu Tianqi – CHIJ St. Nicholas Girls' School

JC/CI/ITE/POLY CATEGORY

- 1st: Wang Yixuan** – National Junior College
2nd: Yin Banglin – Anderson Junior College
3rd: Lin Yuhua – Nanyang Junior College



YMCA of Singapore would also like to thank all principals, teachers-in-charge, parents, judges and volunteers for their support in MSA.

YMCA of Singapore would also like to thank the following partners, organisations and sponsors for their support.

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



SPONSORED BY



COMPETITION VENUE SPONSORED BY



CSTD Children Ballet



Date*	Programme (10 sessions)	Time (Studio 9)	Fees**
Saturdays	Children Ballet (8 to 12 years old)	9:00 am – 9:45 am	\$205.70
	Pre-school Ballet (4 to 7 years old)	10:00 am – 10:45 am	\$200.70

* Course commencement is subjected to the minimum number of participants.

** Fees are inclusive of 7% GST. Payment to be made 7 days before course commencing date.

Instructor:

Mr Antony Tay graduated from Singapore Ballet Academy and was awarded a scholarship by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for French Government for a Teacher Training course at the Academie Internationale De La Danse, Paris. He is also a member of the French Association of Classic Dance Masters. Mr Tay has been teaching children ballet for 20 years. He is a patient and dedicated teacher who nurtures and brings out the best in his students.

YMCA members enjoy a rebate of \$10.70, please present your membership card to enjoy the rebate.

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Validity date 31st December 2015

YMCA - TAN CHIN TUAN COMMUNITY SERVICE PROGRAMMES

September 2015

WEEK 1 (01.09.15 – 05.09.15)

Y SWIM SAFER

Kampong Glam Community Club & FILOS

Date: Friday 4 Sep 15

Time: 4.00pm – 6.30pm

Venue: Bedok Swimming Complex

Y CAMP CHALLENGE SEPTEMBER 2015

AWWA School, MINDS Clementi, MINDS Ang Mo Kio, MINDSville @ Napiri, Bishan Home, Rainbow Centre – Yishun Park School, COH Toa Payoh, COH Tampines, Individuals with special needs

Date: Friday to Sunday 4 Sep 15 to 6 Sep 15

Time: 3 Days 2 Nights

Venue: Westwood Secondary School

Y SWIM SAFER

Jamiyah Children's Home

Date: Saturday 5 Sep 15

Time: 10.30am – 1.00pm

Venue: Bedok Swimming Complex

Y ARTS CHALLENGE

YMCA Special Talents Arts & Recreation Society (Y STARS)

Date: Saturday 5 Sep 15

Time: 10.45am – 1.00pm

Venue: Goodman Arts Centre

Y CAMP CHALLENGE SEPTEMBER 2015 AFTERGLOW

Date: Sunday 6 Sep 15

Time: 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Venue: Westwood Secondary School

WEEK 2 (07.09.15 – 12.09.15)

SILVER FIESTA

Various Senior Activity Centres

Date: Thursday, Friday 10 - 11 Sep 15

Time: 10.00am – 7.00pm

Venue: Toa Payoh HDB Hub

Y OUTING @ FOO KON TAN

Care Corner Teck Ghee Youth Centre, The Tent

Date: Saturday 12 Sep 15

Time: 9.00am-2.00pm

Venue: TBC

Y SPRING CLEAN

Thye Hua Kwan SAC @ Telok Blangah Crescent

Date: Saturday 12 Sep 15

Time: 9.00am – 12.30pm

Venue: Blk 3 Telok Blangah Crescent

Y SWIM SAFER

Jamiyah Children's Home

Date: Saturday 12 Sep 15

Time: 10.30am – 1.00pm

Venue: Bedok Swimming Complex

Y DANCE OUTREACH

Bishan Home for the Intellectually Disabled

Date: Saturday 12 Sep 15

Time: 2.00pm – 5.00pm

Venue: 6 Bishan Street 13

Y ARTS CHALLENGE

YMCA Special Talents Arts & Recreation Society (Y STARS)

Date: Saturday 12 Sep 15

Time: 10.45am – 1.00pm

Venue: Goodman Arts Centre

WEEK 3 (14.09.15 – 19.09.15)

Y VISIT

Christian Outreach to the Handicapped

Date: Wednesday 16 Aug 15

Time: 12.30pm – 3.00pm

Venue: Blk 171 Lor 1 Toa Payoh

Y SWIM SAFER

Kampong Glam Community Club & FILOS

Date: Friday 18 Sep 15

Time: 4.00pm – 6.30pm

Venue: Bedok Swimming Complex

Y OUTING @ Y STARS

YMCA Special Talents Arts & Recreation Society (Y STARS)

Date: Saturday 19 Sep 15

Time: 8.30am – 1.00pm

Venue: (TBC)

Y MAKAN FELLOWSHIP

THK SAC @ Ang Mo Kio

Comnet SAC @ Ang Mo Kio

Date: Saturday 19 Sep 15

Time: 8.30am – 1.30pm

Venue: YMCA of Singapore

Y OUTING

Melrose Home

Date: Saturday 19 Sep 15

Time: 9.00am – 2.00pm

Venue: Singapore Airforce Museum (TBA)

Y SPRING CLEAN

Sarah SAC

Date: Saturday 19 Sep 15

Time: 9.00am – 12.30pm

Venue: Blk 105 Jalan Bukit Merah

Y SWIM SAFER

Jamiyah Children's Home

Date: Saturday 19 Sep 15

Time: 10.30am – 1.00pm

Venue: Bedok Swimming Complex

WEEK 4 (21.09.15 – 26.09.15)

Y SPORTS(DHL)

Methodist Welfare Services

(Tampines Family Service Centre)

Date: Saturday 19 Sep 15

Time: 8.30am – 2.00pm

Venue: TBC

Y SPRING CLEAN

Comnet SAC @ Teck Ghee

Date: Saturday 22 Aug 15

Time: 9.00am – 12.30pm

Venue: Blk 420 Ang Mo Kio Ave 10

Y PHOTO CLUB

Association for Persons with Special Needs – Centre for Adults

Date: Saturday 19 Sep 15

Time: 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Venue: Singapore Sports Hub

Y SWIM SAFER

Kampong Glam Community Club & FILOS

Date: Friday 25 Sep 15

Time: 4.00pm – 6.30pm

Venue: Bedok Swimming Complex

Y MAKAN FELLOWSHIP

THK SAC @ Ang Mo Kio (Blk 257)

THK SAC @ Kaki Bukit

Date: Saturday 26 Sep 15

Time: 8.30am – 1.30pm

Venue: YMCA of Singapore

Y-OUTING @ APSN CFA

Association for Persons with Special Needs – Centre for Adults

Date: Saturday 26 Sep 15

Time: 9.00am – 2.00pm

Venue: Sentosa

Y PHOTO CLUB

Association for Persons with Special Needs – Tanglin School

Date: Saturday 26 Sep 15

Time: 9.30am – 2.30pm (TBC)

Venue: TBC

Y SWIM SAFER

Jamiyah Children's Home

Date: Saturday 26 Sep 15

Time: 10.30am – 1.00pm

Venue: Bedok Swimming Complex

Y ARTS CHALLENGE

YMCA Special Talents Arts & Recreation Society (Y STARS)

Date: Saturday 26 Sep 15

Time: 10.45am – 1.00pm

Venue: Goodman Arts Centre

WEEK 5 (28.09.15 – 30.09.15)

Y OUTING @ BURGER KING

Bishan Home for the Intellectually Disabled

Date: Tuesday 29 Sep 15

Time: 9.00am-2.00pm

Venue: Zoo

To volunteer,
contact Sheila at **+65 6586 2352** or
email to **volunteer@ymca.org.sg**

YOUTH EXPEDITION PROJECT TO



NEPAL

24 OCTOBER TO 1 NOVEMBER 2015

On 25 April 2015, a magnitude 7.8 earthquake struck east of the district of Lamjung, Nepal. The massive earthquake killed over 9,000 people, injured more than 23,000 and is one of the worst natural disasters to strike Nepal since the 1934 Nepal-Bihar earthquake. Hundreds of thousands of people were made homeless with entire villages destroyed across many districts in the country.

Through our International Service Programme, YMCA of Singapore will help to rebuild the community in the Kavre by building temporary shelters for the people who have lost their homes, before the bitterly cold Nepalese winter. YMCA of Singapore has identified 2 villages that would be able to benefit from this project and is targeting to build 25 to 30 temporary shelters that can house a total of 250 to 300 people.

To find out how you can support this effort, please email Joyce Yu at joyceyu@ymca.org.sg.

