



27 June 2006

NEWS RELEASE

SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARDS 2006 **AWARD PRESENTATION CEREMONY**

Young. Distinctive. Passionate. Exemplary. Every year, the Singapore Youth Awards (SYA) honours youths who possess these traits and whose achievements and service to the community are inspirational.

2 SYA 2006 will see six individuals and one team conferred the nation's highest youth accolade by Minister for Defence, Mr Teo Chee Hean, at the Presentation Ceremony on **Sunday, 2 July 2006 at the Istana.**

3 Receiving the SYA 2006 are:

AWARD

- (a) Mr Teo Chee Lay (Arts and Culture)
- (b) Ms Eunice Elizabeth Olsen (Community and Youth Services)
- (c) Malay Youth Literary Association (Community and Youth Services)
- (d) Mr Vikas Goel (Entrepreneurship)
- (e) Dr Yeo Yee Chia (Science and Technology)
- (f) Dr Kua Harn Wei (Sports and Adventure)
- (g) Mr Ronald Susilo (Sports and Adventure)

MEDAL OF COMMENDATION

- (a) Mr Eric Khoo (Arts and Culture)
- (b) Nanyang Technological University Welfare Services Club (Community and Youth Services)
- (c) Professor Wong Lim Soon (Science and Technology)

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

4 Your reporter and photographer / camera crew are cordially invited to the SYA 2006 Presentation Ceremony. Details are:

Date : Sunday, 2 July 2006

Time : 4.00 pm

Venue : Istana

The programme is attached at Annex B. We would appreciate it if you could RSVP for the event by **29 June 2006 (5 pm)** to Ms Christina Ching at 68399122 (DID) or 98769237 (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.

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 AWARDS 2006
(AWARD)**

**MR TAN CHEE LAY
Arts and Culture**

Mr Tan Chee Lay is a versatile and prolific young Chinese writer and educator who had also gone the extra mile to mentor youths. Chee Lay played an instrumental role in establishing the bilingual “Singapore Student Literary Award”, the numerous school-based “Artist-in-Residence Programmes” and the “Hwa Chong Literary Series” which publish books by student writers. Chee Lay has also been accorded numerous prestigious international and local awards for his outstanding talent and contributions.

**MS EUNICE ELIZABETH OLSEN
Community and Youth Services**

Former Nominated MP Ms Eunice Olsen has always made time for volunteer work which include counseling troubled teens, speaking at events such as the National Volunteer and Philanthropy Centre Conference and serving as a member on various committees such as the Citibank-YMCA Youth-For-Causes Committee and the Council for Formation of Alumni for Girl’s and Boy’s Home. In 2005, she co-founded ‘Water for Living, Books for Learning’ – a humanitarian project to build libraries and provide water-filtration systems to orphanages and schools in Cambodia, Laos and Kalimantan.

**MALAY YOUTH LITERARY ASSOCIATION (4PM)
Community and Youth Services
(Team)**

Founded 58 years ago, 4PM is focused on engaging youth in meaningful activities in the community and developing youth holistically. Through collaborations with other organizations, 4PM reaches out to youth of all races. 4PM’s signature projects include the Student Support Programme, targeted at under-privileged students, and Project Bestari ITE (bITE), a youth developmental programme for ITE students to enable them to excel both academically as well as cultivate positive personal qualities.

MR VIKAS GOEL
Entrepreneurship

Awarded the Indian Entrepreneur Award in 2004 and the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year, Singapore in 2005, Mr Vikas Goel is one of the top names in the IT industry. Founded by Vikas in 2000, the eSys Technologies Group, a component and Hard Disk Drive (HDD) distribution company, has grown to become the world's largest HDD distributor with a quarter of the global market share.

DR YEO YEE CHIA
Science and Technology

Dr Yeo Yee Chia is a well known expert in the field of nanotechnology. During his postgraduate years, he contributed to several important technological breakthroughs, including the world's first dual metal-gate transistors and the world's first strained ultra-thin body transistors. With a total of 306 patents to his name, Dr Yeo has been invited to speak at numerous international conferences. As an educator, Dr Yeo shares his enthusiasm in science with young people by linking forefront technology research with education through project-based learning.

DR KUA HARN WEI
Sports and Adventure

Dr Kua Harn Wei is an outstanding triathlete who has also excelled academically. Dr Kua is the first Singaporean to complete a Double Ironman and is currently ranked 6th in the International Ultra Triathlon Association world ranking. Dr Kua was recently conferred his PhD in Building Technology by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Despite his studies and hectic training programme, Dr Kua has also helped train boys from the Singapore Boys' Home and the NUS Biathlon Team.

MR RONALD SUSILO
Sports and Adventure

Mr Ronald Susilo is a local sports hero whose name has become synonymous with Singapore badminton. Ronald is the first Singaporean in 37 years to reach the semi-finals of the All England Championships in 2004. Despite Ronald's busy training schedule, he finds time to coach at the Singapore Open Coaching clinic and in various other schools.

**SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARDS 2006
(MEDAL OF COMMENDATION)**

**MR ERIC KHOO
Arts and Culture**

Mr Eric Khoo's works have won an array of prestigious international and local awards. In 2005, Eric won the Best Director awards at the Brussels Festival of Independent Film and the Torino Film Festival. Beyond film-making, Eric initiated the *Be With Me* Scholarship Fund, which is administered by the Asian Women's Welfare Association Therapy and Educational Assistance for Children in Mainstream Education (AWWA TEACH ME).

**NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY WELFARE SERVICES CLUB
Community and Youth Services**

The NTU Welfare Services Club (NTUWSC) plays an active role in the community and youth services with signature projects such as "Project Ignite!" and "Challenge Your Limit" which provide youth with many ways of volunteering. The NTUWSC has also raised Singapore's international profile by serving the overseas community. In 2004, they received the prestigious Commonwealth Youth Gold Award, which recognizes outstanding achievements of young people who develop their communities by creating innovative and sustainable development projects.

**PROFESSOR WONG LIM SOON
Science and Technology**

Prof Wong's ground-breaking development of a system that enables doctors to diagnose and better treat acute lymphoblastic leukaemia in young patients won him an Asian Innovation Gold Award by the Far Eastern Economic Review in 2003. Internationally, Prof Wong has also been invited to share his knowledge and research findings as keynote speaker at numerous symposiums and workshops.

**SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARDS 2006
PRESENTATION CEREMONY
SUNDAY, 2 JULY 2006, THE ISTANA**

PROGRAMME

4.00 pm

Arrival of Guests
(Guests to be seated by 4.50 pm)

5.00 pm

Arrival of Minister Teo Chee Hean
Minister for Defence
Republic of Singapore

The National Anthem

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

5.20 pm

Citations of SYA 2006 Recipients

Presentation of Singapore Youth Awards 2006
by Minister Teo Chee Hean

5.45 pm

Reception and Viewing of Exhibits at the Banquet Hall

**SINGAPORE YOUTH AWARDS 2006
PRESENTATION CEREMONY ON 2 JULY 2006, 5PM AT THE ISTANA
PROFILE OF THE CITATION READER**

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR EDWARD TEO

- Occupation** : Associate Professor
Department of Physics
National University of Singapore
- Year Awarded SYA** : 2005
- Category** : Science and Technology
- Other Awards** :
 - NUS Faculty Teaching Excellence Award from 2001 – 2004
 - Young Researcher Award by NUS, 2005

Significant Achievements/Contributions

Associate Professor Edward Teo's study of multi-black-hole solutions in string theory has gained international recognition amongst a select research community. His research findings, published in 19 articles in international journals such as *Physical Review Letters*, *Physical Review D* and *Nuclear Physics B*, have been cited 150 times and inspired further research work. His research work on negative energies was cited in a special issue of *Scientific American* entitled *The Edge of Physics*, devoted to the latest and most important developments at the frontiers of physics.

A child prodigy, A/P Teo obtained his PhD at the age of 21 from the University of Cambridge and pursued his passion for teaching physics at the National University of Singapore. He translates the abstract concepts of modern physics to his young audience, imparting intellectual strength to his students and awakening them to the joy of knowledge and science.

A/P Teo has won the Faculty Teaching Excellence Award for four consecutive years from 2001 to 2004. He was also awarded the Young Researcher Award 2005, which honours the best in education, research and service at NUS.

** Assoc Prof Edward Teo will be reading the citations at the SYA 2006 Presentation Ceremony.*