



**Girl Guides
Singapore**

Girl Guides Singapore

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Girl Guides Singapore Celebrates 90th Years of Girl Guiding in Singapore at its Largest Carnival at *scape Field

Singapore, 22 June 2007 - The largest single gender Co-Curricular Activities Group (CCA), Girl Guides Singapore (GGS) will be organizing its largest food and fun carnival on 23 June 2007 (Saturday), at *scape Field, Youth Park. Involving over 3000 Brownies, Girl Guides and adult members ranging from age 8-80 years, the Carnival is part of a series of fundraising activities to make Girl Guiding accessible to more girls. Besides fundraising, GGS aims to generate awareness and understanding of the Girl Guiding programme among potential members, stakeholders and the general public through this event. The Association also hopes to promote pro-family interactions through several fun, healthy and engaging activities that are suitable for everyone at the Carnival.

Majority of that 80 food, crafts and games stalls will be manned by Brownie and Girl Guide units attached to schools. However, there will be a special stall managed by the Granny volunteers of the Project 5G (Girl Guides Garner Granny Generation), a project funded by the Ministry of Community Development, Youths and Sports (MCYS) to engage senior citizens as resource personnel in the Girl Guiding community. Proceeds (one shift) from this stall will be partially donated to the Diversional Therapy Unit (DTU) of Tan Tock Seng Hospital (TTSH), a volunteer group that raises funds for the TTSH Community Charity Fund to aid needy patients.

Adopting the GGS' theme for 2007, "Discover your potential: nurturing girls, empowering women", the Carnival is held as part of the 90th anniversary celebrations of Girl Guiding in Singapore. The proceeds from the Carnival will be used mainly for GGS' programmes, with the aim to develop girls and young women to their fullest potential as useful citizens. The work of GGS is driven entirely by staff and volunteers whose enthusiasm, belief and passion continue to touch and light the lives of girls and young women through fun, relevant and enriching programmes.

Since its humble beginnings in 1917 with a small company, the movement has grown from strength to strength with 12,000 registered members currently and has nurtured more than 200 thousand girls and young women.

Over the past nine decades, GGS' five-point programme has complemented the school's formal education and helped nurture girls and young women into all-rounded citizens. Members of the association have participated in several community projects both locally and overseas including working with the Spastic Children's Association; partnering Girl Guides in Sri Lanka and Thailand in fundraising and rehabilitation work for Tsunami victims, raise funds and packed survival kits for victims of the Pakistan earthquake. Most recently, the guides raised RM2500 and contributed necessities for the victims of the recent floods in

Malaysia earlier this year.

Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Community Development, Youth and Sports and Second Minister of Information, Communication and the Arts will be gracing the Carnival as Guest-of-Honour. He will be hosted by Mrs Joy Balakrishnan who will carry out her first official duty as the President of GGS. Mrs Balakrishnan was invested as GGS' 11th President last month. She is the Association's first President who has been enrolled as a Brownie and Girl Guide previously.

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## More About Girl Guiding in Singapore

Girl Guides Singapore (GGS) is a Uniformed Youth Organisation (UYO) and is part of a worldwide movement of 10 Million members in 144 countries, with a mission "to enable girls and young women to develop their fullest potential as responsible citizen of the world". The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) is one of six of the largest international youth organisations that form the "Alliance of Youth Chief Executives" which collaborates on policy issues affecting young people. WAGGGS has a vision for 2011 -- to be "a growing worldwide Movement - the voice of girls and young women who influence issues they care about and build a better world".

Girl Guiding is open to all girls and women without any distinction of race, creed, nationality or any other circumstance. It is a game of adventure, observation, knowledge and ideas. The aim is to provide girls and young women with the opportunity for self-training in the development of character, in the realisation of responsible citizenship and promotion of service to the community. To maintain a high ethical standard based on the aims and principles embodied in the "Promise and Law" as laid down by the Founder, Lord Baden-Powell, and to encourage international goodwill and understanding by establishing friendly relations with girls of other nations.

Started in 1917, GGS has a proud heritage, a fine record of achievement and a long tradition of providing a high quality non-formal educational programme that is dynamic, flexible and values-based training in life skills, leadership and decision making. Our unique 5-Point Programme, which caters to the holistic development of girls and young women, emphasising on Personal and Social Development, Home, Outdoors, Community and International, has reached to thousands of girls and young women; engaging and empowering them so that they can make a difference amongst their friends, their families and the wider community they live in.

Over the last 90 year, GGS has grown from strength to strength and today it has over 12,000 members and is the largest and choice Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) group for girls in Singapore. Non-profit in orientation, Girl Guiding in Singapore is entirely driven by volunteers and staff whose enthusiasm, belief and passion touches and inspires the lives of so many thousands of girls and young women through fun, relevant and enriching curriculums.

The GGS tagline "Be Prepared. Think it. Say it. Live it." is a reiteration of the Girl Guide Motto - "Be Prepared", which shares the Founder's initials (B-P) and is a practical reminder of the basis of the Girl Guide training.