



Embargoed till: 18 December 2013, 3pm

15 GIRL GUIDES & 12 VENTURE SCOUTS RECEIVE THE HIGHEST AWARD FROM PRESIDENT TONY TAN KENG YAM

Fifteen Girl Guides from Girl Guides Singapore (GGS) and twelve Venture Scouts from the Singapore Scout Association (SSA) will be conferred the 2013 President's Guide Award and President's Scout Award respectively by President Tony Tan at the Istana during the award ceremony on Wednesday, 18 December 2013.

The President's Guide Award (PGA) and the President's Scout Award (PSA) are the highest honour bestowed on our nation's most all-rounded Girl Guides and Venture Scouts in recognition of their excellent performance, dedication to the Movement and service to the community. The award represents the pinnacle of achievement for these Girl Guides and Venture Scouts and indicates their preparedness for a lifetime of service to God, nation and all mankind.

The tremendous support these recipients received from their respective schools, Principals, respective Guiders/Venture Scout Leaders and parents has made it possible for them to overcome the rigours of various stringent tests in order to attain the Award. Those who make it should be held up as role models for other Girl Guides and Scouts to emulate.

"We celebrate the efforts and achievement of these fifteen inspiring President's Guide Award recipients. The Girl Guides Movement continues to be at the forefront of developing future generations of women leaders who embody strength of character, moral integrity and confidence. By grooming leadership skills and qualities, a sense of preparedness and a dynamic spirit of giving back to the community, the Guiding programme enables young women in Singapore to contribute towards making our country and this world a better place," said Mrs Joy Balakrishnan, President of Girl Guides Singapore.

“I am proud of the achievement of the 12 Venture Scouts. I strongly urge them to continue their Scouting journey by providing their leadership and sharing their Scouting knowledge and skills with ground units particularly those units which are in need of more leaders and help improve the quality of Scouting at the ground level. As role models they should endeavour to inspire younger members to scale greater heights.” *Mr Tan Cheng Kiong, Chief Commissioner, SSA.*

GGs and SSA congratulate all recipients of the Awards for having overcome their own odds and achieved the respective award.

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PRESIDENT'S GUIDE AWARD RECIPIENTS 2013

1	Lim Jing Ting, Alicia	CHIJ St. Nicholas Girls' School (Secondary)
2	Ng Jing Ting, Audrey	CHIJ St. Nicholas Girls' School (Secondary)
3	Soh Yun Man	CHIJ St. Nicholas Girls' School (Secondary)
4	Teng Li Sian Elisabeth	Crescent Girls' School
5	Chua Zhi Qin	Nanyang Girls' High School
6	Crystal Chong Inn Jhee	Nanyang Girls' High School
7	Lee Jia Xin	Nanyang Girls' High School
8	Lee Yi En, Jayne	Nanyang Girls' High School
9	Tan Lyn Anthea	Nanyang Girls' High School
10	Chua Chui Wei, Mae	Raffles Girls' School (Secondary)
11	Gong Min Yie	Raffles Girls' School (Secondary)
12	Lee Wan Xin Ailica	Raffles Girls' School (Secondary)
13	Leong Yuan Man Estee Faith	Raffles Girls' School (Secondary)
14	Low Tian Ling	Raffles Girls' School (Secondary)
15	Pan Wen	Raffles Girls' School (Secondary)

Girl Guides Singapore

Started in 1917, Girl Guides Singapore (GGS) is a non-profit Uniformed Group that is part of the World Association of Girl Guides and Guide Scouts (WAGGGS). It has over 10,000 members in Singapore and is the largest and choice Co-Curricular Activities (CCA) group for girls. There are more than 10 million members in 145 countries today.

GGS teaches leadership, promotes resourcefulness and supports cultural diversity in today's world, for today's girls. We offer opportunities and challenges that shape each girl into a leader of courage, confidence and character. As she takes her place and makes her mark in the world, the Girl Guides experience is something a girl will carry with her for life.

Be Prepared. Think it. Say it. Live it

This is a reiteration of the Girl Guide Motto - “Be Prepared”, which shares the Founder’s initials (Baden-Powell) and is a practical reminder of the basis of the Girl Guide training.

The President’s Guide Award (PGA)

The President Guide Award (PGA) is the highest level of achievement for a Guide and is given out by the President of Singapore. It is awarded in recognition of a Guide’s love for Guiding, her commitment towards the Guiding Movement, and her efforts in upholding Guiding values and skills to respectable standards. A President Guide, is one, who through her years of Guiding experiences, has proven herself to have assimilated the qualities of leadership, strength of character and moral integrity, and civic consciousness and service oriented.

There are three stages of tests that a PGA candidate has to go through before the selection. She is being tested in Knowledge, Ability to lead and Ability to think and execute on the go.

Stage 1

The Panel interviews on Guiding and Singapore Knowledge, chaired by the Chief Commissioner/Deputy Chief Commissioners.

Stage 2

The Planning & Organization Test Camp at Camp Christine. The candidate is required to run a 2-night, 3-day camp for 24 to 36 new Guides. At this camp, each candidate is required to plan and execute a 2.5 hour lesson on camping skills such as, tent-pitching, gadget-making, outdoor-cooking, Wide Games, Guides Own and conducting a campfire based on a chosen theme.

Stage 3

The 'Be-Prepared' Test at Guide House and a charity organization of the candidate’s choice. Tasks include crafting ways to help an autistic Guide participate in her Guide unit activities, helping an aged couple plan their meals and manage their illness such as diabetes or running a 2 hour programme for a group of 5 year olds at a charity home in their parents’ absence.

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PRESIDENT'S SCOUT AWARD RECIPIENTS 2013

1.	Edwin Phua En Hao	Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)
2.	Joel Chan York Yee	Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)
3.	Lee Wai Kei Bryan	Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)
4.	Yow Ka Shing	Anglo-Chinese School (Independent)
5.	Benedict Tedjopranoto	Catholic High School
6.	Lim Lik Xian	Catholic High School
7.	Lim Teng Jie	Catholic High School
8.	Ng Bo Xiang Eugene	Hwa Chong Institution
9.	Jervan Khou	Raffles Institution
10.	Koh Rui Liang	Raffles Institution
11.	Low Wei Ting Gabriel	Raffles Institution
12.	Ong Yong Jia	Victoria School

The Singapore Scout Association (SSA)

The Singapore Scout Association (SSA) is grounded on time-proven values and practices. These are: a culture of peace, developing socially committed members, inclusiveness and gender balance. These are significant values that contribute to nation building and maintaining harmonious relationships in the community. SSA exemplifies this by maintaining unity within the diversity of membership. These values and practices have prepared our members to contribute to the peace of the world, people-to-people relations and racial harmony in the community.

Over 30 million boys and girls in over 216 countries and territories have discovered and enjoyed the Scouting way of life, its Promise, Law and Motto. Through its fun-filled, exciting and empowering activities/programmes, members discover, learn and put into practice essential lifelong skills. This is achieved through learning by doing, adult support, and team work, which some of the key elements of the Scout Method.

Mission of Scouting

The mission of Scouting is to educate and develop young people, through a value system based on the Scout Promise and Law, and to help build a better world where people are self-fulfilled as individuals and play a constructive role in society. This is achieved by

- Involving them throughout their formative years in a non-formal educational process which develop them physically, intellectually, socially and spiritually
- Using the Scout Method that makes each individual the principal agent of his or her development as a self-reliant, supportive, responsible and committed person
- Inculcating in them a value system based upon spiritual, social and personal principles as expressed in the Promise and Law.

Our Vision

“Better Scouting for more young people”

Our vision is to provide quality scouting so as to remain relevant and attractive to more young people as one of the premier uniformed organizations.

Our Motto - “Be Prepared”

It is a constant reminder to all scouts that they have to be prepared for any contingency and to face the uncertainties of the future.

Our strategic thrust

To complement the national efforts, SSA has been encouraging the involvement of parents and the community in scouting as we promote the theme “*Scouting builds Families*” and “*Scouting builds Communities*”

Our outreach to Community

SSA also reaches out to seniors/retirees in the community and encourages active ageing; life-long learning and senior volunteerism.

Selection process for PSA Award

In order to qualify for the President’s Scout Award, a Venture Scout (aged 16-18) has to possess outstanding leadership and values, demonstrate a high level of outdoor and indoor skills, as well as to undertake a series of daunting challenges.

These include 2 trials, namely a 4-day assessment camp called ASPIRE and a Special Project.

During the ASPIRE, the Venture Scout is tested on his leadership, endurance, teamwork, innovative and organisational skills.

For the Special Project, the Venture Scout is assigned to assist in the organisation and management of a national level project together with other Scouts and Leaders and submit a written report.

After the completion of these 2 trials, the Venture Scout will have to be interviewed by a Panel comprising key leaders of the Association before he is recommended for the award to be presented by the Chief Scout who is the President of the Republic of Singapore.

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