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### **12 GIRL GUIDES AND 4 VENTURE SCOUTS RECEIVE THE HIGHEST AWARD FROM PRESIDENT TONY TAN KENG YAM**

Twelve Girl Guides from Girl Guides Singapore (GGS) and 4 Venture Scouts from the Singapore Scout Association (SSA) and will be conferred the 2015 President's Guide Award and the President's Scout Award respectively by President Tony Tan Keng Yam at the Istana during the award ceremony on Wednesday, 2 December 2015 at 3 pm.

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 Venture Scouts and Girl Guides 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; and their respective Venture Scout Leaders/Guiders 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 Scouts & Girl Guides to emulate.

SSA and GGS congratulate all recipients of the Awards for having overcome their own odds and achieved the respective awards,

"We are very proud of our 12 President's Guide Award recipients. What they have accomplished clearly demonstrates the vital attributes of strength of character, commitment and confidence. Their leadership capabilities and spirit of service to the community makes them inspiring role models for youths today and caring leaders of tomorrow."

**Ms Chang Hwee Nee, President of Girl Guides Singapore**

"I am proud of the achievement of the 4 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 of Singapore Scout Association**

“The President's Scout Award is not only a test of one's aptitude and skill, but also a test of one's attitude and commitment toward Scouting. A President's Scout should be more than an ambassador of Scouting and definitely a role model for his brothers and sisters in Scouting. Being a President's Scout is a truly humbling experience. I am incredibly honoured to be a recipient of this award and will continue to serve the Scouting community. I will aspire to inspire my fellow Scouts to reach greater heights”.

**Lee Seung Wook, PSA recipient**

“Four years of Guiding has honed my leadership skills. Being a Patrol Leader has shown me the importance of setting a good example for younger Guides and sharing with them my Guiding knowledge, putting oneself in others' shoes and communicating well. The Guiding journey, with its many activities such as camping, has helped me to acquire many 'back-to-basic' survival skills, which are often neglected in this technology age. I've also learnt that I can pick myself up and hold my head high each time I fail and to keep trying until I succeed.”

**Sarah Foo Phey Shin, PGA recipient**

“The stringent testing constantly forced me out of my comfort zone. Through this, I have learnt what it means to 'Be Prepared' at all times and to deal with any situation with a calm and steady mind. I have enjoyed giving back to society and bringing smiles to the faces of people in need in the many service and volunteer projects. Guiding has broadened my horizon and the Guiding principles I've learnt will always be part of my life.”

**Katherine Ler Kai Ting, PGA recipient**

“My journey as a Girl Guide has given me confidence and liberty to explore and plan various events and initiatives. I've been stretched to improve my organizational and planning skills. The President's Guide Award experience was challenging, but with the support of my Guiders, fellow Guides, family and friends, I realised that as long as we are prepared, we can overcome all difficulties. I hope that more girls will be able to benefit from being a Girl Guide.”

**Bernice Lim Si Min, PGA recipient**

**PRESIDENT'S GUIDE AWARD RECIPIENTS**

| <b>SN</b> | <b>Recipient's Name</b> | <b>School</b>                     |
|-----------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1         | Ng Edelweiss            | Anderson Secondary School         |
| 2         | Peh Zi Qi               | Anderson Secondary School         |
| 3         | Jolene Ong Rou Ying     | Methodist Girls' School           |
| 4         | Andrea Wong Wen Wei     | Nanyang Girls' High School        |
| 5         | Ler Kai Ting, Katherine | Nanyang Girls' High School        |
| 6         | Hor Ning Xuan Jerminn   | Raffles Girls' School (Secondary) |
| 7         | Misha Chow Jing Yi      | Raffles Girls' School (Secondary) |
| 8         | Natalie Yan-Lin Pang    | Raffles Girls' School (Secondary) |
| 9         | Ngooi Mun Li Claire     | Raffles Girls' School (Secondary) |
| 10        | Sarah Foo Phey Shin     | Raffles Girls' School (Secondary) |
| 11        | Seng Ai Lin             | Raffles Girls' School (Secondary) |
| 12        | Bernice Lim Si Min      | River Valley High School          |

**PRESIDENT'S SCOUT AWARD RECIPIENTS**

| <b>SN</b> | <b>Recipient's Name</b> | <b>School</b>                      |
|-----------|-------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1         | Lee Seung Wook          | Anglo-Chinese School (Independent) |
| 2         | Wong Soon, Mark         | Catholic High School               |
| 3         | Tan Ye Kai              | Hwa Chong Institution              |
| 4         | John Ng Teck Ann        | Manjusri Secondary School          |

### **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 146 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)**

There are three stages of tests that a PGA candidate has to go through. 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 to 3 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. All lessons include both the theory and practical segments.

#### **Stage 3**

The 'Be-Prepared' test comes in two segments, both usually conducted on the same day. Part A requires the candidate to serve at a charity organisation of her choice. Part B requires the candidate to perform an impromptu task on a theme that matched her service in Part A.

The impromptu task is announced to the candidate only after Part A is completed. This may include crafting ways to assimilate an autistic Guide into school programmes; raising awareness about the flora and fauna of Singapore in young children; how to be a responsible fund-raiser; design creative ways to bring benefits to the community by living the Guide ways.

Each candidate is assigned 3 junior Guides to assist her in her preparations as well as to present on behalf of the candidate, the proposal to a panel of testers. The contents of the presentation should also include observations and findings gathered at the charity organisations in Part A.

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### **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 40 million boys and girls in over 218 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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The Singapore Scout Association