

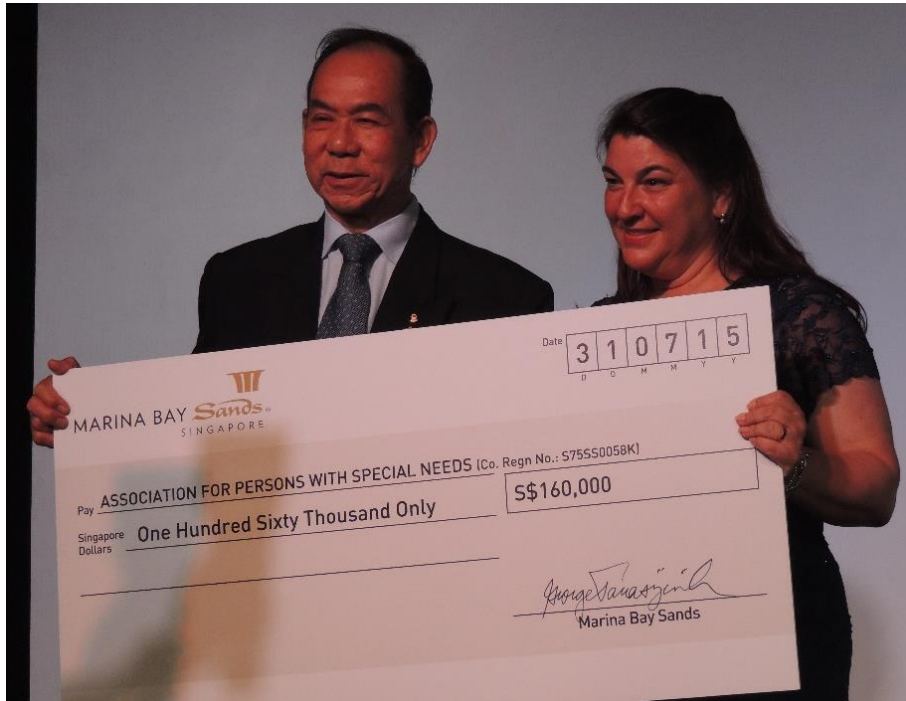


association for persons with special needs



News Release

Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN) raised more than \$300,000 at Gala Dinner 2015



Singapore, 6 August 2015 – Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN) organised a Gala Dinner officially sponsored by Marina Bay Sands (MBS) on 31 July 2015 with the theme “Transforming Lives, Inspiring Change” held at the Sands Expo and Convention Centre as the kick off event for part of the Sands for Singapore Charity Festival.

“This year, Singapore will be commemorating 50 years of nation building. As we celebrate our country’s achievements and look forward to the future, let us not forget those amongst us who have less or who may need a helping hand. They too are a part of Singapore; they are one of us. Our Jubilee year should be just as meaningful to them,” said Dr Victor Tay, Vice- President of APSN in his welcoming speech.

The gala dinner had also featured many arts and sculptures created by the APSN students. All of the displayed arts were successfully auctioned. One of the bidders remarked encouragingly, "While it might be a small financial quantum, the impact to the students go a long way to seed a confidence to self-independence and dignity".

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www.apsn.org.sg

Donations to this Association are eligible for tax deduction under Section 37(3) of the Income Tax Act



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Dr Victor Tay quoted the testimonial of a beneficiary, Yu Xiang, a secondary school student of Tanglin School who is now an instructor aide. Yu Xiang remarked that through APSN, he had gained newfound confidence and courage to dream. He remarked, “Anyone who wants to learn deserves a chance to learn, like I had. It doesn’t matter if he or she has a disability of facing challenges in life, it is the attitude of learning that makes one succeed”.

Tokens of appreciation were handed out to our valued partners who have been our supporters in various CSR activities. They are: Australia and New Zealand Banking Group, Keppel Corporation, SPARKZ Pte Ltd, Mr Dennis Aw, Mr Chua Weng Foo and Mdm Wu Yu Chin.

“We are very pleased to have received an Appreciation Award from APSN last Friday. The award is testimony to our growing partnership with APSN and to our continued commitment to the Diversity and Inclusion agenda in Singapore,” said Mr Philip Lim, Head of Retail Banking Singapore, Australia and New Zealand Banking Group.

“Marina Bay Sands’ support of APSN began in 2013 when we were given the opportunity to help APSN Katong School refurbish its training kitchens. Since then, APSN has been one of our designated charities and we continue to collaborate very closely with the association. We work together to assist the next generation to fulfil their true potential by providing learning experiences and opportunities that give APSN students and beneficiaries a taste of the real work environment in the hospitality industry,” said Ms Lisa Williamson, Vice President of Communications, Marina Bay Sands.

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At the Gala Dinner, numerous arts and sculptures by the students have also been auctioned off. One of the successful bidder was impressed, “Though this is a small sum, the encouragement to the young artists to know that their works have fetched commercial value is of immense values”.



With the support of the sponsors, we have been privileged to have garnered over **\$300,000**.

Profile of APSN Valued Partners

Australia and New Zealand Banking Group (ANZ) has been a huge supporter of APSN school activities in the past 4 years. Their volunteers have been actively involved in CSR activities with APSN schools on a regular basis.

Keppel Corporation is a long-time supporter of APSN, contributing over 10 years of support to APSN, in terms of donations and CSR activities.

Mrs Pinky Pant and Mrs Savi Kapoor have been volunteering with APSN for 15 years. Collectively they have set up a company SPARKZ Pte Ltd to manage the volunteering efforts. They have mostly contributed towards APSN Chaoyang School in which they have organized the India Exchange Programme for the students and students in India. This is the 10th year anniversary of the exchange programme.

Mr Dennis Aw and Mr Chua Weng Foo & Ms Wu Yu Chin started the Hotmeal Project at APSN Centre for Adults since 2011. Hotmeal project is an ongoing project in which clients from the centre prepare lunch for 190 elderlies in 3 different locations every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. In addition, Mr Dennis Aw has been coordinating CSR activities for his staff at the Dennis Wee Group – GTA United to assist in adhoc projects.

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About Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN)

Established in 1976, Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN) is a social service organisation providing special education for persons with mild intellectual disability (IQ 50-70). Today, APSN operates four Special Education (SPED) Schools (APSN Chaoyang School, APSN Katong School, APSN Tanglin School and APSN Delta Senior School) for students aged 7 to 21, an APSN Student Care Centre for children aged 7 to 18 and an APSN Centre for Adults for persons aged 17 and older, benefiting over 1,200 beneficiaries each year.

The APSN Schools and Centre adopt a holistic approach in its curriculum, comprising academic, vocational and social skills which are important for open employment and lifelong learning. APSN seeks to enable persons with special needs to be active contributors of the society and is committed to inspire and build capabilities of its partners and community to lead and advocate an inclusive society.

To date, APSN's growing database has more than 5,000 alumni members. The Association is constantly expanding its network to reach out to and understand the needs of its members to better support them.

For more information on APSN, please visit www.apsn.org.sg.

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