



association for persons with special needs



News Release

### Talent and Tenacity unite at APSN’s 6<sup>th</sup> Charity Dinner



*APSN Chaoyang School’s Merry Melodies choir performed the songs ‘I See the Light’ and ‘A Million Dreams’.*

**Singapore, 2 August 2019** - Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN), a social service agency, held its annual APSN Charity Dinner this evening at Sands Expo and Convention Centre at Marina Bay Sands.

Themed “Powers Uncovered”, APSN Charity Dinner 2019 was a night of unveiling the talents and abilities of beneficiaries with mild intellectual disability who excel in their respective fields of academic, artistic and sport pursuits. Traits of tenacity and diligence recurred through the stories shared.

The event is part of the integrated resort’s Sands for Singapore Charity Festival 2019. Co-presented by Marina Bay Sands, APSN Charity Dinner 2019 was graced by Ms Sim Ann, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Communications and Information & Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth, and attended by guests

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



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comprising corporate partners, donors and APSN beneficiaries across its four Schools and adult-training Centre.

In support of the special needs sector, SMS Ms Sim Ann said, “Every one of us can play a part in making persons with special needs and other vulnerable groups around us feel more included and valued, by treating them with dignity and respect as well as recognising their talents, skills and resilience.”

She added that companies and potential employers can also provide advice and training programmes which will better prepare beneficiaries for the changing job market.

More employers are now learning about the abilities of persons with special needs. “Usually when people think of persons with special needs, they think about what they can’t do, but we want to focus on what they can do – what is their potential, what are their powers,” emphasised APSN President Mr Tan Cheen Chong.

All proceeds generated from the event will be channelled towards education and training programmes to continue empowering and preparing APSN’s beneficiaries for open employment, all year round.

Here are photos of a few key event highlights:



*APSN beneficiaries made and served treats at the live canapes station.*

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Guests at the Charity Dinner, themed "Powers Uncovered", showed off their superhero sides at the photo booth.



Senior Minister of State Ms Sim Ann said it was always a joy to be reunited with her friends in special education.

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APSN President Mr Tan Cheen Chong was game enough to don a special costume and neon lights to perform with the Circus Arts team from APSN Katong School.



APSN presented awards of appreciation to donors Marina Bay Sands, Singapore Power Group, Cargill TSF Asia Pte Ltd, Y S Phua Investment Pte Ltd and Sunray Woodcraft Construction Pte Ltd.

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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 agency 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 16 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 beneficiaries, comprising students, trainees and alumni. 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](http://www.apsn.org.sg)

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