

## MEDIA INVITE

Embargoed until 7.30 pm on 29 March 2010



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# FIRST CANTONESE OPERA PERFORMANCE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR COMMUNITY CHEST

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**Singapore, 23 March 2010** – The Sin Ming Sing Cantonese Opera Centre (新明星粵劇中心) is organising the first Cantonese opera charity show (碧玉生辉慈善夜) to raise funds for Community Chest. The fund-raising performance will be held on 29 March 2010 and the Centre is donating the proceeds from the ticket sales and corporate partners to Community Chest.

The Centre hopes to contribute to a charitable cause through Community Chest, whilst promoting traditional arts to the wider community at the same time. The Guest-of-Honour for the event is Mrs Yu-Foo Yee Shoon, Minister of State for Community Development, Youth and Sports.

The performance is presented by Ms Doris Guo Xiaoyu (郭小玉) and five invited professional artistes from Guangzhou, China. In addition, Ms Guo, who is a local amateur opera artiste, would be covering the cost of organising the performance. After taking part in a charity performance in Guangzhou, she was inspired to do the same locally. "I hope to reach out to people who are interested in opera to do their part for charity whilst enjoying the performance," said Ms Guo.

Through this event, Community Chest hopes to appeal to Cantonese opera fans to help raise more than \$30,000 from the evening's performance. This performance is also especially meaningful as a special song has been composed for the charity programme.

"Community Chest is privileged to gain the support of organisations such as the Sin Ming Sing Cantonese Opera Centre to help to make a positive difference to the lives of the needy. The funds raised would bring Community Chest a step closer to raising \$52.6 million to help more than 340,000 frail elderly, children and adults with disabilities, and families in need to receive timely care through 157 critical social service programmes," said Mr Hwang Peng Yuan, Vice Chairman of Community Chest.

We would like to invite your reporter and photographer/ camera crew to the event.

**COMMUNITY CHEST | The NCSS Fund-raising Division**

170 Ghim Moh Road #01-02 Singapore 279621 • Tel: 6210 2500 Fax: 6468 4909 • [www.comchest.org.sg](http://www.comchest.org.sg)

Event : Cantonese Opera Excerpts Charity Show  
Venue : Kreta Ayer People's Theatre  
Date/ Time : 29 March 2010, 7.30 pm

Please reply your attendance by **Friday, 26 March 2010, 12 noon.**

For media enquiries, please contact:

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### **Community Chest**

Community Chest raises funds on a yearly basis to meet the needs of the social service programmes we help support. Community Chest ensures that the fund-raising costs are kept to a minimum. As these costs are covered mainly by Tote Board and Singapore Pools (Private) Limited, every dollar raised by Community Chest will be made available to social service programmes under its care.

Community Chest has made it easier for individuals to donate from the comfort of their homes via websites such as [www.comchest.org.sg](http://www.comchest.org.sg) and [www.vpost.com.sg](http://www.vpost.com.sg), through the internet (DBS, UOB or Citibank) or phone banking (DBS or POSB) and even at SAM machines across the island. Individuals can also reap tax benefits on donations through hassle-free modes like the Community Chest's SHARE programme (the sign-up form is available at [www.comchest.org.sg](http://www.comchest.org.sg)) where one can make monthly donations via GIRO, credit card or payroll and have his or her tax deductions automatically included in their tax assessments.

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**Issued by: Corporate Communications Division  
National Council of Social Service  
Tuesday, 23 March 2010**

### **Sin Ming Sing Cantonese Opera Centre**

Sin Ming Sing Cantonese Opera Centre (新明星粵劇中心) was established in 1999, and was then known as Ming Xing Opera Centre. The Centre's Artistic Director is Ling Dongming (凌东明), previously a professional Cantonese opera artiste with the Guangdong Cantonese Opera Academy in Guangzhou.

With over twenty years of stage experience as a performing artiste, Ling Dongming established his career Singapore as an instructor of the Centre in 1999. He is also in charge of organising all performances, which are instrumental in bridging the art of Cantonese opera with the numerous supporters and fans in Singapore. Mr Ling strongly believes that it is worthwhile to perform for charity while reaching out to opera fans.

Ms Doris Guo (郭小玉) started learning Cantonese opera 10 years ago. She has participated in charity opera performances where the opera centre raised funds for various charities in Singapore. She also took part in a charity performance to raise funds for a school for the visually impaired in Guangzhou last November.