

MEDIA RELEASE

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PRESIDENT S R NATHAN'S CALLIGRAPHY OF "LOVE" RAISED \$100,000 FOR GIFTS OF LOVE CHARITY GALA 2011

Community Chest saw more than 225,000 individual donors supporting its causes in the last financial year

SINGAPORE, JUNE 3, 2011 – Gifts of Love Charity Gala 2011 aims to raise \$1 million for Community Chest and the Philippine Bayanihan Society (Singapore) through the charity gala dinner and a charity auction to be held during the dinner at the Raffles City Convention Centre on 3 June 2011.

"It is heartening to note that Community Chest currently has the support of more than 225,000 individual donors and 2,200 corporate donors. We wish to thank all generous individuals and our corporate partners for their commitment and dedication in helping the needy," said Mr Edmund Tie, Vice-Chairman of Community Chest and Chairman of Gifts of Love Charity Gala 2011 steering committee at the charity gala.

In line with the theme for the dinner, His Excellency President S R Nathan specially created a calligraphy piece in aid of the fund-raising efforts. He chose the traditional Chinese character for Love, "愛", with the embedded character "心" which means heart, to highlight the message of loving sincerely and genuinely from your heart. President Nathan's calligraphy was presented to one of the top donors for the dinner, CapitaLand Hope Foundation, which donated \$100,000 towards meeting the needs of the community. Sponsored items, like a idyllic resort get-away to Phuket, business-class air tickets, paintings by renowned artist Mr Henri Chen KeZhan and exquisite wines, were put up for auction to create an additional platform for donors to do their part for charity.

Four beneficiaries from Students Care Service (SCS), a voluntary welfare organisation supported by Community Chest, also contributed their "Gifts of Love" during the dinner by presenting the performing artistes with flowers and Mrs Nathan with a token of appreciation. 13-year-old Lim Hui Ting is one of them. Hui Ting has been benefitting

from the Trampoline Club, SCS' developmental programme that creates opportunities for the pre-teens to discover and develop their strengths through experiential learning for the last three years. She used to be very shy, but has now blossomed into a mature and confident young lady. Hui Ting is currently volunteering as a student-helper at the Trampoline Club.

Guests at the dinner were also entertained by exciting performances from Filipino artistes, Mr Ogie Alcasid and Mr R J Rosales, led by Music Director Mr Iskandar Ismail.

The proceeds from the dinner will bring Community Chest closer to reaching its fund-raising target of \$55.7 million to help support 70 charities in running 158 critical social service programmes. These will benefit about 300,000 people including needy children and families, youths-at-risk, persons with disabilities and the elderly. The funds raised will also help the Philippine Bayanihan Society (Singapore) continue to provide skills training and development opportunities for the Filipino community in Singapore as well as create avenues for strengthening ties between Filipinos and Singaporeans.

For media enquiries, please contact:

Ms Chew Kia Huey
Senior Executive
Corporate Communications Division
National Council of Social Service
Tel: 6210 2636 / 9021 0673
Email: chew_kia_huey@ncss.gov.sg

Ms Goh Siew Hian
Head
Corporate Communications Division
National Council of Social Service
Tel: 6210 2638 / 9139 6543
Email: goh_siew_hian@ncss.gov.sg

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 fund-raising and other operating costs are kept to a minimum. As these costs are covered mainly by Tote Board and Singapore Pools, 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 and 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) 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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GIFTS OF LOVE CHARITY GALA 2011

Programme

Date : 3 June 2011 (Friday)
Time : 6.30pm – 10.40pm
Venue : Fairmont Ballroom
Raffles City Convention Centre
80 Bras Basah Road
Singapore 189560

- 6.30pm - Arrival of guests
- 7.15pm - Arrival of Guests-of-Honour
His Excellency President S R Nathan and Mrs Nathan
- 7.30pm - Welcome speech by Mr Edmund Tie
Chairman, Organising Committee of Gifts of Love Charity Gala 2011
 - Video presentation
- 9.12pm - Concert
- 10.25pm - Presentation of calligraphy by President Nathan to Mr Lim Chin Beng,
Chairman of CapitaLand Hope Foundation
 - Presentation of cheque by Mr Edmund Tie to Ms Jennie Chua,
Chairman of Community Chest
 - Presentation of token-of-appreciation by beneficiaries to Mrs Nathan
- 10.40pm - President Nathan and Mrs Nathan take their leave

Ogie Alcasid

Ogie Alcasid is well-known in his native country, Philippines, for his multi-faceted talents in singing, composing, hosting and acting.

Ogie's professional singing career started in 1989 when he released his self-titled debut album 'Ogie Alcasid' in 1989. Since then, he had launched 18 other albums.

In his 22-year music career, he had staged many sold-out concerts and received numerous accolades and awards in Philippines. Ogie received the 'Best Major Concert (Male)' award at the 23rd Aliw* Awards in 2010 and was also crowned 'Best Songwriter for Movie/TV/Stage/Recording and Play' at the 22nd Awit** Awards and 'Entertainer of the Year Hall of Fame' at the Aliw Awards in 2009.

Ogie's popularity as a Filipino artiste also grew through his regular appearances in major TV shows with leading local broadcasters such as ABS-CBN and GMA Network. He also found success playing leading roles in various movies in the Philippines.

Being a mega star in his home country has not diluted his commitment in working for the betterment and welfare of the less fortunate. Ogie is honoured to be part of the Gifts of Love Charity Gala 2011.

* Aliw Awards was established in 1976 to recognise achievements in the live entertainment industry in the Philippines including theatre, opera, dance, live vocal and instrumental shows.

** The Awit Awards recognise Filipino musical talents, performing artists and producers and is organised by the Philippine Association of the Record Industry (PARI).

RJ Rosales

RJ Rosales' professional singing and acting career began in 1996 when he was cast in Cameron Mackintosh's Australian production of 'Miss Saigon'. 10 years later, he came full circle by joining the musical's 2007-2008 Australian tour, playing the lead role of Thuy. This role earned him a nomination for 'Best Supporting Actor in a Musical' at the 2007 Helpmann Awards in Australia.

In the late 1990s, RJ moved to Singapore and established a successful career in theatre. He is most well-known for his role as Chang in 'Chang and Eng – The Musical'. Other theatrical credits include 'Forbidden City', 'Cabaret' and 'Beauty and the Beast'.

He also made television appearances in several Singaporean productions which included 'Style Doctors', 'ABCs of Health' and the popular teen drama series 'Spin'. He also appeared in numerous television and print advertisements and staged several concerts, 'RJ From Now On', 'A Musical Journey with RJ Rosales' and 'A Crazy Christmas 2010'. RJ had also performed at charity events, notably for Community Chest. In the Philippines, RJ had worked with the biggest names in the entertainment industry. His regular appearances on the hit TV show 'ASAP' have made him a household name in the country. Around the world, RJ had performed in Japan, Malaysia, United States and Thailand.

With two major upcoming musicals in Singapore, 'I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change' and 'Into the Woods', 2011 will be a busy year for this multi-faceted artiste.