

**For Immediate Release**

## **The 14<sup>th</sup> World Gourmet Summit Charity Dinner Raises S\$750, 288 For Community Chest**

***Government's Care & Share Movement matches funds raised, doubling its impact on the social service sector***

**4 April, 2014 (SINGAPORE)** – Over 340 diners joined Guest-of-Honour Dr Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for the Environment and Water Resources, at the 14<sup>th</sup> World Gourmet Summit Charity Dinner at W Singapore-Sentosa Cove on 4 April, 2014. Guests enjoyed a sumptuous and elegant five course feast prepared by international **Masterchef Sergi Arola**. The two-Michelin-star Chef from Spain, prepared a gourmet extravaganza with **Chef Matthew Woolford**, Executive Chef, W Singapore, **Chef Andrew Nocente**, Chef de Cuisine of SKIRT, W Singapore, **Chef Eric Goh**, **Chef Larry Li**, and **Chef Suparat Somkoon** all for charity. The evening raised \$750,288 for over 80 charities supported by Community Chest, the fund-raising and engagement group of the National Council of Social Service (NCSS). Since the first Charity Dinner more than a decade ago, over \$5.5 million has been raised through this annual World Gourmet Summit initiative.

Dr Henry Tay, Chairman of the World Gourmet Summit Charity Dinner Organising Committee, said, “The World Gourmet Summit Charity Dinner is into its 14<sup>th</sup> year, and \$5.5 million has been raised for Community Chest over the years. I am delighted to share that with the special Care & Share Movement led by Community Chest this year to rally the nation to volunteer and donate to social service causes as a lead up to Singapore’s 50th celebration of independence next year, every donation to Community Chest up to 31 December this year will be matched by the government one-to-one. It means funds raised from the World Gourmet Summit Charity Dinner this year will double in impact to the less privileged. I would like to thank all our donors for their generous contribution.”

Funds were raised through table sales, cash donations and silent and live auctions held during the dinner. Items auctioned included a **Degrenne Paris Salam Tea Pot**, **Canon Singapore Pte Ltd EOS 70D Camera**, **Family Rothschild Chateau d’Armailhac 2003-Double Magnum**, as well as a **Legle and Justin Quek 13 pieces Tea set and 24 pieces Dinner Set**. This was made possible by the generous sponsors of the World Gourmet Summit.

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All funds raised will support critical social service programmes under the care of Community Chest, that allow children with special needs and youth-at-risk to have access to education and training, families to receive help to become stronger and more stable, persons with disabilities to lead independent lives and seniors to age gracefully in the community.

9-year-old Regina Lim, a student of Canossian School, is one of the beneficiaries of Community Chest present at the Charity Dinner. Regina is the youngest member of the Canossian School Choir, which presented two song performances for the guests. Diagnosed with hearing impairment since young, Regina benefits from the differentiated curriculum in Canossian School, which supports her learning needs and language development. Despite the challenges faced by Regina and her peers at Canossian School, they embraced the spirit of the Care & Share Movement by contributing to society in their own ways. The Canossian School Choir brings joy to patients at various hospitals, including Singapore General Hospital and St Andrew's Community Hospital, with their regular performances.

Peter A Knipp, CEO of Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd, the organisers of the award-winning World Gourmet Summit, said, "Reaching out to the less fortunate is a critical part of World Gourmet Summit. We are proud of the wonderful partnership with Dr. Tay, Community Chest and the team at the National Council of Social Service. Every guest that purchases a seat here is genuinely interested in making a difference. Every dollar donated here makes a massive impact. We are very proud of the funds raised tonight and look forward to doing this again next year."

The World Gourmet Summit Charity Dinner is very dear to my heart. While we all enjoy every aspect of the calendar filled with gourmet events over two weeks, we believe giving back to the community is imperative. Over the past 13 years, we have received tremendous support from members of the society who are more fortunate and have the ability to support the excellent work carried out by Community Chest. This is what makes the entire World Gourmet Summit rewarding."

Guests were also treated to a special performance by Matthew & The Mandarins with Veronica Young, 'The Little Girl From Pulau Brani', a Singaporean pop sensation from back in the 60's.



A movement supported by over 200 voluntary welfare organisations



Ms Jacquelyn Tan, Managing Director and Head of Credit Payment Products at Citibank Singapore Limited says, "Citibank is proud to be the presenting partner for Asia's leading gastronomic event, the World Gourmet Summit, for the sixth consecutive year. This partnership further demonstrates Citibank's leadership in the dining space as the event brings together internationally acclaimed Michelin-starred chefs and the world's finest wines. Our focus on dining goes beyond offering discounts and deals and we are committed to supporting events such as the World Gourmet Summit Charity Dinner, where we are able to contribute to the community we live in and support the less privileged."

The World Gourmet Summit will continue to play its part in giving back to the community in its future editions. For an example of a beneficiary, please refer to Annex A. For more information about the World Gourmet Summit, log on to [www.worldgourmetsummit.com](http://www.worldgourmetsummit.com).

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### About the World Gourmet Summit

The World Gourmet Summit is an award-winning international gastronomic extravaganza organised by A La Carte Productions (a subsidiary of Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd), supported by the Singapore Tourism Board (STB), and presented by Citibank. The World Gourmet Summit celebrates its 18th anniversary in 2014.

An annual epicurean extravaganza that showcases the intricate craftsmanship of prestigious chefs, it is also an exposition of internationally acclaimed vintners. Encompassing a series of dazzling events like the vintner dinners and celebrity dinners, it is a gourmet spectacular specially crafted for discerning individuals who appreciate fine wines and gourmet cuisine.

For all its efforts in organising the annual world-class gastronomic spectacle, the World Gourmet Summit has won global accolades including the prestigious Grand Pinnacle Silver Award at the International Festivals & Events Association (IFEA)/ Haas & Wilkerson Pinnacle Awards.

For more than a decade, the World Gourmet Summit has raised over S\$5.5 million through its annual charity dinners in support of the Community Chest, the fund-raising and engagement group of the National Council of Social Service (NCSS).

For more information, please visit: [www.worldgourmetsummit.com](http://www.worldgourmetsummit.com)

### About 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 [comchest.sg](http://comchest.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 and iNETS Kiosks across the island. Individuals can also reap tax benefits on donations through hassle-free modes like the Community Chest's monthly workplace giving programme "SHARE", where employees make monthly donations via GIRO, credit card or payroll and have his or her tax deductions automatically included in their tax assessments.

The funds raised will benefit children with special needs, youths-at-risk, persons with disabilities, lonely and frail elderly and families in need.

### About Care & Share Movement

Care & Share is a national fund-raising and volunteerism movement led by Community Chest for the social service sector, as Singapore approaches our 50th year of independence in 2015. It aims to bring our nation together to show care and concern for the needy and recognise the contributions made by voluntary welfare organisations (VWOs). Eligible donations raised by Community Chest and participating VWOs from now till 31 December 2014 will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the government. The matched amount will go towards building the capabilities and capacities of the social service sector and supporting social services to meet rising needs. To contribute to this movement, please visit our webpage at [www.careandshare.sg](http://www.careandshare.sg) or email to [csm@ncss.gov.sg](mailto:csm@ncss.gov.sg).

## ANNEX A – A COMMUNITY CHEST BENEFICIARY

9-year-old Regina Lim is a student of Canossian School and also the youngest member of the Canossian School Choir. She was diagnosed with hearing impairment since young. She joined Canossian School's intervention programme in 2010 and progressed to Primary One last year. The special school for children with hearing impairment provides remedial classes, differentiated curriculum and individual conversation sessions to support her learning needs and language development. Regina wants to be like any other child who is given opportunities to learn and grow, make friends and one day become an active citizen. Regina strives to do well in her studies, aiming to perform well at PSLE and proceed to the secondary school of her choice.

Regina also developed her talents through the school choir. It is especially challenging for children with hearing impairment to perform in a choir, as they face difficulties in getting the correct pitching. However, Regina managed to overcome the challenges and can now sing solo confidently. In March this year, the school choir also took part in a cultural music exchange programme in Mukogawa Women's University in Japan.

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## ANNEX B - ORGANISERS, PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

### About A La Carte Productions Pte Ltd

A La Carte Productions, a subsidiary of Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd, is an independently owned events company, which provides events planning, conceptualisation, and execution services. The annual gastronomic extravaganza - World Gourmet Summit held in April each year, and the Awards Of Excellence, the leading and most comprehensive F&B platform in Asia, which recognises and motivates talents to excel in the F&B industry and promotes the appreciation of dining in Singapore and the region.

### About Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd

Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd (PKH) offers a multi-faceted range of services for the F&B and hospitality industry. Founded in 1996 by Peter A Knipp, the multi award-winning company has grown over the years to include independent companies, encompassing various aspects of the F&B and hospitality businesses: A La Carte Productions, an events management which provides events planning, conceptualisation, and execution services at the annual gastronomic extravaganza – World Gourmet Series which includes Awards Of Excellence ([www.wgsawards.com](http://www.wgsawards.com)) and World Gourmet Summit ([www.worldgourmetsummit.com](http://www.worldgourmetsummit.com)). Food2Print which publishes Cuisine & Wine Asia magazine, and provides marketing communication consultancy services; and Bytes Asia Pte Ltd, IT consultancy.

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### Citibank Singapore Limited

Locally incorporated in Singapore, Citibank Singapore Limited is a distinct market leader in the consumer banking business. In the past few years, Citibank has extended its distribution network to more than 1,500 touch points to reach out to more Singaporeans and provide them with innovative, global and value-added products and services. A leading credit card issuer in Singapore, Citibank offers the widest range of credit card propositions and the best-in-class dining privileges through Citibank Gourmet Pleasures, which promises the best deals island-wide.

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### Singapore Tourism Board (STB)

The Singapore Tourism Board (STB) is a leading economic development agency in tourism, one of Singapore's key service sectors. Known for partnership, innovation and excellence, STB champions tourism, making it a key economic driver for Singapore. They aim to differentiate and market Singapore as a must-visit destination offering a concentration of user-centric and enriching experiences through the "Your Singapore" brand. For more information, please visit [www.stb.gov.sg](http://www.stb.gov.sg)