Corporate Social Responsibility, Sands for Singapore

Marina Bay Sands’ commitment to Singapore extends far beyond helping achieve the country’s economic and tourism goals. The integrated resort is also dedicated to help meet Singapore’s social needs and having a positive impact in the local community.

Its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme, Sands for Singapore, supports a variety of charities and causes including those relating to youth and education. Marina Bay Sands leverages its unique resources and active volunteerism to make a positive difference in the lives of Singaporeans. The integrated resort also contributes to numerous Singapore-based charitable programmes that support a wide spectrum of meaningful causes, ranging from art awareness to special needs education.

The anchor initiative of Sands for Singapore is the annual Sands for Singapore Charity Festival. The festival serves to raise public awareness of its partner charities and raise funds for them through a series of meaningful events. Since its inauguration in 2013, the Sands for Singapore Charity Festival has raised more S$16 million for local charities.

Giving Back to the Community

- The 2016 Sands for Singapore Charity Festival, saw an 81 per cent increase in the number of volunteers and a 47 per cent increase in volunteer hours accumulated by Marina Bay Sands’ Team Members, up from 2015.

- A highlight of the Sands for Singapore Charity Festival is the Play It Forward charity race, which was held for the first time during 2015’s charity festival. The race inspires the public of all ages to give back to the local community creatively, by competing in a series of challenges around Marina Bay Sands to win cash and prizes for a local charity of choice. The second Play It Forward charity race in 2016 returned on a bigger and better scale, with 222 participants forming 37 teams to represent 22 local charities.

- Together with its global corporate responsibility team, Marina Bay Sands has been organising the Las Vegas Sands Global Hygiene Kit Build in partnership with Clean The World. The first event, which took place in September 2015, mobilised 975 volunteers to pack 45,000 hygiene kits in six hours. In July 2016, 400 team members from different departments came together to assemble 20,000 hygiene kits. These kits were then donated to the beneficiaries of Children International in Philippines.

- In July 2015, Marina Bay Sands contributed S$180,000 to an education bursary for close to 40 beneficiaries of Dyslexia Association of Singapore. The bursary covers students’ courses and programmes at DAS and psychological assessments.

- Marina Bay Sands has been the co-organiser of the Community Chest Heartstrings Walk since 2011. In 2016, the event raised S$1.92 million, benefitting over 80 charities.

- In July 2014, Marina Bay Sands pledged an early and symbolic support for the new Public Art Trust by National Arts Council, as part of Sands for Singapore Festival 2014. As the first corporate donor for the new Public Art Trust – which will raise the profile of artworks in public spaces – the $750,000 endorsement is in line with the continuing commitment to raise public art awareness among Singaporeans.

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The contribution resulted in a commissioned piece, *Cloud Nine: Raining* by artist Tan Wee Lit which was launched on 29 January 2016 as part of the Jubilee Walk experience.

- As part of the integrated resort’s large-scale art installation known as Marina Bay Sands Art Path, the Rain Oculus has doubled as a wishing well for many visitors. Coins collected from the Rain Oculus are donated to the Community Chest of Singapore. As of July 2016, over $270,000 was donated.

- In October 2013, Marina Bay Sands contributed $80,000 to Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN) - Katong School to refurbish two of its Food & Beverage Training Rooms which help provide an industry-ready environment for students to hone their skills.

- In August 2013, Marina Bay Sands made an $1 million donation to the Institute of Technical Education (ITE) Endowment Fund. Set up in 2010, the fund benefits about 400 ITE students and is used to provide a sustainable disbursement of funds to students from financially-disadvantaged families, through financial assistance and enrichment programmes.

- Since February 2013, Marina Bay Sands became the first corporate donor to the Singapore Association for the Deaf’s Sign Language Interpretation Fund. To date, Marina Bay Sands has contributed more than $394,000 to help the hearing impaired community gain free access to sign language interpretation services.

- In October 2012, Marina Bay Sands contributed $150,000 to Metta School to equip four hospitality training rooms to help over 90 students undergoing the ITE Skills Certification course.

- Marina Bay Sands launched its Youth Inspiration Internship Programme in July 2010. It is a work-attachment opportunity for underprivileged and special needs youth to experience work-life in the hospitality industry. Our vision is to nurture the development of these young people into independent adults by teaching them valuable life skills and boosting their confidence. This programme has benefited many local students, and they have joined the Marina Bay Sands family upon their graduation.

**Awards and Accolades**

Marina Bay Sands’ contributions toward helping meet the social needs of the Singapore community have been recognized. Some of them are:

- Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award by the National Arts Council, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2016
- Certificate of Recognition by AmCham CARES, 2016
- Best Community Building Award by Singapore Creative CSR Awards, 2016
- Corporate Platinum Award by the Community Chest, 2012, 2013, 2014 and 2015
- Partner Bronze Award by the Community Chest, 2014
- SG50 Arts Patron Award by the National Arts Council, 2015
- Enabling Employers Award, 2011

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