

Press Release



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Marina Bay Sands flags off charity race *Play It Forward* for first time *25 teams get ready for heart-pumping competition as part of annual Sands for Singapore Charity Festival*

Singapore (29 July 2015) – From a team of traditional Chinese medicine physicians to national athletes and mature volunteers, 150 people from all walks of life will race across Marina Bay Sands to complete challenges in *Play It Forward* charity race. To be held on Sunday, 2 August, it will be the first-ever charity race organised by the integrated resort.

This exciting race will see 25 teams of six members each battling against the clock to finish a series of tasks across the integrated resort, including key attractions like ArtScience Museum and Sands SkyPark. The team that emerges top will win \$50,000 for their local charity of choice.

Putting their physical and mental skills to the test, participants will have two hours to complete 10 surprise challenges that are related to the integrated resort. The emcees for the event, Class 95FM DJs Jean Danker and Tim Oh, and local actor-host Paul Foster, will be keeping spirits high and helping to cheer the teams on as they manoeuvre through each task.

Marina Bay Sands has expanded the competition to host 25 teams, more than the 15 teams initially planned, due to the strong public response. They include a team of young, avid sports players from SportsCares, which uses sport as a force for social good. The team, co-captained by Muhammad Arsyad Bin Ajis and Asmah Hanim, boasts star power, counting famous 1977

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SEA Games gold medallist Kandasamy Jayamani and current SEA Games athletes Colin Tung and Kenneth Khoo among its members.

“It’s a different kind of competition which involves working as a team. I am delighted to be part of a team that has a mix of young and veteran runners. Our range of experience should give us the confidence in going for the \$50,000 prize. The money goes towards a good cause, and we will give 100 per cent,” said former competitive marathoner Kandasamy, 60, whose team will be running for Boys Town, a charity that provides shelter, education and vocational training to underprivileged youths.

Other teams participating include a group of passionate mature volunteers competing for Handicaps Welfare Association and a team of young traditional Chinese medicine practitioners – aged between 29 and 33 - who will be running for non-profit group, Art Outreach.

Leading the group of Chinese sinsehs is Leong Weizhen, 29, who is excited to be competing this weekend. She said: “The competition will be a good get-together for me and my friends. Instead of spending money on reality room escape games, we can take part in *Play It Forward* for a good cause.”

Play It Forward is a key highlight during the annual *Sands for Singapore Charity Festival*, a 10-day celebration packed with fun-filled activities to raise funds for over 80 charities, benefiting more than 300,000 underprivileged Singaporeans. Now in its third year, the festival will run from 31 July to 9 August and will see a record number of 28 community outreach events, up from 18 events last year.

Mr. George Tanasijevich, President and Chief Executive Officer of Marina Bay Sands, said: “This year, we wanted to give back to the community in a big way, which is why we have expanded our annual Sands for Singapore Charity Festival to a 10-day event and included more activities that the public can take part in. The overwhelming response for our first charity race, *Play It Forward*, has been very positive and we look forward to an exciting race day on Sunday.”

Aside from the charity race, there will be other fundraising and entertainment activities taking place at Marina Bay Sands over the 10-day festival.

Heart Appeal and entertainment

The public is also encouraged to help create a Singapore and world map by penning their heartfelt messages to local beneficiaries at the Heart Appeal booth at the Skating Rink. These Heart Cards can be obtained from box offices, hotel and retail concierges around Marina Bay Sands.

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When complete, the maps symbolise what Sands for Singapore Charity Festival is all about – which is to inspire others to give back to the less fortunate in society. Members of public are also encouraged to make a donation while at the booth and all donations will go towards Community Chest which supports over 80 local charities.

The public is also invited to enjoy live performances from home-grown talent, including Nathan Hartono and Gareth Fernandez, at the Skating Rink at The Shoppes. In addition, there will be screenings of DreamWorks Animation movies, such as Shrek and Kung Fu Panda, during these 10 meaningful days, as Marina Bay Sands revels in the spirit of giving back.

The free performances and movie screenings will be held from 6pm to 8pm at the Skating Rink on these dates:

- July 30** – How To Train Your Dragon (movie)
- July 31** – Priscilla Tan (music performance)
- Aug 1** – Kung Fu Panda (movie)
- Aug 2** – Theodora Lau (music performance)
- Aug 3** – Shrek (movie)
- Aug 4** – Nathan Hartono (music performance)
- Aug 7** – Madagascar (movie)
- Aug 8** – Gareth Fernandez (music performance)

Scoops of Hope

Head down to try one of eight quintessentially local flavours created by Marina Bay Sands' Celebrity Chefs at *Scoops of Hope*, a pop-up gelato station with a good cause. Savour in the sweet delight of Gula Melaka gelato from CUT by Wolfgang Puck, or Masala Teh Tarik gelato from *Adrift* by David Myers, while giving back to society. All sale proceeds will go towards The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund. The pop-up station will be located at The Shoppes Canal Level, B2 (Opposite Cold Storage).

For more information on the events during the Sands for Singapore Charity Festival, visit the website at www.marinabaysands.com/sandsforsingapore or join the conversation online with #sandsforsingapore.

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About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theatres showcase a range of leading entertainment performances including world-renowned Broadway shows. Completing the line-up of attractions is ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com

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Sands for Singapore, Marina Bay Sands' corporate social responsibility programme, is committed to helping Singapore in meaningful ways. By using our unique resources as well as mobilising our active volunteerism, we aim to create a positive difference in the lives of Singaporeans. Our designated charities, including Art Outreach Singapore, Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN), Association for the Deaf (SADeaf), AMKFSC Community Services, BT Budding Artists Fund, Dyslexia Association of Singapore and ST School Pocket Money Fund have benefitted from our continuous support and engagement. Besides working with our designated charities, we further support beneficiaries including those related to youth and education.