

**MESSAGE BY MRS. GRACE CHONG-TAN,
PRESIDENT, SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE (SOE)
THE SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE AWARDS 2015
MONDAY, 19 OCTOBER 2015, 7.00PM
MANDARIN ORCHARD SINGAPORE, GRAND MANDARIN BALLROOM**

Into its 13th year, the Spirit of Enterprise (SOE) has remained steadfast in its mission to honour local entrepreneurs and inspire budding entrepreneurs amongst students and youths.

Throughout the years, SOE has been a passionate advocate in supporting homegrown entrepreneurs who are both active change-makers and innovators in our nation, by recognizing their achievements in their respective industries. As such, the annual SOE Awards has become an enduring platform not just to commemorate Singapore's finest entrepreneurs for their outstanding ideas, but also a stage to share their exemplary stories with us. This year, we are proud to present to you 35 of our country's exceptional entrepreneurs who embody the true spirit of enterprise – one that is both bold and committed in the best and most challenging of circumstances.

Alongside SOE's passion in helping small and medium-sized enterprises connect, grow and prosper, we are also committed to programmes that give back to the community, such as the Student Entrepreneurship Programme (SEP) and SOE-Charles & Keith Student Interviewers Programme (SIP). These programmes aspire to ignite the spark in youths and motivate them to start their own enterprises in future. Our mentorship programmes and entrepreneurship talks not just demonstrate an understanding of the elements of business, but more importantly, they aim to cultivate passion, resilience, innovation and leadership amongst our younger generation.

This year, we also held the SOE-Credit Suisse Entrepreneurs Forums. These Forums acted as platforms for speakers to impart knowledge and insights on mergers and acquisitions, and internalization efforts. We were heartened to see over 100 participants, including SOE Alumni and Partners.

We believe that the most important tool for success is in believing that you can succeed. As such, we would also like to thank our partners and sponsors who have expressed their belief in SOE's advocacy throughout the years.

This year, we would like to extend our utmost appreciation to our Partners: Nexia TS, Credit Suisse and Charles & Keith. Our gratitude also extends to our Bursary Sponsor, Mr Michael Sengol and our Official Partners. We would also like to thank the SOE Board of Governors and Alumni who have actively participated in our activities. Your support and belief in SOE have continually motivated us to honour and inspire others.

Through promoting and encouraging the entrepreneurial spirit in their hearts, we are humbled and blessed to be part of the journeys of these outstanding entrepreneurs.

Here's to wishing all our honourees a successful and beautiful journey ahead.