



Apply to be a nominee of the

# SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE AWARDS 2024

*Registration closes 29 February 2024*



# ABOUT THE SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE

Spirit of Enterprise (SOE) was founded in 2003. Our mission is to cultivate an active entrepreneurial culture in Singapore by recognising the accomplishment of local entrepreneurs operating small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). We also seek to inspire young Singaporeans, especially students, to become entrepreneurs by facilitating interaction, communication and knowledge dissemination between students, the entrepreneurs and members of the general public. SOE is an approved Institution of a Public Character (IPC) non-profit organisation, and is primarily funded by corporate donors. The Board of Governors consists of established entrepreneurs and corporate senior management representatives, and is currently helmed by Board President Mr Mohamed Ismail Gafoor, CEO of PropNex Realty.

## OUR MISSION

- To promote and advance the entrepreneurial spirit in Singapore by honouring local self-reliant entrepreneurs operating small and medium-sized businesses
- To inspire Singaporeans, especially the young, to become entrepreneurs by facilitating interaction, communication and knowledge dissemination and interaction between students and entrepreneurs

## OUR PROGRAMMES

- SOE Student Entrepreneur Programme (SEP)
- SOE Student Interviewer Programme (SIP)
- Spirit of Enterprise (SOE) Awards
- SOE Book
- SOE *Built To Grow* Training Series
- SOE Fundraising Golf Challenge
- SOE Networking Events

For more information, please visit our website [www.soe.org.sg](http://www.soe.org.sg).

# ABOUT THE SOE AWARDS

SOE organises the Spirit of Enterprise (SOE) Awards annually to honour and recognise our local business entrepreneurs' achievements. The award honourees are selected from the pool of SOE nominees interviewed by student interviewers, and are exemplary role models who have contributed towards the economic development of Singapore.

The SOE Awards provides a platform for local entrepreneurs to be recognised for their entrepreneurial excellence, therefore encouraging innovation, fair practices and growth in entrepreneurship. The Awards also exemplifies the commitment of the local community that has come together to promote entrepreneurship in Singapore, having recognised and supported over 700 entrepreneurs in their journey to build sustainable businesses.

## NOTABLE PAST AWARD HONOUREES

Honourees who have been conferred the SOE Award previously include entrepreneurs from organisations such as PropNex Realty, Charles & Keith, Ya Kun Kaya Toast, Bengawan Solo, Commonwealth Capital, Scanteak, Gain City, Paradise Group Holdings, and Fullerton Healthcare Group, among many others.



# SOE AWARD

*For Established  
Entrepreneurs*



- Awarded to outstanding entrepreneurs from established companies that have been in operation for more than 5 years at the point of application.
- Company must be registered in and currently operating in Singapore, and must not be listed on any stock exchange.
- Applicants may register on their own or with one other business partner/co-founder from the same company. No more than two co-applicants are allowed from the same company.
- Applicants must own at least 30% of the company's shares. For co-applicants, their combined shareholding must be at least 30%.
- Applicants must be Singapore Citizens or Permanent Residents who are at least 21 years old as of 1 January 2024.
- Applicants must submit the online Registration Form and upload a PDF copy of their company's latest Business Profile record from ACRA (*dated within the last 6 months*). **Click here** for the Nominee Registration Form.

# SOE-NEO START-UP AWARD

*For Start-up  
Entrepreneurs*



- Awarded to outstanding entrepreneurs from start-up companies that have been in operation for less than 5 years at the point of application.
- Company must be registered in and currently operating in Singapore, and must not be listed on any stock exchange.
- Applicants may register on their own or with one other business partner/co-founder from the same company. No more than two co-applicants are allowed from the same company.
- Applicants must own at least 30% of the company's shares. For co-applicants, their combined shareholding must be at least 30%.
- Applicants must be Singapore Citizens or Permanent Residents who are at least 21 years old as of 1 January 2024.
- Applicants must submit the online Registration Form and upload a PDF copy of their company's latest Business Profile record from ACRA (*dated within the last 6 months*). **Click here** for the Nominee Registration Form.

# SOE-CLA GLOBAL TS ENTREPRENEURSHIP AWARD



- Award Honouree is selected by the Judging Panel and Award Sponsor, CLA Global TS Holdings Pte Ltd. Not available for self-application.
- Only entrepreneurs who have previously received the SOE Award (*Established category*) may be eligible for consideration of this award
- This pinnacle award is given out each year to one past Award Honouree who has demonstrated significant growth and elevated his/her enterprise to new heights since originally winning the SOE Award. It recognises entrepreneurs who have left an indelible mark on the local or global stage, epitomising the spirit of entrepreneurship.

# SOE-PROP Nex TOP HONOUREE OF THE YEAR AWARD



- Award Honouree is selected by the Judging Panel and Award Sponsor, PropNex Realty. Not available for self-application.
- The most outstanding candidates from each year's pool of SOE Award (Established) Honourees will undergo an additional round of evaluation for this Award category.
- This award represents the pinnacle of recognition, honouring an individual or a pair of Co-Honourees whose entrepreneurial journey epitomises exceptional leadership, resilience, and success, and who stands out from among the Honourees of that year.
- The recipient of this Award will only be announced during the Presentation Ceremony at the SOE Awards.

# SOE-DIAN XIAO ER SOCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS AWARD



- One Award Honouree (*from either the Established or Start-up categories*) is selected by the Judging Panel and Award Sponsor, Dian Xiao Er Group. Not available for self-application.
- This award was first introduced in 2019, and recognises entrepreneurs who run businesses that extend beyond profit, making a positive impact on society through social contributions and philanthropy.
- The recipient of this Award will only be announced during the Presentation Ceremony at the SOE Awards.

# SOE-EATZ SUSTAINABILITY AWARD



- One Award Honouree (*from either the Established or Start-up categories*) is selected by the Judging Panel and Award Sponsor, Eatz Group. Not available for self-application.
- The introduction of this award in 2022 is a reminder of the responsibilities that companies bear towards our environment and also a reward for companies that have started the good work towards addressing our sustainability issues. It highlights entrepreneurs leading the charge in sustainable business practices, fostering a commitment to environmental and social responsibility.
- The recipient of this Award will only be announced during the Presentation Ceremony at the SOE Awards.

# ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION

**01.**

Nominee must be a Singapore Citizen or a Singapore Permanent Resident, and at least 21 years old as of 1 January 2024

**02.**

Under the Established category, the company must have been in active and continuous operation for over 5 years. For the start-up category, the company must have been operating for more than one year, but less than 5 years. Please note that the company must be registered in Singapore, and not be listed on any stock exchange.

**03.**

Company should not be involved in any legal proceedings which would deem it unsuitable to be considered for an Awards nomination

**04.**

The Nominee must own at least 30% of the shares in the Company. For Co-Nominees, their combined shareholding must be at least 30%. Submission of the company's latest ACRA record is mandatory and must reflect the nominee's declared shareholding percentage.

# OVERVIEW OF PROCESS

- 01. Getting Nominated**

The SOE Board, student interviewers and any other interested parties may submit their nominations to the Spirit of Enterprise at [geraldine@soe.org.sg](mailto:geraldine@soe.org.sg). A maximum of two shareholders from the same company may be nominated as co-Nominees. **Nomination is free.**
- 02. Submitting Your Registration**

Whether you have been nominated by a student interviewer, fellow entrepreneur or would like to undergo self-nomination, please submit the online Nominee Registration Form **here**. Upload a PDF copy of your company's ACRA Business Profile, dated within the last 6 months, when submitting your registration via the Google Form. You will need to login to a Google account to access this form, to ensure your submission is secure.
- 03. Verification of Eligibility to Participate as a Nominee**

All nominations received will be screened by SOE based on the prescribed qualifying criteria to ascertain eligibility. You will then be informed if you are eligible to participate as an Award Nominee.
- 04. Interview with Assigned Student(s) and Preparation of Transcript and Supporting Documents for Submission**

SOE's appointed Student Interviewers will liaise with you directly to arrange for interview, which may be carried out in-person or virtually. All interviews will be recorded for transcribing purposes (audio only). The student(s) will then prepare the interview transcript for your approval before submission, as well as request for supporting documents from you as part of the final submission requirements.
- 05. Final Submission Deadline**

Nominees' submissions will be carried out by your assigned student interviewers. The deadline for Student Interviewers to submit all transcripts and supporting documents to SOE is **3 May 2023.**

# JUDGING CRITERIA

<b>LEADERSHIP</b> Demonstration of organisational leadership, mission, vision and values, governance system as well as responsibility to the community and the environment	<b>STRATEGY</b> Development and implementation of strategic plans based on the organisation's external environment and internal capabilities. The plans should address current and future challenges as well as the organisation's mission and vision
<b>PEOPLE</b> Focuses on how the potential of employees is effectively harnessed to achieve excellence	<b>CUSTOMERS</b> How the organisation understands market and customer requirements, and future trends to build relationships with customers and create superior customer experiences
<b>ENTREPRENEUR'S PERSONALITY, BUSINESS PROFILE AND FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE</b>	Nominee's ability to articulate his/her entrepreneurial journey via the interview and transcript. Submission of financial statements, while not mandatory, is highly encouraged in order for the judging panel to assess the company's growth potential and trajectory

# JUDGING & SELECTION

**MAY  
2024**

All submissions to Spirit of Enterprise to be assessed as complete before evaluation can commence. The Secretariat Office will contact Nominees individually to fill up the final Letter of Acknowledgement and Nominee Feedback Form.

**JUNE  
2024**

The Awards Judging Panel, comprising the SOE Board of Governors, will review all submitted interview transcripts and supporting documents, perform stringent evaluation based on the prescribed judging criteria, before selecting the year's Award Honourees under the various award categories.

**JULY  
2024**

All successful Award Honourees and remaining Nominees will be informed of the evaluation outcome by end July 2024.

**OCTOBER  
2024**

The Spirit of Enterprise (SOE) Awards 2024 Ceremony & Gala Dinner will take place in October 2024. Award Honourees will be invited to attend the event and receive their award in person that evening.



# AWARD ACCEPTANCE CONDITIONS

- Winners will be conferred the SOE Award on a complimentary basis; i.e. no payment is required to receive the Award
- If selected as an Award Honouree, the entrepreneur must be present at the SOE Awards 2024 Ceremony & Gala Dinner to accept the Award in person. We regret to inform that entrepreneurs who are unable to attend the Awards event will not be conferred the SOE Award / SOE-Neo Start-up Award (*exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis*)
- Award Honourees agree that SOE has the right to feature/publish their stories and interview transcripts on the SOE website and in related collateral
- SOE will not pay any royalties to Nominees and Honourees for publishing their stories

## FOR ENQUIRIES, PLEASE CONTACT:

Geraldine Lim (Ms)  
SOE Secretariat Office

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