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CITIES OF LOVE AWARDS – DRIVING SUSTAINABLE LIVING THROUGH INNOVATION WINNERS ANNOUNCED

[Singapore, 23 October 2020, 2 – 4 pm] - The Cities of Love Awards (COLA) Singapore organizing committee today officially announced the winners at virtual award ceremony.

The award celebrates and recognizes the outstanding efforts and creativity of enterprising individuals and organizations that are driving impactful, innovative and inspiring sustainability solutions.

Established in 2017, COLA believes that everyone has the capability to foster change. It aims to be a catalyst of change through holistic creations that promote sustainable living. Its long-term vision is to develop a plethora of diverse creative projects that could include products, publications, multi-media productions and even gastronomic experiences. By introducing sustainable and economically feasible perspectives, it hopes to spawn solutions for living where cities can contribute to green living.

"As climate change becomes one of the key challenges of the 21st century, there is a greater and urgent need to drive innovations to improve and sustain the world. The Cities of Love Awards, which recognises ordinary people for their contribution to sustainable living initiatives, is a positive encouragement as it shows that everyone can make a difference to our lives, community and environment." said Prof Chong Tow Chong, President of the Singapore University of Technology and Design, and Guest-of-Honour at the COLA ceremony.

Mr. Tai Lee Siang, Founder of COLA, says, "since the launch of "Cities of Love" book in 2016, there has been an increase in discussion globally about the lovability of cities in addition to liveability. There is a clear distinction between the two as the former points to the higher and eventual purpose of cities - to provide a meaningful and enduring shelter for a community of people. Lovability involves both the hardware and heart-ware. The Covid-19 pandemic is a revelation in many aspects. It points to the ills of cities as a pandemic swept through high densities environment. More importantly, it also proves that cities, when acting in unison, can demonstrate love and determination to overcome the impossible. "Cities of love" is put into action! I foresee in a post-Covid world, people would want cities that love them and vice versa. The advent of digitalisation has provided sustainable alternatives to conventional wasteful solutions in live, work and play. 2020 is a turning point. Cities that love and are loved will make the difference for its citizens!"

Mr Alex Yam, Mayor of North West District, says, "I would like to congratulate all winners of COLA and hope that their passion will continue to inspire more individuals and organisations to step forward to drive sustainability. In our own sustainability efforts, North West CDC encourages collaboration and innovation. Reduce @ North West is one such example – we work with our corporate partner, schools and the NEA. Students learn resource conservation tips and subsequently, amplify these green messages by sharing with their families, neighbours and friends, to encourage a culture of Green Living. For every household who pledges to reduce usage of energy resources, our corporate partner donates to our Utilities Assistance Scheme. Achieving sustainable development is a concerted effort where every one of us will have a part to play. We would like to thank our residents, volunteers and partners who have contributed their time and expertise to sustain our community initiatives."

"The South West Community Development Council is honoured to receive the Distinguished Award for Environmental Sustainability which recognises our 10-year Sustainable South West (SSW) masterplan to nurture a greener and more liveable South West District. SSW is a culmination of voices of our key stakeholders and diverse groups in our community coming together to foster strong environmental ownership and eco- consciousness. It is a masterplan for the community, by the community - that guides residents in realising their aspirations for a sustainable future." – Ms. Low Yen Ling, Mayor of South West District.

This year 14 awards cover efforts from individual, corporate and group submissions and are divided into social and environmental categories. There are 3 Distinguished Award Winners 6 Merit Award Winners and 5 Special Mention Winners. (See the full list in Appendix I)

The 3 Distinguished Award Winners are:

Social Category

Mad In Singapore And North Bridge Road Community Garden, Nanyang Polytechnic, School of Design, Architecture, Nirit Rivka Ellenbogen (Team Leader), Zalina Sapie, Lim Wei Ling, Low Chiou Jiing, Yang Pei Khoon, Muhammad Irfan Bin Zailan, Sean Xavier Das, Jordan Lim Ching Keat, Lee Zhan Kuan Olivero, Muhammad Hamizan Bin Norhisam, Muhammad Sahari Bin Rosli, Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA).

Team Nila, Sport Singapore (Volunteer Engagement & Partnership) And Team Nila.

Environmental Category

Sustainable South West, South West Community Development Council

The evaluation of the nominations is achieved through a jury composed of experts and leading figures of the industry and Sustainability experts.

Ms. Esther An, Chief Sustainability Officer, City Developments Limited

Mr. Allen Ang, GM, Project Management and Sustainable Design, Keppel Land

Dr Terence Tan, Urban Greenery Research Thrust Leader, NUS School Of Design And Environment

Mr. Tai Lee Siang, Founder, Cities of Love Awards

About COLA

Tai Lee Siang practiced as architect and urban planner since 1990. His key projects won both local and international award and was featured in a URA exhibition “20 under 45” in March 2004. He held the position as President of Singapore Institute of Architects from 2007 to 2009. In 2011, he was elected as President of Singapore Green Building Council. Under his leadership, the first green building product certification scheme in Singapore was established. On the design front, he was elected President of Design Business Chamber Singapore in 2013. He started the Singapore Good Design Mark in 2014. Tai Lee Siang also held the position of Group Managing Director of Ong & Ong Group - a multi-discipline design firm - from 2011 to 2016. He is the Board Member of Health Science Authority and Board of Trustee of Singapore University of Technology and Design. Currently he is the Building and Construction Authority’s (BCA) Executive Director (BUILDSG).

For more info contact

Candy Tan - candy-tan@citiesoflove.org +65 9745 9830

www.citiesoflove.org

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About “Cities of Love”

Earth’s environmental problems are far from being resolved. A large part of these are due to ever-growing cities. Despite more efforts are made to improve cities, it has been difficult to change them. One of the fundamental reasons is that people are not motivated to help change their cities. Apathy is now the number one obstacle to positive change. However, there is hope and Love is the antidote.

What you love, you will sustain. Cities of Love aims to urge, persuade and provoke fellow residents of our earth to collectively shape the cities we live in. To achieve this, her residents must again uncover the reasons to love and therefore sustain their cities. to this end, Cities of Love tries to identify the ingredients that could possibly be the reasons for such active love. When a city is filled by the people who love their cities, then we can have a greater chance of advancing towards a better tomorrow. Love is a mighty force to be reckoned with.

APPENDIX I

The 14 award winners under two categories as follows:

Social Category

Project: WHEEL-U

DESIGN ODYSSEY, SUTD-MIT INTERNATIONAL DESIGN CENTRE.

(SEAH QI YAN, RACHEL CHIA, CHUA QI BAO (RILEY), FENG ZHENGQING MARK)

Description:

Wheel-U is a passion project turned into a social enterprise idea aiming to bring greater independence to the wheelchair community in Singapore, by reducing their reliance on wheelchair friendly facilities in public. Throughout the city, wheelchair facilities exist, but are not always readily available, which reduces a wheelchair user's ability to carry out day-to-day activities. While the wheelchair is an indispensable equipment to this community, it has the potential to provide much greater support to the user. What if there was a way to better integrate these amenities into their lives? At Wheel-U, we aspire to incorporate multi-faceted features into the wheelchair. With our wheelchair assistive devices, such as U-Table, a portable, retrofitted table, we hope to empower users. Special features in our devices, such as height and angle adjustment, personalise their use of our devices, saving them the trouble of looking for a secondary wheelchair friendly table when eating or reading. Through working closely and conducting user-testing of our devices with Singaporean paralympian, Mr Jason Chee, SUTD have developed greater empathy and understanding of the needs of this community.

Project: Love Gaia

GOODRICH GLOBAL

Description:

Goodrich Global is passionate in driving charitable causes. They strongly believe in enriching lives and promoting empathy in their organization. In 2014, they were honoured to work alongside Mediacorp and Dr. Door in the RenovAID project. They supported the renovation of homes for the less fortunate. Goodrich Global are glad to be able to revitalize not only their homes, but lives too. The fulfilling feeling of giving back those in need is unparalleled. And these new completed homes were telecasted through 6 episodes on Channel 5. They also have received Letters of Appreciation from social organizations such as AWWA, MINDS and St Andrew Autism Centre for helping in providing materials so as to aide their efforts in public education, community engagement and advocacy. Goodrich Global recognise the need to inspire their staff through such support. They aim to pave the way of charitable acts and motivate others to follow the same.

Project: MAD in Singapore and North Bridge Road Community Garden

NANYANG POLYTECHNIC, SCHOOL OF DESIGN, ARCHITECTURE, NIRIT RIVKA ELLENBOGEN (TEAM LEADER), ZALINA SAPIE, LIM WEI LING, LOW CHIOU JIING, YANG PEI KHOON, MUHAMMAD IRFAN BIN ZAILAN, SEAN XAVIER DAS, JORDAN LIM CHING KEAT, LEE ZHAN KUAN OLIVERO, MUHAMMAD HAMIZAN BIN NORHISAM, MUHAMMAD SAHARI BIN ROSLI, URBAN REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (URA)

Description:

'MAD in Singapore', was a 3-day design student-centric summit which took place in June 2017. The Summit was initiated and organised by NYP School of Design, Architecture Diploma with the support of URA under "My Favourite Place" Programme. The Summit enabled design students from institutions nationwide, to come together to initiate, cultivate, and implement projects for and with the public, and create a positive impact in various public spaces. A total of 113 participants from 6 institutions attended the Summit, 13 entries were received and 7 were later awarded the opportunity to be implemented, supervised by the respective schools, and supported by URA. The summit aimed to inspire and engage students from different levels of education, and to share the key message that Social Innovative Design Actions, can be initiated and implemented by ground-up activities and by students, to create positive impact at selected public spaces in Singapore.

The North Bridge Road Community Garden was a collaborative project with Jalan Besar Town Council and the realization of one of the projects initiated during the 'MAD in Singapore' summit by NYP School of Design students.

Project: Team Nila

SPORT SINGAPORE (VOLUNTEER ENGAGEMENT & PARTNERSHIP) AND TEAM NILA

Description:

Team Nila is one of the key recommendations of Vision 2030. It leverages sport as a platform to engage our population to be active citizens. With over 26,000 volunteers, Team Nila is a national movement that promotes giving and active citizen participation through sport. In 2019, Team Nila provided a broader range of volunteering opportunities for its members through the Five Giving Platforms to enhance capacity for the sports eco-system. It also put in place a system for the continual enhancement of its volunteers' capabilities and capacity to provide greater sporting experience for all. This has brought about over 300,000 volunteering hours between 2018 and 2019, demonstrating Team Nila's effectiveness in galvanising a broad segment of the community to be active and caring citizens through meaningful and sustainable volunteering opportunities. Committed to promoting a culture of doing good in Singapore, Team Nila has brought thousands of people from all walks of life together through their leadership and warmth. They are a catalyst for building a caring and cohesive society.

Project: Revival Waste

DESIGN ODYSSEY, SUTD-MIT INTERNATIONAL DESIGN CENTRE. (PHANG YING XIAN BRYAN, LOH JIAN AN LIONELL, ANDRE HADIANTO, IGNASIA HANNY, CHLOE ZHENG XINYI, KANG JUN YAN KARYL, SEE YONG CHUN)

Description:

Under Design Odyssey programme of Overseas Social Immersion trip, SUTD formed a team with various backgrounds and skillsets to come up with a social initiative in Vietnam. They conducted site visits, interviews, exposed themselves to Vietnam's history, heard first-hand from professionals. The team in Ho Chi Minh City decided to tackle the environmental issues in Vietnam by designing solutions for their partner, a local environmental company called NHC. NHC is an emerging, environmental Vietnam-based company that sees a potential in what other recycling companies would consider as a dead waste. Currently NHC have 120 volunteers around Ho Chi Minh City and 40 collection point stations. NHC aims to have 10 million users within the next 5 years. SUTD created a platform for collectors and recyclers so that the trash collection process becomes more efficient. The collectors at the designated stations will be able to scan the QR code of the individual recyclers that comes in to donate their trash. The collector will then key in the weight to update the system and at the same time the recyclers will gain points that can be used to redeem products from online shops partnered with NHC.

Project: That Is The Way To Show The World (II) – We Can
WAN KUM WAH RICHARD

Description:

Hawker Culture in Singapore is an integral part of the way of life for Singaporeans, where people from all walks of life gather to dine over nice hawker food. Local dessert might just be a street food in casual dining but a multicultural heritage of a hungry metropolis. It is no surprise Singapore stands out to be recognizable in good and cheap food as a city of love with plenty of gastronomic delights. Richard will like to invite the world to know Singaporeans are united by nice food. through his original music video featuring local dessert (with food innovation), using this title – “That Is The Way To Show The World” (II). His animation music video has received international recognition from the followings: – Best International Film in Royal Bali International Bifest Film Award 2018 (Indonesia) – Prestigious honorary China Dalem from King Majapahit at Mancawarna Tampaksiring – Nomination for UNESCO (Hawker Culture), with National Heritage Board (Singapore).

Environmental Category

Project: Sustainable South West
SOUTH WEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

Description:

Officially launched by Senior Minister Mr. Teo Chee Hean and Mayor of the South West District, Ms. Low Yen Ling at the National Clean and Green Singapore on 2 November 2019, the Sustainable South West (SSW) is a 10-year masterplan that succeeds the ECo Plan (Environmental and Community)eco plan South West and dovetails with national efforts to safeguard the environment for all. Working closely with partners such as the National Environment Agency, the plan strives to nurture a community that is environmentally conscious, practices an eco-lifestyle, and demonstrates community ownership. It aims to rally community participation in sustainability initiatives and inspire the adoption of green habits while nurturing our environment for the generations to come.

Project: Dynamic Soft Facade for Active Air Flow Control (SFAAC)
SUTD-MIT INTERNATIONAL DESIGN CENTRE

Description:

This study aims to develop simple and efficient air flow separation control mechanisms for architectural and building structures. By controlling the flow in the wake regions of these structures we aim to improve ventilation and thermal comfort in their near fields. The approach uses simple undulatory surface motions of a soft façade unit to excite and control flow separation. Controlling the separation also enables the control of the resulting wake average velocities and fluctuation frequencies, both of which have been shown in earlier studies to be strong precursors of thermal comfort. SUTD expect this approach to impact thermal comfort management and energy usage in tropical cities. Award Submission were assessed by an excellent jury panel comprising corporate leaders and advisors from the arenas of business and sustainability.

Project: Honk! (环宝) – A mobile app for digital Recycling
SUTD-MIT INTERNATIONAL DESIGN CENTRE

Description:

HONK! (环宝) is a mobile app that aims to support and sustain Singapore's heritage recycling economy, traditionally known as the karung guni trade, in order to simultaneously increase the domestic recycling rate and improve economic opportunities for small-scale, mostly elderly recycling entrepreneurs. Around 90% of Singapore's domestic recycled waste is collected by informal karung guni, not government-contracted public waste collectors (PWCs). Yet many still believe the karung guni is a 'vanishing trade' that will be unable to keep up with rising transport costs and emerging technologies. We designed and built HONK! to challenge the

assumption that traditional trades and technological futures can't be put together. Karung guni travel block to block, honking their iconic hand-held horn to notify residents of their presence. Our mobile app HONK!, utilizes cellular network technology with GPS to allow households and karung guni to connect and initiate trades in the 'data cloud'.

Project: Residential Audit with Nee Soon Spring CC

GAMBAS COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT WELFARE FUND COMMUNITY, REPUBLIC POLYTECHNIC: SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING - DIPLOMA IN GREEN BUILDING ENERGY MANAGEMENT (NOW KNOWN AS DIPLOMA IN SUSTAINABLE BUILT ENVIRONMENT), REPUBLIC POLYTECHNIC: SCHOOL OF MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION - DIPLOMA IN SOCIAL ENTERPRISE MANAGEMENT (NOW KNOWN AS DIPLOMA IN BUSINESS)

Description:

This community project was a collaboration between the Gambas Community Development Welfare Fund Community, and Republic Polytechnic's School of Engineering (SEG) and School of Management and Communication (SMC). The student final-year project aimed to help 15 lower income families in Canberra save on their monthly utility bills in energy and water consumption through an energy audit and water-saving tips. A total of 40 students comprising 9 project teams from the Diploma in Green Building Energy Management (now known as Diploma in Sustainable Built Environment) as well as 1 project team from the Diploma in Social Enterprise Management (now known as Diploma in Business) participated in this meaningful initiative from April to July 2019. Students from SEG worked on the technical aspect of the audit while students from SMC worked on the social aspect of the project by reaching out to the residents effectively. The experience yielded positive learning outcomes for our students, allowing them to make a difference to the community by applying their engineering knowledge and skillsets acquired in school.

Project: Reduce @ North West

North west community development council

Description:

Launched by the North West Community Development Council (CDC) in 2011, **Reduce @ North West** aims to inculcate resource conservation habits within the community and help needy families defray their utility bills.

Student volunteers are trained as green advocates to spread tips on reduction in energy and water consumption; and food wastage through house visits. Apart from resource conservation, a social cause is also included. For each household that participates in the programme's six-month energy and water audit challenge, \$10 will be donated to help needy families through the North West Utilities Assistance Scheme.

As at December 2019, close to 20,000 households have pledged their commitment to conserve resources. This translated to at least 257,933 kWh of energy saved, enough to power up close to 1,000 three-room flats for a month.

Project: Team Singapore athlete and sustainability Advocate – Ms Azurah Khalid
Azurah Khalid

Description:

Following a near-death car crash in 1999, Azurah Khalid now 34 years old, made a promise to live life to the fullest in pursuit of her passion – principally high-performance sports and environmentalism. Not only did Azurah represent team Singapore in two sports – women rugby and silat, but she is also a strong advocate of sustainability and equality. Believing all that we enjoy is provided through a sustained cycle, Azurah is motivated by her appreciation of mother nature to initiate conversations pertaining to the importance of conscious living. Thus, in 2014, Azurah decided to step up her pro-environment efforts by launching Wilder – a food & beverage platform that focuses on reducing water and food wastage, composting, and recycling. Through Wilder Azurah challenges the way people view food and their role in ensuring the sustainability of the natural world. She re-invents ways in which people prepare and treat food by putting her own innovative twists on conventional recipes and hacks.

Project: Green Interior Design
CALVIN TAN

Description:

Calvin has uploaded videos on Facebook, to share about how we can save the environment by using the right material or method. For example, using water savings tap, water closet, or energy saving air-conditioning units, set at the right temperature to save electricity, designing the interior space so as to allow natural air ventilation rather than using fan or air-conditioning. The whole idea is to have everyone try to help save the environment and use less energy and ultimately have less carbon footprints.

Project: Building 12, Qplex
LEE CHENG WEE

Description:

Building 12 is a shopping mall nestled in the heart of the massive Qplex commercial development in Shenzhen China. Encircled by a ring of offices, hotel and residential towers, the architecture of Building 12 plays the critical role of a visual respite and communal pulse of the development. The architectural vision is to create a commercially viable communal hot-spot for the Qplex community and surrounding neighborhoods. This project is an experiment to test how we can accommodate both commercial and communal activities, which often quick

to be dismissed as mutually exclusive, in the same design. Instead of slapping on “industry-standard band-aids” for definition of community spaces, a lot of research was done in the locality in an attempt to understand the habits of the community as they go about their daily lives, how they work and what they do after the sun sets etc. This information was then reinterpreted architecturally and spatially into Building 12 and across the entire Qplex development.