

Press Release



Marina Bay Sands pledges \$750,000 to kick start Singapore's Public Art Trust

Integrated resort's early support is part of Sands for Singapore Festival

Singapore (18 July 2014) – Marina Bay Sands has pledged an early and symbolic support for the new Public Art Trust by National Arts Council (NAC), as part of its upcoming Sands for Singapore Festival.

As the first corporate donor for the new Public Art Trust – which will raise the profile of artworks in public spaces – Marina Bay Sands' \$750,000 endorsement is in line with its continuing commitment to raise public art awareness among Singaporeans.

This contribution comes amid the integrated resort's final preparations to celebrate its annual Sands for Singapore Festival, which will run from 1-3 August, with a host of activities to benefit thousands of beneficiaries across the country.

"Marina Bay Sands has always been committed to promoting art literacy and appreciation in Singapore and we are pleased to be the first company to support a meaningful cause like the Public Art Trust. We hope our early support can inspire more corporates to join us and provide local artists a bigger stage to showcase their talent," said George Tanasijevich, Chief Executive Officer and President of Marina Bay Sands.

First unveiled in March, the Public Art Trust is being established to commission, display and promote artworks in public spaces in Singapore. The fund aims to bring art a step closer to Singaporeans and to add character and identity of Singapore's physical landscape. The fund will partner industry patrons and corporations to display art in public spaces, particularly with work done by Singapore artists.

The Public Art Trust also matches Marina Bay Sands' commitment to bring public art closer to Singaporeans. The integrated resort recently unveiled its 11th art installation – *Sky Mirror* by Turner Prize-winner sculptor Anish Kapoor – as part of Marina Bay Sands Art Path. Comprising 11 large-scale art installations, the Art Path is one of the largest art commissions ever completed, providing the public with a unique opportunity to appreciate the unprecedented magnitude of art works in a single property.

"The National Arts Council is delighted to receive Marina Bay Sands' pledge to the Public Art Trust, especially towards an installation at the Jubilee Walk. This is the very first pledge we have received, even before the Trust has been formally established. Such a bold decision

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signals Marina Bay Sands' strong commitment to the arts, and to the intent of encouraging more impactful and meaningful public art in Singapore, creating an increased sense of vibrancy in the city and the heartlands. We encourage more of such donors – both individuals and corporates – to step forward, work with us and enable Singaporeans to encounter more of the arts at their doorstep," said Paul Tan, Deputy CEO of National Arts Council.

In conjunction with Singapore's 50th birthday celebrations (SG50), NAC is also conducting an open call to all Singapore artists, to curate ambitious, imaginative yet meaningful Public Art works for several sites of the Jubilee Walk. To be submitted before 17 August, the three selected proposals will be given a commissioning budget of up to S\$400,000 each to develop, produce and install their artwork. The Jubilee Walk is a walking trail that commemorates SG50. It covers historic locations in the civic district and the Marina Bay area, and incorporates a new pedestrian bridge that will stretch from the Merlion Park to Marina Promenade, in front of the Esplanade Theatres.

Separately, Marina Bay Sands has also received the *Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award 2014* by NAC yesterday. The award celebrates and recognises the support of private corporations and individuals to the arts annually. This is the third consecutive year that the integrated resort has clinched this award for its outstanding work to promote the local art scene over the past year.

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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



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 the Singapore Association for the Deaf (SADeaf), BT Budding Artists Fund, ST School Pocket Money Fund, Association for Persons with Special Needs (APSN), WECARE Community Services and Art Outreach Singapore 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.

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