### **MEDIA ADVISORY**



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## LAUNCH OF LEE KUAN YEW - J.P. MORGAN GRANT FOR NEEDY STUDENTS in SOTA

**Singapore**, **April 5**, **2013** – J.P. Morgan and the School of the Arts Singapore (SOTA) today announced the introduction of the Lee Kuan Yew - J.P. Morgan Grant to support students from low-income families who demonstrate strong artistic achievement and potential.

The Grant, funded by a US\$250,000 donation by J.P. Morgan, will support selected Year 4 and 5 students participating in SOTA's Overseas Service Learning and Global PerspectiveS programmes who require financial assistance. These programmes serve as overseas experiential platforms that provide opportunities for students to engage in artistic development and community service.

Singapore's first independent pre-tertiary arts school, SOTA was established to develop youths talented in the arts, with the vision to groom the next generation of artists, creative professionals and individuals who are passionate about the arts.

"SOTA is very honoured to receive this donation from J.P. Morgan. It serves as an encouragement for our students to rise above their circumstances and to stay motivated in their artistic pursuits, regardless of financial situations. This Grant also demonstrates the healthy partnership between the private and public sectors in supporting arts education, and allowing the arts to flourish on a strong platform," said Ms Lim Geok Cheng, Principal, SOTA.

"We are delighted to establish the Lee Kuan Yew - J.P. Morgan Grant, which will provide students who require financial assistance with the opportunity to further develop their artistic talents and gain international exposure through these programmes," said Philip Lee, Senior Country Officer, J.P. Morgan Singapore. "J.P. Morgan strives to be a catalyst for meaningful, positive and sustainable change within communities in which we operate. We established a presence in Singapore in 1963 and remain committed to investing in and growing our ties with businesses and the community here."

Former Minister Mentor Lee Kuan Yew was Singapore's first Prime Minister and widely regarded as the founding father of modern Singapore. During the three decades in which Mr Lee held office, he championed the focus on education,

which transformed lives and fueled Singapore's development into a dynamic, multicultural and cosmopolitan city with one of the highest living standards in Asia.

"We are privileged to have Mr Lee on J.P. Morgan's International Council and would like to thank him for his invaluable insights and advice over the past 20 years. My fellow Council members and colleagues are great admirers of Mr Lee and we are honoured to have this grant associated with him in recognition of his legacy as a statesman and visionary leader," said Jamie Dimon, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, JPMorgan Chase & Co.

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# About SOTA's Overseas Service-Learning and Global PerspectiveS programmes

The Overseas Service-Learning (OSL) is a semester-long programme culminating in a 14-day international stint in the region. Ten days are set aside for Service-Learning and 4 days for arts immersion. Undertaken by Year 4 students at SOTA, each OSL is run as a total-immersion programme. Students stay with and in the community to better understand the social and cultural context. During OSL, students implement their service projects with the intent of deepening the arts component when they return to the community 8 months later. For the arts immersion component, students will collaborate with arts-based institutions and/or communities to better understand how the arts is situated, applied and managed in the overseas community.

The Global PerspectiveS (GPS) programme is a 16-day stint undertaken by Year 5 students as a CAS (Creativity, Action, Service) activity. Students return to the same community that they have served during OSL. In GPS, students have a better understanding of and commitment to the social cause that they want to focus on. They are expected to deepen the use of arts for service and investigate further the notions of art in, with and for the community.

### **About The School of the Arts, Singapore**

The School of the Arts (SOTA) is Singapore's first national pre-tertiary specialised arts school to offer a 6-year unique integrated arts and academic curriculum for youths aged 13-18 years old.

Under the ambit of the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY), the School offers a dedicated development path for those who have interest and show early talent in the arts, providing a learning environment where both the artistic and academic potential can best be realised.

With a vision to identify and groom future generations of artists and creative professionals, SOTA builds on Singapore's unique strengths, including her multicultural Asian diversity and globally connected networks to synergise talents and resources.

A school of the future, SOTA embraces a holistic educational philosophy that celebrates experimentation, expression and discovery.

#### About JPMorgan Chase & Co.

JPMorgan Chase & Co. (NYSE: JPM) is a leading global financial services firm with assets of \$2.4 trillion and operations worldwide. The firm is a leader in investment banking, financial services for consumers and small businesses, commercial banking, financial transaction processing, asset management and private equity. A component of the Dow Jones Industrial Average, JPMorgan Chase & Co. serves millions of consumers in the United States and many of the world's most prominent corporate, institutional and government clients under its J.P. Morgan and Chase brands. Information about JPMorgan Chase & Co. is available at www.jpmorganchase.com.