

**Media Release**  
**Embargoed until 6.00pm 7 October 2021**

## **SEVEN TEACHERS LAUDED FOR INSPIRING LOVE FOR ENGLISH**

**7 October 2021** – This year, seven educators will receive the Inspiring Teacher of English Award (ITEA) for igniting a passion for English, and for honing speaking and writing skills among their students. The award recipients were selected from 119 teachers who were nominated by their colleagues, students and parents. Of the two categories of the ITEA, four teachers will receive the Teaching Award, which recognises teachers who make lessons exciting and relevant to their students, while three teachers will receive the Leadership Award, which recognises the contributions of teacher leaders who have effectively implemented English language programmes in their schools.

2. Now into its 14<sup>th</sup> year, the ITEA has recognised the exemplary contributions of a total of 118 English teachers in Singapore since its inception in 2008. Second Minister for Education and Foreign Affairs, Dr Maliki Osman, who is Guest-of-Honour at this year's virtual awards presentation ceremony, said: "Today, we celebrate seven teachers who exemplify what it means to be an inspiring teacher of English. Not only do they role-model the effective use of English every day, they create environments which are conducive for the practice and usage of standard English in real-world contexts. They employ innovative pedagogies to help our students develop the skills to read with discernment, communicate with empathy, articulate with clarity, and deliver with confidence. Through their own passion for English, they inspire a similar love for the language in the next generation."

3. Mr Jason Leow, Chairman of the Speak Good English Movement, said, "English is a complex language that is constantly evolving. To teach it well, it requires innovation, imagination and grit. It's not an easy mission. The Speak Good English Movement applauds and thanks the award recipients and nominees for their effort."

4. The seven award recipients will each receive a trophy, a certificate, and a cash award of \$2,000. For the full list of award recipients and award categories under the ITEA, please refer to **Annexes A and B** respectively.

### **About the Inspiring Teacher of English Award**

The Inspiring Teacher of English Award acknowledges educators who have been instrumental in igniting a love for the English language and are effective in helping their students speak and write better. These teachers are passionate about making English interesting and relevant, and are innovative in engaging their students in the language learning process. The Award salutes these teachers for their constant efforts to improve themselves in order that their students and schools can benefit.

Presented by the Speak Good English Movement and The Straits Times, with support from the Ministry of Education, the award has recognised a total of 118 Inspiring Teacher of English awardees (as of 2021) since its inception in 2008.

### **About the Speak Good English Movement**

Launched in 2000, the Speak Good English Movement encourages Singaporeans to speak grammatically correct English that is universally understood, with the help of partners who run interesting programmes and develop learning content for the Movement. For more information, visit [www.goodenglish.org.sg](http://www.goodenglish.org.sg).

### **About the Ministry of Education**

The Ministry of Education (MOE) formulates and implements education policies on education structure, curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment. It oversees the management and development of Government-funded schools, and the Institute of Technical Education, polytechnics and universities. More information on the MOE can be found at [www.moe.gov.sg](http://www.moe.gov.sg).

### **About The Straits Times**

The Straits Times, the English-language flagship daily of Singapore Press Holdings, is the most-read newspaper in Singapore and is followed widely in the region for its comprehensive multimedia coverage of local, regional and world news, provided by its correspondents in 12 bureaus in major cities worldwide.

Launched on July 15, 1845, The Straits Times has been moving with the times in its efforts to engage and grow its audience and exploring innovative ways of storytelling, as well as continuously refreshing its products to maintain quality and stay relevant to the changing needs of its readers. Its integrated newsroom operates round-the-clock, providing content as it happens on all platforms, from its website at [www.straitstimes.com](http://www.straitstimes.com), Apple and Android apps to social media.

The Straits Times is a member of two media networks - the Asia News Network and the Impact Journalism Day alliance of newspapers - and it has won multiple international media awards, including from the Society of Publishers in Asia, the World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers (WAN-IFRA), the Pacific Area Newspaper Publishers' Association (Panpa) and Society of News Design.

The Straits Times won Best News Website/ Mobile Service in the 2021 Asian Digital Media Awards, presented by the WAN-IFRA. Its multimedia newsroom and innovative projects projects were also recognised at the 2020 awards, when it clinched a Gold for

Best in Lifestyle, Sports, Entertainment Website or Mobile Services. The Straits Times also won the INMA Global Media Awards in 2020 for its campaign that tailored news on COVID-19 for students.

**ANNEX A**

**RECIPIENTS OF THE INSPIRING TEACHER OF ENGLISH AWARD**

**TEACHING AWARD 2021**

<b>PRIMARY</b>	
<b>NAME</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>
Ms Chern Shihui, Charissa	CHIJ Our Lady of the Nativity
Mrs Juliana Natalia Lee Osman	Edgefield Primary School
<b>SECONDARY</b>	
<b>NAME</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>
Mr Brian Lim	Bukit Panjang Government High School
<b>JUNIOR COLLEGE</b>	
<b>NAME</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>
Mr Desmond Chia Han Chin	National Junior College

**LEADERSHIP AWARD 2021**

<b>PRIMARY</b>	
<b>NAME</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>
Ms Vikneswari Sukumaran	Yuhua Primary School
<b>SECONDARY</b>	
<b>NAME</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>
Ms Yap Ying Hui Andrea	Temasek Secondary School
<b>JUNIOR COLLEGE</b>	
<b>NAME</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>
Mr Lester Ian Lim Choong Siang	Dunman High School

## Annex B

### AWARD CATEGORIES UNDER THE INSPIRING TEACHER OF ENGLISH AWARD

#### 1. Inspiring Teacher of English – Teaching Award

Started in 2008, this award category recognises English teachers in Singapore schools who have:

- exemplified the use of good spoken and written English;
- promoted learning-focused interaction during English lessons; and
- chosen pedagogies appropriate to learners' readiness, interests and learning profiles.

#### 2. Inspiring Teacher of English – Leadership Award

Introduced in 2014, this award category recognises HODs/ Subject Heads/ Level Heads who have:

- communicated a shared vision for quality teaching and learning that reflects a strong understanding of the organisational culture and the learning needs of staff and students;
- planned an English Language/ Literature in English/ General Paper programme based on the requirements of the relevant national syllabuses to meet the readiness, interests and learning profiles of students of the school;
- effectively implemented the school-based instructional programme (including enrichment and/or remedial programmes); and
- developed the teaching competencies of teachers of English so that they are better able to enact their school-based instructional programmes.