

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TAMIL YOUTH FESTIVAL 2023 – CELEBRATING CULTURE, CREATIVITY AND COMMUNITY

The Tamil Language Council (TLC) is pleased to present the third edition of the Tamil Youth Festival (TYF), which will take place from 2 to 10 September 2023. The TYF aims to promote and celebrate the beauty of the Tamil Language and culture among the younger members of the community. This year's festival will feature 10 programmes by 10 partners, as youths come together to promote the Tamil language in Singapore. From traditional performances to modern expressions of art, the festival will be a platform for talents to shine. All programmes presented will target students, youths and young adults below the age of 35.

This year's theme is "Azhagu" (beauty), as the TLC encourages partners to highlight the richness, magnificence, and beauty of the Tamil language. Participants can look forward to a variety of culture and literature-based performances, language-based workshops, competitions, and more programmes. The festival calendar will feature nine in-person programmes and one programme via Zoom.

"We believe that the Tamil Youth Festival is more than just a series of events; it is a gathering of like-minded individuals who share a common passion for our Tamil language. This festival not only celebrates our language but also promotes the creativity and potential of our youth, as they curate and present programmes for their peers. It also underscores their commitment to preserving and promoting our language. We invite everyone especially the youths to join us in celebrating our vibrant culture and language," says Mr S Manogaran, Chairman of the Tamil Language Council.

"As we present the third year of Tamil Youth Festival, we are very happy to witness how the Tamil organisations are stepping forward to create interesting and innovative experiences for our youths and students to participate or lead programmes. The TLC encourages youths to continue playing active roles to celebrate our language, so Tamil can continue to remain relevant and vibrant for generations to come," says Mr Sundar Plavenderraj, Member of the Tamil Language Council.

The TYF continues to be supported by new partners, who deliver programmes to suit different interests and segments in the community. TYF 2023 features two new partners.

One such new partner, is KriyaiD SG, who will present a storytelling and treasure hunt for preschoolers and their parents at the Botanical Gardens. Participants will be introduced to vocabulary featuring nature, insects and colours through the treasure hunt. This programme will allow participants to learn Tamil words, and encourage the use of Tamil at home.

Infonitics Pte Ltd is also a new partner to TYF 2023. They will present an oratorical competition for students and young adults. Participants will be invited to present a speech on the given topics, and this competition will provide an opportunity for the participants to enhance their creativity and oratorical skills.

For details on all programmes during the Tamil Youth Festival 2023, visit the Tamil Language Council's Facebook page at facebook.com/tamillanguagecouncilsinsingapore or follow the TLC's Instagram handle @TamilLangFestival or check out the website at <u>www.tamil.org.sg</u>.

About the Tamil Language Council and the Tamil Youth Festival

The Tamil Language Council (TLC) was formed in 2000 and comprises representatives from the education sector, major community organisations, arts groups and the media. All members are appointed by the Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth.

The Tamil Youth Festival (TYF) was inaugurated in 2021, as a dedicated initiative to encourage the youths in the community to embrace their mother tongue. The TLC's main signature initiative remains the Tamil Language Festival, which has taken place annually since 2007.

Since 2017, the Tamil Language Council has also extended additional funding to support and cultivate capacity building initiatives for the youths and students within the community, in an effort to inspire them to use and develop the Tamil language.