2 Singaporeans named 'philanthropy heroes' by Forbes



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The magazine released its list of 39 names across Asia on Wednesday (July 6). It recognises noteworthy donations in the past year and those with a history of supporting philanthropic causes. Three Singaporeans made the list in 2015 [2], and four were named in 2014 [3].

This year Mr Ng was recognised for setting up the Ng Teng Fong Foundation, named after his father who founded Sino Group in Hong Kong. The foundation, started in 2010, made its biggest donation of S\$125 million to a rebuild hospital in Jurong East.

The foundation has also donated to the education sector, giving S\$33 million last year to fund programmes between six universities in Singapore and China.

Ms Tan, the daughter of Tan Chin Tuan, chairman of Oversea-Chinese Banking Corp, leads her late father's charity. Since 1976, the Tan Chin Tuan Foundation has donated tens of millions of dollars to educational causes, the arts and community programmes. The foundation funds nursing awards and supports creative writing workshops, among other efforts.

The number of Singaporean philanthropists on Forbes' list has decreased this year. In 2015, three were named: Mes Group founder Mohamed Abdul Jaleel; City Developments deputy chairman Kwek Leng Joo; and YTL Singapore executive director Ruth Yeoh.

Four Singaporeans were named in 2014: Ho Bee Land Chairman Chua Thian Poh; Valencia

football club owner Peter Lim; Nippon Paint Singapore founder Goh Cheng Liang; and Professor Saw Swee Hock, an expert on population and statistics.

This year's list also names four Malaysians as philanthropy "heroes". They include Eu Yan Sang Malaysia Chairman Anne Eu, who started a foundation two years ago to help the families of Malaysia Airlines flight 370 crew members. She had discovered that the families of the missing plane's passengers were getting compensated, but not the crew.

Another honouree this year is Mr Wang Jianlin, chairman of Chinese property developer Wanda Group and Asia's richest man, according to some estimates. Mr Wang has pledged 1 billion yuan (\$\$200 million) to help alleviate poverty in southern China. ELDES TRAN

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