



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

NUSS-YST CONCERT RAISES OVER \$\$400,000 FOR NEEDY NUS STUDENTS

The National University of Singapore Society contributes to its alma mater by co-organising the first ever fundraising online concert with NUS Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music

25 November 2021 – The National University of Singapore Society (NUSS) and the NUS Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music (YST) have raised more than S\$400,000 to date with matching grant from the Tote Board, to help needy NUS students.

The amount which was raised as part of a fundraising concert with YST, exceeded the initial target of \$250,000.

The eighth instalment of Beyond The Score: "Simple Gifts and Springs of Transcendence", was webcast on NUSS YouTube channel on 25 November 2021, 7pm to NUSS members and guests for the fundraiser.

Presented by YST students and faculty members Vice Dean Associate Professor Brett Stemple and Principal Conductor Jason Lai, the concert featured an hour-long programme of music by American composer Aaron Copland. A guided listening experience, the concert took guests on a journey across Copland's songs as well as his ballet-score masterpiece *Appalachian Spring*, exploring the musical context as well as video excerpts from Martha Graham's original ballet choreography. Amid global challenges, the concert sought to provide music of solace, celebration and reflection. The amount raised will be channelled towards the NUS Alumni Bursary Endowed Fund, NUSS Golf Section Bursary Endowed Fund and other funds for needy students in NUS.

Said NUSS President Mr Edward S Tay, "We are pleased to serve our alma mater in cultivating the spirit of giving and especially to support needy students. We wish to thank our members and friends of NUSS for their generosity in contributing to this worthy cause."

Assoc Prof Ho Chee Kong, Interim Dean of YST said, "It has been our pleasure working with NUSS on the Beyond the Score series and sharing music through our curated interactive programmes. In this year's event, we are especially delighted to give further support to NUS students, as we continue to give music greater resonance in the community."

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ABOUT THE NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SINGAPORE SOCIETY (NUSS)

NUSS is the latest graduate alumni society of the National University of Singapore, with around 22,000 principal and spouse members mainly from NUS and other accredited universities. Officially established in 1954, NUSS has undergone several revisions in name – the University of Malaya Society (1954), the University of Singapore Society (1962) and finally The National University of Singapore Society (1981). In promoting the interests of its members and NUS, NUSS continually fosters a lifelong relationship with NUS and the wider graduate community.

With an extensive network of graduates frequenting its three Guild Houses in Kent Ridge, Suntec City and Mandalay Road, NUSS endeavours to provide its members with a vast network of opportunities with fellow graduates and professionals, as well as premium social, recreational and dining facilities. For more information on NUSS, please visit www.nuss.org.sg.

ABOUT THE YONG SIEW TOH CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC (YST)

Inspirational life-affirming music-making is at the heart of who we are and what we do at the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, National University of Singapore. Centred in one of the world's most dynamic countries, we believe we are uniquely placed to offer a distinct, powerful contemporary Asian voice.

Founded in 2003, YST has quickly established its reputation in Asia and the world. Keenly focused on nurturing identity as a driver for excellence, we are primarily an undergraduate institution, offering full financial support for all our 220 BMus students with support from the Yong Loo Lin Trust and other donors. Alongside our BMus programmes in instrumental performance, voice, composition and Audio Arts & Sciences, our majors in Music & Society and Music, Collaboration & Production offer ever-more ways to engage aspirant professional musicians. Further, our Second Majors, NUS-facing Minor and modules, graduate offerings, and our continuing education and Young Artist programmes open up additional avenues for musical engagement.

We host a vibrant performance calendar with around 200 concerts annually, featuring students and faculty alongside international artists and ensembles. Our community engagement and professional integration programme has extensive local, regional and global reach. Students are supported to find their own artistic pathways through exchanges, festivals, competitions and projects. More broadly, our international networks and partnerships further enhance the educational experience and ensure our continued evolution.

For more information on YST, please visit www.ystmusic.nus.edu.sg.