WELCOME ADDRESS BY NUSS PRESIDENT, MR EDWARD S TAY AT BEYOND THE SCORE: NUSS-YST FUNDRAISING ONLINE CONCERT SIMPLE GIFTS AND SPRINGS OF TRANSCEDENCE

25 NOVEMBER 2021, THURSDAY, 7PM

Good evening

President National University of Singapore Professor Tan Eng Chye

Vice Dean of Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music, National University of Singapore, **Associate Professor Brett Stemple**

Chairperson of the Organising Committee, Beyond The Score, Mr Eugene Tan

Distinguished guests

Fellow members

A very warm welcome to you to our first online webcast of Beyond the Score, an annual collaboration between the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music and the National University of Singapore Society.

This is the eighth annual concert jointly held by the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music and the National University of Singapore Society. This concert marks two firsts. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the concert has to be held online. This is also the first time that the concert is held as a fundraising event.

The NUS Alumni Bursary Fund (ABF) was launched in 2013 with seed funding by National University of Singapore Society, who had pledged to donate to the ABF a sum of up to \$250,000 per annum since that year. In addition to our seed funding, NUSS has also supported other fundraising efforts towards the ABF. Also, with the support of other NUS alumni groups, the ABF now stands at around \$23 million.

Our NUSS Golf Section also raised a sum of about \$525,000 in 2015 to set up the NUSS Golf Section Bursary. To date, this bursary fund stands in excess of \$750,000.

I am pleased to announce that we have raised over \$400,000 in total with a matching grant from the Tote Board for some of the amount raised. This amount far exceeded our initial target of \$250,000. Thank you for your unwavering support towards this meaningful cause.

I would like to thank our generous members and friends of NUSS who have donated towards this cause of helping the needy students in NUS.

I would also like to express my thanks to the following donors:

Mr Tan Choon Huat for his \$50,000 donation and the following NUSS members for their \$25,000 donations:

- Prof Tan Tin Wee
- Mr Tan Teik Chin
- Mr Yeo Keng Joon

By way of their donations, the following Bursaries have been set up under the Alumni Bursary Fund

- See Meng Hong Bursary
- Tan Meng Chuan & Soh Nyet Sim Bursary
- NUSGlobal Biotech Singapore Bursary; and
- Malaysian Community Khoo Beng Hwa Bursary

Also, I wish to thank Mr Eugene Tan, Chairperson of the Alumni Development Sub-Committee and the Chairperson of this online concert Organising Committee, along with his team for their effort in organizing this event.

I also wish to thank the NUS Alumni Student Advancement Committee, NUS Office of Alumni Relations and NUS Development Office and Mr Yeo Keng Joon for his unrelenting support in driving this effort.

Lastly, I wish to thank Assoc Prof Brett Stemple, Vice Dean of YST and its faculty and students for this collaboration and bringing music into our homes.

I'm sure all of us will have a delightful experience immersing in the lilting tunes from the wonderfully gifted talents from YST, accompanied by the sumptuous dinner prepared by NUSS Chefs.

I hope that in the near future, we will be able to resume in-person concerts when restrictions ease, but for now, let's sit back and savour the special programme in store for us.

Wishing you all a pleasant evening!