

Time	Programme
8.20am	Registration
8.50am	All guests to be seated Welcome & housekeeping matters by emcee
9.00am	Arrival of Guest of Honour  Mr David Neo, Acting Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, and Senior Minister of State for Education  Director's Welcome by Assoc Prof Chng Huang Hoon, Director, Chua Thian Poh Community Leadership Centre, NUS
9.05am	Panel Discussion on The Idea of "Home" @SG60 Panellists: Mr David Neo, Ms Chua Weiling, Mr Cheng Tian Wei Moderator: Assoc Prof Chng Huang Hoon
9.50am	CTPCLC Graduation Ceremony for Class of 2025 Group photo with GOH and Special Guests
10.10am	Break
10.20am	Keynote Address "From Kampung to Cloud: Rethinking Home in an Age of Movement and Memory" by Khoo Yi Feng
11.00am	Student Presentation by CTPCLC "Identifying Families' Aftercare Needs in Their Post-Home Ownership Journey" by Mavis Chin & Freddy Ow Yong
11.20am	Student Presentation by RVRC "Negotiating Memory and Modernity: A Stakeholder-Centric Redevelopment of Esplanade Park" by Tio Hazel
11.40am	Student Presentation by CTPCLC "Coming Home Empty: Empty Nesters' Perspectives in Filling Up Their Lives with Art" by Chan Chomel, Shannon Foo, Denise Leong, Angie Lim & Isabel Lui
12.00pm	Student Presentation by NUSC "Nourishing Rough Sleepers in Singapore" by Seek En-Ting Keicia
12.20pm	Lunch Reception @ Level 2, CREATE Tower (for invited guests only)
1.30pm	Thank you and see you again

#### THE IDEA OF "HOME" @SG60

"Home" not only refers to a place of refuge, but also connotes emotional connections and communal identity. With digitalisation, migration, and rapid global change, the concept of "home" has taken on varied meanings for different people. Moreover, with the challenges of an ageing society and experiences of social isolation, how can we at this point in Singapore's history, provide community anchors for individuals most in need, like seniors, youths, migrants, guest workers, or people on the fringe?

This is a milestone year for Singapore – we are celebrating SG60 with the theme "Building Our Singapore Together". This panel will kick off CTPCLC's Symposium 2025 with thought-provoking discussions on what being "at home" entails in today's complex world, how home is experienced, and the individual roles we (can) play in creating a sense of place and belonging in Singapore, so that we can move together to continue to build Singapore and to reinforce the strengths we have in our community.





GUEST OF HONOUR

## **David Neo**Acting Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, and Senior Minister of State for

Education

Mr David Neo was appointed Ag Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, and Senior Minister of State for Education on 23 May 2025.

As the Ag Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, he chairs the National Integration Council, the Singapore Cares Steering Committee, the National Youth Council, and the National Steering Committee on Racial and Religious Harmony, driving efforts to build a caring, cohesive and confident society in Singapore.

At the Ministry of Education, he focuses on the development of our students beyond the classroom, to provide them with a balanced and well-rounded education, and develop them to their full potential as lifelong learners and good citizens.

Before taking office, Mr Neo served for almost 30 years in public service, and was Deputy Secretary (Technology) in MINDEF, founding Group Chief of the Silver Generation Office, and was the first Commando Officer to be appointed as Chief of Army.

Mr Neo obtained a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering (Honours), Bachelor of Arts (Distinction) from University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign and a Masters in Operations Research from Stanford University. He was also awarded the Lee Kuan Yew Postgraduate Scholarship and holds a Masters of Business Administration from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he graduated as a Sloan Fellow.



SPECIAL GUEST

#### **Chua Weiling**

Chief Executive Officer, One Hill Capital Pte Ltd and Director of Philanthropy, Chua Foundation Ms Chua Weiling is CEO of One Hill Capital, a single-family office headquartered in Singapore. She was instrumental in establishing the office and shaping its strategic investment and operational plans, introducing governance frameworks for family and investment activities, while overseeing portfolio construction, asset allocation, next-generation education, partnerships and operations.

A third-generation philanthropist, Weiling played a key role in founding the Chua Foundation, which focuses on impact giving in the disability and eldercare sectors. Committed to enabling persons with disabilities and seniors live dignified lives, the Foundation supports capacity-building initiatives and strategic programme funding. Weiling also established an endowment fund and governance structure to ensure accountability, driving lasting change.

Weiling has contributed her expertise as a member of IBF's Private Banking and Family Office Workgroup, driving best practices to strengthen capability building in Singapore's family office sector. She also served on the Board of Trustees for the Friends of the University of Warwick Trust, where she contributed to pioneering an endowment fund that enables underprivileged Singaporeans to pursue overseas education.

As an engaged mother of two spirited children, Weiling emphasizes legacy giving and family history, instilling values of gratitude, responsibility, and community impact in their upbringing.

Weiling holds an MA in Economics and MSc in Hotel Industry Studies from New York University, in addition to a BSc in Economics from the University of Warwick.



Chng Huang Hoon
Director,
Chua Thian Poh Community
Leadership Centre, NUS

Dr Chng Huang Hoon is an Associate Professor (Department of English, Linguistics and Theatre Studies) at the National University of Singapore (NUS). She has degrees in Linguistics (PhD, University of Texas at Austin) and Philosophy (B.A. Honours, NUS).

She has held several academic leadership positions in NUS, including Associate Provost (Undergraduate Education, 2012-2020), Director of the Centre for the Development of Teaching and Learning (2008-2012), Assistant Dean (External Relations, FASS, 2004-2008), Deputy Director (American Studies Centre, 1998-2000). She currently serves as the Director of the Chua Thian Poh Community Leadership Centre at NUS (2019-present).

She has served on the Board of Directors of the International Society for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (ISSOTL) since 2018, first serving as Regional Vice President for Asia Pacific (2018-2019) and then on the Presidential team (2019-2022). She has established a related education network in Asia called SoTL-Asia.

She divides her time between academic administration and teaching, and has resumed teaching undergraduate students from 2021. She currently teaches two Senior Seminars on leadership and on generosity at Residential College 4, University Town, National University of Singapore.



PANELLIST

Cheng Tian Wei
Strategy and Transformation,
Allkin Singapore
CTPCLC Alumnus (Class of
2024)

Mr Cheng Tian Wei graduated with a B.Soc.Sci (Hons) (Polsci) (Highest Distinction) from the NUS Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences and a Minor degree in Community Development and Leadership from the NUS Chua Thian Poh Community Leadership Centre.

He currently works in Community Development under Strategy and Transformation at Allkin Singapore. Previously he worked in Strategic Planning (Strategy Branch) at the Ministry of Social and Family Development.

Tian Wei was a member of the Ministry of Manpower's Alliance-for-Action (Low Wage Workers) and has volunteered extensively with low-income enclaves and youth development programmes over the past 8 years. He was previously a co-editor of Beneath the Rug, a publication featuring 30 stories exploring Singapore's wider unseen social sector.



#### to Class of 2025

#### Certificate in Community Development & Leadership

Ho Jun Ern, Isaac

NUS Business School, BBA (Hons)

Singaravelan Nanddika

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Sociology (Hons)

#### Minor Degree in Community Development & Leadership

Angie Lim Tze Yii

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Social Work (Hons)

Cameron Tan Shi Ern

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Social Work (Hons)

Chan Chomel

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Sociology (Hons)

Chin Jun Qi, Mavis

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Economics (Hons)

Danielle Ngin Wan Fen

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Social Work (Hons)

Denise Leong En Hui

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Social Work (Hons)

Fabian Fu Cehao

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Psychology (Hons)



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#### Minor Degree in Community Development & Leadership

Freddy Ow Yong Zhi Long

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Social Work (Hons)

**Hubert Quek Tong Xuan** 

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Global Studies (Hons)

Jessy Kee

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Psychology (Hons)

Kok Ying Xin

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Sociology (Hons)

Laura Poh

College of Design & Engineering, Architecture (Hons)

Lui Yisha Isabel

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Social Work (Hons)

Muhammad Syahmi Bin Senin

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Social Work (Hons)

Ong Sze Jean

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Social Work (Hons)

Ong Zai Sheng Bryan

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Social Work (Hons)

Ting Mei Ting

Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Psychology (Hons)



#### Valedictorian, Class of 2025

To our professors - thank you for guiding us, challenging us, and believing in our potential. To our friends and classmates - thank you for your camaraderie, your laughter, and for pulling each other through the tough times. To our families - thank you for being our anchors, our safe harbours, and our unwavering cheerleaders. Finally, to everyone who has been part of this journey - thank you for making this home.

As we leave here today, my wish for us is that we carry the spirit of 'home' into every space we enter - whether in Singapore or beyond. Let us be the ones who welcome, who support, and who build communities where others feel they belong. Because if there's one thing we have learned, it is that home isn't just where we live; it is what we create together.

Congratulations, Class of 2025. May we go out and make the world a little more like home for everyone we meet along the way. 99



#### Keynote Speaker

## "From Kampung to Cloud: Rethinking Home in an Age of Movement and Memory"

Are we in Ho(m)tel Singapore? Are we a home divided? As Singapore celebrates its 60th year, as a proud CTPCLC alumnus, let us rethink what belonging feels like today. Drawing on experiences running campus projects to driving national-level policy work and gaining international exposure, I explore how our idea of home is evolving: from vertical kampungs to digital communities. How might we nurture spaces where people feel safe, seen, and supported? As our communities face complex challenges, how might we approach partnerships in solution-focused ways? What can the graduating class take H.O.M.E., when growing their impact footprint? In this keynote, I blend story, insight, and questions to invite students, educators, and partners to co-create homes – physical or virtual – where spaces (just might) become places.

## Identifying Families' Aftercare Needs in Their Post-Home Ownership Journey

This research examines the aftercare needs of low-income families who have undergone the Keystart Home Ownership Programme launched by South Central Community Family Service Centre (SCCFSC). Data was drawn from semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions.

4 key themes that emerged from the data - Improved Quality of life, Need for Sustaining Housing Stability/Maintenance Support, Importance of Sustained Post-Programme Communication and Disruptions to Informal Social Networks & Formal Services. Based on these key themes, the students recommend a three-phase aftercare model to support participants' financial literacy, home maintenance skills, and social connectedness.

Project Supervisor: Dr Kevin S.Y. Tan

Mavis is a recent Economics graduate who discovered the Community Development & Leadership Minor in her third-last semester—a decision she considers one of her best, thanks to a friend's timely recommendation. Volunteering with diverse communities, including residents, justice-involved individuals, and youth, keeps Mavis grounded and brings her deep meaning. Off-duty, you'll often find her at Ya Kun with loved ones, or happily humbled by nature—reminding her that there's more to life than spreadsheets and theories.



Chin Jun Qi Mavis
Faculty of Arts & Social
Sciences, 2025



Freddy Ow Yong Zhi Long
Faculty of Arts & Social
Sciences, 2025

Freddy Ow Yong is a Social Work graduate from NUS with a Minor in Community Development and Leadership at Chua Thian Poh Community Leadership Centre. He works as a Social Worker at a Family Service Centre, focusing on casework and community engagement. Having been supported by many mentors and communities, he hopes to pay it forward—one person at a time. In his free time, Freddy enjoys trekking remote trails, climbing volcanoes, and travelling the world.

# Negotiating Memory and Modernity: A Stakeholder-Centric Redevelopment of Esplanade Park

This project examines the ongoing urban tension between heritage preservation and modern development, using Singapore's Padang and Esplanade Park as focal points. Drawing on a multi-layered historical analysis and recent legislative recognition of the Padang's national and potential UNESCO status, the study highlights the need to balance commemorative legacy with evolving civic identity.

A stakeholder-driven, collaborative placemaking approach guided the redevelopment proposal for Esplanade Park, integrating site history, context, and urban redevelopment needs. By incorporating interactive installations and curated cultural experiences, the project aims to revitalize Esplanade Park, fostering a renewed sense of place and identity. This approach demonstrates how collaborative placemaking can harmoniously integrate memory and modernity for future urban generations.

Project Supervisor: Assoc Prof Sadaf Ansari



**Tio Hazel**Faculty of Science,
2026

Hazel is a Year 4 student majoring in Data Science and Analytics at NUS. Throughout her university journey, and at Ridge View Residential College (RVRC), she has developed a strong appreciation for interdisciplinary thinking and for uncovering the human stories behind data. Her presentation is the result of a collaborative effort with Tang Haiyi (Business '27) and Zhou Hong (Engineering '26) from the course RVSS1000: Exploring Sense of Place. While none of them had prior experience in placemaking, they leveraged their diverse backgrounds to develop ideas that balance heritage, functionality, and community experience.

## Coming Home Empty: Empty Nesters' Perspectives in Filling Up Their Lives with Art

This study examines the expected and/or lived experiences of female empty nesters in Singapore and explores how art-based initiatives can support their journey. Partnering with Mama on Palette (MoP), a community that supports mothers in artistic expression, this research seeks to shed light on local literature that still requires much development about Empty Nester Syndrome (ENS).

Using a qualitative approach, semi-structured interviews were conducted with eight mothers, where key themes such as spousal relationships, phases of transition, and self-fulfilment were revealed. These findings highlight how MoP has fostered community and empowerment, along with how the organisation can further develop its structures to support future and current empty nest participants. Recommendations include buddy systems, bonding programmes, and regular collaborative projects. Overall, this study contributes to understanding ENS in Singapore and underscores the role of artistic engagement in fostering well-being and resilience.

**Project Supervisor: Ms Kuah Ting Ting** 

Chomel is an NUS graduate with degree in Sociology. She is currently working at the Ministry of Digital Development and Information (MDDI) as a research officer, focusing on media-related issues such as media literacy and misinformation. During her time in university, she was particularly interested in exploring how everyday life is shaped by broader social forces such as gender, migration, and bureaucratic processes. Outside of work, Chomel enjoys experimenting with new hobbies such as baking and silversmithing.



Chan Chomel Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, 2025



Shannon Foo Shao Wei School of Business, 2026

Shannon is an undergraduate at NUS School of Business, majoring in Marketing, with a passion for community development and entrepreneurship. She pursues a Minor Degree in Community Development & Leadership and previously led the Start-up Development division within the NUS Entrepreneurship Society, where she oversaw the planning of a start-up hackathon. Beyond school, Shannon is a freelance marketer, helping brands grow through various forms of digital marketing. She enjoys connecting with people, exploring new ideas, and finding ways to create positive impact in her community.

Denise is a recent graduate from NUS with a degree in Social Work and a Minor in Community Development and Leadership. Whilst studying, she freelanced in marketing, helping numerous brands create engaging content. Denise loves giving back to the community too whether it's through initiatives or supporting animal welfare. As someone who love to explore and try new things, she is currently learning French and planning to volunteer with therapy horses. She thrives in purposeful work that connects people and stories and always open to new experiences and growth.



Denise Leong En Hui Faculty of Arts & Social Sciences, 2025



Angie Lim Tze Yii
Faculty of Arts & Social
Sciences, 2025

Angie is a recent NUS Social Work graduate, with a Minor in Psychology and Community Development & Leadership. She enjoys travelling, a passion ignited during her student exchange in the UK, and has recently taken up diving. Angie has started her career as a social worker at a family service centre, where she finds direct client work and risk management both challenging and meaningful. The community-building lessons she gained through CTPCLC will guide her as she navigates the social landscape and grows in her professional journey.

Isabel is a recent NUS graduate, majoring in Social Work with a minor in Community Development and Leadership. She is passionate about female empowerment and supporting ground-up initiatives that champion lesser-known social causes. As part of her CTPCLC project with Mama on Palette, she explored community-based approaches to support female empty nesters. Outside of work, Isabel enjoys travelling to new countries and catching up with her friends over a good meal.



Isabel Lui Yisha
Faculty of Arts & Social
Sciences, 2025

## Nourishing Rough Sleepers in Singapore

This 'Impact Experience' project addresses the critical issue of food insecurity among rough sleepers in Singapore. Guided by a needs assessment conducted directly with the community, the project seeks to establish a sustainable food distribution system in partnership with Homeless Hearts of Singapore (HHOS) and food charities. This collaborative approach aims to provide regular, nutritious meals to rough sleepers — aiming to alleviate their financial burdens and improve their overall physical and mental well-being. The project's key outcome is a replicable food distribution model that directly responds to the community's identified needs.

#### About NUSC's Impact Experience:

The 'Impact Experience Project' (IEx) is a flagship programme in NUS College (NUSC). Students will work in teams to design, plan, and execute an impact-oriented project through Research, Innovation, Service, and creative Expression (RISE). Each team will be supervised by a faculty member and provided with financial resources, connections, and mentorship to undertake their project locally or internationally.

#### Project Supervisor: Dr Nurhidayahti Binte Mohammad Miharja



Seek En-Ting Keicia
Faculty of Arts &
Social Sciences, 2027

Keicia Seek is a third-year Social Work major at NUS College (Class of 2027) who is passionate about building a more inclusive and supportive society. This passion drives her current work as the team lead of the Impact Experience "Nourish to Flourish" project, where she is exploring sustainable solutions to address food insecurity among rough sleepers. Her commitment to serving vulnerable communities also includes leading Ageless Ventures—a final-year Polytechnic project supporting isolated seniors and volunteering at Meet-the-People Sessions (MPS). With aspirations to become a medical social worker, Keicia believes in the importance of meeting the community's most fundamental needs.

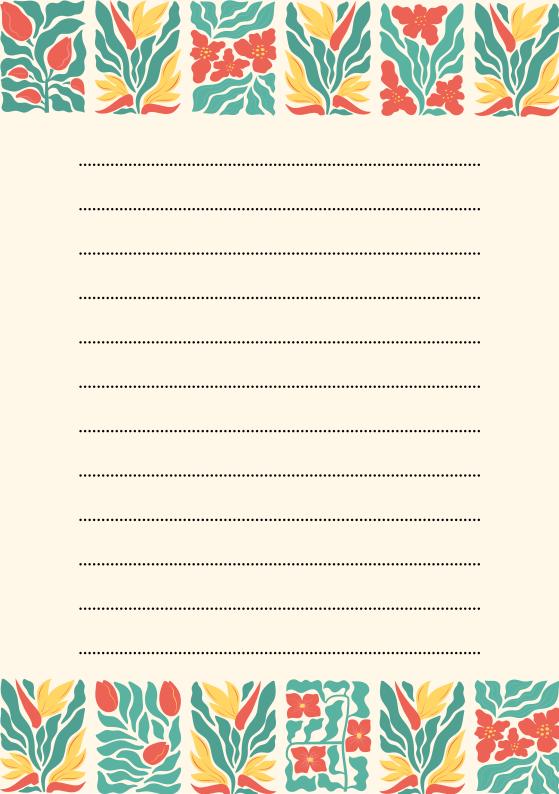
#### **EVENT EMCEE**

Joanne Lee graduated from the Alice Lee Centre for Nursing Studies at the Yong Loo Lin School of Medicine, National University of Singapore (NUS) in 2024. Upon completing her studies, she began her career as a staff nurse at Tan Tock Seng Hospital (Singapore), working in the cardiology and respiratory general ward, where she is the only new staff member. She believes she will benefit greatly from the experienced seniors in the ward.

In addition to her nursing career, Joanne discovered her passion for emceeing after taking on roles at various formal and informal events/functions. She hopes to further develop her skills and one day pursue a professional career as an emcee.

Joanne Lee Hui Min NUS Nursing Class of 2024

Chua Thian Poh Community Leadership Centre started out as an informal programme in Academic Year 2011/2012, and became a Centre in 2017. Our Minor Degree in Community Development and Leadership was launched in 2019 and to date, we have over a thousand students who have accessed our curriculum. We have now graduated 59 Minor Degree graduates and hundreds of Certificate graduates. Most of them work in the social work, social enterprise and community sectors, advocating for a diverse range of communities in Singapore, our home.





The Chua Thian Poh Community Leadership Centre would like to take this opportunity to thank:

Mr David Neo, Ag Minister for Culture, Community and Youth, and Senior Minister of State for Education for gracing our Symposium as the Guestof-Honour and sharing his insights as a panellist

and

Dr Chua Thian Poh and Ms Chua Weiling for their generous support in enabling our students to pursue their interest in Community Development

and special thanks to

Our organisational partners, NUS staff & students, CTPCLC alumni & students, and participants

for your support.



