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Friends
of the Museums
Singapore



Singapore Hosts Major Global Gathering of 49 Museum Delegates from 22 Countries

Singapore, 26 April 2007 – For the first time in 30 years, the World Federation of Friends of Museums (WFFM) General Assembly and Council Meeting will take place in Asia. Held annually in Europe and North and South America since its inauguration in 1975, the international event will see some 49 delegates from 22 countries gather in Singapore from 26 to 29 April 2007 in the name of museum volunteerism. These delegates hail from the far flung corners of the globe - the Americas, Southeast Asia, Australia, Europe and the Middle East.

Hosted by the Friends of the Museums, Singapore (FOM(S)) and supported by the National Heritage Board (NHB), the General Assembly and Council Meeting comprises an intensive four-day programme of council meetings and cultural/heritage tours. Delegates will visit the national museums like the Asian Civilisations Museum, National Museum of Singapore, and Singapore Art Museum as well as the National University of Singapore Museum. Details of the delegates and programme can be found at **Annexes A** and **B** respectively.

Said Mrs. Carla Bossi Comelli, President of the WFFM, “I am very happy that the WFFM has gathered its members in Asia for an Annual Council and General Assembly Meeting. The WFFM’s annual General Assembly and Council Meeting is an opportunity for the lay person, the non-specialist and the ordinary member of the public to share their views and bring about change in our museums. It brings museums closer to the people, and people closer to the museums.”

Mr. Michael Koh, CEO of National Heritage Board, adds “We are happy to host these stalwarts of the heritage cause from around the world. Just recently, we organised the inaugural Patron of Heritage Awards, which celebrates cultural philanthropy at its best. Cultural volunteerism is part and parcel of the social fabric in Western nations. The selection of Singapore as a venue for this global gathering is an endorsement of

our progress in cultural volunteerism. By hosting the General Assembly and Council Meeting, NHB pays tribute to the sterling acts of cultural volunteers worldwide. I look forward to learning from our friends from around the world on how we can better support our museums and preserve and promote our rich heritage.”

The WFFM General Assembly and Council Meeting will provide opportunities for international delegates to network with local museum personnel and volunteers from the NHB museums. It will showcase Singapore’s rich culture and heritage to the world while raising the profile of its national and public museums.

Much has been achieved in the area of museum volunteerism by members of WFFM. Take Dr. Sean B. Murphy for example. Dr. Murphy pioneered the initiative of getting museum guests to draw in the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, blazing the trail for thousands in Canada. His initiative has spread to a country-wide programme encouraging the public to use museums as starting points for their art.

Mrs. Lana der Parthogh is another extraordinary volunteer. Her persistence in developing museum activities in the educational field meant that all school-age children now receive tours of museums to learn their history. Her programme has since been adopted as part of the national school policy in Cyprus.

Nearer to home is Mrs. Julia Oh, Coordinator of the 2007 WFFM General Assembly and Council Meeting. In 2002, she received an award from Singapore’s Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts (MICA) for her 25 years of volunteering at museums. She has volunteered extensively at the National Museum of Singapore and spearheaded numerous projects. These include co-authoring of the Museum’s 1987 publication *19th Century Prints of Singapore* and producing a children’s interactive guide for the 100 Years of the National Museum of Singapore Exhibition. Mrs. Oh was the Singapore delegate to the WFFM from 1999 to 2004, and WFFM Secretary General between 2002 and 2005.

For more information on the delegates and their acts of volunteerism, please refer to **Annex C**.

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About World Federation of Friends of Museums (WFFM)

The WFFM is an international non-profit, non-governmental body comprising some 1.5 million museum volunteers from 35 countries ranging from Argentina and Australia to the USA and Uruguay. Legally constituted in Belgium in 1975 at the second International Congress of Friends of Museums, the WFFM promotes the exchange of ideas and experiences in the conservation of cultural heritage, and actively champions the establishment and development of national federations and associations of Friends of Museums around the world.

About Friends of the Museums, Singapore

Established in 1978, Friends of the Museums, Singapore (FOM(S)) is a non-profit organisation and volunteer support group for the National Heritage Board (NHB) comprising of over 1,000 members. An Associate Member of WFFM, FOM(S) extends the museum experience through the provision of enrichment programmes such as museum tours, children's activities, public lecture series and programmes for students. Members of FOM(S) also benefit from special activities such as tours, study groups and seminars related to the cultural heritage of Asia.

About National Heritage Board

The National Heritage Board (NHB) champions the development of a vibrant and dynamic heritage sector in Singapore. It makes heritage enriching, fun and accessible through the use of world class best practices, state-of-the-art technology and collaborations with partners from the people, private and public sectors. NHB manages the national museums, National Archives of Singapore, two World War II interpretative centres as well as the Heritage Conservation Centre. The Board was formed on 1 August 1993 under the Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts (MICA).

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List of Attendance for WFFM Delegates

	Surname	First Name	Country	Websites if available	Position held in WFFM
	Executive Council/ Council Attendees			www.museumfriends.org	
1	BOSSI-COMELLI	CARLA	Mexico	www.museumfriends.org	WFFM President
2	ANDRESEN	MARIANNE	Norway	www.fadam.org.ar	President, Norwegian Federation of Friends of Museums
3	ARRIETA DE BLAQUIER	NELLY	Argentina	www.fadam.org.ar	WFFM Vice President South America
4	BEN-NATAN	DANNY	Israel	www.imj.org.il	WFFM Treasurer; Vice President for Development and International Relations, The International Council of the Israel Museum
5	BARNUM	JOHN	USA		WFFM Vice President North America; President United States Federation of Friends of Museums
6	DE CHAVES	LILA	Greece		WFFM Secretary General; President, Fédération Hellénique des Amis des Musées
7	DINGLE	MAX	Australia	www.afm.org.au	WFFM Vice President Africa-Asia-Pacific;

					Assistant Director, Australian National Maritime Museum
8	RAINGEARD	JEAN-MICHEL	France	www.amis-musees.fr	WFFM Vice President Europe; President, Fédération Française des Sociétés d'Amis de Musées
	Council Attendees				
9	BUJEAU	CAROL	Canada		WFFM Minutes Secretary
10	CHANDARIA	ARTI	Canada	www.cffm-fcam.ca	WFFM Delegate, Canadian Federation of Friends of Museum, Board Member CFFM
11	DE BARY PEREDA	SUSANA	Argentina	www.fadam.org.ar	President, Argentine Federation of Friends of Museums
12	FORSTER	CAROLYN	Australia	www.affm.org.au	President, Australian Federation of Friends of Museums
13	KING	ROSEMARY	Indonesia	www.heritagejkt.org	President, Indonesian Heritage Society
14	GROTH	GORAN	Sweden		President, Swedish Federation of Friends of Museums
15	MARSH	ROSEMARY	UK		WFFM Immediate Past Vice-President Europe; WFFM Individual Member
16	MOORHEAD	CLARE	USA		Chair, United States

					Federation of Friends of Museums (Small Museums Committee)
17	MAIDELIS	BARBARA	Thailand	www.museumvolunteersbkk.net	President, National Museum Volunteers; Delegate for WFFM Associate Members
18	RÖEDER	GABRIELE	Austria		General Secretary, Friends of the Austrian Gallery Belvedere
19	SACAL CABABIE	ELIAS	Mexico		President, Federación Mexicana de Asociaciones de Amigos de Museos
20	SERVENTY	CAROLINE	Australia		WFFM President of Honour
21	TARNAPOLL	MURRAY	USA		VP United States Federation of Friends of Museums
22	TSENG	MARIE CHRISTINE	Malaysia		Founder Member Museums Volunteers Malaysia, Past President Indonesian Heritage Society
23	WILLIAMS	GEOFFREY	UK	www.bafm.org.uk	Chairman, British Association of Friends of Museums
	Non-Council Attendees				
24	ANAND SOBTI	KAY	Australia		Past President FOM
25	BERTOLDINI VALLE	GIANCARLA	Italy		WFFM Individual

					Member
26	BOZZO	FERDINANDO	Monaco		WFFM Individual Member; Husband of Mrs. Bozzo
27	DE GEER	JOHAN	Sweden		WFFM Individual Member; Member, Swedish Federation of Friends of Museums
28	DE GEER	MARIA	Sweden		WFFM Individual Member; Member, Swedish Federation of Friends of Museums
29	DER PARTHOUGH	LANA	Cyprus		WFFM Individual Member
30	DUNBAR	NORAH	Northern Ireland		WFFM Individual Member
31	DUNBAR	RICHARD	Northern Ireland		WFFM Individual Member
32	FORSTER	RICHARD	Australia		Member, Australian Federation of Friends of Museums; Husband of Mrs. Forster
33	GROTH	CATHARINA	Sweden		Member, Swedish Federation of Friends of Museums; Wife of Mr. Groth
34	KELLOW	CAROLINE	Australia		Co-ordinator, Friends of the Western

					Australian (WA) Museum; Member, Australian Federation of Friends of Museums
35	KUEBLER	ROLF	Switzerland		WFFM Individual Member
36	KUEBLER	CRISTINA	Switzerland		WFFM Individual Member
37	LIMON	PATRICIA	Philippines		WFFM Delegate; Secretariat for Museum Foundation of the Philippines
38	MARSH	ROGER	UK		WFFM Individual Member; Husband of Mrs. Marsh
39	MAWSON	DAVID	UK		WFFM Founding President; WFFM President of Honour
40	MAWSON	MARGARET	UK		WFFM Individual Member; Wife of Mr. Mawson
41	NICHOLSON	JENNIFER	Australia		Council Member, Friends of the Western Australian (WA) Museum; Member, Australian Federation of Friends of Museums
42	ORSINI-ROSENBERG	CATHARINA	Norway		Board Member

					Norwegian Federation of Friends of Museums
43	PINEDA	MARITESS	Philippines	www.museumfoundationph.org	WFFM Delegate; On the Board of Directors of Museum Foundation of the Philippines
44	RUGGERI DE EGERSTROM	NOEMI	Mexico		WFFM Individual Member
45	SERPIERI	GIOGIO	Mexico		WFFM Individual Member
46	TARNAPOLL	JAQUELINE	USA		Member, United States Federation of Friends of Museums; Wife of Mr. Tarnapoll
47	TORELLO VIERA BOZZO	CLAUDIA	Monaco		WFFM Individual Member
48	WILLIAMS	MARIANNE	UK		Member, British Association of Friends of Museums; Wife of Mr. Williams
	Also attending council				
	DALLERY	MARIE CAROLINE	Singapore	www.fomsingapore.com	President, Friends of the Museums (Singapore); Host of Meeting

**WFFM GENERAL ASSEMBLY
AND COUNCIL MEETING**

**Singapore
April 26 – 29, 2007**

**Hosted by the Friends of the Museums (Singapore)
Supported by the National Heritage Board, Singapore**

- Venue for Council Meetings
 - National Museum of Singapore
- Venue for General Assembly
 - Asian Civilisations Museum

Hotel Accommodation:

- Raffles Hotel
- Pan Pacific Hotel
- Carlton Hotel

Registration fees cover:

Transportation from Carlton, Pan Pacific and Raffles Hotels
Entrance and English/Spanish/French speaking guides in all museums
Welcome reception dinner
Dinner hosted by members of the Friends of the Museums (Singapore)
Cocktail receptions
Lunches (not including alcoholic beverages)

Optional Tours: Monday, 30 April – 3 May 2007

Angkor Wat, Cambodia
Borobudur, Central Java
Bali

These tours are organised by Country Holidays Travel Pte Ltd

NB: There are 2 itineraries – one for WFFM Council Members, one for Non-Council Members

Itinerary for Council Members

Wednesday 25 April 2007

Delegates arrive in Singapore.

Thursday 26 April 2007

8.30 - 9.30 am Registration
9.30 am Cultural Heritage Tour of Singapore for Council Members, Individual Members and Companions
1.15 pm Lunch at Tanglin Club
2.30 pm Visit to private art and artifact collection
2.30 - 4.30 pm Executive Committee Meeting, Pan Pacific Hotel
5.15 pm Transfer to Asian Civilisations Museum
5.45 pm Registration for late arrivals
6.00 pm Tours of Asian Civilisations Museum
7.00 - 9.00 pm Welcome reception dinner at the Asian Civilisations Museum
Hosted by the Chairman of the National Heritage Board, Professor Tommy Koh

Friday 27 April 2007

9.00 am Transfer from hotels to National Museum of Singapore
9.30 am Council Meeting, seminar rooms, National Museum of Singapore
11.00 am Coffee break
11.20 am Council Meeting continues
1.00 pm Lunch
2.30 - 5.00 pm Council Meeting continues
7.00 - 8.30 pm Tours and Cocktail reception at the Singapore Art Museum
8.30 - 11.00 pm Dinner at privately hosted parties by members of Friends of the Museums(S)

Saturday 28 April 2007

9.00 am Transfer from hotels to National Museum of Singapore
9.30 am Council Meeting, conference room, National Museum of Singapore
11.00 am Coffee break
11.20 am Council Meeting continues
1.00 pm Lunch
2.30 - 5.00 pm Council Meeting continues
3.30 - 4.00 pm National Museum of Singapore – Highlight Tours
7.00 - 8.30 pm Cocktail reception at National University of Singapore Museum

Sunday 29 April 2007

9.30 am General Assembly at Asian Civilisations Museum
11.15 am Coffee break
11.45 pm General Assembly
1.00 - 2.30 pm Farewell Lunch at Pan Pacific Hotel

Itinerary for Non-Council Members

Wednesday 25 April 2007

Delegates arrive in Singapore.

Thursday 26 April 2007

8.30 - 9.30 am Registration
9.30 am Cultural Heritage Tour of Singapore
1.15 pm Lunch at Tanglin Club
2.30 - 4.00 pm Visit to private art and artifact collection
5.15 pm Transfer to Asian Civilisations Museum
5.45 pm Registration for late arrivals
6.00 pm Tours of Asian Civilisations Museum
7.00 - 9.00 pm Welcome reception dinner at Asian Civilisations Museum.
Hosted by the Chairman of the National Heritage Board, Professor Tommy Koh

Friday 27 April 2007

10.00 am Tour options x 3 choices
East Coast Peranakan culture
World War 2 sites
Chinatown
1.00 pm Lunch at Halia, Botanic Gardens
2.30 Tour of Orchid Garden
7:00 - 8.30 pm Tours and Cocktail reception at the Singapore Art Museum
8.30 - 11.00 pm Dinner at privately hosted parties by members of Friends of the Museums (S)

Saturday 28 April 2007

10:00 am Tour options x 3 choices
Chinese and Indian Temple tour
The Malay Heritage
Singapore Artists' studios
1:00 pm Lunch at Flutes
3.00 - 3.30 pm National Museum of Singapore – Highlight Tours
7:00 - 8.30 pm Cocktail reception at National University of Singapore Museum

Sunday 29 April 2007

9.30 am General Assembly at Asian Civilisations Museum
11.15 am Coffee break
11.45 am -12.45 General Assembly
1.00 -2.30 pm Farewell Lunch Pan Pacific Hotel

Extraordinary Acts of Volunteerism by WFFM Members

Dr. Sean B. Murphy

Friends and Drawing in the Museum – The Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA)
Experience

Dr. Sean B. Murphy pioneered the initiative of drawing in the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts (MMFA), blazing the trail for thousands in Canada. It started out as an enjoyable pastime which Dr. Sean B. Murphy shared with a few Friends of the MMFA, leisurely sketching sculptures and paintings in the galleries of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. The sessions were a hit and Dr. Sean B. Murphy aspired to share the experience with others. He proposed the idea to Guy Cogeval, the Director of the MMFA, and H  l  ne Nadeau, Head of Education, and received their full support. Dr. Sean B. Murphy proceeded to write an article on sketching, which was published in the Museum’s magazine – ‘Collage’, reaching out to 35,000 Friends of the MMFA. Once awareness was established, the Education Department proceeded to develop a more structured programme. Eventually, 10 different sessions of weekly meetings, each with a different theme, were arranged for groups of 15. An artist educator was always present to assist, and drawing materials and chairs provided for. The programme was so successful that more sessions were scheduled. Dr. Sean B. Murphy’s initiative has since spread to a country-wide programme encouraging the public to use museums as starting points for their art. In addition, his initiative has certainly strengthened links between museums and the community.

Mrs. Lana der Parthogh

Education and Volunteers

Mrs. Lana der Parthogh’s persistence in developing museum activities in the educational field has meant that all school-age children now receive tours of museums to learn their history. Her programme has since been adopted as part of the national school policy in Cyprus. Determined to promote museum activities in the educational field, Mrs. Lana der Parthogh strongly asserts that museum educators and teachers should work together on educational programmes, with support from volunteers at any level available. Indeed, as museums as institutions do not always have the resources to offer education for all, societies of Friends have stepped in to offer their assistance. Take for example the Young Friends of the National Museum

of Art in Mexico. In their project, volunteer teachers, working at various children shelters, introduced the children to “museums” through simple activities like drawing and painting. This one project, Mrs. Lana der Parthogh feels, best demonstrates the potential of the museum in an important educational role not usually associated with its image.

Mrs. Julia Oh

Children’s Programmes in Singapore Museums

Mrs. Julia Oh is the Coordinator of the 2007 WFFM General Assembly and Council Meeting. In 2002, she received an award from Singapore’s Ministry of Information, Communications and the Arts (MICA) for her 25 years of volunteering at museums. She has volunteered extensively at the National Museum of Singapore and spearheaded numerous projects. These include the co-authoring of the Museum’s 1987 publication – *19th Century Prints of Singapore* and producing a children’s interactive guide for the 100 Years of the National Museum of Singapore Exhibition. In addition, she was the Singapore delegate to the WFFM from 1999 to 2004, and WFFM Secretary General between 2002 and 2005. Over the years, Mrs. Julia Oh has played an instrumental role in the execution of many children’s programmes at Singapore museums. In 1985, a dedicated children’s area – “Children’s Discovery Room”, later renamed the Children’s Discovery Gallery (CDG), was set up at the National Museum of Singapore. Besides CDG, trained FOM(S) docents conducted school tours for primary and secondary schools in support of their school curriculum. At the Singapore Art Museum, FOM(S) and other volunteers also helped conduct art workshops and interactive activities for children and families in the Art Education Galleries. Similarly, at the Asian Civilisations Museum, FOM(S) volunteers helped out in special activities for schools and families at the education centre, ACESPACE. More importantly, all Singaporean primary and secondary students visit the museums at least once each year, and many have benefitted from the guided activities. With faithful volunteers like Mrs. Julia Oh, FOM(S) and NHB will continue to work closely together to bring the museums to the people.