PRESS RELEASE

The NUSChoir wins ‘Choir of the World’ at the historic Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod

**Singapore, Tuesday, 10 July 2018** — The NUSChoir will be bringing the coveted Pavarotti Trophy to Singapore when they return from their triumphant performance at the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod last weekend.

First staged in 1947 as the ‘International Eisteddfod’, the competition was conceived as means of healing the wounds of the Second World War and to help promote lasting peace through music. In the 71 years since, more than 300,000 competitors from over 100 nationalities have competed in the annual event.

The NUSChoir competed in three categories: ‘Mixed Choirs’, ‘Youth Choirs’ and ‘Open Choirs’ to qualify for the ‘Choir of the World’ competition. Their eclectic repertoire, beautiful harmonies and stagecraft charmed both the audience and the adjudicators in the final contest. Their repertoire from the performance, along with video and photographs are available, below.

This is the first time a choir from Singapore has won the top prize: the Pavarotti Trophy and the title ‘Choir of the World’.

The Pavarotti Trophy was named in honour of famed tenor Luciano Pavarotti and his father Fernando, who were both members of the choir that won the Eisteddfod in 1955.

**Where to see the NUSChoir in Singapore**

The NUSChoir’s next performance in Singapore will be during the NUS Arts Festival.

On 22 September they will perform the triumphant *Ode To Joy* with the NUS Symphony Orchestra and four stunning soloists at the NUS University Cultural Centre.

Tickets for this event will be on sale from next Monday (16 July) via [www.nusartsfestival.com](http://www.nusartsfestival.com)

**Repertoire from the winning performance:**

- When David Heard, by Richard Burchard
- Que Rico E’, by Guido Lopez Gavilan
- Humpty Dumpty Medley, arrangement by Paul Hart
Images and video from the event

- A video of the winning performance is available on the competition website here.
- Photos from the event are available from the event’s Facebook page. Specific images of the NUSChoir have been shortlisted and captioned here.

Quotes

“To be the first Singapore choir to win the most coveted title “Choir of the World” is an achievement that belongs to all the singers and CFA staff. I hope we have done our country proud by showing the world our artistic skill and total commitment to Choral excellence.”

Prof Nelson Kwei (Choral Director & Resident Conductor)

“This experience has been quite a rollercoaster. We felt we didn’t perform at our best during the individual competitions, yet we made it into the Choir of the World stage and sung without regrets.”

“To bring the Pavarotti Trophy to Singapore for the first time is a tremendous honour and I hope it inspires others to sing.”

Samoeul Tan, (President, The NUSChoir)
Year 2, Faculty of Science (Chemistry)

For media enquiries, please contact:

Thomas HARPER
Marketing Communications (Media)
NUS Centre For the Arts
DID: +65 8622 4694
Email: t.harper@nus.edu.sg

WEE Sher Yen
Project Head, Marketing Communications
NUS Centre For the Arts
DID: + 65 6601 7510
Email: sheryenwee@nus.edu.sg

About the NUSChoir

The NUSChoir is an award-winning youth choir that is committed to promoting excellence in choral music within the NUS community. The choir comprises students and alumni who share a common passion for singing and choral music and was formed in 1980.

Under the baton of Singapore’s premier choral director, Prof Nelson Kwei, the NUSChoir aims to promote choral music excellence, and to bring its music to global audiences by performing in a wide spectrum of events.
Every March, the choir stages its annual major concert, Varsity Voices, performing an extensive repertoire that features choral music from traditional and classic to contemporary and new music. As a youth choir, the NUSChoir has also gained a strong international reputation, having taken part in several international competitions and choral festivals, and having performed in various reputable settings and venues worldwide, garnering a slew of accolades including perfect scores at competitions in Slovakia and Russia.

About NUS Centre For the Arts (CFA)

Established in 1993, NUS Centre For the Arts is a vibrant space for the appreciation of the arts and nurturing of the creative and inquiring spirit. We support student engagement with the arts and the integration of the arts into the life of the University.

CFA includes the NUS Museum, NUS Baba House and a Talent and Development arm that oversees 22 student arts excellence groups. Through our myriad of programmes, practices, exhibitions, workshops and outreach, such as NUS Arts Festival and the ExxonMobil Campus Concerts, we enrich the university experience and contribute to the building of knowledge and transformation of students.

We also manage facilities such as the University Cultural Centre, with its 1700-seat Hall and 425-seat Theatre, and rehearsal spaces in Runme Shaw CFA Studios and University Town.

For more information, visit cfa.nus.edu.sg

About National University of Singapore (NUS)

A leading global university centred in Asia, the National University of Singapore is Singapore’s flagship university, which offers a global approach to education and research, with a focus on Asian perspectives and expertise.

NUS has 17 faculties and schools across three campuses. Its transformative education includes a broad-based curriculum underscored by multidisciplinary courses and cross-faculty enrichment. Over 38,000 students from 100 countries enrich the community with their diverse social and cultural perspectives. NUS also strives to create a supportive and innovative environment to promote creative enterprise within its community.

NUS takes an integrated and multidisciplinary approach to research, working with partners from industry, government and academia, to address crucial and complex issues relevant to Asia and the world. Researchers in NUS’ Schools and Faculties, 30 university-level research institutes and centres, and Research Centres of Excellence cover a wide range of themes including: energy, environmental and urban sustainability; treatment and prevention of diseases common among Asians; active ageing; advanced materials; risk management and resilience of financial systems. The University’s latest research focus is to use data science, operations research and cybersecurity to support Singapore’s Smart Nation initiative.

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