

**Singapore Press Holdings Foundation Limited  
Annual Report  
For Year Ended 31 December 2020**

Singapore Press Holdings Foundation Limited (SPH Foundation) was incorporated on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2003 as a company limited by guarantee. It is registered as a charity and as an Institution of a Public Character (IPC) under the Charities Act.

**Charity Registration Number:** 01682  
**Registration Number (UEN):** 200300910M

**Registered Address:** 1000 Toa Payoh North, News Centre Singapore 318994

**Board of Directors and Officers:**

<b>Directors</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Date of Appointment</b>
1. Dr Lee Boon Yang (Chairman)	Chairman	01.12.2011
2. Mr Ng Yat Chung	CEO	01.08.2017
3. Mr Yatiman Yusof	Singapore High Commissioner to the Republic of Kenya	01.03.2011
4. Dr S Vasoo	Emeritus Professor, NUS	26.06.2015
5. Mr Ang Wee Hiong	Education Consultant	01.10.2016

<b>Officers</b>	<b>Designation</b>	<b>Date of Appointment</b>
1. Ginney Lim	General Manager	03.05.2005
2. Chin Soo Fang*	Deputy General Manager	07.05.2007
3. Khor Siew Kim	Company Secretary	24.04.2003
4. Chay Ai Lin	Company Secretary	27.05.2011

\*Stepped down on 6 April 2021

**Auditor** : KPMG LLP

To view our Governance Evaluation Checklist, please refer to our website [www.sphfoundation.org.sg](http://www.sphfoundation.org.sg)

## **OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of SPH Foundation are:

- to promote lifelong learning in Singapore, particularly efforts to improve proficiency in English and the mother tongue
- to help create a conducive and vibrant environment for creative and literary expression
- to promote community participation in healthy sports and exercise
- to support efforts to protect the environment and all wildlife and conservation;
- to help foster community spirit
- to help provide financial assistance to the poor, needy, disabled and the aged

## **POLICIES**

### Finance & Funding

SPH Foundation is funded by donations from SPH as well as income from investments.

The reserves of the fund comprise its unrestricted funds, from accumulated surplus. As at 31 December 2020, this amounted to \$2,361,268. Being unrestricted funds, these amounts can be used for purposes of the charity including investments and operating expenditure.

The Expendable Endowment Fund of SPH Foundation amounted to \$52,817,332 as at 31 December 2020 and cannot be used for charitable activities without Directors' approval, and hence it is not reserves in accordance with the Charities (Accounts and Annual Report) Regulations 2011.

### Administration & Management

Under a management services agreement between SPH and SPH Foundation, SPH undertakes the day to day administration of SPH Foundation, including financial, investment, public relations and communications, legal and corporate secretarial support, for an annual management services fee of \$40,000. The Foundation has no employee.

For the financial year ended 31 December 2020, no Director received or is entitled to remuneration in any form.

The Foundation has in place a conflict of interest policy that requires, inter alia, that Directors, and any staff and volunteer, declare any interest in contracts of the Foundation or organisations that the Foundation has dealings with, and to abstain from discussion, decision-making and voting on the matter.

The Foundation has no related entity.

Directors' attendance at the Board meetings of the Foundation for the Year 2020 is as set out below:

<b>Name of Director</b>	<b>Board Meeting</b>
Lee Boon Yang (Chairman)	2 out of 2
Ng Yat Chung	2 out of 2
Vasoo Sushilan	2 out of 2
Yatiman Bin Yusof	2 out of 2
Ang Wee Hiong	2 out of 2

The Board noted that Mr Yatiman Yusof has, as at the date of the submission of this report, served on the Board for more than 10 years. Taking into consideration, among other things, his strong contributions and invaluable guidance to the Board and the Foundation, and that he has at all times exercised independent judgment in the best interests of the Company, the Board (save for Mr Yatiman who abstained from deliberation on this matter) agreed unanimously that Mr Yatiman should therefore continue to serve on the Board.

## **REVIEW OF YEAR 2020**

SPH Foundation's activities were severely impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic, resulting in the postponement of many programmes and events due to the restrictions imposed by the authorities. Nevertheless, SPH Foundation still managed to continue with some activities and provide support to the community, especially those affected by the pandemic, in line with its objectives.

Under the pillar of Education, the Reading Corners programme continued to be well-received by students and academic staff. Reading Corners sponsorships were extended to three polytechnics, ten junior colleges, all Institute of Technical Education colleges, Singapore Institute of Management, National University of Singapore, Nanyang Technological University, National Institute of Education, Singapore Institute of Technology and Singapore University of Technology and Design.

In 2020, SPH Foundation gave out the Lim Kim San Memorial Scholarship awards to thirteen deserving full-time undergraduates pursuing language and humanities courses at the local universities. A virtual scholarship award ceremony was also held for the first time and live-streamed via YouTube on 27 July 2020 to recognise and celebrate the achievements of the recipients. To date, SPH Foundation has awarded a total of 134 scholarships to students whose monthly household income is \$5,000 and below.



SPH & SPH Foundation Virtual Scholarship Awards Ceremony, live-streamed via YouTube.

SPH Foundation launched its inaugural photography competition titled “A Sustainable Tomorrow” on 13 July, to provide a platform for the public to showcase their creative talents through photography, while raising awareness on climate change. The Instagram contest attracted over 800 submissions based on the theme of sustainability. The top 3 plus 5 consolation prize winners were announced on 14 October 2020.



Source: Mr Ong Yi Chao  
This photo titled “Harmonious Integration” won Mr Ong Yi Chao the first prize in SPH Foundation's inaugural photography contest.

Since its launch in 2011, the SPH Foundation Arts Fund continued to support the local arts groups through sponsorship and purchase of tickets for the underprivileged in the community. In 2020, many performing arts events were cancelled due to Covid-19 safe distancing concerns. Nevertheless, SPH Foundation Arts Fund sponsored tickets to the online performance HERE COMES KAYA AND ROTI! “Where Are Our Friends?” by The Theatre Practice. The performance was held from 18 to 26 July 2020 and the beneficiaries included Lakeside Family Services, FaithActs and CDAC.

The Special Projects to Understand Nature (SUN) Club programme brings tailor-made nature appreciation projects to students with special needs. Initiated by the National Parks Board, this programme was developed in consultation with teachers from special schools, with the aim of making nature come alive for their students. SPH Foundation is the pioneer sponsor of the SUN Club programme since 2005. This programme was supported with \$10,000 by SPH Foundation. However, the sessions were not conducted in 2020 due to the pandemic, for the safety of the students and in line with the Covid-19 guidelines.

The ‘Kallang River is Living and Loved” (KRILL) programme is a year-long education outreach targeted at primary, secondary and tertiary schools, as well as tertiary institutions such as junior colleges, polytechnics and Institutes of Technical Education (ITEs). This programme was supported with \$5,000 by SPH Foundation. In 2020, both the Assembly Talk and Learning Trail sessions were held virtually due to the pandemic and 4,080 students in ten schools benefitted from them. The schools which participated in this programme included Crest Secondary School, Pasir Ris Secondary School, Shuqun Primary School, Angsana Primary School and Farrer Park Primary School.



Source: Waterways Watch Society  
Waterways Watch Society staff engaging students from Nan Hua Primary School during a virtual Assembly Talk session.

SPH Foundation partnered NGO Terra SG on a nationwide project – National Engagement With Sustainability (N.E.W.S.) – which is a series of initiatives to educate and engage the public on the effects of climate change, and what everyone can do to address the issue. The N.E.W.S Exhibition featuring content curated by The Straits Times climate change team was launched at the Sustainable Singapore Gallery (SSG) on 7 September 2020. The six part series kicked off with “What A Waste!” which highlighted the global impact of waste on the environment and how proper waste management and recycling can help to save the earth. The exhibition was also available online.



Source: The Straits Times, SPH

The SPH Foundation sustainability exhibition was launched at the Sustainable Singapore Gallery at Marina Barrage. The first exhibit, “What A Waste!” featured proper waste management and recycling.

The project also included the Little Eco Prints outreach programme which enabled more than 1,000 children at 20 MY World preschools to learn the importance of conservation through storytelling, fun activities and workshops.



Children from MY World @ Anchorvale Parkview learnt about biodiversity and native inhabitants of wetlands in the Digital Learning Journey to Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve.



Children from MY World @ Anchorvale Parkview made stick puppets from used cartons in an upcycling workshop.

In March 2020, SPH Foundation donated \$100,000 to The Courage Fund to help families and individuals affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Foundation followed up in June with a donation of \$300,000 to Community Chest to provide relief and assistance to those in need amid the pandemic. Of this, 20 social service programmes under Community Chest would receive \$200,000 with the remaining amount going towards the Special Education Financial Assistance Scheme. This annual

charity giving, which usually takes place around August, was brought forward to provide faster relief to the beneficiaries.

In July 2020, SPH Foundation also donated \$50,000 to The Straits Times School Pocket Money Fund to help students from low income families, especially those impacted by Covid-19.

Besides these key sponsorship activities, SPH Foundation continued its mission to help build a community that embraces language enrichment, creativity, diversity, healthy living and sports through its contributions to a diverse range of community events, arts and education projects and charities in 2020, with the pandemic highlighting the importance of its role in supporting the community in its time of need.

### **KEY EVENTS FOR 2020**

July-August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lim Kim San Memorial Scholarship awards virtual presentation ceremony</li><li>• SPH Foundation Photography Competition</li></ul>
September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• SPH Foundation Sustainability Exhibition</li></ul>
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Little Eco Prints preschool outreach programme</li></ul>

### **REVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATE AND EXPLANATION OF ALL MAJOR FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS**

As at 31 December 2020, SPH Foundation's deficit for the year was \$1,715,504. Total investment income amounted to \$1,535,063.

The total expenditure was \$1,417,243, comprising \$70,760 in operating expenses, which included management fees, custodian fees and audit fees; and the remaining \$1,346,482 given out in sponsorships and donations.

### **FUTURE PLANS AND COMMITMENTS**

For the year 2021, SPH Foundation will continue with its contributions to education, sports, the arts and culture, nature and conservation efforts, and charitable causes, as it continues to support those in need amid the pandemic.