



MEDIA RELEASE

CAMPTEEN Finale 2013 – “Step Up”

Youths making the first move to forge friendships beyond their comfort zones

Key Highlights:

- **Launch of ‘*You’ve Got A Friend in Me*’ scrapbook – Youth expressions of inter-racial friendships forged during CampTeen**
- **Commissioning of over 250 multi-racial youths as OnePeople.sg’s “Youth Racial Harmony Ambassadors”**
- **Youth Advocacy – Presentation of Youth Advocacy Plans to promote inter-cultural understanding, forge inter-racial friendships and making a stand against racism online**

More than 230 multi-racial youths from over 30 local and international schools as well as Madrasahs will come together to pen their own stories of inter-racial and inter-religious friendships forged during CampTeen. A youth-led initiative, these stories will be showcased in a scrapbook titled, “*You’ve Got A Friend in Me*” which will be launched at the Finale of CampTeen on Thursday, 21 November 2013 at OnePeople.sg. “*You’ve Got A Friend in Me*” speaks of personal accounts of close cross cultural friendships made by youths stepping out of their comfort zones.

2 Leveraging on the recent landmark study- “Indicators of Racial and Religious Harmony” by OnePeople.sg and Institute of Policy Studies, CampTeen this year calls on youths to take lead in addressing the bottom two indicators – ‘interest in intercultural understanding and close cross cultural friendships’. “Following our study, we feel there

is great opportunity in engaging youths on some of the gaps which they can play an active role. Nurturing cross cultural friendships is an area we feel youths can spearhead as they have a ready opportunity to do this in schools, online and in their social circles. The key to racial harmony is building close friendships across races. Having developed close bonds over the Camp, I am glad these youths are now passing on this message with their personal stories” remarked Mr Zainudin Nordin, Chairman, OnePeople.sg.

3 CampTeen 2013 themed, ‘STEP UP’ will pair up groups of youths from different backgrounds and bring them on a cross cultural exchange which includes visits to heritage and religious institutions such as the Buddha Tooth Relic Temple, Sree Ramar Temple, St. Andrew’s Cathedral, Masjid Sultan Mosque and Armenian Church. Youths would also be visiting the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China to raise awareness on new cultures and sensitivities. International students from National Public School and Chinese International School will also share their perspectives. A special feature of the Camp will be first hand insights to cultural practices in a home setting. Campers will visits homes of Malay Muslim and Peranakan families for a more intimate exposure. Youths will then share aspects of the cultures they have learnt between groups and present this learning at the Finale.

4 This year’s CampTeen sees a significant increase in the number of international students as compared to previous years. The participants came from countries such as Tanzania, USA, Germany, Britain, Thailand, South Korea and Armenia. These youths are eager to learn more about Singapore and share their own cultural practices with their newly made friends. Advocating for the cause of racial harmony, youths will come together to discuss current issues concerning race relations such as promoting cross-cultural understanding, managing online racism and forging inter-racial friendships and be presenting their views at the Finale.

5 The Finale is a culmination of a 4-day (18-21 November) residential “Youth Racial Harmony Ambassadors” Programme organised by OnePeople.sg which initiates leadership and action among our youths in promoting racial harmony and social cohesion.

6 The Finale will highlight experiences from the 4D3N camp, as well as reflections of the CampTeen learning journey. A key feature of the Finale will be the launch of the scrapbook comprising new friendships made. Mr Zainudin Nordin, Chairman OnePeople.sg will grace the event and present certificates to the participants of CampTeen, marking the debut of over 250 multi-racial youths as OnePeople.sg's "Youth Racial Harmony Ambassadors".

7 Vignesh G, an Indian permanent resident studying at NPS International School who has enrolled for the Camp has shared that he once experienced discrimination. "I have encountered racism previously and feel that it needs to be brought to an end." said Vignesh. Being a minority in a multi-cultural society, he wishes to interact with people of other races and understand their cultures. Siti Sarah from Madrasah Al-Ma'arif Al-Islamiah is excited about the Camp adventure. "Attending this Camp helps me broaden my circle of friends and I am really looking forward to the Finale to share this experience" shared Siti.

8 Among the pool of camp facilitators includes 20 OnePeople.sg's Youth Wing Members who are former participants of Camp Teen who have come back to volunteer as co-facilitators. A number of them have been volunteering with OnePeople.sg for more than 3 years.

9 Your journalist and photography/videography crew are cordially invited to cover the CampTeen Finale of OnePeople.sg's CampTeen 2013 on **Thursday, 21 Nov 2013 from 2.30 pm – 5pm at OnePeople.sg.**

10 Please find attached the media advisory, programme for the day and location map for your information. Please contact the following officer to RSVP and for any media enquiries.

Contacts

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CAMPTEEN: YOUTH RACIAL HARMONY AMBASSADORS PROGRAMME 2013 'STEP-UP' FINALE

MEDIA ADVISORY

On behalf of the staff and volunteers from OnePeople.sg, we thank you for your interest in the finale of CampTeen: Youth Racial Harmony Ambassadors Programme 2013. Please take a moment to review these guidelines.

Photography, Filming & Interviewing

We would like to request for all Media representatives to note the following:

- Flash photography and filming will be permitted during the programme.
- Interviews with Mr Zainudin Nordin, Chairman, OnePeople.sg can be requested. It is advised that the interview be conducted during the tea reception at approximately 4.10pm. Please contact Programme Manager, Ms Ng An Li to arrange for interviews. We would appreciate it if requests for interviews could be conveyed in advance to the aforementioned staff.



ONEPEOPLE.SG
CAMPTEEN: YOUTH RACIAL HARMONY AMBASSADORS PROGRAMME 2013
'STEP UP'
FINALE

Date: Thursday, 21 November 2013
Time: 2.30pm-5.00pm
Venue: OnePeople.sg (Hall of Trust)
Dress Code: Smart Casual

Programme

2.15pm	<i>Arrival of Guests</i>
2.30pm	<i>Arrival of Mr Zainudin Nordin, Chairman of OPSG</i>
2.35pm	<i>Opening Performance – Mass Dance by Campers</i>
2.55pm	<i>Speech by Chairman</i>
3.05pm	<i>Launch of “You’ve Got A Friend in Me” –scrapbook comprising stories of intercultural friendships</i>
3.20pm	<i>Presentation of Learning Journey – Cultural and Heritage Explorations</i>
3.35pm	<i>Presentation of Youth Advocacy Ideas</i>
3.50pm	<i>Award of Certificates</i>
4.00pm	<i>CampTeen 2013 Photo Montage</i>
4.10pm	<i>Tea Reception</i>
5.00pm	<i>End</i>

LOCATION MAP

