

ANNEX A

Overview of the President's Challenge Multiculturalism Panel (PCMP)

A new advisory panel under the President's Challenge (PC) Council, the PCMP has been convened to steer and guide initiatives in multicultural arts. The PC Panel will:

- a) **Provide advice on how to advance Singapore's multicultural arts landscape**, including developing and refining ideas to support the arts sector in multicultural work;
- b) **Identify areas of learning, growth and investment for the multicultural arts**;
- c) **Review and endorse PC initiatives** to spur and develop the multicultural arts, including advising on the broad criteria for the application of the MAP Grant.

Panel Members

S/N	Name	Designation	Brief Profile
1	Ms Teoh Zsin Woon	Permanent Secretary, MCCY PCMP Co-Chair	Teoh Zsin Woon is the Permanent Secretary in Singapore's Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth. She previously held similar roles in the Public Service Division and Ministry of National Development, where she focused on public sector transformation, workforce development, and housing issues. With a diverse career spanning multiple government ministries and agencies, Ms Teoh has accumulated extensive experience in various aspects of Singapore's public service, contributing to policy development and implementation across different sectors.
2	Dr Venka Purushothaman	President of LASALLE College of the Arts	Dr Venka Purushothaman has been appointed LASALLE's President in February 2026. A

		PCMP Co-Chair	LASALLE veteran since 2000, he previously held key roles at major cultural institutions including The Esplanade and National Arts Council. He brings over 25 years of arts and education expertise to lead the internationally recognised institution, having witnessed its growth from arts centre to globally ranked institution.
3	Ms Meenakshy Bhaskar	Young Artist Award recipient (1996); Artistic Director, Bhaskar's Arts Academy PCMP Member	Meenakshy Bhaskar is Artistic Director of Bhaskar's Arts Academy, a Major Company recipient since 2000. A 1996 Young Artist Award recipient, she also serves as Principal of the California branch. Founded in 1952 by KP Bhaskar and Santha Bhaskar, BAA creates cross-cultural, multidisciplinary works rooted in traditional Indian dance techniques.
4	Mr Boo Junfeng	President's Challenge Council Member; Young Artist Award recipient (2009); Filmmaker, Creative Director for NDP 2018, 2021 and 2025 PCMP member	Boo Junfeng is a Singaporean filmmaker who wrote and directed feature films SANDCASTLE (2010) and APPRENTICE (2016), plus award-winning shorts. His works humanise large topics like identity, memory and sexuality through personal, intimate narratives. APPRENTICE premiered at Cannes and travelled to over 80 festivals worldwide. He currently chairs Singapore International Film Festival's board.
5	Dr Azhar Ibrahim	Senior Lecturer (Department of Malay	Azhar Ibrahim is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Malay Studies, National University of

		Studies), National University of Singapore PCMP Member	Singapore (NUS), where he teaches Malay-Indonesian literature and ideologies of development. His research interests include sociology of literature, social theology, Islamic thought, critical literacy, and Malay-Indonesian intellectual development.
6	Mr Kok Heng Leun	Cultural Medallion recipient (2022); Theatre director, Playwright, Dramaturg, Educator PCMP Member	Kok Heng Leun is a prominent Singapore theatre director, playwright and Drama Box Co-Artistic Director with over 30 years' experience. Known for community-engaged arts exploring social issues, his notable works include site-specific productions and multi-disciplinary projects. He's received Singapore's highest artistic honour, the Cultural Medallion (2022), and served as Nominated Member of Parliament (2016-2018).
7	Dr Susie Lingham	Artist, Writer, Curator PCMP Member	Dr Susie Lingham is an interdisciplinary writer-artist, art theorist and educator with over twenty years' experience. She holds qualifications from NAFA, University of Western Sydney, NIE/NTU and University of Sussex. Appointed Singapore Art Museum Director in 2013, she previously taught at various international institutions, focusing on bridging audiences and catalysing positive societal change through art.

8	Mr Felix Phang	Musician, Composer and Educator; Founder of Pasat Merdu PCMP Member	Felix Phang is Founder and Managing Director of Pasat Merdu, a non-profit promoting intercultural arts. A jazz composer and bassist with The Straits Ensemble, he's a 2024 National Arts Council Scholar researching intercultural music. His internationally recognised compositions and LASALLE teaching role advance Singapore's music scene.
9	Dr Suriani Suratman	President's Challenge Council Member; Senior Lecturer (Department of Malay Studies) at the National University of Singapore, Ceramic artist PCMP Member	Suriani Suratman is a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Malay Studies, NUS. Her research focuses on gender relations and the issue of (in)equalities in Malay families and households and Malay ethnic identity and the (re)production of portrayals of Malays.
10	Ms Yvonne Tham	CEO, The Esplanade Co. Ltd PCMP Member	Yvonne Tham is CEO of The Esplanade, with extensive arts administration experience including Deputy CEO at National Arts Council (2009-2014) and roles at Ministry of Information, Communications and Arts. She holds degrees from Cambridge University and Sotheby's Institute, and is currently pursuing an M.Phil in American Literature. Her career spans education, government service, and arts leadership.
11	Mr Wang Chenwei	President's Challenge Council Member; Young Artist Award recipient (2023); Composer-in-	Wang Chenwei is Singapore Chinese Orchestra's Composer-in-Residence and adjunct faculty at NIE and NAFA. A University of Music Vienna graduate, his

		residence for Singapore Chinese Orchestra PCMP member	compositions span globally from China to New Zealand. Notable works include commissions for SCO, SSO, and international competitions. Winner of multiple awards including Young Outstanding Singaporeans (2011), he's also a polyglot musician proficient in twelve instruments and languages.
12	Mr Riduan Zalani	Young Artist Award recipient (2015); Co-Founder of Nadi Singapura PCMP Member	Riduan Zalani is a drummer and percussionist who began his artistic journey at age seven. A passionate ambassador of Malay traditional music, he co-founded Nadi Singapura in 2011 with Yaziz Hassan to revitalise Malay drumming traditions. He's received multiple awards including the Goh Chok Tong Promise Award (2006) and Singapore Youth Award (2013) for promoting Malay music globally.