

# **NEWS RELEASE**

## UOB employees and customers unite to raise S\$1 million through UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk

**Singapore, 1 June 2014** – This morning, more than 4,000 UOB employees, their families and customers participated in the annual UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk to raise S\$1 million for Singapore's underprivileged children.

The sum was raised over a period of six weeks and will be donated under the government's Care & Share Movement<sup>1</sup> where donations will be matched dollar-for-dollar by the Government and channeled to Community Chest beneficiaries.

Beneficiaries of the money that UOB and its customers have raised will be the ASPN Katong School, MINDS Towner Gardens School and the Pathlight School. These schools give children with special needs the opportunity to discover and develop their creative talent through education, early skills intervention and rehabilitation through art.

The annual UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk unites members from across UOB's regional network to run or walk for a good cause. In Singapore, participants walked a three kilometre route or ran a 10 kilometre route along the East Coast Park and then enjoyed a family carnival of food and fun.

This year, close to 10,000 UOB customers and employees in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, China and Hong Kong ran and walked to raise funds for beneficiaries that provide children with disabilities access to art education and therapy in each market.

Mr Wee Ee Cheong, Deputy Chairman and Group Chief Executive Officer, UOB Group who ran in the 10 kilometre route in Singapore said, "Today marks a milestone in the seven-year history of the UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk. Our people and customers across the region have banded together to raise more

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Care & Share is a national fund-raising and volunteerism movement led by Community Chest for the social service sector, as Singapore approaches its 50<sup>th</sup> year of independence in 2015. It aims to show care and concern for the needy and recognise the contributions made by voluntary welfare organisations. The matched amount will go towards building the capabilities and capacities of the social service sector to meet rising social needs.



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than \$1.2 million. My heartfelt thanks to our customers who share our vision and generously opened their hearts to help underprivileged children get involved in the arts. Our run today is about having a healthy heart in every sense of the word."

### About the UOB Heartbeat Run/Walk

In 2007, the Group launched the UOB Heartbeat Employee Volunteer Programme as a way to raise funds for local beneficiaries operating specifically in the areas of arts, children and education. Over the years, UOB has donated more than \$4 million in Singapore to beneficiaries operating in these areas. The UOB Heartbeat event was expanded to include employees in Malaysia in 2008, Indonesia in 2010, Thailand in 2011, China in 2012 and for this first time this year, Hong Kong.

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### About United Overseas Bank

United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) is a leading bank in Asia with a global network of more than 500 offices in 19 countries and territories in Asia Pacific, Western Europe and North America. Since its incorporation in 1935, UOB has grown organically and through a series of strategic acquisitions. In Asia it operates through its branches and representative offices as well as banking subsidiaries in China, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

UOB plays an active role in the community, focusing on the arts, education and children. It has, over more than three decades, held the longest-running art competition in Singapore, the UOB Painting of the Year. In recognition of its contributions to the arts, UOB was conferred the National Arts Council's Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award for the ninth consecutive year in 2013. UOB also encourages its employees across the region to be involved in its regular volunteer activities. This includes the annual UOB Heartbeat Run which is held in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and mainland China.

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