



Press Release
25 April 2009

RECOGNISING TALENT | REWARDING EXCELLENCE
World Gourmet Summit Awards of Excellence 2009

Unveiling the New Luminaries of the Food & Beverage Industry

25 April 2009 – Marking its ninth edition, this year's World Gourmet Summit (WGS) Awards of Excellence was held at the Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel. Co-organised by the Singapore Tourism Board (STB) and Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd (PKH), the WGS Awards of Excellence is supported by their primary partner, the Singapore Workforce Development Agency.

A sense of anticipation and high spirits was in the air, as the very best of Singapore's Food & Beverage (F&B) industry gathered for the announcement of 2009's results. As the Guest of Honour, Member of Parliament for Jalan Besar GRC, Dr. Lee Boon Yang, graced the occasion with his presence.

This year, 21 local awards, 4 regional awards, 4 scholarships and 4 Workforce Skills Qualifications (WSQ) Awards were presented. It was a shining moment for F&B professionals, organizations and institutions. However, the clear Recipients of the day who bagged numerous accolades were Yong Bing Ngen, owner-chef of Majestic Restaurant; maître d' cum chef sommelier of Les Amis Group, Timothy Goh; and Culina Pte Ltd.

Multiple Awards Galore

Once touted by *The New York Times* as 'a star in local kitchens', the talented Chef Yong Bing Ngen swept a grand total of three awards – the Citibank Asian Cuisine Chef of the Year, the most coveted S. Pellegrino Chef of the Year and the WSQ Most Supportive Mentor Culinary Chef. Timothy Goh, who took home the Le Cordon Bleu Restaurant Manager of the Year and Top Wines Sommelier of the Year was the other star of the day. Goh was awarded the Bodegas Torres Wine Scholarship at the 2004 WGS Awards of Excellence; the Awards has indeed tracked his brilliant rise in the local F&B scene. Goh also represented Les Amis in receiving the Georges Deboeuf Old World Wine List of the Year. On the gourmet purveyor front, Culina Pte Ltd cements its status as the gourmet haven for consumers and industry professionals alike, bagging three award namely, Gourmet Retailer of the Year, Wine Retailer of the Year and Gourmet Distributor of the Year.

WGS Hall of Fame

2009 sees the debut of the Hall of Fame. Only those who have been granted an award in the same category at least thrice are inducted into it. The pioneers who have the honour of being placed in the Hall of Fame include culinary stalwarts Chef Justin Quek and Chef Sam Leong, pastry extraordinaire Gottfried Schuetzenberger, the elegant Les Amis restaurant and one of Asia's foremost culinary schools - Shatec Institutes.

Singapore Dazzles in Regional Awards Category

In the Regional category, Singapore did proud in 3 of the 4 categories. Restaurateur of the Year went to Roberto Galetti of the Garibaldi Group of Restaurants, Li Bai Cantonese Restaurant (Sheraton Towers Singapore) earned the title of Asian Restaurant of the Year and Chef Sam Leong of Tung Lok Group of Restaurants (Singapore) was named the Asian Chef of the Year. The final award – Electrolux Culinary Institute of the Year went to Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Hong Kong).

Workforce Skills Qualifications (WSQ) Awards

Budding talents from various establishments were recognised by the World Gourmet Summit Awards of Excellence Scholarships. Promoting the importance of continuing education and training, the Workforce Skills Qualifications Awards gave kudos to mentor chefs and apprentices.

“I cannot stress more that the demand for skilled F&B professionals is at its peak. Now, more than ever, this industry requires passionate, driven and competent individuals to spearhead its advancement and I am positive that new benchmarks of excellence will be set during this time of increased competition among industry players,” said Peter A. Knipp, Chief Executive Officer of Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd.

| World Gourmet Summit Awards of Excellence 2009 - Recipients (Singapore Category) | |
|---|--|
| S. Pellegrino Chef of the Year | Yong Bing Ngen, Majestic Restaurant, New Majestic Hotel |
| Executive Chef of the Year presented by Tabasco | Eric Teo, Mandarin Oriental, Singapore |
| Meat & Livestock Australia Rising Chef of the Year | André Chiang, Jaan, Level 70, Swissôtel The Stamford Singapore |
| PCB Pastry Chef of the Year | Pang Kok Keong, Canelé Pâtisserie Chocolaterie |
| Citibank Asian Chef of the Year | Yong Bing Ngen, Majestic Restaurant, New Majestic Hotel |
| Indoguna Restaurant of the Year | Garibaldi Italian Restaurant & Bar |
| Luzerne Asian Restaurant of the Year | My Humble House, Tung Lok Group of Restaurants |
| Classic Fine Foods New Restaurant of the Year | Gunther's |
| Le Cordon Bleu Restaurant Manager of the Year | Timothy Goh, Les Amis |
| HEPP Food & Beverage Manager of the Year | Melinde Lim, Conrad Centennial Singapore |
| Top Wines Sommelier of the Year | Timothy Goh, Les Amis |
| Bar of the Year | Balaclava |
| Georges Duboeuf Old World Wine List of the Year | Les Amis |
| New World Wine List of the Year | mezza9, Grand Hyatt Singapore |
| Gourmet Retailer of the Year | Culina Pte Ltd |
| Gourmet Distributor of the Year | Culina Pte Ltd |
| Wine Retailer of the Year | Culina Pte Ltd |
| Wine Distributor of the Year | Hock Tong Bee Pte Ltd |
| Sico Asia Banquet Manager of the Year | Ricky Ng, Mandarin Oriental, Singapore |
| Outstanding Caterer of the Year | Purple Sage Catering |
| Fonterra Lifetime Achievement Award | Christophe Megel, CEO of At-Sunrice GlobalChef Academy |

| World Gourmet Summit Awards of Excellence 2009 - Recipients (Regional Category) | |
|--|--|
| Restaurateur of the Year | Roberto Galetti, Garibaldi Group (Singapore) |
| Asian Restaurant of the Year | Li Bai Cantonese Restaurant, Sheraton Towers Singapore (Singapore) |
| Asian Chef of the Year | Sam Leong, Tung Lok Group of Restaurants (Singapore) |
| Electrolux Culinary Institution of the Year | The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Hong Kong) |

| World Gourmet Summit Awards of Excellence Scholarships 2009 Recipients | |
|---|--|
| At-Sunrice GlobalChef Academy and Johnson & Wales University Culinary Scholarship | Lua Chang Yung, Gunther's |
| Pierre Hermé Paris Scholarship | Michael Lau, Sarika Connoisseur Café Pte Ltd |
| Bodegas Torres Wine Scholarship | Wong Chek Leng, Singapore Airlines |
| Paul Jaboulet Aîné & Château La Lagune Scholarship | Shireen Sheikh, The White Rabbit |

| Workforce Skills Qualifications Awards 2009 Recipients | |
|---|---|
| WSQ Most Supportive Mentor Culinary Chef | Chef Yong Bing Ngen, Jing / Majestic Restaurant |
| WSQ Most Supportive Mentor Pastry Chef | Chef Jane Chan, Win Sin Pte Ltd |
| WSQ Outstanding Culinary Apprentice | Toh Li Si |
| WSQ Outstanding Pastry Apprentice | Lim Mei Yu |

| Hall of Fame | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Chef of the Year | Justin Quek (2001, 2003, 2004) |
| Asian Ethnic Chef of the Year | Sam Leong (2001, 2002, 2004) |
| Pastry Chef of the Year | Gottfried Schuetzenberger (2004, 2006, 2008) |
| Restaurant of the Year | Les Amis Pte Ltd (2001, 2003, 2008) |
| Sommelier of the Year | Aby Tan (2001, 2002, 2003) |
| Sommelier of the Year | Randy See (2004, 2005, 2006) |
| Wine List of the Year | Les Amis Pte Ltd (2001, 2002, 2003, 2004) |
| Wine List of the Year | Raffles Grill, Raffles Hotel Singapore (2005, 2006, 2007) |
| Culinary Institution of the Year | Shatec Institutes (2001, 2002, 2003, 2004) |

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World Gourmet Summit

www.worldgourmetsummit.com

The World Gourmet Summit (WGS) is jointly organised by the Singapore Tourism Board (STB) and Peter Knipp Holdings (PKH). WGS is an exclusive platform that showcases the vibrancy of Singapore's epicurean culture and lifestyle. WGS highlights the concept of gastro-tourism, positioning Singapore as a world-class culinary destination.

Singapore Tourism Board

www.visitsingapore.com

The Singapore Tourism Board (STB) is an economic development agency for one of Singapore's key service sectors – tourism. The mission of the board is to develop and champion tourism so as to build the sector into a key driver of economic growth for Singapore. The STB aims to differentiate and market Singapore as a must-visit destination, offering enriching experiences through the “Uniquely Singapore” brand.

Citibank Singapore Limited

www.citibank.com.sg

Locally incorporated in Singapore, Citibank Singapore Limited is a distinct market leader in the consumer banking business. In the past few years, Citibank has extended its distribution network to more than 800 touch points to reach out to more Singaporeans and provide them with innovative, value-added products and services. A leading credit card issuer in Singapore, Citibank offers the widest range of credit card propositions and the best-in-class dining privileges through Citibank Gourmet Pleasures, which promises the best deals at over 1,000 locations.

Singapore Workforce Development Agency

www.wda.gov.sg

The Singapore Workforce Development Agency (WDA) enhances the competitiveness of our workforce by encouraging workers to learn for life and advance with skills. In today's economy, most jobs require not just knowledge but also skills. WDA collaborates with employers, industry associations, the union and training organisations, to develop and strengthen the continuing education and training system. This system is skills-based, open and accessible as a mainstream pathway for all workers - young or old, rank and file or executives - to upgrade and advance in their careers and lives.

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE 2009 PRIMARY PARTNER



AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE 2009 PARTNERS



S. Pellegrino Chef of the Year



Citibank
Asian Chef of the Year



Classic Fine Foods

Classic Fine Foods
New Restaurant of the Year



Electrolux
Culinary Institution of the
Year



Fonterra
Lifetime Achievement Award



Georges Duboeuf
Old World Wine List of the Year



Hepp Food & Beverage
Manager of the Year



Indoguna
Restaurant of the Year



Le Cordon Bleu
Restaurant Manager of the Year



Luzerne Asian Restaurant
of the Year



Meat & Livestock Australia
Rising Chef of the Year

N K & Melina Yong

Official Wine Consultants



PCB Pastry Chef
of the Year



Official Trophy
Provider



Sico Asia
Banquet Manager
of the Year



Executive Chef
of the Year
presented by Tabasco



Top Wines
Sommelier
of the Year

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIPS 2009 PARTNERS



At-Sunrice GlobalChef Academy and
Johnson & Wales University Culinary Scholarship



Bodegas Torres Wine Scholarship



Paul Jaboulet Aîné & Château La Lagune Scholarship



Pierre Hermé Paris Scholarship



Official Administrator