



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **SEARCH BEGINS FOR OUTSTANDING F&B AND HOSPITALITY PROFESSIONALS FOR WORLD GOURMET SUMMIT AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE 2016**

**6 November 2015 (SINGAPORE)** – Marking its grand milestone 20<sup>th</sup> year, the World Gourmet Summit 2016 has kicked off with the first phase of the 16<sup>th</sup> Awards of Excellence: voting officially opens on 6 November 2015 to honour the Food and Beverage (F&B) and Hospitality industries' best. Widely regarded as one of the most respected accolades in Singapore and around the region, the Awards of Excellence are presented to 30 established and emerging industry stars through two main voting categories: the People's Choice Awards and Industry Awards.

The People's Choice Awards recognise hardworking F&B and hospitality professionals in Singapore and around the region, who continue to play a pivotal role in the evolution of the F&B and hospitality scene in Asia. The Industry Awards honour individuals and establishments behind the region's F&B landscape, promoting professionalism, exemplary service and innovations leading to better dining experiences in the region.

The evaluation process includes two rounds of voting open to both members of the public and a select panel of F&B professionals and connoisseurs, with Round 2 taking place in December 2015. Finalists are determined at the end of the two rounds; the winner with the highest points is selected; and the results are then submitted to an independent auditor. Winners are announced at the AOE ceremony in April 2016.

The annual Awards of Excellence plays a substantial role in addressing and focusing on capability development and productivity enhancement. In collaboration with the Singapore Tourism Board, past award-winners have been sent overseas as part of cross-exchange programs to expand on their skills and experience, pushing them towards greater excellence.

“The Overseas Development Program opens many doors for these dedicated and hardworking individuals, especially to gain more international exposure, which in turn helps to develop and evolve the epicurean scene here in Singapore and around the region,” said Mr. Peter Knipp, CEO of PKH Pte Ltd, which manages and curates the annual Awards of Excellence and World Gourmet Summit. “It is always such a pleasure to see the growing number of people who aspire to reach the top of their profession and bring Singapore to the forefront as a dining and tourism destination.”

For more information on the Awards of Excellence or to arrange interviews with any of the candidates or winners, contact Karen Heng on [karen@heatbranding.com](mailto:karen@heatbranding.com).

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**About the Awards of Excellence** ([www.wgsawards.com/aoe2016](http://www.wgsawards.com/aoe2016))

Inaugurated in 2001, the World Gourmet Summit Awards of Excellence are accolades that acknowledge the efforts of key players in the food and beverage industry who deliver the best dining experience and products to their guests.

Organised by A La Carte Productions (a division of Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd) and supported by the Singapore Tourism Board (STB), the awards aim to motivate talents in the industry to excel in the culinary profession and promote the appreciation of dining in Singapore, as well as in the region, to the next level.

**About the World Gourmet Summit** ([www.worldgourmetsummit.com](http://www.worldgourmetsummit.com))

The World Gourmet Summit, first launched in 1997, is an international gastronomic festival organised by À La Carte Productions (a division of Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd).

Now, into its grand milestone 20<sup>th</sup> year, this annual epicurean festival continues to showcase the intricate craftsmanship of prestigious chefs and is also an exposition of internationally acclaimed vintners. Encompassing a series of events like the special themed dinners, it is a gourmet feast specially crafted for discerning individuals who appreciate fine wines and gourmet cuisine.

Since 2000, the World Gourmet Summit has been raising funds through its annual Charity Dinners in support of the Community Chest, the fund-raising arm of the National Council of Social Service (NCSS). Over the past decade, World Gourmet Summit has raised over S\$5 million for over 200 social service programmes, through the generosity of its distinguished guests through table sales, charity auctions as well as donations.

## **ORGANISERS**

**About A La Carte Productions**

À La Carte Productions, a division of Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd, is an independently owned events company, which provides events planning, conceptualisation, and execution services. In particular, the annual gastronomic experience, World Gourmet Summit and the Awards of Excellence, the leading and most comprehensive F&B platform in Asia, which recognises and motivates talents to excel in the F&B industry and promotes the appreciation of dining in Singapore and the region.

**About Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd**

Peter Knipp Holdings Pte Ltd (PKH) offers a multi-faceted range of services for the food, beverage (F&B) and hospitality industry. Founded by Peter A Knipp, the multi award-winning company has grown over the years to include four divisions, encompassing various aspects of the F&B and hospitality businesses: À La Carte Productions, an events management firm which provides events planning, conceptualisation and execution services at the annual gastronomic extravaganza World Gourmet Summit, including the Awards of Excellence ([www.wgsawards.com](http://www.wgsawards.com)), World Gourmet Summit ([www.worldgourmetsummit.com](http://www.worldgourmetsummit.com)), Gourmet Abu Dhabi ([www.gourmetabudhabi.ae](http://www.gourmetabudhabi.ae)) and Food2Print, which publishes Cuisine & Wine Asia magazine, newsletter at [www.asiacuisine.com](http://www.asiacuisine.com), weekly e-zines since 1996 and provides marketing communications consultancy services; Foodservice Consultants Singapore Pte Ltd, F&B consultancy and kitchen design ([www.fscs.com.sg](http://www.fscs.com.sg)); and Bytes Asia, IT consultancy.

## **ANNEX A –AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE CATEGORIES**

### **PEOPLE’S CHOICE AWARDS**

1. Chef of the Year
2. Executive Chef of the Year
3. Rising Chef of the Year
4. Asian Cuisine Chef of the Year
5. Asian Cuisine Chef of the Year (Regional)
6. Pastry Chef of the Year
7. Pastry Chef of the Year (Regional)
8. Sommelier of the Year
9. Old World Wine List of the Year
10. New World Wine List of the Year
11. Restaurant of the Year
12. New Restaurant of the Year
13. Asian Restaurant of the Year
14. Asian Restaurant of the Year (Regional)
15. Bar of the Year
16. Restaurant Manager of the Year
17. Food & Beverage Manager of the Year
18. MICE & Banquet Manager of the Year
19. Outstanding Caterer of the Year
20. Restaurateur of the Year (Regional)
21. Lifetime Achievement Award

### **INDUSTRY AWARDS**

1. Gourmet Retailer of the Year
2. Gourmet Distributor of the Year
3. Wine Retailer of the Year
4. Wine Distributor of the Year
5. Culinary Institution of the Year
6. Culinary Institution of the Year (Regional)
7. Chef’s Choice Award (Asian Cuisine) \*
8. Chef’s Choice Award (Western Cuisine) \*
9. Young Chef Award \*

*\* New Awards*

**Note:** This awards list is subject to change.

ANNEX B –AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE 2016 PARTNERS

