

**MEDIA RELEASE - EMBARGOED UNTIL 8 MARCH 2026 0000HRS**

## **They Built, Healed and Led: Five Women Honoured in Singapore Women's Hall of Fame 2026**

Singapore, 8 March 2026 - A visionary architect, public health pioneer, internationally acclaimed novelist, nursing leader and military doctor who played a key role in Singapore's COVID-19 medical response have been named as the 2026 inductees of the Singapore Women's Hall of Fame (SWHF).

Established by the Singapore Council of Women's Organisations (SCWO) in 2014, the Hall of Fame recognises women whose achievements have made lasting contributions to Singapore's development and society.

The 2026 inductees are:

- **Angelene Chan**  
Visionary architect and executive chairman of DP Architects, whose work has shaped Singapore's architectural landscape and advanced sustainable design locally and internationally.
- **Maud Ethel Perera (Posthumous)**  
Public health pioneer who transformed maternal and infant healthcare and helped rebuild Singapore's public health services in the post-war years.
- **Meira Chand**  
Internationally acclaimed novelist and Cultural Medallion recipient whose literary works brought Singapore's history and multicultural identity to global audiences.
- **Pauline Tan**  
Nursing trailblazer and Singapore's first nurse to serve as Chief Executive Officer of a hospital, who advanced professional nursing leadership across the national healthcare system.
- **Shalini Arulanandam**  
Military doctor who led critical medical operations during the COVID-19 pandemic and the first woman to command the SAF Medical Corps' Military Medicine Institute.

Dr Seow Yian San, President of SCWO, said, "The Singapore Women's Hall of Fame recognises women whose contributions have shape our nation and strengthen our communities. By honouring their achievements, we ensure their stories continue to inspire future generations of women and girls to lead with purpose and conviction. The inductees will be formally honoured at the induction

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ceremony held as part of SCWO's *Illuminate: Shine Together, Rise Together* Gala, where we celebrate the collective progress of women in Singapore and the shared responsibility of advancing opportunities for those who follow."

Beyond celebrating achievement, the Gala supports SCWO's continued work in empowering women and strengthening families, including Maintenance Support Central (MSC), which marks its 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. MSC provides support to women facing financial abuse and maintenance challenges, helping them rebuild stability and move forward with confidence.

The *Illuminate: Shine Together, Rise Together* Gala will take place on Friday, 27 March 2026 at One Farrer Hotel. Individuals and organisations interested in attending the event or supporting SCWO's programmes through sponsorships or donations may find more information at <https://www.scwo.org.sg/support/scwo-gala>.

### **About the Singapore Council of Women's Organisations**

The Singapore Council of Women's Organisations (SCWO) is the national coordinating body representing women's organisations in Singapore. Through advocacy, collaboration and provision of critical services for women in need, SCWO works to amplify diverse voices and advance opportunities for women and the community. Key initiatives include the Singapore Women's Hall of Fame, Star Shelter and Maintenance Support Central.

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