

Contact:

Selina Gan

Email: selina@scwo.org.sg

Tel: (O) 6571-0181

For Immediate Release

SCWO Celebrates International Women's Day (IWD) 2012
"Connecting for Success"
Annual Debating Tournament - SCWO-NUS Challenge Shield 2012

Join us on 11 March 2012 @ 4 pm, to witness some of the brightest minds battle it out in the Grand Finals of the SCWO-NUS Challenge Shield.

Venue: NUS Kent Ridge Campus, School of Engineering, Block 4, Lecture Theatre 6.

SCWO, the national co-ordinating council of 52 women's organizations, will be celebrating IWD 2012 not only with the **Gala Dinner** that will be held on Tue 20th March, but also with a **Symposium** on Sat 3 March. Themed, **"Design our Future"**, the symposium to celebrate National Young Women Leaders Day is in collaboration with Halogen Foundation.

This year, the **SCWO Debating Tournament** will be held on **10th & 11th March**. This year we are collaborating with the National University of Singapore (NUS) Debate Team to hold the **SCWO-NUS Challenge Shield**.

Renowned as one of the most challenging and prestigious tournaments in the local debate calendar, and this year's tournament promises a very exciting one. While the traditional editions of this annual tournament saw the involvement of the top secondary schools and junior college debate teams in Singapore, this year's tournament will also include the best debate teams in the region. In addition to gathering the best debaters, the conveners will also be inviting the best adjudicators from the region

This year's debate will feature issues with a special focus on women's rights and on issues facing women in the modern age. This will be an excellent way to expose our young people to these issues.

For media enquiries:

Please email Selina at selina@scwo.org.sg or call 6837-0181

About SCWO

The Singapore Council of Women's Organisations is the National Coordinating body of women's organisations in Singapore. Our 52 Member Organisations represent more than 500,000 women in Singapore.

Incorporated in March 1980, the SCWO serves to unite the various women's organisations, clubs, committees, groups and women leaders together, working in accordance with its various aims and objectives. The SCWO also serves to coordinate these associations into a national movement and to act on their behalf in matters for which it is authorised by its members.

The SCWO is represented on various Government and inter-ministry committees where we contribute our views in the areas of family, women, and on children's issues. We are involved in government Feedback Sessions and other discussions on issues and policies

Our Services

Star Shelter—It is the only secular crisis shelter in Singapore, and is a safe temporary refuge for women and their children seeking refuge from a life of family violence. It is a place where they learn to re-build their lives, be independent, and prepare for a future free of violence.

Maintenance Support Central – The One-Stop Drop-In Centre that provides support and assistance for claimants who have difficulty recovering court-ordered maintenance from their spouse.

Legal Clinics – Experienced lawyers from the Singapore Association of Women Lawyers (SAWL) are available twice a month to give basic legal advice and information to assist women unable to afford private legal service.

IT Hub—A Training Centre run by volunteers for women and their family members to become IT connected and updated.

New2U Thrift Shop—sells pre-loved apparel, shoes, accessories and household items, with proceeds going to Star Shelter.

Function Rooms—The Bonny Hicks Education and Training Centre consists of six rooms ranging from 9 sqm to 88 sqm, equipped for training, seminars and meetings, available for rentals to member organisations and the public.

The Library—The Library is named after the late Justice F.A. Chua. It is an archival library for all women's organisations -local and international.

The Café – The café @ SCWO offers a range of tantalizing food, desserts and coffee.

Our Initiatives

WR—Women's Register is a platform for young women in Singapore between 18 to 35 years of age, to support them with mentors, provide internship opportunities, enhance community involvement and advice on building networks of their own.

BoardAgender – aims to provide a forum in Singapore to facilitate a greater awareness and understanding of the benefits of gender balanced business, and for the advancement of more women into senior leadership roles and boardrooms of public and private corporations.

Wall of Fame – In 2005, SCWO launched the Wall of Fame to honour the significant contributions of pioneering women activists who have helped shape the landscape of female advancement in Singapore.