



PRESS RELEASE

16 HONOURED AT THE 11TH CHT INTERNATIONAL AWARDS 2026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA, July 11, 2026 – More than 400 distinguished guests, business leaders, entrepreneurs, diplomats and award recipients from Malaysia and abroad gathered at the Sunway Convention Centre on 11 July, 2026, for the 11th CHT International Awards 2026, celebrating excellence, leadership and outstanding contributions across industries and communities.

Organised biennially by CHTNetwork, the 11th CHT International Awards 2026 is supported by MATRADE with AFFIN DIVENTIUM, Volvo and Volvo Sisma as Principal Partners while supporting partners included vivo Malaysia, Beryl's Gourmet, Ghee Hiang and ONE EAST MUSEUM.

This year's black-tie gala, themed Luminous Pandorotopia, was graced by YB Steven Sim Chee Keong, Minister of Entrepreneur and Cooperatives Development, Malaysia, as Guest of Honour.

Other distinguished dignitaries and guests included Datuk Seri (Dr) Syed Hussian Aljunid - Advisor to CHTNetwork and Chairman, Media Prima Berhad; Mr Alex Castaldi - Chief Executive Officer, Sunway Hospitality Group; Ms Wendy Liew - Senior Director, Customer Strategy & Segmentation, Wealth Management, AFFIN Bank Berhad; Ms Patricia Yaw - Sales & Marketing Director, Volvo Car Malaysia Sdn Bhd, Ms Joanna See - Dealer/Principal, Sisma Auto (KL) Sdn Bhd; Tan Sri Dato' Seri Dr Tan Khooon Hai - Chairman, Penang Chinese Town Hall; Datuk Andrew Lim Tatt Keong – President, Malaysia Retailers Association (MRA); Mr Idzham Abdul Hamid – Director, Halal, Food & Beverages & Agro-based, Malaysia External Trade Development Corporation (MATRADE); Dato' Goh Boon Kim-Deputy President, Federation of Malaysian Manufacturing (FMM), Tan Sri Dato' Sri Richard Koh - Founding President, Malaysian Association of Themepark & Family Attractions (MATFA), Dr Chin Chee Seong – President, SME Association of Malaysia, Ms Mag Ng - Secretary-General, Malaysian Consortium of Mid-Tier Companies (MCMTC), Ms Michelle Hah – President, Branding Association of Malaysia (BAM) and Professor Chen Xiaoyun - Chairman, Star Youth International Group and Chairman of the Board, Kuala Lumpur University of Science and Technology (KLUST), amongst others.

In his welcome address, Dato' Chng noted that the CHT International Awards has, for the past eighteen years, honoured more than 150 outstanding individuals and organisations, including entrepreneurs, corporate leaders, professionals, ambassadors, ministers, statesmen and internationally respected personalities. Since its inception in 2008, it has grown into a respected boutique international awards platform that recognises exceptional individuals and organisations whose achievements have created meaningful impact within their professions, industries and society.

CHT INTERNATIONAL AWARDS 2026 11th EDITION

This year's Awards marked several significant milestones. For the first time, two recipients were honoured with the coveted CHT Lifetime Achievement Award, recognising their extraordinary lifetime contributions and enduring legacy.

The CHT International Outstanding Achievers Awards 2026 celebrated five (5) outstanding recipients from Australia, Singapore and Malaysia for their remarkable success and commitment to advancing businesses, industries and supporting communities at national and international levels. The CHT Excellence Awards 2026 was presented to seven (7) national leaders and organisations representing a diverse spectrum of industries that collectively reflect the breadth and strength of Malaysian enterprise and leadership—from education and retail to manufacturing, automotive and the performing arts. Additionally, this year's edition also celebrated two (2) visionary NextGen leaders in the CHT Emerging Entrepreneur Award.

The recipients of the CHT International Awards 2026 are:

CHT LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2026

Media

- Datuk Seri Wong Chun Wai
CHT Lifetime Achievement Award 2026, Chairman - BERNAMA

Creative Arts

- Dato' Mohammad Nor bin Khalid (Dato' Lat)
- Malaysia's Beloved Cartoonist and Cultural Storyteller

CHT INTERNATIONAL ACHIEVERS AWARD 2026:

1. (Country: Australia) - Dr Rick Stephen, AM, Continental Director for Asia, Worldchefs
2. (Country: Malaysia) - Mr Steve Ng Meng Tatt, Group Senior Director, Mega Fortris Berhad
3. (Country: Malaysia) - Major (K) Dato' Chua Heok Wee, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, Muar Ban Lee Group Berhad
4. (Country: Singapore) - MrAng Eng Tee, Screenwriter
5. (Country: Singapore) - Dr. Mark Leong, Co-Founder & Group CEO of DML Asia Group

CHT EXCELLENCE AWARD 2026:

1. (Category: Guzheng Artistry & Music Education) Sara Heng
2. (Category: Automotive Retail) Jaya Wheel Sdn Bhd
3. (Category: Convenience Grocery Retail) BilaBila Retail Sdn Bhd
4. (Category: Premium Supermarket) Cold Storage Supermarket
5. (Category: Global Excellence in Palm Oil Processing Technology) Muar Ban Lee Group
6. (Category: Business-Government) Dato' Sri Mohd Mustafa Abdul Aziz
7. (Category: Expatriate) Professor Sibrandes Poppema

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CHT EMERGING ENTREPRENEUR AWARD 2026:

1. Mr Jason Chan Ming Hwee - Founder, Zeka Food Sdn Bhd
2. Hiper Collective Sdn Bhd

While the evening celebrated the achievements of this year's recipients, the programme also included a special moment recognising the remarkable journey of the Awards itself.

Representatives from the Malaysia Book of Records officially conferred upon the CHT International Awards the title of "Longest-Running International Personal Namesake Award," recognising eighteen years of continuous excellence since its establishment in 2008.

The evening concluded with a charity auction with part proceeds benefiting charitable initiatives. This year's auction featured two masterpieces of bespoke jewellery from the Heirloom Series by ONE EAST MUSEUM, specially crafted for the CHT International Awards 2026.

These pieces are:

1. An Heirloom of Auspicious Elegance – 瑞吉家传」

A one-of-a-kind masterpiece designed by Dato' Chng Huck Theng, this exquisite pendant reinterprets Peranakan heritage and transforms the auspicious Chinese motif Da Ji ("Great Fortune") into a contemporary work of wearable art. Crafted in 18K yellow gold with rare green sapphires and exceptional diamonds, it is designed as a timeless heirloom to be treasured across generations.

2. The Sovereign Heirloom – 传世臻玺」

Inspired by the enduring beauty of nature, this unique high-jewellery necklace creation features a magnificent forest green tourmaline set amidst sculptural gold, palladium white gold and pavé diamonds. Conceived as a legacy piece, it embodies timeless elegance, exceptional craftsmanship and the enduring value of an heirloom.

Also included in the auction was That's LIFE: Look, Listen & Feel, an original contemporary artwork by Dato' Chng Huck Theng., who is also an internationally award-winning contemporary artist. The same artwork is also featured on the cover of the award's commemorative coffee-table book.



Scan QR code to access more information:
<https://www.chtawards.com/2026-mediaaccess>
(only accessible after winners' announcement)
#chtawards2026
#chtawards

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About CHT International Awards

www.chtawards.com

Established in 2008 by Dato' Chng Huck Theng, the CHT International Awards is a biennial boutique international awards platform organised by CHTNetwork to recognise outstanding individuals and organisations whose achievements have made significant contributions to business, leadership, entrepreneurship, innovation, philanthropy, education, arts and culture, and community development.

Since expanding internationally in 2016, the Awards has honoured recipients from Australia, Cambodia, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Ireland, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand, the United Kingdom and the United States. In 2026, the CHT International Awards was officially recognised by the Malaysia Book of Records as the Longest-Running International Personal Namesake Award, marking a significant milestone in its legacy of celebrating excellence and international goodwill.

To date, the Awards has recognised more than 150 outstanding individuals and organisations while continuing to foster meaningful international connections through its philosophy, "Where All Good Things in Life Meet."

About CHTNetwork

Founded in 2008, CHTNetwork is an international business networking platform established by Dato' Chng Huck Theng to connect leaders, entrepreneurs and professionals through strategic collaborations, business networking, knowledge sharing and recognition programmes that inspire excellence and create lasting relationships.

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