

**Opening Speech by Mr Tan Kai Hoe, Chairman, Singapore Red Cross
at “*A Black Cat Theatre Production: A Mother's Cheongsam*”
Charity Concert on 21 May 2022, 7.30pm, The Theatres at MediaCorp**

Mr Chee Hong Tat
Senior Minister of State for Transport

Ms Terene Seow
Organising Chairperson and Producer

Distinguished Guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good Evening. On behalf of the Singapore Red Cross, I am glad to welcome you to the Singapore Red Cross Charity Concert '*A Black Cat Theatre Production: A Mother's Cheongsam*'. Thank you for supporting this event to raise funds for the local humanitarian services of the Red Cross.

We are honoured to have the presence of our Guest-of-Honour, Senior Minister of State for Transport, Mr Chee Hong Tat. Thank you for lending us your support all these years, not only by gracing our event, but also by lending us your voice, quite literally.

I also wish to extend a warm welcome to the senior folks both from Red Cross and Bishan-Toa Payoh Constituency, as well as their volunteer befrienders!

Today's programme pays tribute to a mother's love and resilience. Let me also take the opportunity to wish all the mothers in the audience a belated Happy Mothers' Day!

We owe the success of this event to our generous donors, partners, sponsors and supporters. Thank you for supporting our humanitarian services that serve the most vulnerable in our community. The funding will enable us to run vital services such as transport and escort service for the elderly and disabled to keep their healthcare appointments, a food aid programme for disadvantaged families, befriending and home monitoring services for the lonely seniors who live on their own, residential and day care for the severely disabled. Thank you for your contributions!

Finally, but definitely not least, I want to thank and pay tribute to the performers in this evening's concert. Tonight's concert is the fruition of months of planning, rehearsals and unwavering dedication of many people. In particular, I wish to thank the following persons and organisations,

- Multi-talented Council Member Ms Terene Seow, whose journey started as a Red Cross Youth Cadet. This is the seventh charity concert she is organising for the Singapore Red Cross. Thank you very much. Her passion and dedication to the cause are inspirations to many of us.
- Mdm Yan Choong Lian, Founder and Artistic Director of the Dance Ensemble Singapore (DES); and the dedicated performers from DES, as well as
- Many other very talented cast and crew

We have been brought together this evening, in service to humanity. As you watch the performance, be reminded that your loving kindness brings help and hope to people in need, giving them the strength and resilience to stand strong in the face of adversity. Thank you for helping to create a community where care, love and hope abound.

Please enjoy the concert!