

**Press Release**



**EtonHouse Founder Mrs Ng Gim Choo wins the prestigious EY Entrepreneur Of The Year Award in the Education category**

4 October 2019 - Mrs. Ng Gim Choo, Founder and Managing Director of EtonHouse International Education Group, has won the prestigious EY Entrepreneur Of The Year Award in the Education category.

The EY Entrepreneur Of The Year is an annual awards program that honours Singapore's top entrepreneurs for their contributions to the economy and society.

Says Mrs Ng, "I am truly honored and privileged to receive this award, especially since I started my career with Ernst and Young as an auditor. My experience in EY laid a solid foundation for my entrepreneurship journey, and gave me the confidence to start EtonHouse."

Prior to setting up EtonHouse in 1995, Mrs. Ng worked as an audit manager in Ernst & Young and then a partner in an audit firm. She gave up her career in audit and followed her husband on an assignment to London, where she was inspired by the UK's inquiry and play-based approach to learning. After being a housewife for 12 years, she decided to be an entrepreneur in her 40s. It was a difficult decision but she was determined to start a school where learning was not stressful but fun and joyful.

Starting an inquiry-based curriculum in the 90s was a bold move as it had not been much heard of. There was also no track record to fall back on. Despite huge losses in the beginning and pressure from parents to change its curriculum, Mrs Ng did not waver. She knew that rote learning would not nurture children who can think critically, and develop critical life skills required for success in the future.

Her persistence in pursuing a high-quality inquiry curriculum led to the development of EtonHouse's very own curriculum grounded in research and best practice. EtonHouse started to gain a reputation for its innovative approach in education across the K12 pathway.

In 2003, at the height of the economic crisis due to the SARS outbreak, Mrs Ng opened her first overseas school in China. Against the odds, its expansion into China flourished through a combination of savvy strategy and government support.

Today, Mrs Ng continues to lead the expansion of EtonHouse across China and Asia. She had transformed herself from an auditor to a housewife and now to a successful businesswoman.

At the EY Awards gala at The Ritz-Carlton, Millenia Singapore on Thursday 3rd October, Mrs Ng encouraged everyone to give back to society and to make a meaningful difference to the lives of the less fortunate. "I hope more businesses can collaborate and initiate new projects to improve the lives of the underprivileged community. Together, we can create a better future."

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### About EtonHouse

The EtonHouse International Education Group is headquartered in Singapore with more than 120 international schools in 12 countries.

Together these schools provide high-quality education to over 12,000 children globally. Over the last 25 years, EtonHouse has been at the forefront of international education offering innovative preschools and K-12 schools across Asia. In the early years, an inquiry based "Inquire-Think-Learn" curriculum, inspired by the Reggio Emilia approach is followed. EtonHouse International Schools offer the highly successful International Baccalaureate (IB) Programme and the IGCSE qualification in the secondary level, and the IB Diploma in high school.

The EtonHouse Group has won several accolades for its exemplary practice such as the "Outstanding Leader" and "Outstanding Teacher" awards conferred by the Ministry of Social

and Family Development (MSF) in Singapore in 2011 and 2012. In 2014, the MSF presented EtonHouse with the “Outstanding Centre for Teaching and Learning” Award and the Early Childhood Innovation Award in 2015. The international IB K-12 school in Suzhou was voted as one of China’s best international schools by a research firm based in Washington DC founded by MIT Alumni.

The Group also works closely with the Government in Singapore and China. In early 2014, EtonHouse was selected by the MSF in Singapore to be part of the Anchor Operator (AOP) Scheme to launch E-Bridge Pre-School, providing high quality and affordable early childhood services for Singaporean families. EtonHouse schools in Suzhou, Wuxi and Nanjing were started at the invitation of the Jiangsu provincial government. In 2017, the EtonHouse Group launched Middleton International School (MIS), an affordable schooling option for expatriate families. MIS now has a brand new campus at Tampines with a capacity of more than 1000 students.

To mark its 20th anniversary of providing high-quality education, EtonHouse launched EtonHouse Community Fund, an independent IPC charity to focus on improving lives of underprivileged children through education

The Group is deeply committed to research and professional development and brought the first Reggio Children conference to Singapore. In 2013, EtonHouse became a member of the Reggio Children International Network and launched REACH (Reggio Emilia in Asia for children), the first organisation to represent Reggio Children in Asia and continues to offer high quality professional development opportunities on a regular basis to further enhance its standards of practice.