The finalists



Harbhajan Singh

The veteran nurse led a team of more than 100 nurses in the 2003 fight against Sars, the severe acute respiratory syndrome. Today, at the age of 78, Harbhajan Singh continues to work at the very hospital he joined as a young man aged 25.

Annabelle Kwok

At 26, NeuralBay founder Annabelle Kwok has already made her mark in artificial intelligence. She also wears many other hats as mathematician, hardware hacker, sportswoman, arts performer and do-gooder.



Hai Sing Catholic School teacher Teo Yee Ming has led the school's robotics team from obscurity to success on the world stage. The school team has won the world's most prestigious robotics competition four times.

Elizabeth Tan

Entrepreneur Elizabeth Tan grew her father's shoe shop into a global chain with 50 stores. She is also a humanitarian who set up Sight To Sky, a charity which organises annual mobile eye clinics in India, Pakistan and Nepal.

Bjorn Low

From a small social enterprise, Bjorn Low's Edible Garden City is now a thriving business. It designs and builds food gardens, supplies greens to restaurants, and trains and employs people from vulnerable or marginalised segments.

Kenneth and Adeline Thong

The Thongs not only open their house to young people without a roof over their heads to live in for free, but they also recreate a home environment within the house for them. Both left their jobs to be present in the lives of young people.



Siti Noor Mastura

Siti Noor Mastura rose above childhood poverty and overcame the odds to launch two non-profit groups. One distributes halal groceries to the poor and the other promotes honest discussions between people of different faiths.



Nizar Mohamed Shariff and Free Food For All

In 2014, Nizar Mohamed Shariff set up Free Food for All, a charity that provides free cooked meals for the needy. The charity prepares up to 100,000 meals a year for 3,000 elderly or low-income residents living in rental flats.



Douglas Yeo and Poh Kok Wee

Veteran diver Douglas Yeo, 50, risked his life to help with the evacuation of the last five Thai boys who were trapped in a cave. Age also did not deter Poh Kok Wee, 57, from helping to scout for alternative cave entrances to reach the boys.



Teo You Yenn

Sociology researcher Teo You Yenn published a book of essays on the lives of people who live in HDB rental flats. This Is What Inequality Looks Like is a bestseller that has sparked a national conversation on socio-economic inequality in Singapore.



Robert Chew

Robert Chew, 69, has donated blood 184 times. He started when he was 18 years old and donates blood three to four times a year. His donations in total would be equivalent to draining his body of blood 18 times over his lifetime.