

March 26th 2007 - Premier Screening of Documentary Feature “Pink Paddlers”

The National Committee for UNIFEM, Singapore, Breast Cancer Foundation and Singapore Council of Women’s Organisation jointly present a Gala Film Screening of locally produced, Pink Paddlers, on Monday 26th March 2007 at Grand Cathay. The **AWDS (Assoc of Women Drs Spore)** will be supporting this event by purchasing a whole row of tickets at \$50 per ticket (cocktail reception at 7.30pm, film 8.30pm). We invite you to join us!

The charity film screening will be a part of a series of events for International Women’s Day. We are celebrating the strong fighting spirit of women and this film brilliantly showcases this spirit through the voices and images of women who are breast cancer survivors. 40% of the funds raised from the screening will support Breast Cancer Foundation’s activities to raise awareness about the importance of early detection and supporting women who are currently patients and survivors of breast cancer. The other 40% of the funds will also benefit women who are survivors of domestic violence in the Singapore Council of Women’s Organisation shelter. The remaining 10% will go towards UNIFEM Singapore’s fund to combat violence against women.

ABOUT THE FILM



Film: Pink Paddlers

Directed by: Jasmine Ng

Produced by: Suzette Cody/ Green Mango Productions

Pink Paddlers is a one-hour documentary film about the women-warrior spirit of local breast cancer survivors (from BCF) who compete in the increasingly popular team sport of dragon boat racing. These determined and spirited women come in all shapes and sizes. They could be your mother, your daughter, your

sister, your girlfriend, your wife... even you.

Ranging from a 65 year-old grandmother to a young biker, the women featured in the film all have fought the same battle against breast cancer and found support and strength from the joint training, preparation and exuberance of being in the same boat with team-mates who share their passion for living life to its fullest.

In September 2006, these women competed against fellow survivors gathered from all over the world for the 1st IPDBC Breast Cancer Dragon Boat World Championships--the first-ever international competition of its kind in the world--held right here in Singapore. Twenty-four women in a traditional dragonhead-boat dug their oars into the water and surged ahead, spurred on by the cadenced beat of the Chinese drum and the determined, life-affirming rhythm of their collective heart. This is their story.

ABOUT UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR WOMEN, SINGAPORE

UNIFEM National Committee, Singapore assists women and children in the developing countries through:

- Economic Empowerment Programmes – enable women to develop business and entrepreneurial skills to access local, national and global markets. Projects also assist women to gain access to finance, technology and information.
- Governance and Leadership Programmes – give women a voice and visibility by encouraging their leadership in decision making processes that shape their lives.
- Conflict Area Programmes – provide services for women violated during war and armed conflict. The projects also promote the role of women in peace building.
- The UNIFEM Trust Fund to Support Actions to Eliminate Violence Against Women – The Trust supports projects in the areas including: HIV/AIDS, female infanticide, trafficking, forced prostitution, domestic violence, sexual abuse and rape.

One in three women around the world will suffer from some form of gender-based violence. Due to the horrifying statistics UN had declared 25th of November as the International Day to End Violence Against Women. The day will be marked all around the world with Not A Minute More Campaign - not a minute more of violence and not a minute more of silence. www.unifemsingapore.org.sg

ABOUT BREAST CANCER FOUNDATION

The Breast Cancer Foundation (BCF) is a non-profit organisation that focuses on increasing awareness of breast cancer, promoting early detection and providing support for people affected by breast cancer.

BCF raises awareness through a Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign in October, talks and exhibitions to all levels of society, distribution of print materials, its website and information through mass media. BCF also provides emotional support and information to newly diagnosed patients, survivors, and affected family members through its Support Groups, Volunteer Counselling Programme, Healing through the Arts Programme, Dragon Boat Programme, Positive Appearance Boutique and Library.

ABOUT SINGAPORE COUNCIL OF WOMEN'S ORGANISATION

The Singapore Council of Women's Organisations (SCWO) is the national coordinating body of women's organisations in Singapore. Incorporated in March 1980, the SCWO seeks to unite the various women's organisations, clubs, committees, groups and women leaders together, working in accordance with its various aims and objectives.

In 1999, SCWO set up Star Shelter to provide temporary refuge for victims of family violence regardless of race, language, creed or religion. Star Shelter also provides information to victims of family violence on where to seek help and protection, and gives referrals to other service agencies should shelter-users require their services. SCWO also offers free legal and referral service to women in distress.