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澳洲雪梨華人獅子會

## The Lions Club of Sydney Chinese Inc.

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### MEDIA RELEASE

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For the eighth year running, The Lions Club of Sydney Chinese Inc. is offering The Sydney Chinese Lions Humanitarian Scholarship, and invited for applications in February 2010. The purpose of the Scholarship is to encourage and recognise humanitarian services undertaken by university students.

This year the response to the Scholarship offer was again overwhelming. The quality of the applications was very impressive. The reported humanitarian services performed by the applicants included volunteer work for such local charities as Cancer Council, Engineers without Borders, the Australian Red Cross, Mission Australia, St John Ambulance, Oxfam, overseas work for remote and poor villages in Vietnam, Uganda, East Timor, Cambodia, Indonesia, and others. These services are all highly commendable. As such, in addition to the original award of one winner receiving a scholarship of \$2,000, the Club also offered two consolation prizes of \$1,000 each.

The adjudicating panel comprises Lion Lion Sylvia Chong, Lion Dr. Anthony Cheung, Lion Henry Leung and Lion Arthur Kwan. The selected **Scholarship Award Winner** is **Mr Nathaniel Ware**. The **Consolation Prize Winners** are **Mr Jesse Buckingham** and **Mr Mohit Tolani**.

**Mr Nathaniel Ware** is from the University of Sydney. In 2005 he was the NSW World Vision Youth Ambassador, volunteering in Mozambique, Africa. Since 2007, he has been the Principal Founder and International Director of 180 Degrees Consulting, the world's first international pro-bono student consultancy, providing consultancy free of charge for various non-profit organisations, including the Crossroads Foundation in Hong Kong, IEDC Bled School of Management in Slovenia, and Viola Vitolis in Bangladesh, and helping various other organisations around the world achieve a greater social impact. He has served as Executive Director of the Young Leaders Network, and as Sydney University Environment Convenor. He also volunteers to coach disadvantaged youth in public speaking, works to combat violence against women as a White Ribbon Ambassador, and is developing a microinsurance scheme to reduce the vulnerability of the poor in developing countries. His future pro-bono services include continuation of work in 180 Degrees Consulting, and volunteer work in the Philippines, Botswana and South Africa.

**Mr Jesse Buckingham** is from the University of Sydney. His passion for issues of social justice was bred in him from a young age. In high-school he travelled to Cambodia with his peers and volunteered in various non-governmental organisations and orphanages including M'lop Tapang, Sok Sabay, and Tabitha to design skills based activities for orphans and construct 10 houses for impoverished families there. In 2008, he became an Ambassador for

Opportunity International, one of the world's leading providers of micro-financial services where, together with a colleague, he designed a Microfinance Education Module for High School Certificate Economics students that they now deliver at NSW high schools. Last summer, together with a colleague, he raised \$40,000 for the construction of a 4-classroom schoolhouse for the Manjeri School in Uganda, and travelled there volunteering to manage the construction process. Future pro-bono services he has planned include volunteering in the "food program" and "stationery & uniform program" in Uganda.

**Mr Mohit Tolani** is also from the University of Sydney. His pro-bono humanitarian services include mentoring indigenous kids and young adults through Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience and Edmund Rice Camps, developing student community engagement programs through the Centre for Volunteering and the Institute for Advancing Community Engagement, and volunteering in various international aid projects including the Tsunami project through Round Square Australia. He also volunteered in Australian League of Immigration Volunteers for support and development of refugees. His future plan is to carry on with these pro-bono services, and additionally, to provide support to refugees at the Christmas Island, and undertake health and education development projects in East Timor. He has been recognised with various awards including Strathfield Young Citizen of the Year 2010 – Special Nominee Recognition Prize, Strathfield Youth Achievement Award 2010, and the Round Square and King Constantine Medal.

The Scholarship and Consolation Awards were presented to the winners by the Club's President Lion Mei Cheng JP during the Changeover Ceremony & Dinner on 26 June 2010. Also a special letter of appreciation was sent to all applicants commending them for the good and valuable humanitarian work they had undertaken for the community, and encouraging them to keep up the good effort.

A further offer for the Scholarship will be made in February/March 2011.

Date: 26 June 2010