PRESS RELEASE

Bigger, Bolder, Better
Republic Polytechnic once again shows that it is a tertiary institution dedicated
to nurturing creative and artistic development with Reflections 2009!

SINGAPORE, 29 October 2009 – Indonesian dance to the beat of Tango music? Or elegant dance moves by martial arts exponents to pop music in the background? Those who love the performing arts will be mesmerized by the eclectic spread that is Reflections 2009 – RP Community Arts Festival.

After two successful runs, Reflections 2009 is back for the third year to excite Singaporeans with its strong line-up of performance acts. The annual community arts festival is presented by The Republic Cultural Centre (TRCC) at Republic Polytechnic, and it will run from 29 October to 20 November 2009.

The theme for Reflections 2009 is “Infusion” and it aptly reflects the focus of the festival to juxtapose traditional and boundary-breaking ideas into various genres of the performing arts. This year’s festival features acts ranging from music, dance, theatre, visuals arts, workshops and seminars. A total of 26 events and 2 exhibitions will be showcased during the entire festival.

“We are very excited about Reflections 2009. This is the third time that we have organised the festival and there is great depth and variety in this year’s event line-up. The fact that we have so many youth involved in the programming and execution of this year’s festival shows how we have grown as an institution imbued with a strong creative tradition. Republic Polytechnic believes in giving our students the opportunity to grow their creative talents and artistic expression. With this year’s Reflections, we are very proud of what our students have done,” said Ganesh Kalyanam, Director of The Republic Cultural Centre (TRCC) and Co-Festival Director of Reflections 2009.

This year’s opening act involves a montage of performances featuring martial art fighters, hip hop, modern and traditional dancers, vocalists, percussionists, drummers and graffiti artistes, and is choreographed by Zaini Tahir, winner of the Best Choreographer Award at the New Prague Dance Festival 2009.

The following are some highlights of Reflections 2009:

- **Fight Club:** What do martial arts have in common with pop music? Find out for yourself and be awed by the visual spectacle involving the fusion of different martial arts from Silat, Wushu, Capoeira, Silambam, Judo and Akido with the latest pop music.
- **Tango Project:** Chinese, Indonesian contemporary, Indian Bharatnatyam and neo-classical Ballet dance forms. Choreographed by some of the renowned names in the industry including Ong Siew Bee (Singapore), Serene Tan (Singapore), Zaini Tahir (Singapore), Gayatri Sriram (India) and Maud Toledano (France), experience how tango music is expressed through these different dance forms.
- **World Drum Night:** Boom boom boom. Drummers from Republic Polytechnic, One Heart Beat, Zingo Festival Drums, ITE-Semei and the SIA-MINDS EDC groups will entertain you with a rhythmic cultural show presenting a variety of percussion and drum music from various cultures.

“Reflections 2009 follows from a strong tradition at Republic Polytechnic where we believe strongly in nurturing our youth into talented individuals through artistic avenues, and it is our hope that future festivals will be produced entirely by our students,” said Doris Teo, Co-Festival Director of Reflections 2009.

Reflections 2009 will run from 29 October to 20 November 2009. Ticket prices range from $10 - $20. Several performances are free of charge. For more information on ticket pricing, please email: trcc_events@rp.sg

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About Republic Polytechnic

The first educational institution in Singapore to adopt the Problem-Based Learning approach for all its diploma programmes, Republic Polytechnic (RP) has six schools and one centre offering thirty four courses in Information and Communications Technology, Engineering, Applied Science, Technology for the Arts, Sports, Health & Leisure, Events and Hospitality, and Culture and Communication. Republic Polytechnic is committed to nurturing innovation and entrepreneurial learning in an environment that develops problem-solving process skills and a life-long learning attitude. Its holistic, broad-based curriculum, covering culture, enterprise development and cognitive processes, prepares students for an active and meaningful role in society. Republic Polytechnic strives for excellence by achieving various international and national accreditations, including ISO9001, ISO14001, OHSAS 18001, TR19, People Developer Standards, Singapore Quality Class and Singapore Innovation Class. For more information, visit http://www.rp.sg

About The Republic Cultural Centre (TRCC) - Bridging Communities through the Arts

The Republic Cultural Centre (TRCC) is an integral part of Republic Polytechnic’s mission of nurturing the multiple facets and talents of our students and it also acts a cultural space that facilitates the integration of the community through a common appreciation of the arts.

TRCC’s venues provide aspiring artistes platforms to realize their passion, and to share that with a wider audience. With its weekly arts series “Arts Platter” and the annual Reflections - Community Arts Festival, TRCC hopes to raise cultural awareness and appreciation for our colorful heritage. In so doing, TRCC seeks to be the venue of choice for entertainment, exploration and enrichment of the arts.

Designed by Maki & Associates (Japan), TRCC exudes an elegant balance of aesthetics and functionality. Under its fan-shaped roof, TRCC has three main performing arts venues: a) 1,000-seat Theatre, b) 300-seat Studio and, c) 120-seat Lab. In addition to these performing spaces, TRCC also has a complement of facilities for practice, rehearsal and recordings that support curriculum, student development, which are also open to the public. It is recognized by the NAC as a regional arts centre. It also the favoured venue of MOE and its affiliates for its many events.

TRCC is also a home to 26 student arts groups. These groups have a safe haven to explore and evolve their art forms. Having them under the same roof promotes interaction, collaborations and synergy. TRCC is thus more than just a superb array of arts venues but also a driving force that strives to provide a viable platform for students, staff and community partners, to realize their passion for the arts and the cultural vibrancy that defines us as a nation.

For more information of TRCC please visit our website: www.rp.sg/trcc