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## NEWS RELEASE

### **UOB celebrates Singapore's 50 years of nationhood**

**Singapore, 05 August 2015** – As Singapore marks its golden jubilee this week, United Overseas Bank (UOB) today announced that all employees in Singapore will receive an extra day of annual leave to celebrate the nation's 50<sup>th</sup> birthday with their loved ones.

About 7,500 employees ranked vice-president and below will also receive a S\$1,000 cash gift.

Mr Wee Ee Cheong, Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, United Overseas Bank, said that the bank wanted its employees to be able to celebrate the occasion with a gesture that went beyond cash.

"We all appreciate the importance of spending time with our loved ones, more so on big occasions. As SG50 is an historic moment in time for Singapore, we wanted our employees to be able to extend their celebrations with family and friends, whether they take the day off to coincide with this long weekend or any other time this golden jubilee year," Mr Wee said.

The cash gift will be credited to employees' bank accounts on 15 August while the additional day of annual leave can be taken before the end of 2015.

#### **Celebrating through art, the community and entrepreneurship**

Throughout the year, UOB has also been engaged in several SG50 activities, starting with its partnership with the National Gallery Singapore to promote the world's largest collection of Southeast Asian modern art. The collection comprises 8,000 pieces of art from across the region. Of this, 400 paintings, sculptures and drawings will be curated for the first exhibition in the new UOB Southeast Asia Gallery which will open its doors to the public on November 24.

The bank sponsored the 50forFifty fundraising initiative, organised by a group of fifty young change-makers who pledged to raise S\$5 million for charity. The beneficiaries are focused on social inequality, the aging population, social cohesion, medical care and the environment.

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In February this year, UOB also paid tribute to long-time clients who have banked with UOB for more than 50 years. Pioneer enterprises such as Lian Hup Metal Co Pte Ltd and Chan Brothers Travel Pte Ltd were presented with a specially-commissioned plaque in recognition of the essential role the business community plays in nation building.

This month, the UOB Art Gallery will present a photography exhibition – A Social Portrait of Singapore: the Critical Years by Mr Loke Hong Seng. Mr Loke is a fine art photographer who is recognised for shooting street portraits of Singapore from 1963 to 1985. This period was one of tremendous change in Singapore, marked by the fight to Independence and emergence of a new republic. The exhibition will run from now till 14 August 2015, UOB Art Gallery, UOB Plaza 1.

Customers can learn more about UOB's commitment to Singapore through art, the community and entrepreneurship by visiting [www.uobgroup.com.sg/SG50/index.html](http://www.uobgroup.com.sg/SG50/index.html).

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### **About United Overseas Bank**

United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) is a leading bank in Asia with a global network of more than 500 offices in 19 countries and territories in Asia Pacific, Western Europe and North America. Since its incorporation in 1935, UOB has grown organically and through a series of strategic acquisitions. In Asia it operates through its branches and representative offices as well as banking subsidiaries in China, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

UOB plays an active role in the community, focusing on the arts, education and children. It has, over more than three decades, held the longest-running art competition in Singapore, the UOB Painting of the Year. In recognition of its contributions to the arts, UOB was conferred the National Arts Council's Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award for the tenth consecutive year in 2014. UOB also encourages its employees across the region to be involved in its regular volunteer activities. This includes the annual UOB Heartbeat Run which is held in Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand and mainland China.

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