

In our annual event, we honour 18 outstanding women – the Great Women of Our Time – who are making significant contributions to their fields and to society, as well as shaping the future of their industries and others' lives



Now meet the six nominees in the categories of Finance & Commerce, and Education & Public Services



DR CHUA YANG (43)
**Obstetrician and Gynaecologist,
A Clinic for Women, and President-
elect of the Asia Pacific Menopause
Federation**

Four years ago, Dr Chua answered an ad in the Singapore Medical Association newsletter calling for medical personnel to volunteer for medical missions. That team consisted of mainly dental surgeons, but she wanted to add a women's healthcare arm. Since then she's volunteered on projects in Indonesia, Nepal, Niger and Ladakh.

"It was easy to feel really insecure about the loss of income, and I worried if bills would get paid. It may have been cheaper and easier to write a cheque to some worthwhile charity instead of going away! But at some point, passion stepped in," says Dr Chua.

"Now, I believe, when I return from providing primary healthcare in such rural areas, I am also a better doctor to my patients here."

Last year, Dr Chua started the Himalayan Women's Health Project, which aims to lower the rate of cervical cancer deaths through better women's health education, and train Ladakhi medical staff so they can carry on a sustainable low-cost screening programme.

"I believe in the power of one individual and the ripples he or she can create in life. We don't have to change the world in an earth-shattering way - we just have to realise that we can all contribute in some way."

