

## GLS Conference 5: BECOME THE AGENTS OF CHANGE: Looking Past Your Limits to Create an Inclusive Society

17 October 2018 • SIM Performing Arts Theatre • 8.30am to 5.45pm

Find out more at [www.ssi.sg/GLS](http://www.ssi.sg/GLS)

### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



**Raul Krauthausen**  
German Disability Rights  
Activist. Award-winning  
Communication Manager,  
Designer of Innovative  
Social Projects

Raul Krauthausen is a German disability rights activist. He has osteogenesis imperfecta, also known as brittle bone disease, and uses a wheelchair. He studied Social and Economic Communication at the Berlin University of the Arts and Design Thinking at the HPI School of Design Thinking. He was awarded the Order of Merit of Germany and is an Ashoka Fellow. He is also an award-winning communication manager, and designer of innovative social projects.

Since 2010, Raul has been involved in the development of the internet platform Wheelmap.org, an open and free online map for wheelchair users and people with disabilities. The map empowers wheelchair users to share and access information on the wheelchair-accessibility of public places around the world.

After his graduation in 2001, Raul worked as an Online Content Developer at Apparat Multimedia GmbH, The Argonauten\_G2 GmbH and at NEW DIGITAL GmbH. In 2004, he co-founded the action group Sozialhelden eV with his cousin Jan Mörsch, an organisation to raise awareness of social issues. A recipient of many accolades, Sozialhelden received first prize at the NEON / Smart-Ideas Competition in 2005; the German Commitment Prize in 2009 and the German Citizens Inca Award in 2010.

In 2007, Raul initiated the project Pfandtästisch Helfen (project of social heroes), which gives people the opportunity to put deposit slips in donation boxes in stores, to benefit various charities. The project was awarded the StartSocial prize from the Social Federal Government.

One of Raul's newest Sozialhelden projects is Leidmedien.de, an online platform for journalists and others whose work involves the portrayal of people with disabilities. Through advocacy, articles, workshops and informational materials Leidmedien.de offers perspectives on life with a disability, steering away from stereotypes and clichés.



**Malvika Iyer**  
Bomb Blast Survivor,  
Social Worker, Disability  
Rights Activist and  
Fashion Model

**Malvika Iyer** is a bilateral amputee, a bomb blast survivor, a social worker, and a Ph.D. scholar. She is an Advocate for Inclusion and Gender. Her work has been recognised widely, including an honour from the President of India- Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam, and the 'Women in the World' Emerging Leader Award in New York.

She has been the subject of numerous newspaper articles and books, even finding a place among the 100 Change Agents and Newsmakers of the Decade. She is a member of the United Nations IANYD's Working Group on Youth and Gender Equality, a Model for Accessible Fashion and a Global Shaper at the Global Shapers Community (an initiative of the World Economic Forum).

On May 26, 2002, at the age of 13, Malvika lost both her hands in a grenade explosion at her home in Bikaner and sustained severe injuries to both her legs including multiple fractures, nerve paralysis and hypoesthesia. After 18 months of hospitalisation (involving multiple surgeries) in Chennai, Malvika began to walk with the aid of crutches and was fitted with prosthetic hands.

> continue on next page

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Following her hospitalisation, Malvika appeared as a private candidate in the SSLC examination in Chennai. Writing the exam with the help of a scribe, she secured a state rank among the private candidates. This gained public attention and she was invited to meet the then President of India, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam.

Malvika received the first Women In The World Emerging Leaders Award in New York. She joined UN Women (IANYD) and, in March 2017, was invited to deliver a speech at the United Nations. She is also the Co-Chair of the World Economic Forum India Economic Summit 2017.

Today, Malvika is a Disability Rights Activist and is a fierce advocate for inclusion of women with disabilities at all levels of the society. She gave a motivational talk at the Youth Forum organised by UN Women at the 61st session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW61). Her story shows what is possible, when all women and girls are empowered, and also reflecting on gender equality and on social, economic and political inclusion of all.



**Dr William Tan**  
Neuroscientist & Physician,  
World Records Holder  
Paralympian,  
Author & International  
Inspirational Speaker

**Dr William Tan** is the personification of both passion and compassion. He contracted polio at the age of two and is paralysed from the waist down. Notwithstanding his disability, he has shown outstanding strength in overcoming adversities. Upon graduation from the National University of Singapore and joining the Civil Service, he ventured abroad for postgraduate studies, with dreams of becoming a scientist and medical doctor. He graduated from Harvard University with a First Class Honours in Physiology, and trained at the world-renowned Mayo Clinic.

Dr Tan is also an accomplished sportsman. An Asian-Pacific Games triple gold medalist, he has also competed in the 1988 Seoul Paralympics, the World Games as well as the Commonwealth Games. He holds six endurance marathon world records including the "Fastest time to complete Three marathons in Three Consecutive Days in Three countries". However, upon realising that, "winning medals, trophies or prize money should not be an end to itself. It should be a means to further goodness and to help people." Since then, he has devoted to championing as well as fundraising for needy causes in worldwide. He has skydived, water-skied, sailed and even climbed a 14-storey building to raise money. He has helped raised more than \$18 million on a voluntary basis for charities locally and internationally, over the last 22 years. Some of his humanitarian efforts include Polioplus for the worldwide eradication of polio and Operation Smile.

In 2007, Dr Tan became the first person in the world to accomplish a marathon in a wheelchair in the North Pole in 21 hours and 10 mins despite overwhelming obstacles and extreme conditions of -25 deg C to raise funds for Global Flying Hospitals. The very same year, he became the fastest person in the world to complete 7 marathons across 7 continents in 26 days to raise funds for international charities on 7 continents.

> continue on next page

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In 2009, Dr Tan was diagnosed with Stage 4 (end-stage) leukemia. True to his fighting spirit, he turned this adversity into opportunity. Throughout his 6 months of toxic chemotherapy followed by bone marrow transplant, he championed for needy cancer patients who cannot afford the high cost of cancer treatment in Singapore. On 26 September 2010, he achieved his best time ever in para-cycling at the Berlin Marathon. One year after his bone marrow transplant, he accomplished two full marathons back to back with finishing times better than his pre-leukemia days.

In 2014 and 2015, he hand-cycled from London to Paris over a distance of 500 km in four days to raise funds for lymphoma and leukemia research in USA, UK, New Zealand and Singapore. His battle against end-stage leukemia however, has been his longest and most painful race. It has transformed him into a more compassionate physician and invigorated him to dedicate his new lease of life to doing more for humanity. His journey of resilience and reinventing oneself to scale greater heights in the face of adversity continues to inspire many individuals and corporate leaders.



**Mark Chay**

Olympian, Sportsman of the Year (2001), Chairman & CEO, International Sports Academy

**Mark Chay** is a Singaporean swimmer who has represented Singapore at the SEA Games and Summer Olympics. His international swimming career began at the 1997 SEA Games, and stretched all the way till the 2005 SEA Games. In between, he has competed in a total of five SEA Games, two Asian Games, two Commonwealth Games and two Olympics. He has been awarded "Singapore Sportsboy of the Year" in 2000, and Sportsman of the Year in 2001. Chay competed and studied at Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. He was the Mountain West Conference Champion and despite numerous injuries throughout his junior and senior years, he continued to swim in competitions. Chay graduated from Brigham Young University with a degree in Communications: Communications studies emphasis. After just missing the qualifying for the Olympics, Chay retired from swimming in July 2007.

Chay will represent the Singapore National Olympic Council as Chef de Mission, 2018 Commonwealth Games. He is also a Member, Athletes' Committee for the Olympic Council Of Asia and Chairman and CEO, International Sports Academy amongst his many other roles.