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#### MEDIA RELEASE For Immediate Release

## SCHOLASTIC ASIA AND NBDCS CONTINUE TO LOOK FOR THE BEST UNPUBLISHED ASIAN CHILDREN'S MANUSCRIPTS IN 2016 The next Scholastic Asian Book Award is now open.

Singapore, 25 June 2015 - The National Book Development Council of Singapore (The Book Council), in partnership with Scholastic Asia, continues to administer the Scholastic Asian Book Award (SABA). The prize carries a grand prize of publication through Scholastic Asia, as well as a cash prize of \$10,000.

2 The award is open to all creators aged 18 and above living in Asia and of Asian descent. The award is looking for chapter book, novel, or short story collection manuscripts of at least 6,000 words targeted at children 7-17 years of age.

3 Executive Director of the National Book Development Council of Singapore Mr R Ramachandran says, "After three very successful award periods that saw six books published by Scholastic Asia, and three more on the way, we are very excited for what entrants to this fourth iteration of the Scholastic Asian Book Award might produce. Asia has many diverse voices, and we want to hear as many of them as possible."

4 Director of Scholastic Asia Selina Lee says, "There is an increasing demand for Asian content and we have seen incredible work coming in through the Scholastic Asian Book Award. We've published six of the winning manuscripts and are looking forward to bring more inspiring stories to the world of children's literature."

5 SABA 2016 is open for submissions, and will close on 1 September 2015, with shortlisted authors announced in April 2016. Published and unpublished authors may enter, but all entries must be original, unpublished manuscripts.

(For more details on the competition and prize categories, please refer to the included documents.)

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# About the Scholastic Asia Book Award (SABA)

The Scholastic Asian Book Award (SABA) is a joint initiative between the National Book Development Council of Singapore (NDBCS) and Scholastic Asia. To promote Asian experiences and expression in creative and innovative forms, this award recognises writers of Asian origin whose manuscripts have the potential to share uniquely Asian experiences of life, spirit, and thinking with the rest of the world. For more information, visit: <u>http://bookcouncil.sg/awards/detail/scholastic-asian-book-award</u>.

### About the National Book Development Council of Singapore

The National Book Development Council of Singapore (The Book Council) is a non-profit, charitable organisation committed to addressing the needs of publishers, book suppliers, and libraries, as well as the reading and writing communities. Founded in 1969, the Book Council has been setting the stage for a vibrant literary arts community in Singapore for the past four decades. For more information, visit: <u>http://bookcouncil.sg/</u>.

### **About Scholastic**

Scholastic Corporation is the world's largest publisher and distributor of children's books and a leader in educational technology and related services and children's media. Scholastic creates quality books, print and technology-based learning materials and programs, magazines, multi-media and other products that help children learn both at school and at home. The Company distributes its products and services worldwide through a variety of channels, including school-based book clubs and book fairs, retail stores, schools, libraries, on-air, and online at <u>www.scholastic.com</u>.