



**Dato' Dr Jannie Tay**  
**Co-Founder/Executive Vice Chairman, The Hour Glass Limited**  
**Founder, Save Our Planet Investments Pte Ltd**  
**Founder/Patron, Save Our Planet Foundation**

Dato' Dr Jannie Tay is a businesswoman whose achievements are recognized both in Singapore and around the world.

The Hour Glass, a company Jannie Tay co-founded with her husband in 1979, is a leading contemporary specialist watch retailer in the Asia Pacific region. From a one-boutique operation in 1979, The Hour Glass Group has developed a regional network of 27 boutiques strategically located in prime shopping belts in Australia, Hong Kong, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.

Under her leadership, The Hour Glass has received numerous awards including the Singapore Business Award – DHL and Business Times “Enterprise Award” (1990), the National Productivity Award (1991) and the Specialty Store of the Year Award from the Singapore Tourist Promotion Board. The Hour Glass was selected as one of the most valuable listed companies with the highest brand values by the International Enterprise Singapore at the inaugural Singapore Brand Award 2002. A firm believer in total quality and its people, she was instrumental for the company receiving the People Developer certification in 2001 and the Singapore Service Class Award in 2007 making The Hour Glass the first watch retailer in the world to achieve this honour. Her open door policy makes herself assessable and approachable to her staff at all times.

Dato' Dr Tay has also dedicated a great deal of her time to working with organizations for women. She was a member of the Women's Leadership Initiative Board, John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Dr Jannie Tay became a member of the first Business Advisory Council of the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS) in the year 2000. Its aim is to assist the organization in improving business practices and to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of UNOPS' clients. She is also a member of the Business Advisory Council of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP) since 2004. UNESCAP's mandate is to foster cooperation between its members in order to promote economic and social development in the Asia Pacific region.

As the first and only woman executive board member of the Commonwealth Business Council, her main role is to involve the private sector in the promotion of international trade and investment. More recently she has been appointed as the first chairman for the Commonwealth Business Women Leaders Network where she will bring her prestigious business acumen and strategic partners from South East Asia into this leadership role.

Dato' Dr Tay is the first woman president of the Asean Business Forum and the Singapore Retailers Association. She has recently undertaken various actions to promote and raise the standards, profile and image of the retail industry by promoting innovation, creativity and excellence in her capacity as the president of the Singapore Retailers Association.

Born in Ipoh, Perak, Malaysia, she holds a Bachelor of Science in Physiology and Masters of Science in Pharmacology from Monash University in Melbourne. It is due to her admirable entrepreneurial skills, foresight and passion for fundraising that she was conferred with an **Honorary Doctorate in Business Administration** in 1999 by **Oxford Brookes University, United Kingdom**; in 2003, she was conferred the **Darjah Sultan Ahmad Shah Pahang (DSAP) which carries the title Dato'**; in 2004, she was the recipient of the **Monash University Distinguished Alumni Award** in recognition of her outstanding achievements in business in Singapore and internationally, for her energetic advocacy for the advancement of women, and for her sustained contributions to community causes. She is married and has three children and three grandchildren.

Her family roots and background in pharmacology and business, combined with her passion and concern for **wellness and for the environment** has led her to establish **Save Our Planet Investments**, a holding company with businesses in lifestyle, forestry and bio-medical industries, focused on **Global Wellness**. **Save Our Planet Investments** promotes **Global Integrated Medicine**, a synergy of ancient cures and modern science, under the **Scientific Tradition** brand. It carries a range of lingzhi/reishi products, garlic, and other related wellness products.

To support the ever-increasing awareness of the impact of global warming, Jannie Tay has invested in a biotechnological company with tissue culture facilities that propagates SuperGrow teak, eucalyptus, milaopai, poplar, paulownia, acacia and other species of trees and plants. These micro propagated plantlets, when fully grown, will enhance the greening of the planet at a faster pace, catalyzing global wellness by giving oxygen to the planet – all made possible through this newly established **Save Our Planet Foundation**.

Websites:

[www.thehourglass.com](http://www.thehourglass.com)

[www.sopf.org](http://www.sopf.org)

[www.scientifictadition.com](http://www.scientifictadition.com)