

义安公司捐赠5000万元 资助拉萨尔艺术学院建教学楼

李思敏 报道
leesimin@sph.com.sg
梁麒麟 摄影

义安公司捐赠5000万元，资助拉萨尔艺术学院建全新的教学楼。这栋最快2024年启用的大楼，将为学生提供演播室和演奏厅等新设施，公众到时也可免费参观展览和演奏会等艺术活动。

这笔捐款是义安公司有史以来捐出的最大单笔捐款。义安公司过去多年也曾捐款资助拉萨尔艺术学院（LASALLE College of the Arts）购买钢琴、图书馆藏书以及颁发奖学金和助学金。

双方今早举行捐赠仪式，义安公司副总理李秀炎在嘉宾副总理兼财政部长王瑞杰的见证下，将5000万元支票交给拉萨尔艺术学院主席余林发。

王瑞杰致辞时指出，双方的合作是我国得以从200多年前发展到现在的良好证明。

“一所潮州会馆捐赠数千万万元给一所由天主教修士创建的艺术学院，相信我们大多数人不会感到稀奇。不过这并非是在世界各地会轻易发生的事情，也是我们该珍惜，而不是当作理所当然的。”

王瑞杰说，义安公司为艺术和艺术教育的支持，对于塑造和加强新加坡身份有重要的贡献。

新的教学楼将命名为“The Ngee Ann Kongsi Building”（暂译义工公司楼）。

拉萨尔艺术学院目前坐落在梧槽地铁站旁，新的教学楼将建在毗邻。

目前的梧槽校区总楼面占地3万5000平方公尺，只能容纳1850名学生，不过该校目前有2700名学生。为了容纳所有学生，学院过去几年分别



在新传媒和温斯德一带租用场地。

余林发今早受访时指出，这不是最理想的安排，不过随着新大楼启用，校方将能把所有设施和师生集中在同一校区内。

“新楼带给我们的好处远超过节省租金费用，作为提供多种学科的艺术学院，将设计、艺术和音乐等学科

的学生聚集在一起，意味着学生能互相交流。将大家聚集在同一个校区的价值非常大。”

李秀炎则说，义安公司之前主要捐款资助主流学校，这笔捐款象征义安公司新的里程碑，通过这笔资金能更好地支持本地杰出艺术教育和文化。

义安公司副总理李秀炎（右五）在我国副总理兼财政部长王瑞杰（右七）的见证下，将5000万元支票交给拉萨尔艺术学院主席余林发（左六）。

新大楼玻璃外观 有专用教学空间

新的教学大楼高12层，总面积达2万平方公尺。

建筑团队将为大楼打造玻璃外观，除了有专用的学习和教学空间，其他新设施还包括演奏厅、影视演播室以及可容纳300人的讲堂。

一楼则会定期举办展览，也会有大量灵活空间，以更好地应付未来的教学和学习需求。现有的图书馆也会搬到新楼，并扩大范围，提供更多藏书和艺术资源。

学院也会为修读持续教育与培训课程（Continuing Education and Training，简称CET）的公众提供更多设施。

The Ngee Ann Kongsi donates \$50 million to LASALLE to build a new teaching building

The Ngee Ann Kongsi has made a donation of \$50 million to LASALLE College of the Arts for the building of a new teaching building. Estimated to be completed in 2024 at the earliest, the campus extension will have facilities such as a broadcasting studio and a music recital hall for students' use. Members of the public will also be able to participate in free arts events such as exhibitions and concerts.

This donation is the largest ever made by the Teochew foundation. The organisation had previously sponsored LASALLE for the purchase of a piano and books for its library, as well as awarded scholarships and bursaries to students.

At the cheque presentation ceremony this morning, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Mr Heng Swee Keat witnessed as guest-of-honour. In his speech, Mr Heng said that the cooperation between the two institutions is a testament to Singapore's development since its founding days.

He further added: "Today, many of us in Singapore do not find it out of the ordinary that a Teochew foundation would donate tens of millions of dollars to an arts school founded by a Catholic order. But this is not something that happens readily in other parts of the world today, and something that we should treasure and never take for granted." Mr Heng went on to applaud The Ngee Ann Kongsi's support for the arts and education, and how this contributes significantly to the moulding and strengthening of Singapore's identity.

To acknowledge this generous gift, the new building will be named The Ngee Ann Kongsi Building. It will be located on an empty plot of land right next to the College's McNally campus and Rochor MRT station.

LASALLE's current McNally campus spans a gross floor area of 35,000 square metres and is meant to accommodate 1,850 students. The college now has an estimate of 2,700 students and has been leasing spaces at Mediacorp and Winstedt Road to meet their needs.

When interviewed this morning, Chairman of LASALLE, Mr Peter Seah said that such an arrangement is not ideal. With the construction of a new building though, the school will be able to centralise facilities and students will no longer have to travel far for classes.

"The advantages of the new building far exceed the savings in leasing fees. By locating students of different disciplines together, it encourages cross-disciplinary collaboration and there is great value in this," he said.

Vice President of The Ngee Ann Kongsi and Chairman of the Donation & Charity Sub-Committee, Mr Richard Lee, said that while The Ngee Ann Kongsi previously sponsored mainstream schools, the latest donation to LASALLE symbolised a new milestone for the organisation and hopes the gift will promote outstanding arts education and culture in Singapore.

New teaching building to have a glass facade and dedicated teaching spaces

At 12 storeys high and a gross floor area of 20,000 square metres, LASALLE's new teaching building will have a glass façade. Other amenities include teaching and learning spaces that are flexible in nature, a music recital hall, a broadcasting studio and a 300-seater lecture theatre.

The ground floor will also boast new gallery areas, and the school's current library will also re-locate to this new space and be upsized to house more books.

The College will also provide more facilities for members of the public to enrol in Continuing Education and Training (CET) courses.