

义安公司5000万元资助拉萨尔建新教学大楼

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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。这栋最快在2024年启用的12层楼高新楼，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观赏演奏会等艺术活动。

新大楼命名为“The Ngee Ann Kongsi Building”（义安公司楼），将毗邻现有梧槽校区，也会衔接至梧槽地铁站。

这笔捐款是义安公司历来捐出的最大单笔捐款。义安公司过去也曾捐款资助拉萨尔艺术学院（LASALLE College of the Arts）购买三角钢琴、图书馆藏书，以及颁发奖学金和助学金。

双方昨天举行捐赠仪式，义安公司副总理李秀炎在受邀主宾副总理兼财政部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。

王瑞杰致辞时说，两所历史悠久的机构在新加坡开埠200周年之际合作，共同为国家未来做出贡献，是我国得以从200多年前发展至今的良好证明。

“潮州人成立的基金，捐赠数千万元给一所由天主教人士创建的艺术学院，相信我们大多数人不会感到稀奇。不过，这不是当今世界各地容易见到的事，也是我们该珍惜，而不是当作理所当然的事。”

目前的梧槽校区总楼面占地3万5000平方公尺，可容纳1850名学生，不过该校目前有2700名学生。为了容纳所有学生，学院过去几年分别租用新传媒的演播室和温斯德路一带场地。

余林发受访时指出，这不是最理想的安排，不过新大楼启用后，校方就能把所有设施和学生集中在同一校区，学生

也不必往返不同校区。“另外，作为提供多种学科的艺术学院，把修读设计、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，取得更大协作。”

新大楼总楼面面积达2万平方公尺，除了有专用的学习和教学空间，其他新设施包括演奏厅、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，以更好地应付未来需求。现有的图书馆会搬到新大楼，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。

义安公司自1933年起涉足教育界，在本地创建义安小学和义安中学等学府，也定期捐款资助其他主流学校。

李秀炎指出，义安公司之前主要资



拉萨尔艺术学院新大楼将毗邻现有梧槽校区（图中绿地），也会衔接至梧槽地铁站，预计在2024年启用。（梁麒麟摄）

助主流学校，这次的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。

1845年创立的义安公司，今年3月也

拨出15万元赞助超过800户有需要的家庭订阅一年的《联合早报》。李秀炎说，义安公司接下来会在医疗保健和乐龄关怀等领域提供更多支持。

The Ngee Ann Kongsi has donated \$50 million to LASALLE to build new 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.

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 in the right next to the College's McNally campus and Rochor MRT station.

This donation is the largest ever made by The Ngee Ann Kongsi. The organisation had previously sponsored LASALLE for the purchase of a grand piano and books for its library as well as the awarding of scholarships and bursaries.

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.

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.

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.

The Ngee Ann Kongsi has been involved with the education sector in Singapore since 1933, setting up schools such as Ngee Ann Primary School and Ngee Ann Secondary School.

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.

Established in 1845, The Ngee Ann Kongsi also donated \$150,000 in March this year to sponsor more than 800 needy families a year's worth of *Lianhe Zaobao* subscription. Mr Lee said that the organisation has plans to provide more support for sectors such as healthcare and elderly care.