

Passing on the Legacy



DT8: Tan Kah Kee

Resilience (自强不息) & *Gratitude* (饮水思源)

Hwa Chong Institution

“The artwork reveals a myriad of rousing tributes to those who have walked before us, as well as heart-warming reflections on those walking by our side in the present.”

- Hwa Chong Institution

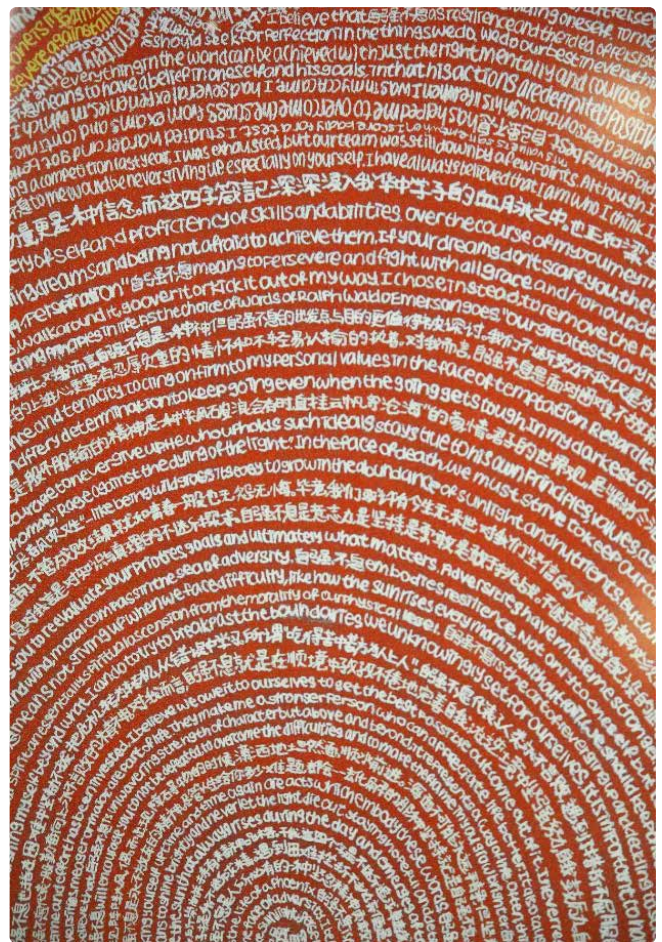


About the Artwork

The artwork inspired by Tan Kah Kee's remarkable philanthropic legacy and two enduring expressions 自强不息 (Resilience) and 饮水思源 (Gratitude).

自强不息 (Resilience) originates from the Book of Changes (易经), and is Hwa Chong Institution's motto. It embodies the spirit of tenacity, innovation, passion, and tireless self-improvement. The students and staff of Hwa Chong Institution embarked on this community art project to reflect on what it means to be resilient in times of hardship.

Upon entering station, the public are greeted by a cheerful sun & clouds formed by streams of colourful text diligently handwritten by the students. Up close, the artwork reveals a myriad of inspirational reflections on the value of resilience, which is another important value of our community.



饮水思源 (Gratitude) is a traditional Chinese idiom which implores us to think of the water's source as we drink from it. The students and staff of Hwa Chong Institution contribution on this community art project also reflect on what it means to give back to society today.

Gratitude is a long artwork in different shades and hues of blue and green stretching along the corridor on the concourse level. The students' writings depict an image of a water flowing, symbolising the sense of gratitude as one remembers the source of one's origins which also connects us all to our rich history and cultural heritage.

About the Artist

Hwa Chong Institution has played a prominent role in the history of art in Singapore. Pioneer artists Liu Kang, Chen Wen Hsi, and Chen Chong Swee were once teachers in the school, while artists Tan Swie Hian and Ho Ho Ying are eminent alumni. Since the establishment of the Art Elective Programme by the Ministry of Education in the 1980s, Hwa Chong Institution has also produced numerous leaders for Singapore's visual arts scene.

