

学者：提升本地及区域艺术教育 新大学可培养更多创新人才

随着我国迈向数码时代新型经济，创意和创新人才的需求会随之增加。受访学者和业界人士认为新的艺术大学将提升新加坡及区域艺术教育，同时可为我国培养更多能在多元领域发挥创新和创造能力的人才。

我国外交部巡回大使陈庆珠教授，也是国家艺术理事会前主席。她受教育部委任，负责领导临时委员会商讨成立本地首所艺术大学的细节。

陈庆珠接受《联合早报》电邮访问时说，成立艺术大学是新加坡对艺术的地位，以及它对国家发展的重要性，所给予的强力肯定。她认为，新大学将为本地艺术界注入新可能性，其规模效益能开拓新合作网络和国际联系，拉萨尔艺术学院和南洋艺术学院的合作也会带来更丰富的艺术概念和形式。

“创意和创新能力都是新型经济所重视的技能。对艺术和设计感兴趣的学生，将能在艺术大学锻炼想象力、培养艺术敏感度和鉴赏力，而他们将受到雇主青睐。”

南洋理工大学协理副校长（学生福利）郭建文教授认为，成立新的艺术大学是一个大胆的举措。“这释放了明确的信息，



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也就是艺术教育值得让人们在更高的层次上去追求，而且是在新加坡一所专属的艺术大学中。”郭建文也是南大亚洲艺术与设计中心咨询顾问。

目前，不少本地艺术类专业的毕业生，职业发展不局限于传统艺术行业。陈庆珠说：“我认识一名26岁新加坡女生，2017年从新加坡国立大学杨秀桃音乐学院美术系毕业后，到德国汉诺威深造。她目前在慕尼黑一家国际电子集团担任项目经理，同时也是职业歌剧歌手。此外，我发现拉萨尔和南艺很多设计系毕业

生，如今就非常抢手。”

两所艺术学院院长认为，两校借助各自强项，加强合作，可促进艺术百花齐放和多元发展，进而带动本地及区域创意产业。

拉萨尔艺术学院院长史蒂夫·迪克逊教授（Steve Dixon）说，拉萨尔作为未来艺术大学一部分，将能进一步借助自己的国际网络，提升本地艺术教育及艺术家品牌知名度，加强师生同国际顶尖艺术工作者和研究员，以及创意产业的合作。

南洋艺术学院院长苏惠兰说，艺术大学的成立是对本地艺

术教育、艺术创作者的重要肯定，也大力推动我国打造创意之城，成为东南亚一个艺术枢纽的愿景。

两学院强调跨学科教学

她指出，南艺向来以东南亚艺术为强项，可协助落实这项愿景。“两校结盟成立新的大学，也将赋予我们更大影响力，让我们更有效地代表新加坡同国际合作伙伴探讨更大型的战略合作项目。”

两所学院都强调跨学科教学，让学生培养与不同领域的人合作的能力。除了文化艺术及设计领域，两校毕业生从事的行业包括保健、公交及商业等。

DDB新加坡广告创意公司副总裁钟潍韩，也是临时委员会成员。他希望新大学能推进教育界和创意行业的合作，并在创意领域发挥更大领导力、提升研究及倡导力。他相信，随着更多企业走向数码化，人们对优质用户体验，以及设计师、内容创造者及制片人等创意人才的需求会大幅度增加。

“在未来经济，不仅是传统创意行业，非传统创意行业如保健、金融和制造业等，也会有艺术毕业生用武之地。”

Scholars: New university of arts can nurture more innovative talents, improve local and regional art education

As our nation move towards a new type of economy in the digital age, the demand for creative and innovative talents will increase. Scholars and industry professionals believe that a new university of the arts, co-managed by LASALLE and NAFA, will enhance arts education in Singapore and the region, as well as nurture more talents capable of driving innovation and creativity in diverse fields.

Professor Chan Heng Chee, Ambassador-at-Large at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and ex-chairman of the National Arts Council, was appointed by the Ministry of Education to lead a pro-tem committee to work with the two institutions to develop the structure and operating model of the new arts university.

Responding to queries from *Lianhe Zaobao*, Professor Chan Heng Chee said that the new university of the arts is a strong affirmation by Singapore on the status of the arts and its importance to the development of the nation. She believes that the new university will inject new possibilities into the local art scene, and its economy of scale will open up new collaborative networks between LASALLE, NAFA and the region.

"Creativity and innovation are skills valued by the new economy. Students who are interested in art and design can exercise their imagination and cultivate their artistic sensitivity. This will stand them in good stead to be favoured by employers," she added.

Professor Kwok Kian Woon, Associate Vice President (Student Wellbeing) of NTU, believes that the establishment of a new arts university is a bold move. "This sends a clear message that arts education is worth pursuing at a higher level in Singapore," he said.

At present, the career development of many local arts graduates is not limited to the traditional arts industry. Professor Chan Heng Chee said, "I know a 26-year-old Singaporean girl who went to Germany for further studies after graduating as a Fine Arts major from the Yong Siew Toh Conservatory of Music of NUS. She is currently working as a project manager for an international electronics group in Munich and is also a professional opera singer. Many design graduates from LASALLE and NAFA are also well-sought after by employers nowadays."

The Presidents of the two arts institutions believe that by leveraging on their respective fortes and strengthening cooperation, it will encourage the arts to flourish and diversify, which in turn will drive local and regional creative industries.

Professor Steve Dixon, President of LASALLE, said that as part of the future university of the arts, LASALLE will be able to leverage on its international networks to enhance local arts education, providing greater collaboration between local academics and students with global creatives and researchers.

Tan Wai Lan, President of NAFA, remarked that the establishment of a university of the arts is an important affirmation of local art creators, and will vigorously promote Singapore as a city of creativity and arts hub of Southeast Asia. She further added that Southeast Asian art has always been a strength of NAFA, and that "this alliance will allow us to more effectively represent Singapore and discuss larger strategic collaborative projects with international partners."

Both LASALLE and NAFA emphasise interdisciplinary teaching, enabling students to develop the ability to work with people from different fields. In addition to the fields of culture, art and design, graduates of the two institutions have gone on to work in industries such as healthcare, public transportation and commerce.

Jeff Cheong, Deputy CEO of DDB Group Singapore, is also a member of the pro-tem committee. He hopes that the new arts university can promote cooperation between the education sector and creative industry, exert greater leadership in the creative field, and enhance research and advocacy. He believes that as more companies move towards digitalisation, people's demand for high-quality user experience and creative talents such as designers, content creators and filmmakers will increase substantially.

"In the future economy, art graduates will find their place not only in the traditional creative industries, but also in non-traditional industries such as healthcare, finance and manufacturing," he said.