

EMBARGOED TILL 7 SEPTEMBER 2019, 9.00 PM



2 September 2019 (*embargoed till 7 September 2019, 9.00pm*)

MEDIA RELEASE

KWONG WAI SHIU HOSPITAL ATTEMPTS TO BREAK RECORD FOR LARGEST LANTERN WALL DURING MID-AUTUMN FESTIVAL CELEBRATION

Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital's (KWSH) annual "Light A Lantern, Warm A Heart" Mid-Autumn Festival celebration will return on 7 September this year on a larger scale.

2 The highlight this year is an enormous lantern wall. KWSH will attempt to break the record for the Largest Lantern Wall, which will be certified on site by the Singapore Book of Records. Measuring almost an impressive 34 meters long and two meters tall, and made up of more than a thousand uniquely designed lanterns, this magnificent lantern wall will adorn the corridor of one of the Hospital's conserved buildings and offer a beautiful backdrop for the Garden.

3 The lantern wall is the result of collective effort among the Hospital's residents, volunteers, as well as community hub partners, Fresenius Medical Care, Healthway Medical, HCA Hospice Care and the Silver Generation Office, all of whom had played a part by lovingly painting the lanterns. Dr Ow Chee Chung, CEO of KWSH, said, "KWSH is proud of the record-breaking attempt, and achieving this feat collaboratively with our volunteers and partners makes it all the more meaningful. We are grateful for their support for this event and as we continuously strive to better serve the community."

4 Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital's iconic pavilion will also be transformed into the biggest lantern in the compound that night and surrounded by Kong Ming lanterns which will light up the night sky when released. The Hospital will be further aglow with a myriad of colourful lanterns of various sizes lining the walkways.

5 Student participants of the Hospital's innovative Grandfriend Programme will also return to the compound that night to greet their Grandfriends, the elderly residents whom they paired with during the programme. This heart-warming gathering among the Grandfriends will truly capture the very essence of the festival of reunion.

6 Members of the media are invited to share the beautiful sights with KWSH and to cover the Mid-Autumn celebration on Saturday, 7 September 2019, 6:00pm at Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital. The event shall be open to full media coverage. Please RSVP with Leong Keat Yeng (Jieying) and Tay Chian Yong by Thursday, 5 September 2019, 5:00pm. A brief programme is appended for your perusal.

EMBARGOED TILL 7 SEPTEMBER 2019, 9.00 PM

Event Details

Date: Saturday, 7 September 2019
Time: 6.00pm to 9:00pm
Venue: Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital
705 Serangoon Road, Singapore 328127

Programme

6:00pm: Commencement of stage entertainment
6:30pm: Arrival of guests
7:00pm: Speech by Mr Patrick Lee, Chairman, Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital
7:15pm: Mid-Autumn Festival celebration light-up ceremony
7:30pm: Releasing of Kong Ming lanterns
7:40pm: Wishing ceremony at lotus pond
7:50pm: Recommencement of stage entertainment
8:30pm: Presentation of certificate by Singapore Book of Records
8:35pm: Lantern walk
9:00pm: End of event

Media Contact

For more information, you may contact:

Name: Ms LEONG Keat Yeng (Jieying)
Designation: Executive, Corporate & Community Relations
Contact: keatyeng_leong@kwsh.org.sg | Tel: 6422 1296

Name: Mr TAY Chian Yong
Designation: Assistant Manager, Corporate & Community Relations
Contact: chianyong_tay@kwsh.org.sg | Tel: 6422 1294

About Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital

Kwong Wai Shiu Hospital (KWSH) is a 108-year-old charitable healthcare organisation and is registered as an Institution of Public Character, committed to looking after the sick and needy. In the last century, it has continued the strong tradition of community service, having cared for many generations of Singaporeans, beginning its legacy in 1910 even before Singapore's independence. It is now one of the most established providers in the ILTC (Intermediate and Long Term Care) sector.

At present, KWSH operates a nursing home, a rehabilitation centre, a traditional Chinese medicine centre, two community care centres and offers home care services. Many of its patients are from the lower-income group and their fees are heavily subsidised.

To better serve the rapidly ageing population, KWSH has undergone redevelopment to be transformed into an integrated community healthcare hub, providing healthcare services to its residents and the community. With the completion of the redevelopment in 2018, KWSH is now the largest single-site nursing home with over 600 beds as well as expansion in its other services.

Visit www.kwsh.org.sg for more information.

About Grandfriend Programme

KWSH started the Grandfriend Programme, a first-of-its-kind camp in Singapore where post-secondary student participants get to experience staying in a nursing home, as part of the Hospital's efforts to promote intergenerational bonding and inculcate the values of care and compassion in the younger generation.

The three-day, two-night residential camp offers students a first-hand observation of the behind-the-scenes operations of the nursing home as well as opportunities to interact with the healthcare professionals involved in various eldercare services at KWSH. Paired one-to-one with the residents, the students also take part in the residents' daily activities together with their respective resident buddy. The befriending opportunity allows the youngsters to cultivate empathy as well as gain skills in interacting with the elderly.

Three runs of the camp have been held till date, with the inaugural session in December 2018. A total of 36 students have undergone the unique experience till date and some of the students have since signed up as volunteers of KWSH. The Hospital plans to run three to four runs of the camp each year, with the next edition coming up in December 2019.

----- END -----