

## MEDIA INVITATION FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# NGO LAUNCHES A LOW CARBON FOOTPRINT SUSTAINABLE LIVING GALLERY IN SUPPORT OF SINGAPORE GREEN PLAN 2030



**SINGAPORE, 25 JULY 2023:** As per the date of this media invitation, 5 years and 363 days is how much time left the world has to prevent the earth from warming beyond 1.5 degrees Celcius. With the worsening state of the environment and increased socio-economic issues all around the world, the need to take action has become increasingly urgent in recent years. In line with the month of <u>Go Green SG</u> and the sustainable living pillar of <u>Singapore Green Plan 2030</u>, Tzu Chi will be

officially launching a permanent sustainable living gallery at the Humanistic Youth Centre (HYC) on **30 July 2023**.

Designed with the theme of environmental, social, and economic sustainability, the gallery named Glow On Gallery (GOG) is a proud work of the joint effort between Tzu Chi and a local curatorial team The MERRY MEN WORKS for more than a year. Drawing on the essence of Tzu Chi's 57 years of global and 30 years of local experience as an international charity organisation, the gallery hopes to display true stories of love for all beings and encourage Singaporeans to lead a more sustainable lifestyle. Additionally, with the younger generation poised to become the leaders of tomorrow, a key aim of the gallery would be to engage and mobilise our nation's youths in sustainability efforts.

As such, its design and content were curated with the youth as the primary target audience. Elements such as having more interactive mechanical installations, and bilingual content were all key considerations during the conceptualisation phase.

**Ms Grace Fu**, **Minister for Sustainability and the Environment**, will be attending the gallery's launching ceremony as the Guest of Honour (GOH). Several other distinguished guests will also grace the event including:

1) National Environment Agency CEO, Mr Wong Kang Jet

2) Member of Parliament (MP) of Marsiling-Yew Tee (Woodgrove division), Ms Hany Soh

- 3) MP of Nee Soon GRC (Nee Soon South division), Ms Carrie Tan
- 4) MP of Ang Mo Kio GRC (Jalan Kayu division), Ms Ng Ling Ling

Tzu Chi's <u>environmental protection mission</u> in Singapore has come a long way since the early days in 1994 when the first environmental protection volunteer group was formed. While Tzu Chi's environmental work was more focused on door-to-door recycling efforts in the early days, it has since shifted towards the aim of public education.

Today, Tzu Chi's environmental education is carried out using three main modes – 1) hands-on practice at more than 30 monthly eco-points island-wide, 2) gamification through the annual Environmental Education E-Sports World Cup and 3) an educational gallery.

But beyond just environmental work, Tzu Chi has also been contributing towards the socio-economic sustainability of Singaporean society since it first began its efforts of relieving poverty in 1993. Thus, the Foundation hopes to advocate for the three areas of environmental, social and economic sustainability through the gallery.

Driving sustainability efforts in Singapore is not a task to be undertaken by a single individual or organisation. As Minister Grace Fu mentioned in her opening speech about the Singapore Green Plan at the 2021 Ministry of Sustainability's Committee of Supply Debates, it is "a whole-of-nation effort, requiring every government agency, individual, business, research institution, community group, and civil society organisation to work in unison".

Therefore, by tapping on its well-established and diverse experience in promoting the Missions of Charity, Medicine, Education, Humanistic Culture, and Environmental Protection over the years, Tzu Chi hopes to play its part in the nation's overall sustainability efforts to steer toward the ultimate goal of zero carbon emission by 2050 with the new gallery.

We welcome members of the media to join us in witnessing the GOG's launching ceremony. Appended below are the details of the event for your kind attention:

Event Name: Glow On Gallery Launching Ceremony

Date: 30 July 2023 (Sunday)

**Venue:** Tzu Chi Humanistic Youth Centre (30A Yishun Central 1, Singapore 768796.)

Time: 2:15 pm to 4:15 pm (Media friends are invited to attend at 1pm)

Event Timeline		
1:00 pm	Pre-event gallery tour for media friends	
2:00 pm	Arrival of guests	
2:15 pm	Arrival of GOH	
2:20 pm	Event start: Introduction of Tzu Chi Foundation and Environment	
	Protection Mission	
2:35 pm	Performance by Tzu Chi volunteers	
2:45 pm	Welcome speech by Tzu-Chi Foundation (Singapore) CEO, Mr Low	
	Swee Seh	
2:50 pm	Keynote speech by GOH, Minister Grace Fu	
3:05 pm	Gallery launch ceremony @ gallery's entrance	
3:15 pm	GOH tour of gallery	
3:35 pm	Networking reception and media interviews	
4:15 pm	Event end	

Kindly confirm your attendance via email at <u>media@tzuchi.org.sg</u> by **27 July 2023**, **5pm.** As there are limited vacancies, only media who RSVP will be admitted. Do RSVP early for better seating arrangements.



A preview of the Glow On Gallery. (Photo by Tzu-Chi Foundation (Singapore))



Gallery exhibition zone: The Cost of Plastic Waste (Photo by Tzu-Chi Foundation (Singapore))

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### **ABOUT TZU-CHI FOUNDATION (SINGAPORE)**

The Buddhist Tzu Chi Foundation is a global non-profit humanitarian organisation founded in 1966 by a Buddhist nun named Dharma Master Cheng Yen in Taiwan. Its missions of charity, medicine, education, humanistic culture and environmental protection has brought relief to over 100 countries.

In 1993, Tzu-Chi Foundation (Singapore) was established, with the organisation's work starting with the Mission of Charity and the goal of relieving poverty, before gradually expanding into the Missions of Medicine, Education, Humanistic Culture, and Environmental Protection over the years. The heart of Tzu Chi is embedded in its name: in Chinese, "tzu" means compassion and "chi," relief.

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For more information, please visit us at:

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