

Chingay 2024: A Letter of Recognition



In the blink of an eye, the 2024 Chingay Parade marched us by, closing in on nearly three months since our ECSS seniors gave Singapore a remarkable performance. Though the parade may have lasted for just two days, the memories of giving it their all for months of practice, hours of rehearsals, making their way down the stage on the actual days, and for a few, shaking the President's hands, are among some memories that are sure to live dearly in their hearts.

That is evidently so for sisters and retirees, Mdm Goh Guat Kheng and Mdm Goh Pheck Hong who volunteered for ECSS' Ukulele contingent. Featured in an article covered by The Straits Times, the sisters were among a hundred guests who were specially invited to the Istana as part of an appreciation reception hosted by President Tharman on 28 February.

IThe sisters aged 72 & 67, both challenged and overcame their physical limitations of weakened legs due to osteoporosis. Despite their difficulties, they endured and powered through 106 days of practices, 18 rounds of rehearsals and over 50 accumulative hours of hard work.

"I don't know for how much longer I will be able to walk. However much I can do, I will do. If I can walk, I will walk."

Along with the heartfelt statements made by the younger Mdm Goh, our hearts are filled with utmost respect and admiration for their courage and unwavering perseverance in the face of adversity.

Have you participated in Chingay? Share with me at solomon_kang@ecss.org.sg