

積極思想 創意無疆

為生命裝上「創意」的翅膀

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「每個人每天大約會產生無數個想法。如果擁有積極的態度，那麼就能樂觀地、富有創造力地把這些想法轉換成正面的能源和動力；如果態度是消極的，就會顯得悲觀、軟弱、缺乏安全感」這一段話，說明了人在環境之中擁有兩種處事態度：積極地看待以及面對每一件小事情；抑或消極地對待生活周遭的每一件事情。這兩種態度，會使事情得到兩種不同的結果，端看我們如何選擇。同樣地，我們如何找到具有創意的事物？創意不僅只關於於靈感的去留，更在於我們面對事情的態度，創意往往隱藏在生命的每一件小事情之中，需要人們去挖掘。面對這些「小事情」，我們願不願意認真地看待？將這些事視為「重要的小事情」？從這些「重要的小事情」之中，我們找出創意的來源，找出生活中的靈感。

源源不絕的靈感來自於活潑看待事物的心，更來自於極大的好奇心。凱文·凱利(Kevin Kelly)曾說：「求知若飢，虛心若愚。」後來被蘋果電腦的創辦人賈伯斯引用在史丹福大學的畢業演說之中。如同這一句話所說的，追求知識，需要一顆渴慕、虛己的心；追求創意，同樣也需要如此的心志。

台灣藝術評論家吳介祥曾經提及台灣的文化產業，以「十年鍛一劍」作比喻，倘若「台灣的文化」是一支尚須琢磨的劍，我們願不願意用「十年」去鍛造它？使它成為一把利劍？使它更臻完備？同樣地，創意不僅只有一時之間思想上的浪花，創意要被延續、被發揚下去，更需要如涓涓細流的毅力、長期不滅的熱情，以及面對生活各種困境的積極態度。

台灣現代舞團雲門舞集曾經經歷舞團在台北八里的排練場發生火災，歷年來的演出資料以及排練場地瞬間付諸一炬，然而創辦人林懷民沒有因此而將舞團終止，經歷一段時間的沉寂，雲門舞集捲土重來，繼續將舞團活動進行下去。從這一個被英國倫敦《泰晤士報》評為「亞洲第一當代舞團」的經歷中，我們看見他們面對生命的積極創作態度：不論有沒有資源，事情依然要繼續做下去；不論有沒有資金，依然要為下一場表演作預備。因著這樣努力不懈的做事態度，雲門舞集如此前衛、如此具有創意的現代舞蹈，才得以在台灣以及世界上發揚光大。舞團創辦人——林懷民，在〈舞士道——給年輕藝術工作者的筆記〉之中說到：「人，才是最重要的事情，要源源不斷地推翻自己」、「從來沒有穩定的時候，不安逸，不重複。」從這幾段話之中我們可以學習到：擁有創意、保持創意，需要積極的態度。在此列出幾項要點，也期勉每一位同學：

- 一 創意必須有熱情的心，以及努力不懈的態度。保持一顆願意的心，以及積極思考的態度，我們會發現，創意就隱藏在生活的「小事情」之中。
- 二 隨時提問，不斷地推翻自己，虛心求問，隨時有捲土重來的決心。
- 三 執行力才是關鍵。創意必須被實現出來，需要毅力、需要耐心，使它得以被發揚、被延續。

同學們，在我們生活之中，只要用心體會，積極思考，具有創意的事物其實隨處可得。讓我們用心感受每一件小事情，積極看待每一件小事情，並且努力實踐，為生命裝上「創意」的翅膀。

Positive Thinking Boundless Creativity --- Equip yourself with the “Wing of Creativity”

There are numerous ideas flashing through everyone’s mind in a day. If you carry a positive attitude, then you can transform, in a positive and creative way, those numerous ideas into positive energy and dynamics; however, if it is a passive attitude, then you will look pessimistic, weak, and insecure. The above passages show that there are two kinds of attitude: to face and treat even trivial things positively, or be negative toward everything in life. Different attitudes end up in different results, depending on how you make your choice. Then, how can we find things that are creative in nature? Creativity matters not just with the come-and-go of inspiration, but more with the attitudes we have toward what’s happening around us, as creativity is often hidden in every trivial thing in life. Are we willing to deal with these “trivial things” seriously? — to take them as “though trivial, yet important” things? From these “trivial things,” we find the source of creativity and daily life inspiration.

An endless inspiration shall come from a lively mind, and even more from a great sense of security. Kevin Kelly once said, “Stay hungry, stay foolish.” This passage was later quoted by Steve Jobs, the founder of Apple Computer Co., in his address in the commencement of Stanford University. Just like what the passage has indicated, while pursuing knowledge, it takes a thirsty and humble mind: when it comes to pursuing creativity, it also takes a will as such. Taiwanese art critic Chieh Hsiang Wu once described the cultural industry in Taiwan as something like “spending ten years to cast a sword”, and if “Taiwan’s culture” is indeed a sword in need of being cast, then are we willing to spend the “10 years” to cast it? — to make it a sharper sword? — to make it a more perfect one? Again, creativity should not be just whimsical waves upon our thoughts. It is something that needs to be continued and developed. Furthermore, it is something that requires everlasting perseverance, long-lasting passion, and positive attitudes toward various difficulties in life.

The famous modern dance performing company in Taiwan -- “Cloud Gate Dance Theater of Taiwan” — was once in great trouble when its rehearsal studio in Pa-Li, New Taipei City was burnt down, destroying the studio and the records of all these years’ performance. Yet, instead of giving up, its founder, Mr. Lin Hwai-Ming(林懷民), had had the theater regained its foot, only after a certain period of dormancy, and has kept it in performing ever since.” Cloud Gate” was once named “Asia’s leading contemporary dance theater” by The Times, London, British. And from its experience, we observed an attitude of aggressively creating to face up to life: with or without resources, things have to be done continuously; with or without funding, we shall always get prepared for the next show. It is because of this persistent attitude, so that “Cloud Gate” as a modern dance theater that has been so ahead of its time and so creative, can distinguish itself in Taiwan and in the world. The theater’s founder — Lin Hwai-Ming, once said in his “A Notebook for Young Artists” that “It is we humans that matter the most. Do constantly overturn yourself,” “Stable moments never exist, so don’t be complacent, nor be repetitive.” We can learn from the above paragraphs that we need to own and maintain creativity, and we need positive attitudes.

I hereby provide few tips and anticipate every and each one of you:

- 1 Creativity must come from an enthusiastic heart and a persevering attitude. Maintain a willing heart and an attitude of aggressive thinking, we can find that creativity is hidden in “trivial” things in daily life.
- 2 Raise questions when there is one. Constantly overturn yourself. Be humble enough to ask for answers. Be determined to stage a comeback at any time.
- 3 Your execution ability is what matters the most. You must have your creativity realized, and it takes perseverance and patience so that it can be enhanced and be extended.

My dear students, creative things are everywhere to find in our life, as long as you can feel and see sincerely, think positively. Let us feel every trivial thing with heart, take on every trivial thing actively, and perform wholeheartedly, and equip our life with the “Wings of Creativity.”

(英譯 謝蓉生)