

PROMINENT SINGAPOREANS

# Agnes and Her *Amazing* Orchid

*How Vanda Miss Joaquim Became Singapore's National Flower*



*Linda Locke · James Wolf · Muhd Noh*

Agnes  
and  
Her *Amazing*  
Orchid



To my mother who fought to get recognition for the achievement of Agnes Joaquim, her grandaunt.  
—Linda

To every Singaporean across the globe, the Vanda Miss Joaquim is part of our national identity.  
—Muhd Noh

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*How Vanda Miss Joaquim Became Singapore's National Flower*

written by

Linda Locke  
James Wolf

illustrated by

Muhd Noh

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When Agnes Joaquim (joe/ah/kim) was born in 1854, Singapore was a very different place. She lived in a mansion surrounded by flowers, trees and shrubs.





Like her parents, Agnes was fascinated by horticulture, which is the science of growing plants. She was intelligent and studied books about the subject.



Despite Singapore's tropical climate, she could grow cool-weather European vegetables such as runner beans and radishes.



How Agnes' skill and perseverance  
created a world-famous orchid:  
the *Vanda Miss Joaquim*.

Co-written by Linda Locke,  
the great-grandniece of Agnes Joaquim.

"Agnes chronicles the remarkable  
journey of a brilliant horticulturist."

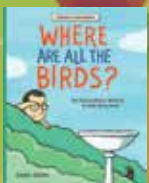
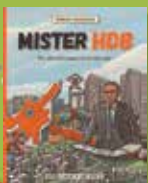
—Kenneth Er, Chief Executive, National Parks Board

"Agnes Joaquim's passion inspires  
us all to pursue our dreams."

—Rosa Daniel, Deputy Secretary (Culture),  
Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth



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