

RECENT ACTIVITIES

Summer show-cum-artistic talk by Hong Kong choreographer

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office (Toronto) (HKETO) sponsored the Little Pear Garden Dance Company to host a renowned Hong Kong choreographer, Mr. Felix Chen, as its resident guest choreographer from late June to late July in Toronto.

Under the residency project, Mr Chen has given master classes and workshops of Chinese contemporary and traditional dance techniques as well as choreographic techniques to local dancers and dance troupes coming from various cultural backgrounds in the past month. The residency project culminated in a summer showcase of contemporary dance creations entitled "Conflare —" at the Winchester Street Theatre on July 22, featuring the works of Mr Chen, amongst others. Before the show, Mr Chen joined other professional dance artists and academics to give an artistic talk on the process of modern dance creation.

Speaking before the summer showcase, Director of HKETO, Miss Kathy Chan, briefly introduced to the audience the vibrant arts and cultural scene in Hong Kong and highlighted the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Government's efforts in this regard.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

"Hong Kong: Asia's World City" Roving Exhibition

HKETO hosted an opening ceremony of an exhibition entitled "Hong Kong: Asia's World City" in Richmond, British Columbia on July 24. The exhibition, which was first launched in May, will be staged in different cities across Canada this year.

Speaking at the opening ceremony held at the Aberdeen Centre of Richmond, Deputy Director of HKETO, Miss Florence Tsang, said the roving exhibition provides an opportunity for the Canadian public to learn more about Hong Kong, including its beauty and achievements in various areas.

The opening ceremony was also attended by Member of Parliament of Canada, Ms Alice Wong; Members of the Legislative Assembly of British Columbia, Ms Teresa Wat, Mr John Yap and Mr Jas Johal; as well as Mayor of the City of Richmond, Mr Malcolm

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The tentative dates and venues of other stops of the roving exhibition are as follows:

July 30 to August 3	Oakville Town Centre
August 8 to 14	Erin Mills Town Centre in Mississauga
August 20 to 26	Cadillac Fairview Mall in Toronto
August 27 to 31	Toronto City Hall
September 4 to 10	City Centre Library in Surrey
September 11 to 17	Vaughan City Hall
October 8 to 14	Metropolis at Metrotown in Burnaby
Early October	McMaster University in Hamilton

[Click here to read the details.](#)

22nd Fantasia International Film Festival

HKETO supported the screening of seven Hong Kong films at the 22nd Fantasia International Film Festival held from July 12 to August 1 in Montreal. In particular, HKETO is proud to present the world premiere of "Big Brother", which is one of the closing films.

Speaking before the screening of "Big Brother" on August 1, Director of HKETO, Miss Kathy Chan, introduced Hong Kong's vibrant film industry to the audience. She highlighted that the HKSAR Government has been very supportive of the development of Hong Kong film industry.

Director of the film Mr Kam Ka-wai also attended the screening to introduce the film and answer questions from the audience. The other Hong Kong films at the Festival included "Detective Dee: The Four Heavenly Kings", "Five Finger of Death (a.k.a. King Boxer)", "The Blonde Fury", "The Brink", "The Oily Maniac" and "The Unity of Heroes".

[Click here to read the details.](#)

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

2018 Calgary Dragon Boat Race and Festival

HKETO will sponsor the 2018 Calgary Dragon Boat Race & Festival organised by the Calgary Dragon Boat Society at North Glenmore Park in Calgary on August 11 and 12, 2018. The Hong Kong Cup will be presented to the winning team, and exhibition panels will be set up to show to the visitors the history of dragon boating.

For more information, please visit the official website at:

<https://www.calgarydragonboatsociety.com/>

Seminar on “Mix the Spurious with the Genuine: An Introduction to Xiqu (Chinese Opera) Performance”

HKETO will sponsor the Richard Charles Lee Canada-Hong Kong Library of the University of Toronto to host a seminar on “Mix the Spurious with the Genuine: An Introduction to Xiqu (Chinese Opera) Performance” on September 12. The seminar is part of the programme under the Hong Kong Cultural Expo organised by the Starlight Chinese Opera Performing Arts Centre in September.

Dr Chan Chak-lui, Lecturer at the Department of Cultural and Religious Studies of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, will be the keynote speaker of the seminar. She will present the performance technique in Cantonese opera of “mixing the spurious with the genuine” through demonstrations and interactive activities. Miss Kathy Chan, Director of HKETO, will give welcoming remark before the seminar; whereas Dr Xing Fan, Assistant Professor of Asian Theatre and Performance Studies at the University of Toronto, will be the discussant of the seminar.

For details of the seminar, please click the following link:

<https://hongkong.library.utoronto.ca/event/mix-spurious-genuine-introduction-xiqu-chinese-opera-performance>

HONG KONG NEWS

CE visits Shenzhen

The Chief Executive of HKSAR, Mrs Carrie Lam, visited Shenzhen on July 20. She met with leaders of the Shenzhen Municipal Government to promote the co-operation

between Shenzhen and Hong Kong, and visited innovation and technology enterprises and institutions.

During the visit, Mrs Lam visited Ping An Technology (Shenzhen) Co Ltd and was briefed on the company's application of technology in its insurance, healthcare and city management businesses. The company hopes that its smart healthcare services will be leveraged across the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Bay Area.

Mrs Lam then separately met with Secretary of the CPC Shenzhen Municipal Committee, Mr Wang Weizhong, and Mayor of the Shenzhen Municipal Government, Mr Chen Rugui, and attended a lunch hosted by the latter. At the meeting, Mrs Lam congratulated the city for its sustained and rapid economic growth and said she looks forward to further collaboration between Shenzhen and Hong Kong.

Mrs Lam also visited Longgang District to learn about the development plan of the Shimao Shenzhen-Hong Kong International Center project, and had a tour of the Software Town of Shenzhen Universiade as well as the Institute of Robotics and Intelligent Manufacturing of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

CE visited Beijing

The Chief Executive of HKSAR, Mrs Carrie Lam, visited Beijing from July 25 to 28.

On July 26, Mrs Lam met with Vice-Chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference and President of the China Association for Science and Technology (CAST), Professor Wan Gang. She expressed her gratitude to Professor Wan for his staunch support and encouragement over the years on co-operation between the Mainland and Hong Kong in innovation and technology. Later, Mrs Lam met with President of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB), Mr Jin Li-qun, and attended a lunch hosted by him.

Afterwards, Mrs Lam attended the closing ceremony of the Youth Internship Programme at the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). She also exchanged views with the participating youths and visited the Institute of Automation of the CAS after the ceremony.

On July 27, Mrs Lam visited the Guardian Art Center, which is a new one-stop cultural

landmark integrating art exhibition, auction, art warehouse, art education, authentication and restoration, and hotel. Mrs Lam briefed the management of the Centre on the cultural development in Hong Kong in recent years and the West Kowloon Cultural District project.

Mrs Lam also met the CAS President, Professor Bai Chun-li, and attended a lunch hosted by him. Mrs Lam, accompanied by Director of the Palace Museum, Dr Shan Jixiang, then met the students participating in the Beijing Palace Museum Conservation Internship Programme.

Lastly, Mrs Lam watched a performance by the Sing Fai Cantonese Opera Promotion Association from Hong Kong, which provides opportunities for 30 Hong Kong actors aged 6 to over 20 to promote Cantonese opera to Mainland audiences and showcase the results of the Hong Kong new generation in learning Cantonese opera.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

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Enhancements of SME Export Marketing Fund and Dedicated Fund on Branding, Upgrading and Domestic Sales

The Trade and Industry Department (TID) rolled out enhancement measures on the SME Export Marketing Fund (EMF) and the Dedicated Fund on Branding, Upgrading and Domestic Sales (BUD Fund) on August 1.

The ASEAN Programme under the BUD Fund was launched on August 1 to provide funding support to individual non-listed Hong Kong enterprises for enhancing their competitiveness and furthering business development in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) market. Hong Kong Enterprises can obtain a maximum funding of HK\$1 million on a matching basis for projects aiming to develop the ASEAN markets. In addition, the cumulative funding ceilings per enterprise for the current EMF and the Mainland Programme under the BUD Fund have been doubled.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

2018 New Series Hong Kong Banknotes

The Hong Kong Monetary Authority (HKMA), and the three note-issuing banks (NIBs) (Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited, Bank of China (Hong Kong) Limited and The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited) announced on July 24 the issue of the 2018 new series Hong Kong banknotes.

Consistent with the current series, the new series will consist of five denominations, each adopting the same colour scheme. It is the first time that the thematic subjects on the reverse side of the NIBs' new series banknotes are standardised for each denomination to facilitate easy recognition by the public. The selected thematic subjects represent different aspects of Hong Kong as an international metropolis, featuring its rhythm of life, recreation and entertainment, as well as its rich natural and cultural heritage.

The five denominations depict respectively the position of Hong Kong as international financial centre (HK\$1,000), the spectacular Hong Kong UNESCO Global Geopark (HK\$500), Cantonese opera as our art and cultural legacy (HK\$100), butterflies that inhabit Hong Kong (HK\$50), and the popular dim sum and tea culture (HK\$20).

The designs of all five denominations were unveiled on July 24. The HK\$1,000 and HK\$500 notes will be put into circulation in the last quarter of 2018 and early 2019 respectively, and the lower denominations of HK\$100, HK\$50 and HK\$20 will be ready for issue in batches between 2019 and 2020.

All existing banknotes will continue to be legal tender. They will continue to be in circulation alongside the new banknotes, and will be gradually withdrawn as appropriate in due course.

[Click here to read the details.](#)

All-in-one traffic and transport mobile application "HKeMobility" launched

The Transport Department (TD) announced on July 24 that the all-in-one mobile application "HKeMobility" has been launched as one of the initiatives to take forward the Hong Kong Smart City Blueprint.

The TD's three existing mobile applications, namely "Hong Kong eTransport", "Hong Kong eRouting" and "eTraffic News", are integrated into "HKeMobility", with the user interface improved and new features added. The public can acquire real-time traffic and transport information anytime and anywhere to plan their journeys.

"HKeMobility" for Android phones and iPhone are available for free download from Google Play and the App Store respectively. Alternatively, members of the public can download it by scanning the QR code or through the link on the TD's website (www.td.gov.hk).

[*Click here to read the details.*](#)

Applications for taking Common Recruitment Examination and Basic Law Test (Degree / Professional Grades) in Hong Kong in October 2018

The coming Common Recruitment Examination and Basic Law Test (CRE and BLT) is scheduled to be held on **October 6 and 13, 2018 in Hong Kong**. Applications for taking the examination in Hong Kong will be open from **August 3 to 16, 2018**. Persons applying to sit the examination in Hong Kong will **NOT** be allowed to apply again for sitting the examination outside Hong Kong.

For the convenience of those studying or residing outside Hong Kong, the above examination is also scheduled to be held on **December 8, 2018 in seven other cities, namely Beijing, London, San Francisco, New York, Toronto, Vancouver and Sydney**. Applications for taking the examination outside Hong Kong will be open from **September 22 to October 5, 2018**.

The application details and an on-line application system will be available on the webpage appended below during the application periods. Applicants may choose to take any of the CRE papers and / or the BLT paper in this examination either in Hong Kong **or** in one of the cities outside Hong Kong.

[*Click here to read the details.*](#)

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