

Cantonese Opera Advisory Committee welcomes "The Chief Executive's 2021 Policy Address"

The following is issued on behalf of the Cantonese Opera Advisory Committee:

Cantonese Opera Advisory Committee (COAC) welcomes "The Chief Executive's 2021 Policy Address", and supports the training of young Cantonese opera talents as well as the continued professional development of Cantonese opera practitioners.

Professor Andrew Chan Chi-fai, the Chairman of COAC said, "Cantonese opera is a traditional culture in Hong Kong which is very representative. It is also Hong Kong's first world-class intangible cultural heritage item. The HKSAR Government has always strived to foster the development of Cantonese opera in various ways, in order to preserve, safeguard and promote this precious local art form.

COAC is delighted to see that the Chief Executive has raised in Policy Address that the HKSAR Government plans to provide additional resources to nurture Cantonese opera talent and enable continued professional development of practitioners. COAC hopes this will generate more Cantonese opera practitioners, in particular young talent who would play an active role in the transmission of Cantonese opera."

"In addition, in order to attract a wider range of audiences, COAC also wishes that the Government would continue to encourage and support the sector's innovative work to create more plays that appeal to young audiences, as the transmission of Cantonese opera is not only about training practitioners, but also related to nurturing of audiences, especially the cultivation of the young generation's knowledge of and interest in Cantonese opera. In so doing, Cantonese opera can be passed on in a lively manner," Professor Chan continued.

"I hope that the cultural treasure of Cantonese opera will continue to flourish under the active promotion of the Government and its joint efforts with the sector," Professor Chan concluded.