

Exploring Pixar's backstage at Hong Kong Science Museum (with photos)

A new special exhibition, "The Science Behind Pixar", will be held at the Hong Kong Science Museum from tomorrow (July 30). Besides being able to take pictures with the statues of popular Pixar characters, the public can have an unparalleled insight into the animator's unique filmmaking process and understand how Pixar's artists and computer scientists bring artistry and technology together to create marvellous films.

The exhibition showcases eight steps of Pixar's technical process, namely modelling, rigging, surfaces, sets and cameras, animation, simulation, lighting and rendering. With over 50 fun and engaging interactive exhibits, which include maquettes, models and videos, the exhibition offers hands-on experience in different roles and tasks within the production pipeline. Visitors can try to become an animator who poses characters with virtual skeletons; or become a gaffer who designs the best lighting for the character Dory from "Finding Nemo". Visitors also must not miss the chance of taking pictures with statues of Pixar film characters on-site, including Buzz Lightyear from "Toy Story", Sulley and Mike from "Monsters University", and the Parr family and Edna Mode from "The Incredibles".

For 35 years, Pixar Animation Studios has created many groundbreaking popular films, including the world's first entirely computer-animated feature movie, "Toy Story". Curated from a new perspective, the exhibition reveals that Pixar's success is in large part thanks to the ingenious merging of science, technology, engineering, arts and mathematics (also known as STEAM) concepts, which create the life-like characters and realistic scenes.

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The exhibition is presented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department and organised by the Hong Kong Science Museum. It is produced by the Museum of Science in Boston, the United States, in collaboration with Pixar Animation Studios, and fully supported by the Walt Disney Company (Hong Kong) Limited.

The exhibition will run until December 1 at the Ground Floor Exhibition Hall of the Hong Kong Science Museum, which is located at 2 Science Museum Road, Tsim Sha Tsui East, Kowloon. For a better visiting experience, all visitors to this exhibition are required to make an advance booking through the Museum's e-booking system on the exhibition website hk.science.museum/ms/pixar2021 from today. Reservations can be made up to seven days in advance. Visitors who make a booking should present the QR code on the confirmation email, purchase a ticket or Museum Pass when they arrive at the Box Office of the Hong Kong Science Museum. Museum Pass Holders are also required to book in advance and present a QR code to enter the exhibition. Members of the public are advised to plan their visits beforehand.

According to the Prevention and Control of Disease (Requirements and Directions) (Business and Premises) Regulation (Cap. 599F), visitors are required to scan the "LeaveHomeSafe" QR code or register their name, contact number and date and time of entry before being allowed to enter museums for necessary contact tracing if a confirmed case is found. Appeals are made to visitors to download the "LeaveHomeSafe" mobile app in advance and scan the QR code with the app before entering. Visitors who opt for registering their personal information at the scene are reminded to arrive earlier to avoid delaying their visits, as a longer time is required for such registration.

In view of the latest situation of COVID-19, visitors to the Museum will need to use hand sanitiser and will be subject to temperature checks before admission. They also need to wear their own masks. Children under 12 will only be allowed to enter the Museum and exhibition facilities when accompanied by an adult. For details of the exhibition and admission arrangements, please visit hk.science.museum/ms/pixar2021, or call 2732 3232 for enquiries.



