<u>Hong Kong Flower Show to open tomorrow</u> <u>at Victoria Park (with photos)</u>

The Hong Kong Flower Show 2024 will be held at Victoria Park from tomorrow (March 15) until March 24, running from 9am to 9pm daily. This year's flower show features angelonia as the theme flower and "Floral Joy Around Town" as the main theme.

Angelonia, also known as "angel flower", has uniquely petite flower shapes and a refreshing fragrance. Heavily covered with little flower buds, its stem produces lush and bushy flowers when in full bloom. Angelonia, literally "fragrant colourful sparrow" in Chinese, looks like little birds jumping about when swaying in the breeze, bringing joy and smiles to its viewers. The theme flower wall for this year's flower show features four giant angelonia models embedded with orchids of different colours. The wall contrasts beautifully with the multi-hued sea of tulips in front of it -amagnificent sight to behold. Swathes of angelonia will also appear in a parterre entitled Angels in a Floral Sea, likely to be a popular photo spot.

Several landscape displays this year are themed around fairy tales, namely The Journey to the West, Arabian Myths, The Candy House, Jack and the Beanstalk, as well as The Wizard of Oz. Running along the central axis of the showground from the Hing Fat Street entrance to the Sugar Street entrance, the finely crafted displays exude a childlike and dreamy ambience. Among them, The Wizard of Oz features the iconic Rainbow Mountain from the story, offering an immersive experience for visitors to join the protagonists' adventure. The Candy House, on the other hand, is a spectacular horticultural display made with the help of over 1 000 schoolchildren. Visitors can view the attractively shaped goodies from a close distance, and sit on chairs modelled on coffee cups to take photographs.

This year on the central lawn, a sunflower field (15 metres by 25m) carpeted with 5 000 sunflowers forms a wondrous scene brimming with life. Also on the lawn is a rose garden with over 4 000 fragrant roses of some 30 species. The European-style garden has a floral wall and a trellis arch complete with decorative windows and doors, garden lighting and decorative seats. At night, the garden will be softly lit to become a romantic backdrop.

And to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, a thematic floral wall adorned with carnations will be mounted at the Hing Fat Street entrance of the flower show. This year, a total of 229 organisations including 81 exhibitors from 12 countries, namely mainland China, Indonesia, Korea, Oman, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam, Poland, Malaysia and the United States, will be taking part in the show.

Of particular note is an all-new light show named Journey of Floral Shadows, with each showing to run for approximately five minutes. It will be held at 7.30pm, 8pm and 8.30pm every night. Three-dimensional light sculptures will be projected onto the angelonia theme flower wall and the sea of tulips for visitors to appreciate the exhibits anew under the stars.

This year's flower show will continue to promote various eco-friendly and waste reduction measures such as encouraging participating organisations, contractors, volunteers and visitors to implement the 3R principles – Reduce, Reuse and Recycle – to achieve the goal of a "Green Flower Show for All".

To support environmental protection, members of the public are encouraged to bring their own water bottles and green shopping bags. The showground will also display QR codes for visitors to download the location map and information on the theme flower and landscape displays etc, as part of the effort to reduce waste.

In addition to angelonia and other flowering plants, the event will also showcase a rich profusion of potted plants, floral arrangements and landscape displays by local, mainland and overseas organisations. Commercial stalls will be erected to sell snacks, beverages, flowers and horticultural products. A vast range of educational and recreational fringe activities, such as floral arrangement demonstrations, gardening lectures, music and cultural performances, will be offered for visitors of all ages.

For more details of the flower show and its admission fee arrangements, please visit the event webpage (www.hkflowershow.hk/en/hkfs/2024/index.html) or call the enquiry hotline at 2601 8260.

The flower show is organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust is supporting the flower show for the 12th consecutive year and has been its major sponsor since 2014. This year's flower show is one of the events under "Art March" of the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau.











