

Hong Kong Youth Chinese Orchestra to present classic Chinese pieces

The Hong Kong Youth Chinese Orchestra (HKYCO) of the Music Office (MO) under the Leisure and Cultural Services Department will hold its annual concert, "United We Go", at 3pm on February 4 (Sunday) at the Auditorium of Sha Tin Town Hall to present a wide variety of Chinese classics to the audience. The concert is under the "Carry the Music On" Concert Series, which is a commemorative programme in celebration of the MO transcending beyond its 45-year mark.

The concert will be conducted by the Chief Music Officer of the MO, Tsui Ying-fai, and Senior Music Officer (Chinese) and alumnus of the MO Kwok Kin-ming. Former MO instructor Ho Man-chuen is the concert's guest conductor. The HKYCO will jointly perform with its Alumni Orchestra and seven notable MO alumni, including MO instructors Tse Yuen-yau, Chan Sze-tung and Ho Shun-yin, and local musicians Chin Kwok-wai, Chan Kai-him, Tung Tsz-ching and To Suet-hin to celebrate the distinguished accomplishments of the MO over 45 years by presenting breathtaking Chinese music pieces.

The concert's exhilarating programme includes: "The Galloping Horses", selected from "Spring" Suite depicting herdsmen galloping on the grassland; "Dragon", which was commissioned by the MO and created by Law Wai-lun to portray different images of the mythical creature; "The Moon over Guanshan", a piece inspired by the namesake poem by Li Bai; "Spring", paying tribute to the season and expressing hope for the future; "A Bumper Harvest", with distinct Shandong wind and percussion musical style; "Moonlight on the Spring River", a famous Chinese music piece; and "United We Go", a piece written for a traditional Cantonese wujiatou ensemble to perform with orchestra.

The concert's finale, "Joyful Encounter of North and South", a concerto grosso, was commissioned by the MO and created by Kuan Nai-chung. Concertmaster Li Hang-tsun (erhu) and seven members of the HKYCO: Tang Suet-ching (yangqin), Chan Ho-yan (pipa), Au Yeung Wing-fung (bangdi), Luk Tsun-ki (qudi), Suen Tsz-kit (sheng), Tsoi Wai-yin (suona) and Law Wang-sum (percussion) will form a solo concertino to take the lead and play with the HKYCO.

Established in 1978, the HKYCO has around 80 members aged 25 and below. The Orchestra frequently performs at various major local events. It also plays the role of music ambassador for Hong Kong and has toured the Mainland and overseas for music exchange concerts and received high acclaim.

Tickets priced at \$60, \$80 and \$100 are now available at URBTIX (www.urbtix.hk). For telephone bookings, please call 3166 1288. For programme enquiries, please call 2796 1003 or 3842 7784 or visit www.lcsd.gov.hk/musicoffice.