## Music Office's School Care Subsidy Scheme opens for applications from schools

Organised by the Music Office of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the 2024/25 School Care Subsidy Scheme is now inviting applications from schools. The deadline for applications is September 25.

The scheme aims to encourage student music groups from kindergartens and primary, secondary and special schools as well as tertiary institutions to care for the community, and extend their good wishes to the elderly, special school students and the beneficiaries of registered social welfare organisations through free music performances, thereby enhancing social integration and harmony. Through the activities, students can not only gain experience from performances and serving the community, but also develop stronger team spirit as well as better organisational skills.

Each performance is eligible for a maximum subsidy of \$2,200 to cover costs including transportation, allowances for professionals and miscellaneous items.

Successful applicants must complete their performances between this December and March next year. Outstanding teams will be invited to perform at the Gala Concert to be held in April or May next year. All participating teams will be awarded certificates of commendation during the concert.

Applications will be evaluated according to the feasibility, ingenuity and interactive elements of the proposed programmes, as well as the music groups' experience in organising and performing at community events. Interested schools can download application forms from the Music Office's website (<a href="www.lcsd.gov.hk/musicoffice">www.lcsd.gov.hk/musicoffice</a>). Completed forms must be emailed to the Music Office (<a href="cnc@lcsd.gov.hk">cnc@lcsd.gov.hk</a>).

Over 400 school music groups have participated in the School Care Subsidy Scheme since its launch in 2009. The scheme is sponsored by the Sino Group. For enquiries, please call 2598 8335 or 3842 7775.