

HAB congratulates young Hong Kong conductor

The Home Affairs Bureau has congratulated Hong Kong young conductor Perry So Pak-hin on winning the first prize in Symphony Conducting in the 5th International Prokofiev Competition held in St Petersburg, Russia, earlier this month.

The International Prokofiev Competition is one of the two biggest international competitions in the field of classical music in the Russian Federation. The competition is organised by the Ministry of Culture and financed by the Government of the Russia.

A selection committee led by world-renowned conductor Maestro Yuri Falik admitted 47 young conductors from 134 submissions from 32 places to the competition, and chose So as the winner among competitors from around the world.

So joined the league of young conductors from Hong Kong to win an international contest, after Ms Yip Wing-sie and Mr Jimmy Chiang Chi-bun.

Perry So is currently the Resident Conductor of the Hong Kong Children's Symphony Orchestra. He has also worked with a number of overseas orchestras. At the age of 14, he was named Student Musician of the Year by the South China Morning Post. He studied conducting under renowned pedagogue Gustav Meier at the Peabody Institute in Baltimore, at the same time serving as Maestro Meier's assistant at the Greater Bridgeport Symphony Orchestra. He is a graduate of Yale University with a degree in Comparative Literature.

Ends/Monday, April 28, 2008