

## PSHA officiates at launch ceremony of HK Week at Xi'an Expo (with photos)

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The Permanent Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Raymond Young, officiated at the launch ceremony of Hong Kong Week at the International Horticultural Exposition 2011 in Xi'an (Xi'an Expo) this afternoon (June 28).

Mr Young said the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government highly valued the opportunity to participate in the Xi'an Expo and therefore specially organised the Hong Kong Week. A series of music programmes will be held to give visitors a taste of Hong Kong as well as to provide Hong Kong musicians with the chance to demonstrate their skills and share their creativity with visitors from all over the world.

He added that the event would enhance cultural co-operation between the two places and deepen mutual understanding. It would also serve as an invaluable opportunity for cultural exchange on the Mainland for Hong Kong young artists and performing arts students.

Hong Kong Week activities will be staged at the Butterfly Stage near the Expo's Hong Kong Garden. The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) has organised a series of music programmes in which some 30 young artists from three local youth ensembles will give performances in outdoor concerts, ranging from Chinese and Western classics to adaptations of Hong Kong songs. For details of the performances by the Varsity Saxophone Quartet, the Hong Kong Harmonica Association and the Sregnis Singers, please call 2601 8246.

After officiating at the launch ceremony, Mr Young accompanied the guests on a tour of the Hong Kong Garden. They were briefed on the garden's design and characteristics by representatives of the Architectural Services Department (ArchSD) and the LCSD.

The Hong Kong Garden was designed under the main theme "Hong Kong Style and Flavour". A tree-like architectural design, "Tree-ZE", comprising 360 mini-windmills and a rich variety of plants commonly found in Hong Kong and South China have been used to create the garden's beautiful scenery in an eco-friendly way. The project was designed and built by the ArchSD, with plants and floral displays provided by the LCSD.

Mr Young and the Deputy Director of Leisure and Cultural Services, Mr Chung Ling-hoi, also met with officials of the Shaanxi Province and the City of Xi'an to learn about the latest developments in the province and exchanged views on co-operation between the two places.

The Xi'an Expo runs from April 28 to October 22.

Ends/Tuesday, June 28, 2011

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