

Appointments to Cantonese Opera Development Fund Advisory Committee

The Government today (July 22) announced appointments to the Cantonese Opera Development Fund Advisory Committee for the period from August 1, 2011, to July 31, 2013.

Launched in 2005, the Fund aims to raise funds to support projects and activities relating to research, promotion and continuing development of Cantonese opera. It is operated under the Secretary for Home Affairs Incorporation Ordinance (Chapter 1044) with the Secretary for Home Affairs as its Trustee.

Since its establishment, the Fund has approved about \$38 million to support some 370 projects on the development of Cantonese opera, including performances, arts education and promotion, exchange and training programmes, research and preservation programmes, and has also launched the second Hong Kong Cantonese Opera Troupe for New Talent Three-Year Grant Scheme.

A spokesman for the Home Affairs Bureau (HAB) said that the Fund had made sustained efforts in promoting the development of Cantonese opera in Hong Kong in the past six years. The HAB expressed gratitude to the outgoing Chairman of the Cantonese Opera Development Fund Executive Committee, Dr Stephen Chow Chun-kay, and members of the Cantonese Opera Development Fund Advisory Committee and the Executive Committee for their contribution, in particular to Dr Chow for his tremendous support given to the founding and smooth operation of the Fund.

Under Dr Chow's leadership, the Executive Committee formulated the funding parameters, improved the funding mechanism, pro-actively encouraged Cantonese opera masters to nurture budding artists through performance schemes, set up the Hong Kong Cantonese Opera Troupe for New Talent Three-Year Grant Scheme and raised money for the Fund, laying a good foundation for the Fund and contributing to promoting the further development of Cantonese opera.

To further enhance the effectiveness of the Fund, the HAB has conducted a review on the committee structure. To streamline procedures and enhance efficiency, the Cantonese Opera Development Fund Advisory Committee and its Executive Committee will be merged in the fourth term to carry out the duties of the two existing committees in a more efficient manner.

As the Trustee of the Fund, the Secretary for Home Affairs has appointed the following members to serve in the Cantonese Opera Development Fund Advisory Committee:

Mr Frankie Yeung Wai-chung (Yeung Wai-shing) (Chairman)

Professor Lui Yu-hon (Vice-Chairman)

Ms Jeanette Chan

Mr Cheng Kok-kong

Mr Ko Wai-tak

Ms Kuk Man-yu

Mrs Fanny Lai Ip Po-ping

Mr Lee Tak-kwong (Lee Lung)

Dr Li Siu-leung

Mr Mo Yu-tin (Sun Kim-long)

Dr Poon Po-chiu

Ms Tang Mi-ling

Ms Wong Shui-kwan (Wong Chiu-kwan)

Mr Charles Chow Chan-lum

Representative of the Board of Management of the Chinese Permanent Cemeteries

Representative of the Education Bureau

Representative of the Home Affairs Bureau

Representative of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department

The terms of reference for the Cantonese Opera Development Fund Advisory Committee are to advise generally on matters relating to the administration and management of the Cantonese Opera Development Fund, including:

- (i) policies on the use, custody and investment of the Fund;
- (ii) direction of funding, criteria for funding allocations and assessment of applications;
- (iii) procedures for inviting applications and guidelines for assessment of applications;
- (iv) monitoring and evaluating the progress and effectiveness of funded projects and activities;
- (v) monitoring the overall operation of the Fund; and
- (vi) encouraging community support for the Fund.

Ends/Friday, July 22, 2011

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