

SHA's speech at the Opening Ceremony of the Out West – the Great American Landscape Exhibition (English only)

The following is a speech by the Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Tsang Tak-sing, at the Opening Ceremony of the Out West – the Great American Landscape Exhibition today (November 15):

Deputy Commissioner Zhan Yongxin, Consul-General James Cunningham, Ms Nancy Matthews, Ms Pamela Bailey, Distinguished Guests,

It gives me great pleasure to be here today to participate in the Opening Ceremony of the “Out West – The Great American Landscape Exhibition”.

The American West is famous for its breathtaking landscape and rich natural heritage. It provided the environment for the manifestation of the great pioneering spirit. I read that Americans had this instinctive drive to go West, until reaching the rim of the Pacific to face Asia.

American West is synonymous with vast skies, blue mountains, wildlife and of course cowboys. Today, through exhibits such as oil and watercolor paintings, mixed media works, movie posters and lobby cards of some well-known American Western films, people in this part of the world will be inspired to explore the rich American culture and heritage.

I would therefore like to express my gratitude to the Consulate-General of the United States in Hong Kong and Macau and the Meridian International Center for bringing to us this marvellous exhibition, which provides a valuable opportunity for Hong Kong people to appreciate not just the great American landscape, but also the wide diversity of cultures as well.

I sincerely hope to see more such projects of cultural exchange in the future to enhance Hong Kong people's understanding and appreciation of different cultures. And lastly, may I wish the exhibition every success.

Thank you.