



HONG KONG SCHOOLS MUSIC AND SPEECH ASSOCIATION

香港學校音樂及朗誦協會

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ms Liza Lu, Public Relations and Development Officer
Tel: 2760 7095 Email: liza_lu@hkmsa.org.hk

24 February, 2019, Hong Kong

**The 71st Hong Kong Schools Music Festival kicks off and introduces the new
Grantham Music Awards to young people**

The Opening Reception of the 71st Hong Kong Schools Music Festival held on 24 February, 2019 has officially kicked off the 4.5 weeks of wonderful music performance of the young music talents. The Festival, attracting more than 124,000 students, comprises 333 classes of solo, duet, choir, band, orchestra, open class and scholarship class. Categories include Chinese and western vocal, choral, solo instrument, ensemble music, religious work, and Chinese opera song. A total of 1,424 events will be held throughout the territory. Aimed at local students aged between 5 and 23, the design of the competition classes is expected to fully take care of the interests and abilities of students of different grades and ages.

There is a panel of 56 distinguished educators, musicians and performers to adjudicate at the Festival. They are from the United Kingdom, the United States, mainland China, Canada, Spain, Denmark, Belgium, Malaysia, Taiwan and Hong Kong. The Association also hired 150 Festival assistants to assist in the competitions.

The Association will organise five Prize-winners' Concerts featuring winners performances recommended by the adjudicators after the Festival. To broaden young people's musical horizons, the Association will select outstanding winners to enter the international competition and musical training overseas every year. With the sponsorship of Grantham Scholarships Fund, the new Grantham Music Awards has been introduced at the 71st Hong Kong Schools Music Festival. Outstanding winners of the Music Festival will be awarded scholarship to participate in a music competition, master class, workshop or camp held overseas and in mainland China in July/August.

The Hong Kong Schools Music Festival, organised by the Hong Kong Schools Music and Speech Association, is the annual event of arts education in Hong Kong. Through this platform, young people can develop and enhance their own performance skills. Participation in the festivals is a path to building self-confidence, focus, resilience and team spirit. Competitors also have the chance to learn from each other, an essential contributor to their whole-person development.

END
