



Leisure and Cultural
Services Department

Quality Services for Quality Life

2012-2013 Annual Report

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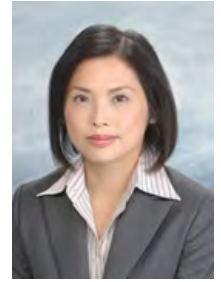
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Foreword

The year 2012-13 was an exciting and rewarding one for the LCSD, in which we organised a remarkable range of sports, leisure and cultural programmes both within and outside Hong Kong. Some highlights of the many major events and activities organised by the department during the year are described below.



On the leisure services side, we continued to promote the benefits of leading a healthy lifestyle and actively participating in sports activities. On the back of the 2012 London Olympic Games, the LCSD organised a number of programmes to kindle the Olympic spirit in Hong Kong and support our athletes in London. One of these was Sport for All Day 2012 held on 5 August 2012, for which each of the 18 districts selected an Olympic sport as its signature theme.

Our cycling athletes performed exceptionally well in the London Olympics, with the highlight undoubtedly being the bronze medal won by Sarah Lee Wai-sze in the indoor track cycling Keirin event. We look forward to this sport developing further in Hong Kong once our first-ever indoor track cycling venue, the Tseung Kwan O Velodrome, is completed in late 2013. This venue will become the training base for our elite cyclists, and is being built to standards that will enable us to host international cycling events there.

Shortly after the Olympics ended, we were delighted to welcome a 70-member delegation of Mainland Olympic gold medallists to Hong Kong. They took part in a number of sports demonstrations and sharing sessions, where they inspired thousands of young people with their dazzling skills and inspiring personal stories.

To assess the level of physical fitness of our population, we completed our second territory-wide Physical Exercise Test in 2012. The survey is conducted every five years, and the findings provide us with valuable data on the physical fitness of Hong Kong people aged between three and 69. Based on the 2012 findings, we have developed a package of strategies

and measures to promote physical activities among groups that are less active or inactive. Since swimming is the second most popular sport in Hong Kong, one of these strategies has been to encourage regular swimming by making admission to public swimming pools more affordable and convenient. In July 2012, we launched a public swimming pool monthly ticket scheme whereby swimmers can enjoy a substantial discount (compared with single entry fees) by purchasing monthly tickets. The scheme has proved to be highly popular, especially among the elderly; by March 2013 over 53 000 tickets had been sold, around half to elderly swimmers. The number of swimmers was also boosted with the opening of two new swimming pool complexes during the year, Lam Tin Swimming Pool and Tuen Mun North West Swimming Pool. Indeed, the total attendance of swimmers in Tuen Mun District from April to July 2013 increased by a remarkable 95% over the same period in 2012.

With the enactment of subsidiary legislation by the Legislative Council in mid-2013, we were able to put an end to the longstanding differences in the fees charged for the same types of leisure facilities and services in the urban areas and the New Territories. Following the approach announced by the Chief Executive in his 2013 Policy Address, we will align the fees and charges in urban areas and the New Territories based on the lower of the two rates, in phases, starting from 1 August 2013.

In 2011, we installed automated external defibrillators at all aquatic venues to support rescue operations and improve chances of survival for individuals experiencing heart problems at these venues. Based on that experience, in 2013 we extended the installation programme to all our major land-based leisure and cultural venues, giving members of the public access to the defibrillators to handle heart-related medical emergencies.

In September 2012, we launched another Park Déco project at Cornwall Street Park. The project involved injecting many creative elements into the park, such as designer park furniture and a more user-friendly signage system. The Park Déco scheme, which was first launched on a trial basis in Quarry Bay Park, has been well received both by the public and by district councils. It was also awarded with the Special Citation (Innovation) under the category of Team Award (General Public Service) of the Civil Service

Outstanding Service Award Scheme 2013.

Turning to our cultural services work, I have great pleasure in reporting on an impressive performance from our public museums in the year under review. The museums had altogether attracted a record-breaking 5.8 million visitors in 2012, an achievement which was the result of much hard work by our museums over the past few years. Particularly notable exhibitions included *The Majesty of All Under Heaven: The Eternal Realm of China's First Emperor* exhibition at the Museum of History, where attendance (over 420 000) broke the record for all thematic exhibitions held at that museum since its opening. The exhibition also won the Gold Prize of Team Award (General Public Service) of the Civil Service Outstanding Service Award Scheme 2013. The exhibition *PICASSO - Masterpieces from Musée National Picasso, Paris* also broke the single-day entry record for all museums; in total, almost 300 000 visitors passed through the doors of the Heritage Museum during the two-month exhibition period. Other world-class exhibitions included *A Lofty Retreat from the Red Dust: The Secret Garden of Emperor Qianlong*, which marked the beginning of our long-term cooperation with the Beijing Palace Museum; *Andy Warhol: 15 Minutes Eternal*, the largest touring exhibition of Warhol's works in Asia; and *Imperishable Affection: The Art of Feng Zikai*, which was widely acclaimed and broke our record for sales of exhibition catalogues.

Some of these exhibitions were presented as cultural highlights in the celebration of the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Other events that lit up the anniversary celebrations included the International Military Tattoo, the first ever in Hong Kong; and the International Arts Carnival 2012, which basked in a record-breaking average attendance of 95%.

Meanwhile, we continued to strengthen our network of venues and resources that underpin Hong Kong's cultural atmosphere. For instance, the Yau Ma Tei Theatre, a Grade 2 historic building, was converted into a contemporary performing arts venue set aside specifically for Cantonese opera, to which we have a strong commitment. Support for this important element of Hong Kong's cultural heritage will be further enhanced when the

New Wing of the Ko Shan Theatre is opened in 2014. We were also pleased to open two new libraries in early 2013; the Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Public Library, a major public library and now the second largest in Hong Kong in terms of floor area after the Hong Kong Central Library; and the Lam Tin Public Library, which has been upgraded to a district library. Apart from opening new libraries, we have also worked to enhance the quality and efficiency of our library services by trying out new technology, for instance by testing Radio Frequency Identification in selected libraries.

To align with Hong Kong people's increasingly 'on-the-go' lifestyle, we launched the "My Culture" mobile app in September 2012. This gives members of the public ready access to a vast range of cultural programme information while they are on the move, and is proving a popular resource for many art lovers.

Outside Hong Kong, we assisted the Hong Kong-Taiwan Cultural Co-operation Committee to organise the first-ever major cultural programme in Taipei in November 2012. Hong Kong Week 2012 proved to be an extravaganza that successfully showcased Hong Kong's diverse talents in the performing arts to enthusiastic Taiwan audiences. We are now planning Hong Kong Week 2013, to be held in November 2013.

The LCSD also participated in the Liverpool Biennial 2012 with the exhibition All Are Guests, which highlighted some of the fascinating ways in which our artists explore connections between the self and the city in their art.

Looking ahead, in the year to come the LCSD will continue planning and organising a wide array of exciting sports and cultural programmes to meet the changing needs and interests of our population. We will also continue to provide new facilities and upgrade our existing facilities to meet the latest requirements. We hope we can continue to count on your support in the coming year.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bisley', written in a cursive style.

Mrs Betty FUNG CHING Suk-ye
Director of Leisure and Cultural Services

Performance Pledges

Leisure Services

- We pledge to provide facilities that foster public participation in recreational and sports activities, and to organise a wide range of programmes that enrich the quality of life of the community.
- We pledge to maintain hire charges and programme fees at a level affordable to the general public. We will continue to offer concessionary rates for the elderly, full-time students, people under the age of 14, and persons with disabilities together with their carers.
- We pledge to provide, manage and maintain safe and high-quality recreation and sports facilities for the general public.

Cultural Services

- We pledge to provide civic centre facilities and cultural and entertainment programmes, and to promote the development and appreciation of the performing and visual arts.
- We pledge to provide quality services for all library users that meet the community's need for knowledge, information and research; to support life-long learning, continuous education and the profitable use of leisure time; and to promote reading and local literary arts.
- We pledge to preserve the local cultural heritage and to promote its appreciation by providing and developing museum and related services. We will focus our conservation efforts on antiquities and monuments, and promote heritage education and appreciation. We will also promote the visual arts and Hong Kong artists and, through a variety of education activities, help foster a sense of identity among the people of Hong Kong.

Vision, Mission and Values

Our vision sets out the goals that our staff should be working to achieve.

Our mission lays down clearly the actions that are required to turn the vision into reality.

Our values outline the behaviour and performance that we aim to foster among our staff, and highlight the culture that we wish to nurture.

Our vision is to:

- provide quality leisure and cultural services that are commensurate with Hong Kong's development as a world-class city and events capital.

Our mission is to:

- enrich life by providing quality leisure and cultural services for all;
- promote professionalism and excellence in leisure pursuits and cultural services;
- promote synergy with sports, cultural and community organisations in enhancing the development of arts and sports in the territory;
- preserve cultural heritage;
- beautify the environment through tree planting;
- achieve a high level of customer satisfaction; and
- build a highly motivated, committed and satisfying workforce.

We achieve our mission by embracing these core values:

- **Customer focus**
We continue to respond to customer needs and pledge to provide services in a courteous and user-friendly manner.
- **Quality**
We pledge to deliver high-quality services in a cost-effective manner.
- **Creativity**
We continue to encourage diversity and to value original ideas.
- **Professionalism**
We uphold the highest standards of professionalism and ethics while

maintaining a high level of performance.

- **Result oriented**
Our focus at all times is to achieve the best results possible.
- **Cost-effectiveness**
We are committed to reaching our goals in an efficient and cost-effective manner.
- **Continuous improvement**
We seek to continually improve our services and to respond proactively in meeting the changing needs of the community.

Feedback Channels

Suggestions, enquiries and complaints can be made to this department in the following ways:

- By calling the LCSD's 24-hour Hotline: 2414 5555
(this hotline is now handled by 1823)
- By sending an email to enquiries@lcsd.gov.hk
(this e-mail account is now handled by 1823)
- By writing or sending a fax to the General Administration Section, Administration Division, Leisure and Cultural Services Department at 13/F, Leisure and Cultural Services Headquarters, 1-3, Pai Tau Street, Sha Tin, New Territories
Fax No.: 2603 0642

We undertake to reply to all enquiries and complaints, written or verbal, within 10 days of receipt. We will send an interim reply if a substantive reply is not possible within this period.

Leisure Services

The Leisure Services Branch of the LCSD manages and develops recreational and sports facilities throughout Hong Kong, and provides a wide range of leisure services for the community. It also promotes nature conservation, and is responsible for planting trees and shrubs in public parks and recreational areas.

When planning new recreational facilities, the Branch collaborates closely with the various District Councils (DCs) to ensure the facilities cater for the community's changing needs. Planning also takes into account recreational facilities provided by the private sector, and those available in neighbouring districts.

Recreational and Sports Facilities

The sports facilities and other amenities in Hong Kong's 18 districts comprise 41 gazetted beaches, 43 swimming pools, two outdoor stadia (Hong Kong Stadium and Mong Kok Stadium), 47 natural turf soccer pitches, 30 artificial turf soccer pitches, 231 hard-surface soccer pitches, two hockey pitches, two rugby pitches, 94 sports centres, 290 squash courts, 25 sports grounds, 256 tennis courts, four golf driving ranges, five water sports centres, four holiday camps, 25 major parks, and 694 children's playgrounds. These leisure facilities cover a total area of 2 292 hectares.



Shek O Beach in Southern District is always packed with swimmers on hot summer days.

Hang Hau Man Kuk Lane Park, which covers an area of around 1.9 hectares, has been opened to the public in phases since November 2011. Featuring white walls and grey rooftops, the park design reflects a construction style characteristic of Suzhou and Hangzhou. A key feature of the park is the contemporary-styled Chinese Garden, nestled in the south-eastern corner of the venue. At its centre are water features set in an interplay with a pavilion made in a style resembling traditional bamboo scaffolding. The stone bridge, rockscape and Zen garden blend harmoniously with the water features and pavilion, giving visitors a scene to delight in.



Water features at the contemporary-styled Chinese Garden in Hang Hau Man Kuk Lane Park create a delightful scene.

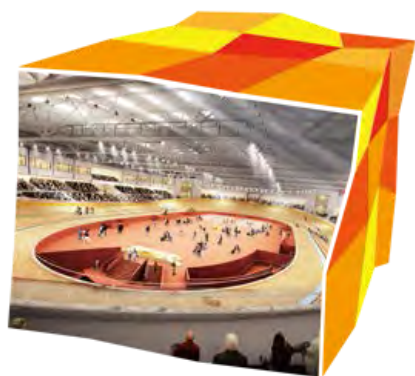
Hang Hau Sports Centre, which has opened to the public in phases since December 2011, is the newest sports centre in Sai Kung District. It is situated on the first to the third floors of the Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex. The Sports Centre includes a multi-purpose arena with two basketball courts, two volleyball courts or eight badminton courts, three multi-purpose activity rooms, one table-tennis room, one children's play room, one fitness room, an indoor jogging track, and other ancillary facilities. The 150-metre indoor jogging track is the first of its kind in Sai Kung District, and provides runners with an all-weather environment for jogging. The fitness room, with more than 30 sets of fitness equipment and the largest of its kind in Sai Kung District, has been well-received by the public. The booking counter has adopted an open counter design, the first of its kind in the department, which helps create a friendly and welcoming atmosphere and improves communication with members of the public. If required, the three activity rooms can be combined into one large 480 square metre activity room. Hang Hau Sports Centre has become one of the most popular sports centres in Sai Kung District. Usage of the multi-purpose arena from January 2012 to February 2013 averaged over 90% in peak hours, and over 70% in non-peak hours. The multi-purpose arena, suitable for holding large-scale events, has seating for 1 200 spectators and a new high definition LED display measuring 7.5 metres by 4.4 metres.



The fitness room of the Hang Hau Sports Centre is very popular with the public.

The Hong Kong Velodrome, which is expected to open in early 2014, consists of both indoor and outdoor facilities covering 1.3 hectares and 5.3 hectares respectively. The indoor facilities at the velodrome are the first of their kind in Hong Kong, and the indoor cycling track is designed to meet the International Cycling Union's Class I standard. The velodrome has one 250-metre wooden cycling track with supporting facilities suitable for hosting international competitions, a permanent spectator stand providing

2 000 seats (which can be expanded to 3 000 when needed), and a multi-use arena in the infield area at track level for two basketball / volleyball courts or eight badminton courts. Other than hosting cycling events up to world cup level, the facilities can also be used for staging other major non-sports events such as entertainment performances, exhibitions and conferences. In particular, the venue will serve as a major training base for top-level cycling training for the Hong Kong Cycling Team, and other elite cyclists from the Hong Kong Sports Institute and the Hong Kong Cycling Association. It will also act as a multi-purpose sports centre where the local community can play a range of indoor sports and ball games. The velodrome's outdoor facilities, which include both active and passive leisure and recreational facilities, will also benefit the local community. Its active recreational facilities include a skateboard park, an outdoor climbing wall, a jogging track, fitness corners and a children's play area, while its passive leisure facilities include an open-air amphitheatre, an artificial lake, a model boat pool, a lawn area, and a landscaped terrace.



The indoor cycling track at the Hong Kong Velodrome has been designed to meet the International Cycling Union's Class I standards.

(artist's impression)

The Po Wing Road Sports Centre was opened for public use in March 2012, providing residents in the North District with the most advanced facilities in the district. It features the district's first outdoor sports climbing wall, and its only indoor jogging track. Other facilities include a table-tennis room, an American pool room, a fitness room, a children's play room, two activity rooms, and a multi-purpose arena which can be converted into two basketball courts / volleyball courts, or eight badminton courts. The arena has a 1 200-seat spectator stand, and is suitable for holding large-scale sports events.



Po Wing Road Sports Centre provides the first outdoor sports climbing wall for North District residents.

On Lok Mun Street Playground (skateboard ground), which opened in November 2011, provides the largest skating park in Hong Kong. The playground covers 2 204 square metres, including 1 330 square metres of play area. Suitable for advanced skateboard players and for high level training, its skateboarding equipment and structures conform to all relevant safety standards and include three bowls, eight platforms, two ramps, and three play rails. There is also a spectator stand with a rain shelter and seating.

Parks

The LCSD manages more than 1 540 parks and gardens of different sizes, including the following major parks:

Tamar Park

Tamar Park, adjacent to the new Central Government Offices and the Legislative Council Complex, covers an area of around 1.76 hectares. The park has opened to the public in phases since October 2011, and includes a landscaped garden, water features, a floating platform, an amphitheatre, Tamar Corner, and Tamar Café. Its spacious green lawns provide valuable open space and broad views of the Victoria Harbour.



Spacious green lawns, rolling out like "green carpets", Tamar Park provides a swathe of verdant open space for visitors to stroll or sit.

Hong Kong Park

Hong Kong Park, covering 8.16 hectares, was opened in May 1991 on the former Victoria Barracks site. Major attractions include a conservatory, an aviary, a squash centre, a sports centre, a children's playground, a vantage point, a restaurant and the Olympic Square.

The aviary, simulating a tropical rainforest, is home to around 600 birds of 80 different species. Several of these species bred successfully during the year, specifically the Bali Myna, Java Sparrow, Zebra Dove, Nicobar Pigeon, Maroon-breasted Crowned Pigeon, Black-capped Lorry, Racket-tailed Treepie, and White-rumped Shama. The conservatory comprises a Display Plant House, a Dry Plant House and a Humid Plant House, all of which have environmental controls that simulate different climatic conditions for plants from arid and tropical regions. A 'Herbs and Spices' show was held at the Display Plant House from April to November 2012. More than 580 plants of over 40 species were put on display, together with nearly 20 kinds of herb and spice products. From November 2012 to March 2013, a thematic exhibition of African Violets was held, involving more than 300 pots of African Violets and a variety of species. These included some special species classified in terms of flower type (such as Fantasy, Two-tone, and Chimera) and leaf type (such as Wavy and Variegated).



Over 300 potted African Violets went on display as part of a thematic exhibition held at the conservatory in Hong Kong Park.

Victoria Park

Victoria Park, which was first opened in October 1957, is one of the most popular parks in Hong Kong. Apart from serving as an attractive venue for sports and leisure activities, the 19.3-hectare park is a popular spot for

community events that draw hundreds of thousands of visitors every year, such as the annual Lunar New Year Fair, the Hong Kong Flower Show, and the Mid-Autumn Lantern Festival.



Covering an area of over 19 hectares, Victoria Park is the largest park on Hong Kong Island.

Kowloon Park

The 13.3-hectare Kowloon Park, which served as a military camp during the 1860s, was converted into an urban park in 1970. Redeveloped by the former Royal Hong Kong Jockey Club, the park took its present shape in 1989. Located in the heart of Tsim Sha Tsui, it is the largest park in Kowloon and provides an array of indoor and outdoor recreational facilities, including a hard-surface soccer pitch, a sports centre and a swimming pool complex.

Occupying an area of around three hectares, the Kowloon Park Swimming Pool can hold up to 1 469 swimmers. Average annual use over the past three years has exceeded 800 000. One of the best-equipped swimming pools in Hong Kong, it serves as a major training and competition venue for many international aquatic events. In December 2009, for example, the Kowloon Park Swimming Pool was a venue for the aquatic events of the 2009 East Asian Games in Hong Kong.

To celebrate their successful achievements at the London 2012 Olympic Games, on August 25, 2012 Mainland gold medallists displayed their superb skills in a series of diving demonstrations held at the Kowloon Park Swimming Pool. The event was also a celebratory event to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR. Besides putting on a spectacular display for the public, the gold medallists took time to chat with some of the young people attending. The event also featured lucky draws, with a few lucky spectators winning T-shirts autographed by the national diving team.



Kowloon Park Swimming Pool, which opened on 12 September 1989, is suitable for international swimming competitions.

In addition to its sports facilities, the park has a number of gardens and walks. The Garden of Life was unveiled in November 2011 to acknowledge the generosity of organ donors and their families. The garden's special landscape design and architecture echoes the organ donation theme, 'Light Up Lives'.



The Garden of Life communicates the message "Light up Lives".

The Sculpture Walk features permanent and temporary displays by both local and overseas artists, including the Concept of Newton, a permanent sculpture by Eduardo Paolozzi. A 240-metre tree walk introduces 35 of Hong Kong's most common flowering tree species.



Occupying an area of 13.3 hectares, Kowloon Park is a delightful oasis in the urban surroundings.

Another significant attraction is the landscaped bird lake and aviary, with its flock of more than 100 flamingos and many other bird species.

The park hosts a number of major events throughout the year, including Kung Fu Corner and the Arts Fun Fair, held on Sundays and/or public holidays. Regular morning bird watching activities are organised to introduce the public to the common bird species in the park. District-wide community events such as carnivals, outdoor exhibitions and entertainment events are regularly held at the piazza, attracting hundreds of thousands of locals and tourists over the year.

One of Kowloon Park's event highlights of the year was the setting up of the Avenue of Comic Stars. Organised by the Hong Kong Comics & Animation Federation Limited and set to last for three years, the Avenue of Comic Stars aims to promote and publicise Hong Kong's comics industry to the world. Its goals are to establish the status and image of Hong Kong comics, to recognise the outstanding achievements of Hong Kong cartoonists, and in the process to become a significant tourist attraction.

Another notable event was the '2011-12 Hong Kong & Shenzhen Bi-City Biennale of Urbanism / Architecture', held in Kowloon Park from January 3 to May 4, 2012. The event was organised by the Hong Kong Institute of Architects to promote the appreciation of Hong Kong architecture and art, and included an exhibition, a range of organised activities, and a ceremony. Many innovative and creative exhibits were erected in Kowloon Park as part of the event, attracting thousands of visitors.



The 2011-12 Hong Kong & Shenzhen Bi-city Biennale of Urbanism/Architecture was one of the notable events held in Kowloon Park this year.

Tai Po Waterfront Park

The 22-hectare Tai Po Waterfront Park is the largest park managed by the LCSD. Its 32-metre Spiral Lookout Tower gives visitors a panoramic view of Tolo Harbour and the surroundings. Other facilities include a 1 000-metre promenade, an insect house, an amphitheatre, a central water

feature, a sheltered viewing terrace, children's play areas, bowling greens, a gateball court, and a kite-flying area. The park also has a number of themed gardens, including a Floral Display Garden, a Scented Garden, a Malvaceae Garden, a Western Garden, an Ecological Garden, a Palm Garden, a Herb Garden, a Fig Garden and a Camellia Garden.



Kite-flying is a popular activity at Tai Po Waterfront Park.

Tuen Mun Park

Tuen Mun Park was the first major park in the New Territories to provide a wide range of facilities. Phases I, II and III opened to the public in 1985, 1988 and 1991 respectively.

Built on reclaimed land, this 12.5-hectare park holds more than 2 000 trees and 120 000 shrubs of various species. The one-hectare artificial lake is a popular spot, as is the Reptile House, which attracts 360 000 visitors annually, including 38 000 group visitors.



Park-goers love the reptile house at Tuen Mun Park, where various species of reptiles are on display.

Other facilities include a water cascade, a model boat pool, an amphitheatre, a roller-skating rink, three children's playgrounds, a fast food kiosk, a conservation corner, a sitting-out area for the elderly, four pebble walking trails, pavilions, and a multi-game area.

Pet Gardens

The LCSD has responded to the increase in the number of dog owners in Hong Kong by opening more pet gardens. At present, 29 of its leisure venues have pet gardens. In consultation with DCs, the department will continue to identify suitable sites for building further pet gardens.



Fun times for dogs
and their owners in
the pet garden.

Play Equipment for All Children

The equipment in most of the playgrounds managed by the department is suitable for all children, including those with disabilities. Last year, the department installed large 'inclusive' play areas for children in Morse Park, Ap Lei Chau Park and Yuen Shin Park. The play apparatus installed provides barrier-free access, while the integrated design encourages harmony and inclusiveness among children when they play. The department plans to provide more such facilities in the future.

Park Déco Trial Scheme (Cornwall Street Park)

To enhance their appeal, the LCSD is implementing projects under the Park Déco scheme in selected parks, installing creative park furniture and signage with friendly advice and positive messages. The first trial project, at Quarry Bay Park, was completed in May 2011, and a second trial project, at Cornwall Street Park, in September 2012. At Cornwall Street Park, three sets of new park furniture and a new signage system were installed, and the Park was refurbished under the linking theme of

'Inspirational Flow'. A launch ceremony was held on September 4, 2012 at the Park.



A fresh new look for Cornwall Street Park under the Park Déco scheme.

Design parameters drawn up after the completion of this project will serve as a useful reference for the department's existing parks, and for future park projects.

Beaches and Swimming Pools

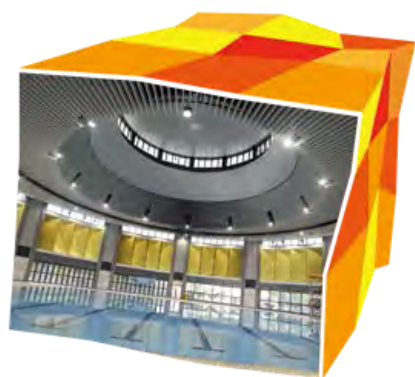
Hong Kong people made more than 12.60 million visits to beaches and 10.81 million visits to public swimming pools managed by the department in 2012-13. Two new swimming pool complexes – Lam Tin Swimming Pool and Tuen Mun North West Swimming Pool – opened during the year. The conversion of the secondary pool at Lai Chi Kok Park Swimming Pool into an indoor heated pool was completed in June 2012.



The newly built Lam Tin Swimming Pool is the first indoor swimming pool in the Kwun Tong District.

The newly built Lam Tin Swimming Pool, opened for public use in November 2012, is the first indoor swimming pool in the Kwun Tong District. It provides two indoor heated swimming facilities, one measuring 25m x 25m and the other 25m x 10m.

The Tuen Mun North West Swimming Pool was opened for public use in December 2012. It is the first swimming pool in Tuen Mun to have indoor heated pool facilities and a jacuzzi. It also has an indoor training pool measuring 25m x 25m, and an indoor leisure pool. The swimming pool complex also offers a standard main pool measuring 50m x 25m, a training pool measuring 25m x 15m, and a teaching pool measuring 25m x 12m. The main pool has a spectator stand with around 800 seats, and is suitable for hosting swimming competitions.



Tuen Mun North West Swimming Pool is the first in the district to offer indoor heated pool facilities and a jacuzzi.

Water quality at the three beaches in Tsuen Wan – Anglers’ Beach, Gemini Beaches and Ting Kau Beach – has improved. The beaches will be reopened once essential improvement works have been completed.

The department introduced a Public Swimming-Pool Monthly Ticket Scheme in early July 2012. The scheme is designed to make swimming cheaper for regular swimmers, especially the elderly, and to encourage more people to swim regularly. Recently, a smart card system has been installed that adds convenience by enabling swimmers to enter the pool using their smart cards.



The Public Swimming Pool Monthly Ticket Scheme has proved popular with swimmers.

To promote water sports safety, the department co-organised a series of campaigns and activities during the year in collaboration with the Hong Kong Life Saving Society and other relevant departments.

The department also organised a swimming pool cleaning campaign for children aged 11 and below and their parents.



A clean swimming pool campaign poster.

Water Sports Centres and Holiday Camps

The LCSD manages five water sports centres (Chong Hing, Stanley Main Beach, St Stephen's Beach, Tai Mei Tuk and Wong Shek) and four holiday camps (the Lady MacLehose Holiday Village, Sai Kung Outdoor Recreation Centre, Tso Kung Tam Outdoor Recreation Centre and Lei Yue Mun Park and Holiday Village). During the year, 125 000 people participated in programmes at the water sports centres, while 555 520 enjoyed the facilities at the holiday camps. The department also organises evening camps so people can participate after office hours; a total of 39 991 people took part in these during 2012-13.



Yachties enjoying one of the many annual programmes and facilities offered by the five water sports centres.

Stadia

Hong Kong Stadium, with a capacity of 40 000, is a major venue for sports and community events. During the year, 33 events were held, attracting a combined audience of 304 000. Major events included an invitation football match between Kitchee and Arsenal Football Club, the Mainland Olympic Gold Medallists Extravaganza, the East Asian Football Federation East Asian Cup 2013 Preliminary Competition Round 2, the China Mobile Satellite Communications Cup, and the famous Hong Kong Sevens. A range of other footballing and community events were also held. After redevelopment, the Mong Kok Stadium was reopened in October 2011. With a seating capacity of 6 668, it serves as one of the major venues for the First Division Football League and the training ground for the national squad. A total of 86 events were held at the stadium in 2012-13, including the Asian Football Confederation Cup among Hong Kong, Thailand, Myanmar and Singapore, the Asian Five Nations Rugby Match between Hong Kong and Kazakhstan, and the Asian Cup 2015 Qualifying Round between Hong Kong and Vietnam. A total of 274 839 spectators were attracted this year.

Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) at Major Land-based Facilities

The department plans to assist victims of cardiac arrest by introducing AEDs at all fee charging and non-fee charging land-based facilities with active sports facilities, and at all cultural venues. Public access will be available in emergencies. An implementation plan had been drawn up with the aim of installing AEDs by mid 2013 at all major land-based venues providing active sports facilities, and cultural venues.



Automated external defibrillators are helping save lives at the department's sports facilities and cultural venues.

Venue Management Initiatives and Improvements

Work Improvement Teams

By the end of March 2013, we had set up 291 Work Improvement Teams in district leisure venues to carry out self-initiated and departmental improvements. Given the success of this scheme, the department will continue to support these teams at all major leisure venues, including sports centres, swimming pools, beaches, parks and playgrounds.

Free Use Scheme

The Free Use Scheme aims to maximise the use of recreational facilities by allowing eligible organisations free access to the main arenas and activity rooms of all sports centres, squash courts, hockey pitches, outdoor bowling greens and obstacle golf courses during non-peak hours from September 1 to June 30 of the following year. Eligible organisations include schools, National Sports Associations, district sports associations and subvented non-governmental organisations.

LCSD Leisure Link

Launched in 2002, the Leisure Link System enables the public to book leisure facilities and enrol in community recreation and sports programmes either online, over the telephone, or at booking counters throughout the territory. In 2008 the department introduced self-service kiosks, which allow people to easily book leisure facilities or enrol in programmes using their Smart Identity Cards, and to pay by Octopus card. Currently 47 LCSD venues have self-service kiosks, with nine on Hong Kong Island, 15 in Kowloon, and 23 in the New Territories.

Counter services were provided at 156 recreational venues, where the public could book facilities, enrol in recreational programmes and get help

with facilities and sports programmes.

Facilities for National Sports Associations

The department provides National Squad Training Centres for 38 associations, encouraging the use of LCSD facilities and providing a wide range of training opportunities for individual athletes and national squads.



Archery athletes
training at an LCSD
venue.

Recreational and Sports Programmes

To promote 'Sport for All' and encourage people of different age groups and levels of ability to lead active and healthy lives, the LCSD organises a wide range of recreational and sports activities for different target groups. These activities include district-based sports training courses, competitions, and recreational activities.



Locals enjoying district-based recreational activities in their leisure time.

Major events and territory-wide projects include the Hong Kong Games (HKG), the Corporate Games, the Masters Games, Sport For All Day, and the Healthy Exercise for All Campaign.

In 2012-13, we organised around 37 800 recreational and sports activities for more than 2 136 600 participants of all ages and abilities, at a total cost of around \$146.6 million.

Healthy Exercise for All Campaign

Stimulating public interest in sports and encouraging a healthy lifestyle through regular participation in sports and physical activities are two of the department's key missions.

In conjunction with the Department of Health, the LCSD launched the Healthy Exercise for All Campaign in April 2000. Community activities organised in Hong Kong's 18 districts in 2012-13 as part of this campaign included a number of fitness programmes for children, people with disabilities and the elderly; hiking and quality walking ('QualiWalk') schemes; Dance for Health programmes; and rope-skipping activities.



A group of elderly folk enjoy a good time under the Healthy Exercise for All Campaign, which aims at raising the public's interest in doing exercise and understanding the health benefits it brings.

The department also organised a variety of promotional activities, including a series of roving exhibitions held in shopping malls, schools, youth centres, elderly centres, private residential clubhouses, LCSD holiday camps, parks, sports centres, and public libraries. These encouraged people of all ages to exercise daily for good health. The response was encouraging, with over 80 000 participants taking part in 1 500 activities in 2012-13.

To promote the campaign, the department enlisted the support of 36 top athletes as Healthy Exercise Ambassadors. Health education and physical exercise-related information was disseminated in the form of VCDs, leaflets and booklets, and also placed on a purpose-built website.

Sport For All Day 2012

To promote Sport for All in the community and to tie in with the London Olympics, the Olympics was adopted as the theme of the Sport For All Day 2012 held on August 5. The slogan 'Stay Active. Exercise for Half an Hour Daily' was adopted for the event.



Enthusiastic participants copy instructors during a stretch exercise on Sport for All Day.

Most of the department's leisure and sports facilities were open for free use by individual members of the public on the event day. In addition, a wide

range of free programmes were organised at designated sports centres in the 18 districts. Each district chose an Olympic sport as the theme of its signature promotion programme to help stimulate community interest in the Olympic sports and show support for Hong Kong's Olympic athletes.

Over 210 000 people took part in the Sport For All Day 2012, with more than 29 000 people enjoying the free programmes and over 186 000 people using the sports facilities free of charge.

The Corporate Games 2012

The Corporate Games is a major multi-sport event for employees of local private and public sector organisations. It encourages the working population to exercise regularly, while also promoting team spirit and fostering a stronger sense of belonging to an organisation.



Players compete vigorously in a volleyball tournament at the Corporate Games, a major multi-sport event for staff of private and public sector organisations.

The Corporate Games 2012 was held from March to November 2012 at various recreational venues throughout Hong Kong, and included 13 sports events. More than 9 300 people from 267 organisations took part in the games.

The Masters Games 2012/13

The Masters Games, held every two years, aim to inspire people aged 35 or above to maintain their physical and mental health by competing against others of a similar age. In 2012-13, the Games attracted over 4 400 participants in six events: Tai Chi, table tennis, swimming, badminton, tennis, and distance run.



Tai Chi practitioners demonstrate sword skills at the Masters Games, held for people aged 35 or above.

Healthy Exercise for All Campaign – Physical Fitness Test for the Community

In 2012, the LCSD completed the second territory-wide 'Physical Fitness Test for the Community', a study which collected data relating to the general physical fitness condition of Hong Kong people aged between 3 and 69. The overall findings of the study revealed that a person's lifestyle and pattern of physical activity have a direct correlation with their level of physical fitness. Apart from a balanced diet, people should adopt an active lifestyle and make sports and physical activities an integral part of their daily life.



People take a physical fitness test under the guidance of professionals. Information collected will be used to build a database on the physical fitness of Hong Kong people.

School Sports Programme

The School Sports Programme (SSP) is coordinated by the LCSD in collaboration with the Education Bureau, and provides subventions to the National Sports Associations (NSAs) in order to organise sports activities for students. This programme aims to give students more opportunities to participate in sport on a regular basis, raise sporting standards among students, and foster a sporting culture in school campuses.



Students taking part in a fencing competition under the 2012 Easy Sport Programme, an easy and fun way to try out new sports.

The SSP covers seven subsidiary programmes and schemes: the Sport Education Programme, the Easy Sport Programme, the Outreach Coaching Programme, the Sport Captain Programme, the Joint Schools Sports Training Programme, the Badges Award Scheme, and the Sports Award Scheme.



The Secretary for Home Affairs, Mr Tsang Tak-sing, visits a school to see the results of the School Sports Programme Coordinator Pilot Scheme for himself.

In 2012-13, 40 NSAs joined the SSP to organise 7 907 sports activities for over 609 000 participants.

The School Sports Programme Coordinator Pilot Scheme was a new initiative under the SSP. It was jointly organised by the Home Affairs Bureau and the LCSD, and co-organised by the Education Bureau and the Hong Kong Sports Institute. Apart from further promoting school sports, the pilot scheme also aims at providing retired athletes with a career training platform. Since its launch in September 2012, 14 schools have been paired up with 14 retired athletes, who have taken up posts as School Sports Programme Coordinators (SSPCs) and assisted the schools in carrying out their school sports development plans. The SSPCs served as role models to encourage students to participate in sport regularly and helped promote a stronger sporting culture in school campuses.



Charming young athletes show off their sports skills at a School Sports Programme event.

Community Sports Club Project

The Community Sports Club (CSC) Project aims to broaden the base of sports development in Hong Kong, and improve sporting standards at the community level. The project also aims to promote and strengthen youth development, encourage lifelong participation in sport, and attract sport volunteers.

Under the project, CSCs get technical and financial support for organising sports development programmes. In addition, seminars, training courses and workshops are arranged to improve the management skills and technical knowledge of club leaders. A total of 29 NSAs and around 430 CSCs have now joined the CSC Project. In 2012-13, about 2 250 CSC programmes were organised and drew 49 000 participants.

The Community Sports Club Project, a partnership scheme co-organised by the department and National Sports Associations, aims to enhance sports standards at the community level.



District Sports Teams Training Scheme

In 2012-13, the 18 districts formed their own football, basketball, handball and fencing teams, with support from the respective NSAs. A total of 10

790 people enrolled in these district teams and took part in 289 training activities and inter-district competitions through the year.

Young Athletes Training Scheme

The main goals of the Young Athletes Training Scheme (YATS) are to enhance sports training for young people, and to identify young talents. Young athletes with potential have the chance to be selected for further training by the NSAs. The best are selected for national junior squads that represent the Hong Kong SAR at international events.



Future stars in the making.

In 2012-13, the scheme attracted 31 935 participants to take part in 920 activities in 28 sports disciplines, while 267 talented young athletes were identified by NSAs for further training.

Bun Carnival 2012

The Cheung Chau Bun Carnival, held from April 8 to 29, 2012, attracted thousands of local and overseas visitors. More than 8 000 members of the public participated in the Bun Scrambling Competition and in many other events. Athletes from neighbouring cities and from Cheung Chau organisations competed in an invitation relay, adding extra excitement to the festival.



Contestants vie to grab the most buns during the finale of the Bun Scrambling Competition.

Sports Subvention Scheme

The department is responsible for the administration of the Sports Subvention Scheme which provides funding support to National Sports Associations (NSAs) and other sports organisations for the promotion and development of sport in Hong Kong.



A track cycling training course under the Sports Subvention Scheme.

In 2012-13, the department provided subvention amounting to \$250 million to these bodies. Together, they organised 11 200 sports programmes for more than 745 300 participants.



A mini-squash experience for children.

The LCSD completed a comprehensive review of the Sports Subvention Scheme in 2010. The major areas of review included subvention allocation and monitoring, as well as internal controls of NSAs. Measures had been taken to improve the administration of the scheme through streamlining

procedures as well as enhancing accountability and corporate governance of NSAs.

70 international events were held in 2012-13 under this scheme. Major events included the FINA Marathon Swimming World Cup – Hong Kong 2012; the 17th Asian Cities Gold Cup Taekwondo Championships; the Hong Kong International Bowls Classic 2012; the 2012 Hong Kong International Handball Championships; the Hong Kong Inter-City Athletics Championships 2012; the 38th Hong Kong International Open Tenpin Bowling Championships; the 34th Hong Kong Rowing Championships; the Hong Kong International Judo Tournament; the Hong Kong Junior Squash Open 2012; and the 2012 Hong Kong ITU Triathlon Asia Cup.



The 2012 Hong Kong International Handball Championships was one of 70 international events held under the Sports Subvention Scheme in 2012-13.

437 local competitions were also organised by NSAs. Key events included the Hong Kong 3 on 3 Streetball Basketball Competition for Students; Nike Hong Kong Football Five; the Hong Kong Bouldering Championships 2012; the Hong Kong National Wakeboard Championships; the Hong Kong Cup Archery Tournament; the Hong Kong National Junior Tennis Championships; the Hong Kong Youth Indoor Rowing Championships; Raw Hong Kong Powerlifting Invitations 2012; the Hong Kong Open Ranking Table Tennis Championships; and the Table Tennis Association Cup.

Sports promotions and training schemes are important components of these funded programmes. The sports development programmes held in 2012-13 included school sports programmes and a range of training schemes, which included the Youth Football Scheme, the Youth Wushu Training Course, the New Generation Table Tennis Training Course, and the Hong Kong Youth (Boys and Girls) Basketball Training Scheme.



The Youth Football Development Programme is one of the programmes under the Sports Subvention Scheme.

2012 London Olympic Games

The London 2012 Olympic Games were held from July 27 to August 12, 2012. The Hong Kong, China Delegation, consisting of 42 athletes and 44 officials, competed in 13 sports events.



HKSAR Chief Executive, Mr C Y Leung, with members of the Hong Kong, China Delegation before they set off for the London 2012 Olympic Games.

A bronze medal was won in the sport of Cycling. The men's table tennis team achieved 4th place; athletes from the women's badminton singles and men's table tennis singles as well as the women's table tennis team achieved top eight positions. Also, the men's 4 x 100 metre relay team entered the semi-final of the athletics competition. Hong Kong ranked 79th in the medals table, and 16th among the 44 Asian countries and regions taking part in the games.



Miss Lee Wai-sze, bronze medallist in the Women's Keirin event at the London Olympic Games, on her victorious return.

Sports Demonstration and Extravaganza by Mainland Olympic Gold Medallists

To enable Hong Kong people to share the joy and success of the Mainland athletes at the London 2012 Olympic Games, and to promote sports exchanges between the Mainland and Hong Kong, a 70-member delegation of Mainland Olympic Gold Medallists, including 47 athletes who won gold medals at the London 2012 Olympic Games, visited Hong Kong from August 24 to 26, 2012. This was also a celebratory event to commemorate the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.



A diving gold medallist displaying his skills during a demonstration at Kowloon Park Swimming Pool.

Members of the delegation met Hong Kong people at close range on a number of different occasions during the visit. The gold medallists put on badminton and table tennis demonstrations at Queen Elizabeth Stadium, and a diving demonstration at Kowloon Park Swimming Pool. Another group of athletes took part in an exchange session with some 900 members of uniformed youth groups at Siu Sai Wan Sports Centre. Apart from their sports demonstrations, the gold medallists enjoyed friendly interaction with local youngsters, while some spectators joined in the fun by taking part in games of table tennis and badminton with the medallists. The Mainland Olympic Gold Medallists Extravaganza, broadcast live on television from Hong Kong Stadium, provided another chance for the members of the public to view the graceful performances and superb skills demonstrated by the gold medallists.



Badminton gold medallists put on a display at Queen Elizabeth Stadium.

The gold medallists displayed confidence and superb sporting skills both in the sports demonstrations and at the extravaganza. They inspired participants with their charisma, and in turn won the public's applause for their perseverance and never-give-up spirit. The visit was warmly welcomed by the Hong Kong people who were deeply impressed by the gold medallists.



The Mainland
Olympic Gold
Medallists
Extravaganza gave
the athletes a chance
to interact with
members of the
public.

The 4th Hong Kong Games

The Hong Kong Games (HKG) is a major territory-wide multi-sport event that has been held biennially since 2007, with 18 DCs as the participating units. It aims to provide districts with more opportunities for sports participation, exchanges and co-operation, as well as to encourage members of the public to actively participate in sports, thereby promoting the 'Sport for All' culture at the community level. The HKG is organised by the Sports Commission and coordinated by its Community Sports Committee with the LCSD, the 18 DCs, the SF&OC and relevant NSAs as co-organisers.

The 4th HKG was held from April 27 to June 2, 2013. Following a launch ceremony at the Kowloon Park Arcade on June 11, 2012, the 18 DCs conducted open selection exercises to choose athletes to represent their districts in the Games. Over 3 100 athletes from 18 DCs were selected to compete in eight sports at the 4th HKG, namely athletics, badminton, basketball, futsal, swimming, table-tennis, tennis, and volleyball.

The Pledging Ceremony held on February 4, 2013 at the Kowloon Park Arcade marked the formation of 18 district delegations, and the commencement of a series of community involvement activities leading up to the Games.



Officiating guests pull the light-bar at the Pledging Ceremony of the 4th Hong Kong Games.

These activities included a cheering team competition for the 18 districts, 'Elite Athletes' Demonstration and Exchange Programme', a Countdown Ceremony, a 'Dynamic Moments Photo Contest', a grand opening ceremony, and a closing cum prize presentation ceremony. Members of the

public could also vote for 'My Favourite Sporty District' and guess the 'Overall Champion of the 4th HKG'. These activities had attracted over 400 000 participants.



The Cheering Team Competition for the 18 Districts got more people participating in the Hong Kong Games.



School children on the track under the 'Elite Athletes' Demonstration and Exchange Programme'.

The Organising Committee had adopted 'Let's have Fun at the Games' as the slogan of the 4th HKG, and had appointed eight elite athletes as Sports Ambassadors to help promote the Games.

Sports Exchange and Co-operation Programmes

To raise sporting standards in Hong Kong and encourage sports exchanges and co-operation, Hong Kong and the Mainland have to date signed five agreements/memoranda.

- The Hong Kong, Guangdong and Macau Sports Exchange and Co-operation Agreement (December 29, 2003),



Sports Exchange and Co-operation Programmes with Mainland cities helped raise Hong Kong's sports standards.

- The Hong Kong and State Sports General Administration of China Sports Exchange and Co-operation Agreement (May 13, 2004),
- The Hong Kong and Shanghai Administration of Sports Exchange and Co-operation Agreement (May 30, 2004),
- The Hong Kong and General Office of Culture, Radio, TV, Publications and Sports of Hainan Province Sports Exchange and Co-operation Memorandum (November 15, 2004), and
- The Hong Kong and Yunnan Sports Bureau Sports Exchange and Co-operation Memorandum (May 27, 2005).

Under the auspices of these agreements and memoranda, a number of exchange programmes with Mainland cities took place during the year.

Horticulture and Amenities

Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens

The Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens, a 5.6-hectare 'green lung' overlooking Central District, is a conservation centre for 13 species of endangered mammals, birds and reptiles. The zoo is home to around 340 birds of 70 species, of which more than 15 species have bred successfully.



The Bornean Orangutans in the Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens are very popular with visitors.

The zoo is also home to 70 mammals of 17 species, mainly primates. In April 2012, five Emperor Tamarins came from Twycross Zoo through the assistance of the Studbook Keeper, for education and conservation purposes. In June 2012, two Common Squirrel Monkeys arrived at the gardens through the animal exchange programme.

Trees, shrubs, creepers and foliage belonging to more than 900 species thrive in the gardens. A herb garden was established in 1986 and a greenhouse in 1993. They hold about 500 species of herbs, orchids, ferns, bromeliads, and carnivorous and indoor plants.

An education and exhibition centre, completed in 2008, displays botanical and zoological specimens, and offers teaching facilities and guided visits.



Taxidermy specimen of a female jaguar on display at the Education and Exhibition Centre of the Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens.

Hong Kong Park, Kowloon Park, Tuen Mun Park and Yuen Long Park also

feature zoological specimens.

Zoological and Horticultural Education

We have introduced a number of zoological and horticultural education programmes to raise public interest in conservation and green issues. Around 22 500 people participated in 373 zoological programmes in 2012-13, and around 22 000 took part in 404 horticultural programmes. Some 603 education programmes were organised for around 20 000 students.



Children in a green class.

During the year, the zoological and horticultural education exhibitions at Kowloon Park attracted around 9 300 and 9 000 visitors respectively.

Roving exhibitions were held at the Hong Kong Zoological and Botanical Gardens, Hong Kong Park, Kowloon Park, Tai Po Waterfront Park, Tuen Mun Park, Yuen Long Park, North District Park and Lai Chi Kok Park, while 12 courses were conducted to educate the public about conservation issues. The encouraging feedbacks received attest to the success of these programmes.

Tree Management

The department is responsible for the management and maintenance of around 500 000 trees, including 356 registered Old and Valuable Trees (OVTs). Some 97 OVTs were handed over to other departments in accordance with the integrated approach as promulgated by the Development Bureau.

Since May 2010 the department has had a new and improved tree management manpower structure in place, with six regional tree teams set up to carry out tree management work more systematically and effectively. In 2012-13 the department continued to conduct regular inspections on the trees under its care, and carried out tree maintenance/trimming work on some 83 000 trees.



Staff practising tree management on a training course.

Around 1 300 trees were planted under the department's tree-planting programme in 2012-13, mostly during the rainy season (March to October) to ensure stable growth.

Some 68 per cent of these trees were planted in the New Territories, with the remainder planted in urban areas, including 700 along roadsides and 600 in parks and gardens. Apart from serving functionally for shade, screening, soil protection and conservation, the trees also green and beautify the environment.

In 2012-13, we planted around 800 flowering trees, including *Bauhinia variegata*, *Lagerstroemia speciosa*, *Spathodea campanulata* and *Tabebuia chrysantha*, which are characterised by brighter seasonal colours.



A beautiful corner of Jordan Valley Park.

Horticultural and Landscape Services

As the department responsible for improving the urban environment and the landscape in general, we conduct research into the latest horticultural and arboricultural practices to update our policies and guidelines. We also periodically review our practices in order to maintain high standards in terms of our management and maintenance of community amenities.

As part of the effort to make Hong Kong greener, we closely monitor planting programmes in all districts, with the emphasis on preserving

existing trees and nurturing new ones, including those planted on development sites. During the year, we successfully preserved more than 1 400 trees.



A green avenue at
Shing Mun Valley
Park.

To achieve a balance between pleasing landscape and other factors, the department vets the landscape designs of various open and roadside spaces under development, including designs for the Roof Garden of the Cruise Terminal, the Kai Tak Development, and the Greening Master Plan for the New Territories. We are also responsible for upgrading the design of existing open and roadside spaces. In 2012-13, we enhanced the landscape design of more than 20 hectares of existing spaces, vacant government land and roadside amenities.

Green Promotion

Green Ambassador Scheme

Following the recommendations of the urban greening task force, led by the Chief Secretary for the Administration and released in 2009, we have implemented a Green Ambassador (GA) Scheme. Leading members of the community, including LegCo and District Council (DC) members, are invited to serve as GAs and help promote community involvement in the surveillance of trees. By March 2013, over 350 prominent citizens had joined the scheme.

Hong Kong Flower Show 2013

The Hong Kong Flower Show was held successfully at Victoria Park from March 15 to 24, 2013. The show, which gave pride of place to the dendrobium orchid genus this year, attracted about 520 000 people.

Besides accepting cash payment for admission, we continued to accept Octopus payments as a means of reducing queuing times.

The Flower Show had over 350 000 flowering plants on display, including 10 species and cultivars of dendrobium, and exotic flowers and plants from all over the world. The show also featured magnificent floral art displays by horticultural groups from Hong Kong, the Mainland and overseas. Participants included over 210 horticultural organisations, private firms and government departments from Hong Kong and the Mainland, Australia, Belgium, France, Germany, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Estonia, Singapore, Spain, Thailand, the United Kingdom, and the United States.



A sea of people and flowers at the Hong Kong Flower Show 2013.

In addition to major attractions such as landscape designs, flower arrangements, and displays of potted plants and bonsai, the show

delivered a wide range of educational and entertainment programmes. These included horticultural talks, flower arrangement demonstrations, cooking demonstrations, musical performances, cultural presentations, exhibits, drawing and photo competitions, plant-care workshops, and guided tours, all designed to promote interest in horticulture and the greening of Hong Kong.



Showcasing more than 350 000 flowers and plants, the flower show transformed Victoria Park into a wonderland of colour.

Green HK Campaign

Under the community greening programme, the department organised the Best Landscape Award for Private Property Development 2012 in June to improve the environment of private properties through good landscape design and horticultural maintenance. The award attracted more than 260 entries. In addition, over 140 green promotional and outreach activities were held, with around 41 000 people taking part.



The Best Landscape Award for Private Property Development 2012 attracted more than 260 entries.

Some 3 700 Green Volunteers from the 18 districts were recruited under the Green Volunteer Scheme to carry out simple horticultural maintenance in parks. These volunteers also serve as stewards at green promotional activities. In 2012-13, some 480 greening activities were organised for the Green Volunteers.

The Community Garden Programme, extended to all 18 districts by the end of 2005, encourages the public to participate in community-level greening activities and to adopt green practices in their daily lives. The programme is also designed to raise public awareness of environmental protection issues through gardening activities. The 18 districts now boast 21 community gardens. In 2012-13, 50 gardening courses were organised for more than 10 800 participants.



Green Volunteers showing a passion for nature in planting activities.

The department continued to work with the DCs and local communities to organise Community Planting Days throughout the year. In 22 planting days, involving over 4 900 participants, 92 trees and 26 200 shrubs were planted.



Students supporting the Green Hong Kong Campaign through planting.

The Greening School Subsidy Programme, conducted during the year as part of a school greening programme, provided subsidies of 4.7 million to 889 schools and kindergartens. The money is used to help making school campuses greener and to provide green educational activities for students,

with the assistance of part-time instructors. The greening projects were assessed, and the winning schools received a Greening School Project Award. Around 370 000 students were given pots of seedlings to nurture at home or at school under the 'One Person, One Flower' Scheme, which develops interest in greening by encouraging them to grow plants.

Licensing

Since January 1, 2000, the department has been the licensing authority for Places of Amusement. In 2012-13, these licensed venues included 62 billiard establishments, eight public bowling-alleys, and seven public skating rinks.

Major Recreational & Sports Events

Date	Event
April 8 - 29, 2012	Bun Carnival 2012



A vividly exciting moment at the 2012 Bun Scrambling Competition.

May 18-20, 2012	2012 HKFC International Soccer Sevens Tournament
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June 1-9, 2012	38th Hong Kong International Open Tenpin Bowling Championships
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June 11, 2012	Launching Ceremony of the 4th Hong Kong Games
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The 4th Hong Kong Games launching ceremony.

July 4-8, 2012	The 8th IDBF Club Crew World Championships cum
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Hong Kong International Dragon Boat Races

August 5, 2012	Sport For All Day 2012
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Members of the public are shown an easy fitness workout on Sport For All Day 2012.

August 8-12, 2012

Hong Kong Junior Squash
Open 2012

August 14, 2012

Welcome Home Ceremony
for the Hong Kong, China
Delegation to the London
2012 Olympic Games



Athletes from Hong Kong's
delegation to the London
2012 Olympic Games make
a glorious return home.

August 15, 2012

Celebration Reception for
the Hong Kong, China
Delegation to the London
2012 Olympic Games

HKSAR Chief Executive,
Mr. C Y Leung, and
athletes at the celebration
reception for the Hong
Kong delegation to the
London 2012 Olympic
Games.



September 2-11, 2012

22nd Asian Tenpin Bowling
Championships

September 11, 2012

Welcome Home Ceremony
for the Hong Kong, China
Delegation to the London
2012 Paralympic Games



Supporters at the airport
welcome back athletes
from the Hong Kong
delegation to the London
2012 Paralympic Games.

October 20-21, 2012	6th Hong Kong DanceSport Festival – 2012 WDSF World Cup Standard
October 21, 2012	Harbour Race 2012 and 5th Asian Open Water Swimming Championships
October 27-28, 2012	Hong Kong Cricket Sixes 2012
November 20-25, 2012	Hong Kong Open Badminton Championships 2012
November 25 - December 2, 2012	Hong Kong Squash Open 2012

February 4, 2013 Pledging Ceremony of the 4th Hong Kong Games



The Pledging Ceremony of the 4th Hong Kong Games was held at Kowloon Park Arcade on February 4, 2013.

February 24, 2013 Hong Kong Marathon 2013



Prizewinners of the Hong Kong Marathon 2013.

February 28 - March 2, 2013 Hong Kong Masters (Equestrian)

March 15-24, 2013 Hong Kong Flower Show 2013



Huge flower “insects” at the Hong Kong Flower Show 2013.

March 22-24, 2013

Hong Kong Sevens 2013 (Rugby)



The Hong Kong Sevens 2013 attracted spectators from all around the world.



Rugby action at the Hong Kong Sevens 2013.

Cultural Services

A prominent arts and cultural hub, Hong Kong has one of the liveliest cultural scenes in Asia, thriving on the fusion of creative talent from East and West.



Hong Kong is a centre for cultural exchange. Picture shows an outdoor presentation by the Bursa Mehter Band of Turkey, outside the Hong Kong Cultural Centre.

The Cultural Services Branch of the LCSD plans and manages performance venues, and organises cultural and entertainment programmes to promote culture and the arts in Hong Kong. It also provides public library services to meet the community's need for knowledge and information, and promotes reading and the literary arts. The branch also helps preserve our cultural heritage through its museums and related services.



The Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Public Library opened in February 2013. It is the second largest public library in Hong Kong in terms of floor size after the Hong Kong Central Library.

By offering these activities and services, we aim to create an environment

that encourages artistic expression and a deeper appreciation of culture in the community, in line with the larger goal of developing an open and mature society that embraces arts and culture as part of everyday life.

Hong Kong has excellent cultural facilities, including 14 performance venues (following the opening of the Yau Ma Tei Theatre in July 2012), seven major museums, seven smaller museums, two heritage centres, a film archive, a visual arts centre, two indoor stadia, as well as 67 static and 10 mobile libraries all of which are managed by the department.



Since the re-opening of the Yau Ma Tei Theatre in July 2012, more than 54 000 visitors have attended nearly 300 performances there.

Performing Arts

During the year under review, the LCSD continued to offer a wide range of quality cultural events, helping maintain Hong Kong's status as Asia's events capital. The array of programmes included a variety of exciting festivals and shows by local and international artists and audience-building activities. The department also manages many of Hong Kong's leading performance venues.



A scene from a performance at the Chinese Opera Festival 2012, held between June and August.

Hong Kong Cultural Centre

Since it opened in 1989, the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, managed by the LCSD, has been Hong Kong's premier cultural venue. Capable of staging a wide range of performing arts events, the Hong Kong Cultural Centre houses a 2 019-seat Concert Hall, a 1 734-seat Grand Theatre and a Studio Theatre with a maximum seating capacity of 496. In 2012-13, 736 performances held there attracted about 668 000 people.

The Hong Kong Cultural Centre is the major venue for Hong Kong's five big cultural events – the Hong Kong Arts Festival, the Hong Kong International Film Festival, the Chinese Opera Festival, the International Arts Carnival, and the Autumn Thematic Arts Festival. It is also a stage for many internationally acclaimed performing arts groups. In 2012-13 such groups included the Suzhou Kunqu Opera Theatre of Jiangsu Province, the Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan, Gidon Kremer and Kremerata Baltica from the Baltic States, U Theatre from Taiwan, the San Francisco Symphony, Shen Wei Dance Arts from the US, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the American Ballet Theatre, and the San Carlo Theatre, from Naples in Italy. Other attractions held at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre included opera productions of *Carmen* and *La Traviata*, and recitals by Krystian Zimerman, Yundi Li, Anne-Sophie Mutter, and Lang Lang.



A performance by U Theatre of Taiwan at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre.

Offering a panoramic view of Victoria Harbour, the Hong Kong Cultural Centre's outdoor piazza is a popular place for spectacular events, such as the International Chinese New Year Night Parade and the Lunar New Year Lantern Carnival and Fireworks Display.

Hong Kong City Hall

The Hong Kong City Hall, which opened in 1962, was our first purpose-built civic centre. In 2009, the Bauhaus-style complex was designated a Grade 1 Historic Building. The Hong Kong City Hall has a 1 434-seat concert hall, a 463-seat theatre and a 590-square metre exhibition hall. Around 362 000 patrons attended 573 performances staged there in 2012-13.



Hong Kong City Hall in the 1960s.

Following an opening concert by world renowned cellist Yo Yo Ma and the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, the Hong Kong City Hall continued the celebration of its 50th Anniversary with "The Golden Stage" commemorative exhibition and celebrity talks at the Exhibition Hall, and a number of outstanding performances such as the *Famous Repertory of Six Famous Stars in Cantonese Opera* and a concert by the Borodin Quartet from Russia. In the music chart '2012 Top Ten Music Headlines' organised by RTHK Radio 4, this series of celebration programmes received the most votes from the public and the music sector. The Hong Kong City Hall's important legacy as a cradle of the arts, and its ongoing role in promoting arts and culture in Hong Kong, is widely recognised in the community.

Other distinguished visiting artists and arts groups who performed at the

venue included the National Theatre of China, the English Concert and the Wells Cathedral Choir from the UK, the Paco Pena Flamenco Dance Company from Spain, the Munich Chamber Orchestra from Germany, and individual performers Piotr Anderszewski, Javier Perianes, Hélène Grimaud and Maxim Rysanov.

The Hong Kong City Hall was also one of the main venues used for major arts festivals during the year.

Community Arts Facilities

Our range of arts facilities are focal points for cultural activities around Hong Kong. They include larger venues such as the Sha Tin, Tsuen Wan and Tuen Mun town halls, and the Kwai Tsing, Yuen Long and Ko Shan theatres; and smaller venues such as the Sai Wan Ho, Sheung Wan, Ngau Chi Wan and Tai Po civic centres, and the North District town hall. Most of them have been serving the community for many years.



Equipping with a computerised stage lighting system, advanced sound equipment and backstage support facilities, the Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre theatre is a fine venue for theatrical, dance and music performances.

A series of special programmes was organised in 2012 to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Tuen Mun Town Hall. Performances featured included *PSY* by Les 7 Doigts de la Main from Canada, *Flamenco sin Fronteras* by the Paco Peña Flamenco Dance Company from Spain, *An Operatic Showcase - A Sword of Loyalty* presented by several leading Cantonese opera artists, as well as concerts featuring popular nostalgic songs and ballroom dancing performances. A fun day specially tailored for children, youngsters and families received a particularly enthusiastic response. This special anniversary occasion involved active participation by many community organisations and venue partners, offering in an interesting mix of exhibitions and performing arts programmes.



Young people enjoying themselves at the Tuen Mun Town Hall 25th Anniversary Fun Day.

Our venue sponsorship scheme promotes and encourages the arts at grassroots level by giving those district arts groups organising cultural activities for the local community free use of our facilities. In 2012-13, over 100 community arts groups were sponsored in more than 620 activities, attracting over 115 000 people. Various independent organisations also hired our facilities for arts-related activities.

Support for Cantonese Opera

The Government is keen to preserve and develop Cantonese opera in Hong Kong. Given the high demand for performance venues in Hong Kong, the LCSD has put in place a priority hiring policy for professional Cantonese opera troupes. This gives them priority hiring of the Ko Shan Theatre, and priority booking for specific periods at five other major performance venues. The Yau Ma Tei Theatre, a new territory-wide venue, is the 14th performance venue of the LCSD. It accepts booking applications for Chinese opera and related activities only.

Built in 1930, the Yau Ma Tei Theatre is the only surviving pre-war cinema building in the urban area of Hong Kong. The Theatre closed down in 1998 and was accorded Grade 2 status by the Antiquities Advisory Board in the same year. The Theatre and the adjacent Grade 1 Red Brick Building have been revitalised, providing a 300-seat theatre and two function rooms dedicated to Chinese opera, and become a training and performance venue for budding Cantonese opera talents. Since its re-opening on 17 July 2012, more than 53 000 visitors have attended 297 performances at the Theatre.



A Chinese opera performance at the grand opening ceremony of the revitalised Yau Ma Tei Theatre.

Planned New Facility

The Government is currently developing performance venues of different sizes to meet the long-term development needs of Cantonese opera in Hong Kong. Scheduled for completion in late 2013 and due to open in late 2014 is the New Wing at the Ko Shan Theatre, which houses a 600-seat auditorium as well as rehearsal and training facilities for Cantonese opera artists and performing troupes. The venue will also serve as a base for Cantonese opera performances, experimental works, training and rehearsals.

Venue Partnership Scheme

With the aim to provide a supportive environment for sustainable development of the performing arts, a three-year Venue Partnership Scheme has been implemented since April 2009. The scheme aims to foster partnerships between venues and performing arts groups in ways that will enhance their image, expand their audience, optimise the use of the facilities, and encourage community involvement in the arts. The first round of the scheme was completed in March 2012, and the second round runs from April 2012 to March 2015. 21 venue partners, including individual groups, joint groups and consortia, are presently involved in organising various performing arts activities at 12 venues.

Venue	Partners
(1) Hong Kong City Hall	Hong Kong Sinfonietta Hong Kong Repertory Theatre
(2) Hong Kong Cultural Centre	Hong Kong Philharmonic Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra Hong Kong Ballet Zuni Icosahedron
(3) Kwai Tsing Theatre	Chung Ying Theatre Company W Theatre and Wind Mill Grass Theatre
(4) Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre	Whole Theatre E-Side Dance Company
(5) North District Town Hall	Hong Kong Theatre Works

(6) Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre	The Absolutely Fabulous Theatre Connection
(7) Sha Tin Town Hall	The Cantonese Opera Advancement Association
	Trinity Theatre and The Radiant Theatre
(8) Sheung Wan Civic Centre	Perry Chiu Experimental Theatre
(9) Tsuen Wan Town Hall	Hong Kong Dance Company Ming Ri Institute for Arts Education
(10) Tuen Mun Town Hall	Spring-Time Experimental Theatre and Hong Kong Young Talent Cantonese Opera Troupe
(11) Yau Ma Tei Theatre	The Chinese Artists Association of Hong Kong
(12) Yuen Long Theatre	Hong Kong Performing Stage of Cantonese Opera Theatre Noir

Venue partners are supported in various ways, such as by being given priority use of venue facilities, funding, enhanced publicity, and workspace. In 2012-13, the 21 venue partners presented 801 performances and engaged in 991 audience-building activities. Together they attracted some 762 000 spectators and participants.

Arts Administrator Trainee Scheme

The arts administrator trainee scheme was launched in 2010-11 with the aim of nurturing a pool of arts administrators to support the development of Hong Kong's cultural "software". The scheme is run by both the LCSD and its venue partners, comprising major as well as small- and medium-sized performing arts groups.

The LCSD's trainees engage in a two-year programme to learn about venue operations, facility management, event promotion, and the organisation of performing arts programmes, carnivals and arts festivals. The number of trainees was increased from 13 to 18 in 2012.



Art administrative trainees listening to an introduction on the technical operation of a cultural venue.

Separately, the LCSD sponsored venue partners to engage trainees to learn about performing arts group management. Under this scheme, 21 trainees were engaged by 20 venue partners during the year under review.

Cultural Presentations

The Cultural Presentations Section offers programmes in music, dance, Chinese Opera, theatre and multimedia performing arts throughout the year. These programmes, ranging from the traditional to the avant garde, include the best of local and international performances. In 2012-13 more than 980 events took place, attracting altogether around 440 000 spectators.

In celebration of the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR, the LCSD presented the International Military Tattoo. This was Hong Kong's first ever military tattoo spectacular, and was joined by more than 10 visiting and local groups including the Military Band of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, the Military Band of the Chinese People's Liberation Army Navy, the Guard of Honour of the Three Services of the Chinese People's Liberation Army Hong Kong Garrison, the Royal Australian Navy Band, the Russian Frontier Guard Band, the Bursa Mehter Band of Turkey, the Pipes and Drums of the Royal Scots Dragoon Guards, the US 7th Fleet Band, the Hong Kong Police Band, the Girl Students Marching Band of Jiangxi Normal University, the O'Shea-Ryan Irish Dance Group of Australia, and the Hong Kong Association of Choral Societies. Audiences responded warmly to the three stage performances at the Hong Kong Coliseum, and the two outdoor parades.



Eye-catching
International Military
Tattoo
demonstrations at
the Hong Kong
Coliseum.



Crowds get a close-up view of an outdoor parade at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre's outdoor piazza.

The Chinese Opera Festival 2012, this year promoting the art of *xiqu* or 'Chinese traditional theatre', was held from June to August. The festival showcased a variety of operatic genres from different parts of China, including Cantonese Opera, Kunqu Opera, Huangmei Opera, Gezi Opera, Yue Opera, Peking Opera, Gan Opera and *Qingqiang*. Apart from stage performances, the festival also featured a variety of extension activities in the form of an exhibition, symposiums, talks and lectures, and film screenings. These were valuable in helping the public gain a deeper understanding and better appreciation of the Chinese operatic arts.

The year 2012 also marked the 150th anniversary of the birth of the composer Claude Debussy. The LCSD arranged a programme series featuring world-renowned artists, including Krystian Zimerman and Monique Duphil, together with contributions from local musicians, in the form of recitals and chamber concerts on this occasion. The finale of the series was a Children's Corner - Debussy Mini Piano Marathon. This was staged in the Foyer of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre for family audiences, and involved more than 20 young pianists from the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts playing works by Debussy.



Children's Corner – the Debussy Mini Piano Marathon in action in the Foyer of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre.

Other major programmes during the year included concert performances by the San Francisco Symphony, Gidon Kremer and Kremerata Baltica from the Baltic States, the English Concert and the Wells Cathedral Choir from the UK, and Piotr Anderszewski.



A marvellous performance by the San Francisco Symphony, under the baton of its world-renowned music director Michael Tilson Thomas.

Dance productions included *Flamenco sin Fronteras* by the Paco Peña Flamenco Dance Company from Spain, *Nine Songs* by the Cloud Gate Dance Theatre from Taiwan, and performances by the Rambert Dance Company from the UK. As for theatre and opera productions, these included *What is Success?* by the Edward Lam Dance Theatre, *Once, upon hearing the skin tone* by Shakespeare's Wild Sisters Group from Taiwan; a mind-blowing circus *Psy* by the Seven Fingers from Canada; Verdi's *La Traviata* performed by Opera Hong Kong, and *Cavalleria Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci* performed by Musica Viva.



A dance performance by the Rambert Dance Company from the United Kingdom at the Kwai Tsing Theatre Auditorium.

The LCSD has long offered local artists and arts groups opportunities to take part in thematic series, in different art forms. These have included the literary arts series, Footprint of Time – Literary Figures and Their Sojourn in Hong Kong, specially curated in the form of music, dance and theatre to portray different facets of the lives of famous literary figures who once lived in Hong Kong. In addition, the Re-run Run Shows Series gave local arts groups the opportunity to build up their own repertoire by re-staging popular productions; and the Playwrights Scheme supported young and distinguished writers for the theatre. Meanwhile, the Our Music Talents Series provides performance platforms for local musicians with potential, and the Young Cantonese Opera Artists Series brings opportunities for young Cantonese opera artists and young professional groups.

Large-scale free events featuring budding local artists and groups, such as the 10th Anniversary of Cantonese Opera Day, were organised to popularise arts and enhance community access.



The last Sunday of every November has been designated Cantonese Opera Day, to preserve this valuable art form and promote it to a broader audience.

To further support the growth and development of local artists, the LCSD regularly explores alternative performance venues, apart from those under its own management. Notable examples in the year were dance theatres *Body, I.D.*, *Space V – Body Battlefield* by Y-Space, held at the Hong Kong Museum of Medical Sciences, and *Kidult Ophelia* by Abby Chan, held at the Cattle Depot. Besides strengthening support for the local arts sector, this new initiative also showed the LCSD's efforts in raising public awareness of our cultural heritage.

The LCSD also continued to organise joint projects with various Consulates-Generals and cultural organisations. These included organising the 20th Anniversary of *Le French May* and the Pearl River Delta Culture Summit, both of which helped foster cultural exchanges and enhance Hong

Kong's reputation as Asia's events capital.

Festivals

International Arts Carnival 2012

The International Arts Carnival, an annual summer event, offers performing arts programmes and educational arts activities for families, youth and young children in the form of dance, multi-media theatre, puppet theatre, comedy, music, and children's films.



An amusing performance at the opening ceremony of the International Arts Carnival 2012.

The 2012 carnival opened with the ballet *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs*, performed by the Estonian National Ballet. Other highlights included *Splendid* by the China National Acrobatic Troupe; *Harmony* by the Théâtre de la Dame de Coeur from Canada; *The Ugly Duckling & The Tortoise and The Hare* by the Lightwire Theater from the USA; *Nuova Barberia Carloni* by the Teatro Necessario from Italy; *Momentari & Maps* by the Nats Nus Dansa from Spain; and *Touch* by Boy Blue Entertainment from the UK.



Combining captivating choreography and acting with magnificent costumes, sets and music, *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* by the Estonian National Ballet offered a charming new take on a classic tale.

Local artists added colour to the carnival with the multi-media theatre *Short-nosed Elephant Xiao Xiao* by Jumbo Kids Theatre and Theatre

Horizon; *Miracle Kingdom* by Wilderness Creation; *Brothers of War* by the All Theatre Art Association; *Happy Days Toy Shop* by the Fantasy Puppet Theatre; and *Romeo and Harriet* by the Hong Kong 3 Arts Musical Institute.

The carnival also included pre-carnival school tours, community outreach performances, school culture day programmes, exhibitions and workshops. A special youth project, *Breaking into a New World II: The Mapping of a Body-Mind* by Ho Bit Goon was organised to explore the challenges of growing up in the 21st century.

From July 6 to August 19, 2012, a total of 21 local and 11 visiting arts groups participated in 448 carnival events, attracting an audience of around 162 600. The average attendance at ticketed events was 95 per cent of capacity.

New Vision Arts Festival 2012

Launched in 2002, the biennial New Vision Arts Festival celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2012. Running from October 19 to November 17, 2012, the

sixth edition continued to showcase dynamic and cutting-edge productions that were cross-cultural and/ or cross-disciplinary with an Asian focus.

Opening the Festival was the multimedia theatre *Beyond Time* by the U Theatre of Taiwan.



The new multimedia performance *Beyond Time* by U Theatre of Taiwan combined thunderous drumming with contemplative dancing and chanting, making for a journey of self-reflection and soul-searching.

A number of world-première productions were also featured, including the commissioning site-specific dance work *Illuminate* by the Shen Wei Dance Arts from the USA (as part of the Closing Programme), and *The Sound of Folk Tales* by Dana Leong and Dave Liang from the USA, which fused jazz, electronica and animation. Other highlights included *NEITHER / DELUSIONS II* by phase7 performing.arts from Germany; futuristic street dance gala *FAKEST* by the Wrecking Crew Orchestra from Japan; *Two Dogs* by the National Theatre of China; and a concert by Wu Man and aboriginal musicians and singers from Taiwan.



Dance work
Illuminate by Shen
Wei Dance Arts from
the United States
was one of the
highlights of the New
Vision Arts Festival
2012.



*NEITHER /
DELUSIONS II* by
Germany's phase7
performing.arts was
an energetic
production with an
Asian focus.

The Festival also encouraged artistic collaborations between local artists and their overseas counterparts. Examples were the concert by Trey Lee and the Munich Chamber Orchestra from Germany; the operatic tone-poem *The Flight of the Jade Bird* featuring artists from Singapore, Taiwan and Hong Kong; and *Lament of the Exile* by DanceArt Hong Kong, with artists from Australia, the Mainland, Hong Kong and Taiwan. The Festival also served as a platform for local arts groups such as the Tang Shu-wing Theatre Studio, the Ho Bit Goon and the Hong Kong Sinfonietta to present their latest works.

During the month-long Festival, 50 visiting and 62 local artists/arts groups presented 95 events. These included master-classes, student performances, exhibitions, foyer and outdoor performances, backstage tours, lecture demonstrations and talks. The Festival attracted an audience of around 72 800 in total, with an average attendance of 75 per cent of capacity for ticketed events.

Arts Education and Audience-Building Programmes

To develop cultural literacy in schools and the community, the LCSD organised 1 273 arts education and audience-building activities throughout Hong Kong, which attracted more than 319 000 people during the year.

In Schools

The LCSD regularly organises arts education programmes in schools to foster cultural literacy among students.

Under the School Arts Animateur Scheme, the LCSD collaborates with local performing groups experienced in arts education to conduct arts education projects in schools. After attending a series of workshops lasting from a few months to an entire school year, students have the opportunity to show what they have learnt through performances.



A dance class under the School Arts Animateur Scheme, organised in collaboration with the City Contemporary Dance Company.

In the year under review, 11 projects were presented under this scheme, comprising dance, music, musicals, drama, Cantonese opera, and multi-media arts. These were delivered with the help of the Chung Ying Theatre Company, the City Contemporary Dance Company, the Hong Kong Composers' Guild, the Hong Kong Ballet, the Hong Kong 3 Arts Musical Institute, the Seals Players Foundation, the DanceArt Hong Kong, the Prospects Theatre, the Exploration Theatre, the Class 7A Drama Group, and the Kim Sum Cantonese Opera Association.

To enhance the civic awareness of students, the LCSD worked with some of these arts groups and participating schools to organise Students' Performances for the Community, held at community centres and homes for the aged in their school neighbourhoods.

The School Culture Day Scheme encourages primary, secondary and

special schools to bring students along to the department's performance venues, museums and libraries during school hours to take part in specially-tailored cultural activities. This popular scheme also serves to integrate art, history and science in the school curriculum, and link them closely with everyday life. To tie in with the Arts Experience Scheme for Senior Secondary Students, launched in 2009, the performing arts programmes under the School Culture Day Scheme were realigned for students from Primary One to Secondary Three.



Students take part in a puppet play workshop under the School Culture Day Scheme.

The Arts Experience Scheme for Senior Secondary Students offers tailor-made programmes with enhanced interactive and educational elements, all designed to tie in with the "Aesthetic Development of Other Learning Experience" outlined in the new senior secondary curriculum.

A total of 23 programmes were offered under this scheme in 2012-13, including dance, drama, music, Western and Chinese opera and multi-media arts. Participating artists and arts groups included: the Chung Ying Theatre Company, the Hong Kong Ballet, the Hong Kong Dance Company, the Zuni Icosahedron, the Musica Viva, the City Contemporary Dance Company, the Hong Kong Repertory Theatre, the Theatre Space, the Jingkun Theatre, the Hong Kong Theatre Works, the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra, the Alice Theatre Laboratory, the Theatre du Pif, the Tang Shu-wing Theatre Studio, the DanceArt Hong Kong, the Ho Bit Goon, the Y-Space, the phase7 performing arts, David Quah, Dennis Wu, Yuen Siu-fai and Sun Kim-long.

Following good response the previous year, in 2012-13 the Audience Building Office continued to organise the Performing Arts Criticism Project for Senior Secondary Students in collaboration with the International Association of Theatre Critics (Hong Kong). The project introduces the basic techniques of arts criticism to students through seminars and workshops.

The New Synergy Arts Animateur Pilot Scheme was a new initiative launched in 2012-13, offering progressive training courses to students who had previously participated in music composition and script writing workshops. To promote interest in Cantonese opera, especially among students, the department presented *Let's Enjoy Cantonese Opera in Bamboo Theatre*. As the name indicates, these performances featured Cantonese opera performed in bamboo theatres in various districts, with the support of district organisations, and featured interactive/educational activities tailored for students.



Let's Enjoy
Cantonese Opera in
Bamboo Theatre is
one of the
department's
initiatives to
stimulate students'
interest in Cantonese
opera.

The LCSD commissioned the Hong Kong Institute of Education to conduct a study on the effectiveness of the school arts education schemes organised

by the Audience Building Office. The study, which was based on questionnaire, surveys and focus group interviews with teachers and students, found there was a high satisfaction rate of these schemes. It affirmed their success in meeting the dual objectives of enhancing students' interest in the arts on the one hand, and incentivising them to participate in arts activities on the other.

In the Community

Audience-building programmes held at the community level included the Community Cultural Ambassador Scheme, the District Cantonese Opera Parade, and other projects organised in co-operation with district and non-government cultural organisations.

Outreach activities under the Community Cultural Ambassador Scheme are designed to make the arts more accessible to the community. Twenty-two arts groups/artists participated in the scheme in 2012-13, conducting performances in public spaces including parks, shopping malls and community centres.



A performance by
Drama Gallery at the
Wong Tai Sin Temple
Square, under the
Community Cultural
Ambassador
Scheme.

The District Cantonese Opera Parade promotes Cantonese opera and gives emerging and amateur Cantonese opera troupes opportunities to perform full-length repertoires at regional/district venues.

To encourage the elderly to participate in cultural activities, the LCSD organised a Community Oral History Theatre Project in collaboration with performing arts and district organisations. In a series of workshops, the project collected valuable personal histories from elderly people of a specific district. After their oral histories were scripted, the elderly participants then had the opportunity to perform their stories on stage. In 2012-13, the project was implemented in the Kwun Tong district.

Carnivals and Entertainment Programmes

Seven large carnivals were organised during the year to celebrate traditional festivals and major festive days. The New Year's Eve Countdown Carnival 2012, held in Sha Tin Park and at the Sha Tin Town Hall Plaza cum City Art Square, attracted 65 000 visitors. Audiences were entertained by a mix of programmes by youth champions of various disciplines along with talented artists, who delivered performances of Chinese percussion, band music, dances, magic, pop songs and yo yo skills. The evening climaxed with the New Year Countdown, followed by a spectacular pyrotechnics display over the Sha Tin Town Hall complex.



Jubilant participants
at the New Year's
Eve Countdown
Carnival 2012 in Sha
Tin.

To celebrate Mid-Autumn Festival and the Lunar New Year, the LCSD organised a number of large-scale lantern carnivals. Highlights included some spectacular ethnic dances and acrobatic displays by groups from Hunan and Yunan Honghezhou. These were sponsored by the Office for Cultural Affairs of Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan Regions of the Mainland Ministry of Culture.



Dazzling thematic
lanterns on show at
Victoria Park in the
2012 Mid-Autumn
Lantern Carnival.

The carnivals also featured examples of intangible cultural heritage (ICH) elements such as a fire dragon dancing parade, demonstrations of traditional lantern-making by local masters, and handcraft demonstrations by Guangdong and Macao artists. During both festivals, thematic lantern

exhibitions were staged at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza, captivating thousands of locals and tourists.

To foster good relationships between local people and other ethnic Asians, the LCSD, in co-operation with the Consulate-General of the Philippines, organised a *Concert in the Park* featuring Filipino artists. Another event, the Asian Ethnic Cultural Performances, was organised in co-operation with the Consulates-General of Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand.



Asian Ethnic Cultural Performance 2012 served as a bridge to foster good relations between local people and other ethnic Asians in Hong Kong.

Following their successful launch in 2009-10, three Community Thematic Carnivals were held this year in Southern District, Sai Kung and the New Territories West Region, and included performances and community participation activities.

The Youth Band Marathon and Marching Band Parade continued to provide platforms for talented youth.

Funded by and run in co-operation with the District Councils, 636 regular free entertainment performances were offered throughout Hong Kong for audiences of all ages during the year. Usually held on weekends and public holidays, these free programmes included traditional Chinese performing arts, music, dance, and family entertainment.

In 2012-13, the LCSD organised a total of 662 carnivals, special events and free entertainment programmes, attracting around 1 033 980 people.

Subvention to Hong Kong Arts Festival

The LCSD provides an annual subvention to the Hong Kong Arts Festival. Held in February and March each year, this is one of Asia's premier international arts festivals. In 2013, the 41st Hong Kong Arts Festival's 147 ticketed performances attracted over 132 000 people, of whom 16 256 attended under the auspices of the Young Friends of the Festival Scheme.

Cultural Exchanges

Exchanges with the International Community

The LCSD's arts managers, curators and librarians regularly attend international conferences and festivals to stay in touch with new developments, and to scout for quality programmes for presentation in Hong Kong.

In 2012, overseas exchange programmes and international conferences that were attended by representatives of the department included: the Association of Asia-Pacific Performing Arts Centres Annual Conference and the 5th Biennial Conference of Museum Studies in Taipei; the 26th June Congress of International Society for the Performing Arts in Seoul; the Association of Science-Technology Centres 2012 Annual Conference in the United States; the Asia-Pacific Network of Science & Technology Centres 2012 Annual Conference in Singapore; the Fifth World Conference of the Society for East Asian Archaeology in Fukuoka, Japan; and the Third Joint Meeting of The Hong Kong-Taiwan Economic and Cultural Co-operation and Promotion Council and the Taiwan-Hong Kong Economic and Cultural Co-operation Council in Taipei.

In January 2013, the Hong Kong Heritage Museum joined hands with the Chinese University of Hong Kong and the University of Tours, France, in organising a three-day international conference on ICH. The event drew over 30 experts and academics from Hong Kong and the Mainland, as well as from elsewhere around the world, including Macao, Taiwan, Japan, India, Australia, the US, France, Israel and Morocco.

In September 2012, the Hong Kong Film Archive curated *Magical Wonderful Tour: A Trip Through Hong Kong Cinema* at the Vladivostok International Film Festival in Russia. The event showcased ten Hong Kong films selected from the archive's 100 Must-See Hong Kong Movies.



Ten of the 100 Must-See Hong Kong Movies were screened at the Ussuri Cinema, the oldest cinema in Vladivostok, during the Vladivostok International Film Festival in Russia.

The Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) strengthened ties with counterparts elsewhere through cooperation and exchange of views on subjects of mutual interest. A public lecture on the development of innovative library services in the digital age was organised jointly with the Hong Kong Library Association and the Goethe Institut Hong Kong, and included experience shared by visiting delegates from the Bavarian State Library of Germany. The Public Libraries and the Bavarian State Library also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Library Cooperation. The MoU, aimed at promoting cultural exchange between the two libraries, related to a series of library co-operation initiatives that include information technology development and sharing of digital resources.



Hong Kong Public Libraries and the Bavarian State Library signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Library Co-operation through videoconferencing in January 2013.

Exchanges with Mainland China and Macao

To enhance cultural exchange, improve co-operation and extend networking, reciprocal visits were organised with cultural bodies in the Mainland and Macao. Among such cultural exchange visitors to Hong Kong during the year were delegates from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, from the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of

the State Council, from the Shenzhen Municipal Bureau of Culture, Sport and Tourism, from the People's Government of Wuhan Municipality, from the Jiangsu Provincial Department of Human Resources and Social Security, and from the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region.

To mark the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR), the LCSD collaborated with the Shaanxi Provincial Cultural Relics Bureau in presenting *The Majesty of All Under Heaven: The Eternal Realm of China's First Emperor*, a blockbuster exhibition on the Qin terracotta army and relics from the mausoleum of Qin Shihuang that was held at the Hong Kong Museum of History from July 25 to November 26, 2012. Supplemented by six multimedia presentations utilising innovative technology, the exhibition featured 120 stunning exhibits selected from major cultural institutes in Shaanxi province that vividly portrayed the rise and fall of the Qin dynasty and its impact on the historical development of China.



Director of Leisure and Cultural Services Mrs Betty Fung (second) being briefed by museum specialists on the exhibition arrangements beside a Qin terracotta figure.

The LCSD also collaborated with the Ministry of Culture and the Department of Culture of Sichuan Province in an exhibition cum talk, *The Greatest Skills of Shu: Intangible Cultural Heritage of Sichuan*, held at the Hong Kong Central Library in June 2012 to complement China Cultural Heritage Day. Exponents of Sichuan's ICH were present to demonstrate their splendid handicraft skills for the Hong Kong audience.

The Greater Pearl River Delta (GPRD) Cultural Co-operation Meeting, held annually to strengthen cultural exchange and co-operation between Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, was hosted in Hong Kong in 2012. A wide range of topics was discussed during the two-day meeting, including development and exchange of performing arts talent, programme

collaboration and the interflow of cultural information, heritage and museum co-operation, library co-operation and exchanges, and intangible cultural heritage. A Memorandum of Intention on Cantonese Opera was also signed at the meeting, through which further co-operation on the conservation, continuation and development of this unique artistic genre was pledged.



Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao signed a Memorandum of Intention on Cantonese Opera in April 2012, pledging further co-operation on conserving, continuing and developing this unique artistic genre.

One major initiative held under the GPRD Cultural Co-operation framework was the 10th anniversary edition of the annual Cantonese Opera Day. This was held in November 2012 at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza, in a move to further promote the art and make it more accessible to the community.

Another performing arts project developed under the framework was the poetic dance and multi-media work *Love Letters*, which brought together an outstanding array of dancers and cross-disciplinary artists from Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao. Under the direction of veteran Hong Kong choreographer Pun Siu-fai, the dance theatre premiered in Guangdong in February 2013, with touring performances in Hong Kong and Macao following in May 2013.

In May 2012, a collaborative travelling exhibition entitled Maritime Porcelain Road: Relics from Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao Museums opened at the Macao Museum, from where in November it went on to the Guangdong Museum. The exhibition originated from the GPRD Cultural Cooperation 2010 Annual Meeting, as part of the goal of strengthening cultural cooperation and fostering partnership with museums in the region, and was jointly presented by the Home Affairs Bureau of the HKSAR, the Department of Culture Guangdong Province, and the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Macao Special Administrative Region. It was co-organised and hosted by the Hong Kong Museum of Art, the Guangdong Museum, and the Macao Museum. The exhibition staged some 170 sets of exhibits from the collections of the three museums in a study of the importance of China's export trade in ceramics and its impact on South-east Asia, the Middle East and Europe. It will come to Hong Kong in mid-2013.

Other GPRD cultural co-operation initiatives in 2012-13 included The Thirteen Hongs of Canton: Selected Pictures and Documents, an exhibition held at the Hong Kong Central Library in January 2013 and co-organised by the HKPL and the Sun Yat-sen Library of Guangdong Province. This exhibition displayed digitised historical paintings and documents illustrating the maritime trade of China and the culture of Guangdong in the 18th and 19th centuries. A further initiative was the creative writing competition to celebrate 4.23 World Book Day, co-hosted by the HKPL and Shenzhen Library; winning entries from Hong Kong and Shenzhen were displayed at both libraries.



Historical paintings and documents on display at The Thirteen Hongs of Canton exhibition held at the Hong Kong Central Library.

Hong Kong Week 2012 – Culture & Creativity @ Taipei

Hong Kong Week 2012 – Culture & Creativity @ Taipei, presented by the Hong Kong–Taiwan Cultural Co-operation Committee in association with the Hong Kong Economic, Trade and Cultural Office (Taiwan), was a first-

of-its-kind extravaganza which guided Taiwan audiences through the riches of Hong Kong's arts and culture. Held from November 23 to December 2, 2012, this 10-day event featured eight performing arts programmes in a total of 14 performances and five screenings, including drama, multimedia theatre, jazz, pop music, new music, Chinese music, modern dance, and dance video. The event also included a cultural and arts seminar, a comic exhibition and a contemporary film showcase, as well as a variety of extension activities. In total, Hong Kong Week 2012 brought together over 300 leading talents from Hong Kong's arts scene in some creative and highly original performances and displays.



Organisers and participants in Hong Kong express their best wishes for a successful Hong Kong Week 2012 – Culture & Creativity@Taipei.



The four divas from the opening programme of Hong Kong Week 2012 in Taiwan, "I Have a Date with Autumn", with the Convener of the Hong Kong-Taiwan Cultural Co-operation Committee, Mr Fredric Mao (third from left) and his wife (third from right).

Asian Museum Network Conference Hong Kong 2012

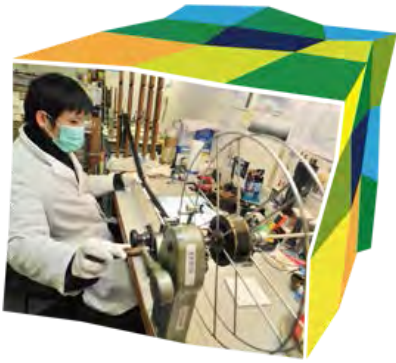
The Asian Museum Network Conference 2012, held for the first time in Hong Kong in September 2012, was an example of successful collaboration between the Hong Kong Design Centre, Hong Kong Polytechnic University,

the Asia Society Hong Kong Centre and the Vitra Design Museum, Germany, with the LCSD as the principal supporter. Some 500 audiences including professionals from the art, architecture and design sectors around the world attended the conference, sharing expertise on museum design in the Asian context.

Film Archive and Film and Media Art Programmes

Hong Kong Film Archive

Equipped with facilities that include a cinema, an exhibition hall, a resource centre and four temperature-controlled collection stores, the Hong Kong Film Archive continues to acquire, preserve, catalogue and document Hong Kong films and related materials. Regular thematic retrospectives, exhibitions, symposiums and film seminars are also organised here.



The Hong Kong Film Archive has done much to help preserve Hong Kong's film heritage.

In 2012-13, we organised three major thematic exhibitions, each with film programmes associated with them. They were Benevolence & Loftiness: The Cinematic Legend of Wong Fei-hung; A Touch of Magic: Veteran Set Designers Chan Ki-yui & Chan King-sam; and Zen and Sensibility: Legend in King Hu's Drawing. The Film Archive attracted almost 195 000 visitors during the year.



Kung-fu masters strike poses at the exhibition Benevolence and Loftiness: The Cinematic Legend of Wong Fei-hung put on by the Hong Kong Film Archive.

The Film Archive holds 12 635 films and 1 093 428 related items, mainly

acquired through donations and deposits. Major acquisitions include 1 250 film-related materials items donated by Hong Kong Film Services including posters, stills, cassette tapes and scripts, 35 pre-print film materials titles dating from 1992 to 2002 donated by Orange Sky Golden Harvest Entertainment Company Limited, 42 film materials titles dating from 1976 to 2010 donated by Seasonal Film Corporation, and around 59 film print titles dating from 1933 to 1973 acquired from Mr. Jack Lee Fong of San Francisco, in the USA.

Major conservation projects in the year involved the restoration of *Nobody's Child* (1960) which began with the loan of a 16mm composite print from the Taipei Film Archive. Two publications were issued during the year, *Hong Kong Memories in Cinema* and *Golden Harvest: Leading Change in Changing Times*, while the DVD *Restored Treasures: Fei Mu's Confucius* was also produced.

Film and Media Art Programmes

The Film Programmes Office works to promote a film appreciation culture in Hong Kong. In 2012-13, the office organised a variety of popular film and media art programmes and seminars that gave local audiences many opportunities to appreciate international cinema.

Highlights of the year included the International Children's Film Carnival 2012, Chinese Film Panorama 2012, the 41st French Cinepanorama, Critics' Choice 2012, and Repertory Cinema 2012, featuring world classics by Fritz Lang and F.W. Murnau.



Prominent film industry figures at a Chinese Film Panorama 2012 celebration dinner.

Other thematic programmes included *Once Upon A Hero: The Wong Fei-hung Saga*, *The Strange Case of Hong Kong Amoy Cinema*, *Father and Son: Two Visionaries of Cinematic Dreams – A Tribute to Set Designers Chan Ki-yui and Chan King-sum*, *Haunted Screen: Hong Kong Ghost Films*, *Zen and Sense in King Hu's Films*, and a *Yam Kim-fai Centenary Celebration*. Regular programmes included 100 Must-see Hong Kong

Movies, Restored Treasures, and Morning Matinee.

In support of major local film events, the LCSD sponsors the venue for the annual Hong Kong Film Awards Presentation Ceremony. It also provides funding support to the Hong Kong Arts Centre to organise the annual Incubator for Film and Visual Media in Asia (formerly the Hong Kong Independent Short Film and Video Awards), and to the Microwave Company Limited to organise the Microwave International New Media Arts Festival. These events encourage creative, independent productions of short films and videos and, more generally, promote the media arts.

Music Office

The Music Office promotes knowledge and appreciation of music in the community, especially among young people. The office provides instrumental and ensemble training, and organises a variety of music appreciation activities for the public.

During the year, the Music Office ran an Instrumental Music Training Scheme for 4 578 trainees, along with 18 youth orchestras, bands and choirs with 1 392 members. It also organised 243 short-term music interest courses for 2 534 participants, and another 385 music-related activities which together attracted around 175 000 people. These included a music camp, several youth music events, and a variety of educational programmes for students and the community.



The Kowloon Youth Chinese Orchestra, one of the orchestras run by the Music Office, performs at the Hong Kong Flower Show 2012.

The office also arranged several cultural exchange events during the year. The Hong Kong Youth Strings participated in the Summa Cum Laude – International Youth Music Festival Vienna in Vienna and Prague in July 2012. It also sent a youth chamber choir to Kagoshima at the invitation of the Kagoshima Prefectural Government in October, and organised various exchange activities in Hong Kong for youth music groups from Tianjin, Singapore, and the USA.



A group photograph of members of the Hong Kong Youth Strings, who participated in the International Youth Music Festival held in Vienna and Prague in July 2012.

Indoor Stadia

The 12 500-seat Hong Kong Coliseum and the 3 500-seat Queen Elizabeth Stadium are two premier multi-purpose indoor stadiums in Hong Kong that offer high flexibility in staging and seating configurations to suit a variety of events, such as international sporting events and tournaments, concerts of both pop and classical music, spectacular entertainment events, celebrations, and ceremonial functions.



Held at the Hong Kong Coliseum in April 2012, the Celebration of Buddha's Birthday was a significant event for Buddhists all over the world.

Hong Kong Coliseum

A multitude of pop concerts were staged at the coliseum during the year, featuring a number of well-known local pop singers and groups including Aaron Kwok, Alan Tam, Teresa Carpio, Jenny Tseng, Deanie Ip, Sam Hui, Sally Yip, Mimi Choo, Wu Fung, Shirley Kwan, Ekin Cheng, Paul Wong, Raymond Lam, Fiona Sit, Kary Ng, Kenneth Choi, Karen Tong, The Big Four, Tat Ming Pair, Taichi Band, RubberBand, Shine, MR, and Grasshoppers with Soft Hard. Other attractions included Wong Tze Wah Stand Up Comedy, Concert of Joseph Koo, and the Miss You Much Leslie Concert. Overseas singers appearing at the coliseum were Mayday, A-Mei Chang, Yoga Lin, Luo Da You, Gary Chaw, Fish Leong, Wang Leehom, Rainie Yang, Jam Hsiao, Fan Fan, Show Lo and MC Hot Dog.



Tat Ming Pair on stage at the Hong Kong Coliseum.

A number of special programmes to celebrate the 15th Anniversary of the Establishment of the HKSAR were held at the coliseum. Among these were the International Military Tattoo in Celebration of the 15th Anniversary of the Establishment of HKSAR and the Celebration of Buddha's Birthday – The Grand Blessing Ceremony for Worshipping Buddha's Parietal-bone Relic cum the Third World Buddhist Forum. One international sporting event held at the coliseum this year was the Hong Kong Badminton Open 2012 (part of the BWF World Superseries).



The Hong Kong Badminton Open 2012 at the Hong Kong Coliseum.

During the year, a total of 51 events held at the coliseum attracted 1 589 334 spectators.

Queen Elizabeth Stadium

Major sporting events held at this venue during the year included the 2012 Asian Olympic Table Tennis Qualification Tournament; the Hong Kong Gymnastics For All Festival 2012; the 2012 Hong Kong Bodybuilding Championships cum South China Invitational Championships; the Hong Kong Basketball League 2012; the 2012 Hong Kong Junior & Cadet Open – ITTF (International Table Tennis Federation) Premium Junior Circuit; the 2012 Hong Kong Annual Badminton Championships; the 6th Hong Kong DanceSport Festival; the “Enjoy Linkages” Hong Kong Rhythmic Gymnastics Festival for the Elderly 2013; the 20th HK Open (IDTA Cup) International DanceSport Championships; the 19th Super Kung Sheung Cup International Basketball Invitation Championship; and the 56th Festival of Sport Opening Ceremony.



Players in action at the 19th Super Kung Sheung Cup International Basketball Invitation Championship.

Cultural performances included William So and Friends - A Symphonic Night of Giving, Cantonese opera *Fun of Three Generations*, and classical concert *In Love with the Cello*, the 2012 Hong Kong Youth Music Interflows - Symphonic Band Contest; and the 2013 International A Cappella Extravaganza.

Entertainment events included the pop concerts Mimi Lo in Concert, the Albert Au 35th Anniversary Concert, the Endy Chow-Let's Play Together Concert, the Chet Lam 10th Anniversary Concert, and Chris Wong In Concert 2013; and a stand-up comedy show by Cheuk Wan Chi, *I Dislike You One Night Stand*.



Mimi Lo in concert at Queen Elizabeth Stadium.

During the year, the stadium hosted 124 events, which attracted a total of 338 389 spectators.

Urban Ticketing System (URBTIX)

URBTIX is Hong Kong's premier ticketing system. It serves 44 regular performance venues, with a combined seating capacity of more than 100 000. There are 41 URBTIX ticketing outlets throughout Hong Kong, 15 of which are located in LCSD venues.

URBTIX is the most widely-used computerised ticketing system in Hong Kong. It offers convenient and reliable ticketing services for event presenters as well as the public. Apart from a wide network of box office sales available throughout the territory, telephone and 24-hour internet booking services are also provided for the convenience of customers.

During the year, we enhanced the internet booking function to enable internet customers to browse and buy tickets for the mega exhibition *The Majesty of All Under Heaven: The Eternal Realm of China's First Emperor*, making over a thousand multiple sessions available for customers to choose from at a time.

In 2012-13, URBTIX sold 5.14 million tickets for more than 10 900 performances. Sales totalled \$934 million.

Public Libraries

The LCSD operates the HKPL network of 67 static and 10 mobile libraries. It also manages the Books Registration Office. The library system provides free library and information services to meet the community's demand for knowledge, information, research and recreation, and to support lifelong learning. The HKPL promotes reading and the literary arts, and offers library extension activities for people of all ages.



A major information and cultural centre, the Hong Kong Central Library offers a huge amount of library materials and a wide range of other facilities.

The HKPL network, with 4.1 million registered borrowers, has a comprehensive collection comprising 11.36 million books and 1.74 million multimedia materials. During the year under review, users borrowed more than 55.15 million books and other library materials from Hong Kong's 77 public libraries.

The Hong Kong Central Library is a major information and cultural centre, offering more than 2.55 million items of library materials and a wide range of other facilities. Special features there include an arts resource centre, a multimedia information system, over 480 computer workstations providing access to the HKPL network as well as online electronic resources, a central reference library with six subject departments, a Hong Kong literature room, a map library, a language learning centre, a young adult library, and a toy library.

Facilities are also available for hire, including a 1 540 square metre exhibition gallery, a 290-seat lecture theatre, two activity rooms, a music practice room, and eight discussion rooms.



The Hong Kong Central Library's Lecture Theatre is an ideal place for seminars and film shows on arts and education.

Public Libraries Advisory Committee

The Public Libraries Advisory Committee, comprising professionals, academics, prominent citizens and government representatives, meets regularly to advise the Government on the HKPL's overall development strategy.

District Council Review

In 2012-13, Hong Kong's public libraries continued to work with District Councils (DCs) to develop district library services and organise activities that would meet the needs of local communities. Their efforts bore fruit with a growing diversity of community involvement activities to promote reading, and a wide variety of projects to enhance library facilities and reading environments.

With the financial support of DCs, we organised more than 3 400 regular extension activities and large-scale reading activities throughout the year. Examples of these activities are the summer reading programme Touring around Sham Shui Po with 'Po Po' in Sham Shui Po; the Reading and Creative Scheme 2012 in Tuen Mun; Summer Reading Fun in Sai Kung; and Reading @ Tung Chung – Musical Story Theatre. Often co-organised with district organisations, these outreach activities helped boost the popularity of our public libraries and promote the reading habit.

To further foster a reading culture in the community, we organised a variety of reading ambassador programmes in partnership with schools and local organisations. Examples include the Library Ambassadors Programme for primary students in Southern District; the Community Reading Ambassadors Programme for youth volunteers and parents in Tuen Mun; and the READ Ambassadors Programme for parents in Sai Kung.

DCs have also been actively enhancing library facilities and reading environments by initiating projects and providing financial support. Among

the work projects carried out in 2012-13 the major ones were upgrading or replacement of air-conditioning systems at 18 branch libraries for improving their indoor air quality.

New Libraries

Two new libraries were opened in 2013. In February 2013, a new major library was opened in the Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Leisure and Cultural Building to replace the temporary district library at Kingswood Ginza, Tin Shui Wai. In March 2013, the Lam Tin Public Library was re-provisioned and upgraded as a district library, significantly enhancing library services in the Kwun Tong District.



The Lam Tin Public Library has been upgraded to district library for Kwun Tong from March 2013.

The Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Public Library was opened on February 28, 2013, which also marked the milestone of the Hong Kong Public Libraries moving into its 50th anniversary. Covering a floor area of 6 100 square metres, the Library is the second largest public library in Hong Kong in terms of floor size after the Hong Kong Central Library. In addition to its enhanced facilities and services for adults and children, the Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Public Library provides a dedicated library for young adults, a user education hall, an exhibition hall, and an outdoor reading environment.



With the opening of the Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Public Library in February 2013, library services for residents there have been strengthened significantly.

New Initiatives in Library Services

The HKPL network is moving forward by extending its services beyond its

library premises, increasing its range of stock, enhancing its reference and information services, fully embracing information technology, and actively promoting good reading habits within the community.

Information Technology Initiatives and Digital Library Services

The Next Generation Integrated Library System launched at the end of 2011 is one of the world's largest computerised library systems. It offers comprehensive automated library services, including 24-hour online library services which provide catalogue searching, reservation and renewal of library materials. Application of Radio Frequency Identification technology to our library operations was also implemented in selected libraries on a pilot basis.

The HKPL also provides a wide range of online services through its website (www.hkpl.gov.hk). In 2012-13, more than 128 million visits to the website were recorded. A new library website with a single centralised sign-on feature is being developed with a view to better promoting our extensive and diversified library services, and improving this access gateway to all the library's online services.

To facilitate access to the wealth of information online, more than 100 Internet Express Terminals have been installed in branch libraries, most of which have a motorised height-adjustment feature to meet the needs of different patrons. More than 1 800 computer workstations with Internet access have also been provided. Government Wi-Fi service is also available at all 67 static public libraries. Starting from March 2013, a new "Print with Ease" service was launched that provides a more efficient and user-friendly self-printing service.

By utilising the sophisticated one-stop search capability of the Multimedia Information System (MMIS), users can explore multimedia archives online or through any of the 600 workstations at the Hong Kong Central Library and 27 major and district libraries. Instant online access is also available to a wide variety of digital collections, including old photos, old newspapers, manuscripts, house programmes, posters and audio programmes. A major upgrade of the MMIS is now in full swing; its aim is to enhance the accessibility of the MMIS service by extending the system to all 67 of the HKPL's static libraries and providing 24-hour online service. It will also include enhanced navigation capabilities for MMIS workstations, and an

online booking service for audio-visual materials. The project is targeted for completion in 2013.

Reference and Information Services

Reference and information services are available at the Hong Kong Central Library and six other major libraries – City Hall, Kowloon, Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai, Sha Tin, Tsuen Wan and Tuen Mun public libraries. The Reference Library at the Hong Kong Central Library has six subject departments with a collection of over one million reference material items and a wide range of electronic resources, including 60 online databases and 140 000 e-books. Registered members can access all e-books and 14 online databases in the e-resource collection from home via the Internet. The Reference Library continually adds reference materials to the Hong Kong Collection and the Hong Kong Oral History Special Collection. It also houses the depository collections of nine international organisations.

Specialised reference services are available from the Arts Resource Centre, the Hong Kong Literature Room and the Map Library in the Hong Kong Central Library. The City Hall Public Library offers specialised reference services through its Business and Industry Library, its Creativity and Innovation Resource Centre, and the Basic Law Library. The Kowloon Public Library provides specialised resources and services through its Education Resource Centre. The Sha Tin Public Library hosts a thematic collection and a webpage providing sports and fitness resources. This wide range of reference and thematic resources are promoted through workshops, library visits and subject talks, in collaboration with the Education Bureau, academics, and NGOs involved in specific areas.



Specialised reference services are available at the city's major libraries. The Shatin Public Library, for example, hosts a thematic collection of sports and fitness resources.

The Hong Kong Central Library operates a referral service by which registered users can access the collections of the University of Hong Kong Libraries.

During the year, the HKPL handled 3.68 million enquiries.

Extension Activities and Promotion of Reading and the Literary Arts

Outreach programmes are an integral part of library services, and our libraries organised a wide range of such activities throughout the year, including storytelling programmes, book displays, exhibitions and community talks. A total of 20 608 library outreach programmes were organised in 2012-13.



A moment from the library outreach programme on the historical and cultural value of the Hau Wong Temple in Kowloon City.

The HKPL marked its 50th anniversary in 2012, with thematic programmes highlighting its mission of promoting reading and lifelong learning among citizens for a better cultural life. Events included 4.23 World Book Day Creative Competition, Summer Reading Month, Meet-the-Authors Talks, Paired Reading Talks, and the Thirteen Hongs of Canton: selected pictures and documents exhibition jointly organised with the Sun Yat-sen Library of Guangdong Province.



Enthusiastic reading by children during Summer Reading Month.

A variety of reading programmes and reading-related activities were also organised to promote interest in different aspects of reading. They included 4.23 World Book Day Creative Competition in 2012, Read • Enriching Our World, Meet-the-Authors 2012: Reading the Life of ..., Thematic Storytelling Workshop: The Adventure of 'Small Ears', Summer Reading

Month Exhibition: Joyful Reading • Library, subject talks on Cosmopolitan Hong Kong, and subject talks on the development of today's China.



Students, teachers and parents at the prize presentation ceremony for the 4.23 World Book Day Creative Competition.

During the year, Teen Reading Clubs were set up at 33 libraries, and Family Reading Clubs at five major libraries. Public Libraries also joined other organisations to hold territory-wide reading activities, such as the Reading Carnival.

Many other special programmes and competitions were held throughout the year to promote creative writing and encourage the appreciation and development of the literary arts. The 9th Hong Kong Literature Festival, a major literary event, presented a variety of literary programmes conducted by both local and overseas scholars and writers. The festival has become a focal point for literary enthusiasts in the territory. Other major creative writing competitions in the year included the Chinese Poetry Writing Competition and the Competition on Story Writing in Chinese for Students.



A poetry seminar at the 9th Hong Kong Literature Festival.

Book Drop Service

The HKPL continued to provide a book-drop service at three major MTR interchange stations, namely Central, Kowloon Tong and Nam Cheong, making it convenient for readers to return borrowed library materials while out and about.

Community Collaboration

As part of its promotion of lifelong learning, the HKPL continued to collaborate with the Education Bureau in the Library Cards for All School Children Scheme, which encourages students to use public library services. Sixteen public libraries stock the Open University of Hong Kong course materials which enable self-learning.

The Libraries@neighbourhood community library partnership scheme is designed to provide community-based library services in collaboration with non-profit local community organisations. These organisations are offered block loans of library materials together with professional advice on setting up community libraries tailored to their target audiences. By the end of 2012-13, 206 community libraries had been established.

Books Registration Office

The Books Registration Office helps preserve Hong Kong's literary heritage by registering local publications and monitoring the effective use of the International Standard Book Number system. Every quarter it publishes *A Catalogue of Books Printed in Hong Kong* in the *Government Gazette*, also accessible online. In 2012-13, the office registered a total of 14 564 books, 11 349 periodicals and 1 119 new publisher prefixes conforming to ISBN.

Museums

The LCSD manages seven major museums: the Hong Kong Museum of Art, the Hong Kong Museum of History, the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, the Hong Kong Science Museum, the Hong Kong Space Museum, the Hong Kong Heritage Museum, and the Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum. Their roles are to acquire, conserve, research, exhibit and interpret both Hong Kong's tangible and its ICH.



Established in 1962, the Hong Kong Museum of Art was first housed in City Hall, moving to its present purpose-built premises in 1991.

The department also manages the Hong Kong Film Archive, the Art Promotion Office, the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre, and the Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery cum Heritage Trail Visitors Centre, along with seven smaller museums, namely the Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware, the Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum, the Law Uk Folk Museum, the Sheung Yiu Folk Museum, the Sam Tung Uk Museum, the Hong Kong Railway Museum, and the Fireboat Alexander Grantham Exhibition Gallery.

In 2012-13, over 6.2 million visitors patronised the LCSD's museums. We will continue to roll out inspiring and enjoyable exhibitions and programmes for a range of different audiences. To boost publicity of programmes at museums and increase our audience base, the department has set up a new Marketing and Business Development Section. It is working to strengthen branding and promotion work, and cultivate partnerships with external entities. The Hong Kong Public Museums portal was launched in February 2012 as a one-stop-shop for programmes and activities offered by the 14 museums, two heritage centres, one film archive and one visual arts centre under the LCSD's management.

The Hong Kong Museum of Art and the Hong Kong Heritage Museum joined the Google Art Project in April 2012 to showcase 187 artworks, most of which are by renowned Hong Kong artists. This project allows Hong Kong art to be shared in fine detail with a global audience, anywhere and

anytime.



The Hong Kong Museum of Art and the Hong Kong Heritage Museum are part of the Google Art Project, which also includes internationally acclaimed museums such as Tate Britain in London and the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

In 2012, the LCSD published its first Five-Year Corporate Business Plan for the public museums, covering 2012-17. The Corporate Business Plan lays out the vision, mission, core values, and plans for achieving excellence for museums. Individual museums and offices also drew up their own Annual Plans for 2012-13.

Museum Advisory Panels

Three Museum Advisory Panels (Art, History and Science) were set up in October 2010 to enhance accountability and public involvement in the management of the museums. In the year under review, they continued to advise the department on the positioning of museums, on strategies for business development, marketing and community involvement, and on measures for enhancing operational efficiency and accountability. The panels comprise academics, museum experts, artists, art promoters, marketing / public relations experts, and community leaders.

Intangible Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee

The Intangible Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee was set up in July 2008 to monitor and advise on the first territory-wide survey of Hong Kong's ICH. The committee, which comprises local academics, experts and prominent community figures, commenced its third term on January 1, 2013, with an expanded membership incorporating a wider range of experts. Its terms of reference were also widened to cover the safeguarding of our ICH, including such remit of research, promotion, enhancement, transmission and revitalisation.

Museum Trainee Programme

A Museum Trainee Programme was begun in 2010 to develop museum professionals. Trainees were attached to the Hong Kong Museum of Art, the Hong Kong Museum of History, the Hong Kong Heritage Museum, the Hong Kong Film Archive, the Art Promotion Office and the Conservation Office, and received two-year on-the-job training in museum management or conservation services.

Under their supervisors, trainees learnt how to manage museum services and organise education programmes. They also got hands-on experience in curating exhibitions and projects. The number of trainees has been increased to 15 for phase 2 (2012-14). In anticipation of an increasing demand for professional museum curators to manage cultural facilities and organise cultural activities, the department intends to offer even more places in the future.

Hong Kong Museum of Art

The Hong Kong Museum of Art marked its golden jubilee in 2012; an array of exciting programmes was organised to celebrate this memorable occasion. It staged a special exhibition "Collecting for 50 Years – The People and Their Stories" to acknowledge the many behind-the-scene players who have been crucial in shaping the museum over the decades. A dynamic mix of blockbuster exhibitions ranging from classical antiquities through ancient and contemporary Chinese paintings to western pop art was also presented, attracting over 763 210 visitors.



A special exhibition *Collecting for 50 Years - The People and Their Stories* was staged at the Hong Kong Museum of Art to mark the museum's golden jubilee. Picture shows Director of Leisure and Cultural Services Mrs Betty Fung cutting the birthday cake at the opening ceremony.

During the year, the Hong Kong Museum of Art and the Palace Museum co-organised the exhibition *A Lofty Retreat from the Red Dust: The Secret Garden of Emperor Qianlong* to celebrate both the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR and the 50th anniversary of the museum. Audiences could appreciate the beauty and cultural significance of the artefacts and architecture of the Qianlong Garden, a secret complex in the Forbidden City once unknown to the outside world.



Featuring 93 relics from Beijing's Palace Museum, the exhibition *A Lofty Retreat from the Red Dust: The Secret Garden of Emperor Qianlong* included 19 items shown outside the Mainland for the first time, and 43 artefacts connected with Qianlong Garden.

With *Imperishable Affection: The Art of Feng Zikai* the museum pulled off something of a coup by assembling a comprehensive selection of works by Feng Zikai, an artist recognised in his lifetime as the 'father of Chinese cartoons'.



Mrs Feng (third from right), wife of the "father of Chinese cartoons", at the opening ceremony of the exhibition *Imperishable Affection: The Art of Feng Zikai*.

Chinese Painting and Calligraphy of the Song, Yuan and Ming Dynasties from the Osaka City Museum of Fine Arts showcased an impressive collection of ancient Chinese painting and calligraphy from the Osaka City Museum of Fine Arts, renowned for its collection of ancient Japanese and Chinese objects. Andy Warhol: 15 Minutes Eternal was an all-encompassing exhibition that featured over 460 paintings, drawings, photographs, and film and screen prints by this iconic artist of America's Pop Art Movement. The exhibition offered a complete Warhol retrospective, and was the largest collection of the artist's work ever to come to Hong Kong. To strengthen cultural collaboration within the Pearl River Delta Region, the Hong Kong Museum of Art, the Guangdong Museum and the Macao Museum jointly organised a travelling exhibition Maritime Porcelain Road: Relics from Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao Museums, to run from 2012 to 2014.



The exhibition Andy Warhol: 15 Minutes Eternal was Asia's largest ever display of Andy Warhol works.

As a way of promoting local art talent, in February 2012 the Hong Kong Contemporary Art Awards 2012 was launched. It attracted 1 963 entries, from which a total of 97 artworks were selected for exhibition in 2013, including the 14 award winners. Delivering an in-depth study of the history of Hong Kong art, a collaborative project between the Hong Kong Museum of Art and the Asia Art Archive, Hong Kong Art History Research – Pilot Project commenced in March 2013. In addition, the All Are Guests exhibition was shown at the 7th Liverpool Biennial in the UK from September to November 2012, in a move designed to foster cultural exchange and promote Hong Kong artists overseas.



The Liverpool Biennial, a renowned international contemporary art extravaganza, offered a good opportunity to present Hong Kong art in the international art scene and strengthen artistic co-operation between Hong Kong and other countries.

The museum also offered a wide array of educational programmes to enhance public appreciation of art. To tie in with *A Lofty Retreat* from the *Red Dust: the Secret Garden of Emperor Qianlong*, a large interactive area with elements of illustration, QR Code information and 3D modelling was built inside the gallery. These, together with a series of in-house and outreach activities, added a diverse range of Chinese cultural and historical associations to the exhibition for visitors to explore.



An enlightening lecture on Beijing's Palace Museum given by the museum's director, Dr Shan Jixiang. The lecture was held to tie in with *The Secret Garden of Emperor Qianlong* exhibition.

The *Andy Warhol: 15 Minutes Eternal – Art Appreciation Programme*, sponsored by the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, included lectures, an interactive game, free public guided tours and art accessibility activities for disabled groups, and was specially designed to enhance visitors' interest in the exhibition. Another highlight event was *A Night at the Museum of Art with Andy Warhol*, co-organised with the University of Hong Kong. This was an innovative programme in which over 530 senior secondary school students were invited to take part in an exhilarating overnight journey, and explore new meanings associated with creativity and pop art, media and technology, culture and society, all inspired by Andy Warhol. In total, the museum's education and extension programmes attracted over 103 138 participants during 2012/13.



Smiling faces can always be seen in front of the interactive game installation.



We're ready for a night of adventure with Andy Warhol!

The Museum of Art aims to provide a user-friendly website, and to this end it revamped its official website during the year, which was launched in February 2013.

Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware

The Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware is a branch of the Hong Kong Museum of Art. Its collection features tea ware and related implements from the collection of the late Dr K S Lo, as well as rare Chinese ceramics and seals donated by the K S Lo Foundation. The exhibition From Clay to Teapot: Tea Ware by Hong Kong Potters 1986-2010 showcased a collection of works by local potters made over the past two decades. Over 120 800 people visited the exhibition. Another exhibition, A Date with Chinese Tea, featured different types of tea in association with historical artefacts and background materials related to the practice of tea-drinking. From August 29, 2012 to March 31, 2013, over 74 274 people visited the exhibition. The museum, which also organised many activities to introduce people to tea ware and the art of tea drinking, attracted 203 073 visitors during the year.



A Poet and His Muse – Yu Kwang-chung’s Poetry in Music turned the elegant Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware building into an enchanted spot where poetry and music met.

Hong Kong Museum of History

The mission of the Hong Kong Museum of History is to foster interest in history, enrich cultural life, strengthen social cohesion, and nurture a national identity. It collects, preserves and displays cultural objects closely related to the history of Hong Kong, South China and beyond.

In addition to its permanent exhibition The Hong Kong Story, the museum presents various thematic exhibitions either on its own or in conjunction with other museums and cultural organisations from Hong Kong, the Mainland, and overseas.

A highlight programme to mark the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region was The Majesty of All

Under Heaven: The Eternal Realm of China's First Emperor. This was the largest exhibition of Qin terracotta figures ever held in Hong Kong, and it broke the attendance record for all previous thematic exhibitions held by the museum, attracting 425 159 visitors. Featuring 20 different types of terracotta figures and other priceless relics from the Qin dynasty, together with a series of six innovative multimedia programmes, this exhibition gave visitors a unique glimpse of the splendours of Qin culture.



Displaying a vast collection of terracotta figures and other relics, The Majesty of All Under Heaven: The Eternal Realm of China's First Emperor was the largest exhibition of its kind to be held in Hong Kong.

With more than 170 artefacts sourced from the magnificent collection of the British Museum, The Wonders of Ancient Mesopotamia exhibition explored significant episodes of ancient Mesopotamian history from 3500 to 539 BC, such as the birth of cities in Sumer, the rise of the powerful military empire of Assyria, and the development and legacy of cosmopolitan Babylon. The Hong Kong Currency exhibition showcased around 700 artefacts, including Hong Kong coins and notes of different periods and related items such as trial coins, minting tools, circulated coins, plaster models of commemorative coins, drawings of banknote designs, trial notes, plates for printing banknotes, uncut sheets of banknotes, and more. In addition, the museum joined hands with Hongkong Post to stage the exhibition History in Miniature: The 150th Anniversary of Stamp Issuance in Hong Kong. This presented visitors with another fascinating chapter of local history, told through some 300 examples of Hong Kong stamps.



A sculpture from The Wonders of Ancient Mesopotamia exhibition.

The museum also collaborated with Sino Art and Olympian City to stage the Transformation of the Qipao exhibition at Olympian City from April to June 2012. This was the first attempt by the museum to bring its collections to a venue outside the museum, in a way that could reach out to the community and get closer to the everyday life of Hong Kong citizens.



Models showing off different styles of Qipao at the exhibition The Transformation of the Qipao.

To further build up its collections, during the year the museum launched a collection campaign with the aim of obtaining items related to children's life in Hong Kong. More than 2 700 items were acquired through this campaign.



Memories of the good old days were brought back by donated items from childhood.

To promote the exhibition China's First Emperor, online tools and resources such as Facebook, Twitter, a website, mobile applications and QR code were employed to keep the public updated on activities and ticketing arrangements. A book display was also co-organised with the Hong Kong Central Library in October 2012 to stimulate interest in this major

exhibition.



China's First Emperor reached out to today's generation through 21st century technology.

In conjunction with the China's First Emperor exhibition, and to help students learn more about Qin history and culture, three school competitions were organised on history, art and the terracotta warriors, as along with four public art programmes. In October 2012, an international conference connected with the exhibition was attended by some twenty experts and scholars from Hong Kong, the Mainland, Japan and the UK.

To foster public interest in local history and our cultural heritage, throughout the year the museum also organised a rich array of educational and extension activities, including special lectures, workshops for different target groups, field trips, film shows, competitions and outreach programmes.

In July 2012, the 2nd Inter-school Competition of Project Learning on Hong Kong's History and Culture was held, and this was followed in January 2013 with the 6th Research on Historical Photos Writing Competition. The museum continued to organise lecture series with local universities, including the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology and the Centre for Hong Kong History and Culture Studies, Chu Hai College.

In addition, the museum collaborated with the Arts with the Disabled Association Hong Kong to run the Interactivity Scheme, which offers sign interpretation guided tours and model-making workshops for people with hearing or visual impairment. Meanwhile, the Inclusive Life: Museum for All project provided special guided tours with sign interpretation and audio description, model-making and touching workshops for those with hearing or visual impairment and those with intellectual disabilities, bringing them a unique experience at the China's First Emperor and The Wonders of Ancient Mesopotamia exhibitions.



Hearing-impaired visitors appreciating a guided tour with sign interpretation services at a museum activity.

The museum also continued its collaboration with The Boys' and Girls' Clubs Association of Hong Kong, the Po Leung Kuk, the Heep Hong Society and the New Immigrants Service Association in running the Caring for the Community Scheme for new immigrants, teenagers, and ethnic minority groups. The scheme helps develop these groups' understanding of Hong Kong's history and culture through a variety of extension activities such as story-telling sessions and model-making workshops.



With support from various social welfare bodies, teenagers got to know more about Hong Kong's history and culture under the Caring for the Community Scheme.

The Hong Kong Museum of History attracted 1 125 809 visitors during the year. In addition to the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence and the Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum, the Hong Kong Museum of History also manages three small branch museums – the Fireboat Alexander Grantham Exhibition Gallery at Quarry Bay Park, the Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum in Sham Shui Po, and the Law Uk Folk Museum in Chai Wan. They attracted 62 437, 38 096 and 12 097 visitors respectively during the year.

Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence

The old Lei Yue Mun Fort in Shau Kei Wan has been transformed into the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, a branch of the Hong Kong Museum of History. Apart from its permanent exhibition, 600 Years of Coastal Defence in Hong Kong, the museum staged two thematic exhibitions during the year: To the Last Man: The Canadian Troops in the Battle of Hong Kong, and Paper Weapons: Wartime Japanese Propaganda Publications.



Students take part in a “do it yourself” magazine workshop after visiting the Paper Weapons: Wartime Japanese Propaganda Publications exhibition.

More than 30 scholars and experts from Hong Kong, the Mainland and overseas attended the third International Symposium on the Maritime Defence of Modern China in November 2012, jointly organised by the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence, the Department of History of Hong Kong Baptist University, and the Modern Chinese History Society of Hong Kong.



The Third International Symposium on the Maritime Defence of Modern China was an example of collaboration with the academic sector.

The museum attracted 117 664 visitors during the year.

Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum

Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum, housed in Kom Tong Hall, a declared monument, has two permanent exhibitions covering Dr Sun's life and his close connection with Hong Kong. In addition, two thematic exhibitions were organised during the year, Collection Highlights – Artefacts of Dr Sun Yat-sen's First Wife, Lu Muzhen, and Unsung Heroes – Dr Sun Yat-sen's Singapore Comrades.



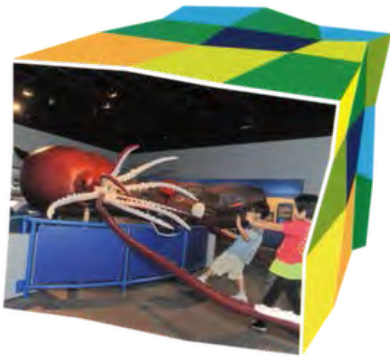
Through some 70 exhibits, the Unsung Heroes - Dr Sun Yat-sen's Singapore Comrades exhibition showed the connection between Singapore Chinese and the revolutionary movements of the late Qing dynasty.

This museum attracted 63 097 visitors during the year.

Hong Kong Science Museum

The mission of the Hong Kong Science Museum is to promote public interest in science and technology through the provision of world-class services and facilities. The museum is continually adding to its impressive collection of science and technology-related artefacts for the purposes of research, education and public appreciation.

The Creatures of the Abyss exhibition revealed the physical extremes of the oceans, and introduced the many different forms of life inhabiting them using graphic displays, multimedia shows, interactive mechanical exhibits, maps and models. The exhibition helped visitors discover and explore the unique landscapes and fragile ecosystems found in the deep, and made them aware of the importance of conserving them. The exhibition was held from June 29 to October 17, 2012 and attracted 218 722 visitors.



Visitors experience oceanic extremes for themselves in the form of a colossal life-size model squid, at the Creatures of the Abyss exhibition.

From May 14 to June 18, 2012 the museum organised the I Love Lyuba: Baby Mammoth of the Ice Age exhibition. Featuring the world's best-preserved baby mammoth, found in Siberia in 2007, the exhibition introduced the extraordinary discovery and explained the scientific research done on this prehistoric mammal. The lovable Lyuba received almost 103 000 enthusiastic visitors during her stay at the museum.

In 2012, the museum presented two special exhibitions on topics in medical science which addressed health issues of significant public concern. Jointly developed with the Hong Kong Brain Foundation, the Brain and Cognition exhibition presented fascinating information about how the human brain works and explained the causes and symptoms of brain disorders. Amazing Vaccines explained the mechanisms behind vaccination, and predicted how vaccines are likely to develop in the future. The exhibition started showing from July, after completing its first tour at the Hong Kong Museum of Medical Sciences.

In June 2012, China launched its Shenzhou-9 space rocket with China's first female astronaut on board. The crew entered the Tiangong-1 space station to work and live in space, and conducted experiments there. This successful mission represented a major breakthrough in the development of China's Manned Space Programme. To showcase the achievements of Chinese manned space technology, the museum organised an exhibition on China's First Manned Space Docking Mission from August 12 to 26, 2012. Exhibits included the Shenzhou-9 re-entry module, the main parachute, and a docking model of Tiangong-1 and Shenzhou-9. The exhibition lasted for 15 days and was very well received, attracting 63 954 people.



Students wave flags, applaud and cheer at the Hong Kong Science Museum to greet the delegation of the Tian Gong-1/Shenzhou-9 manned space docking and rendezvous mission.



Nineteen valuable exhibits relating to the successful space mission were put on display, including the Shenzhou-9 spacecraft re-entry capsule and its main parachute.

Julius Caesar: Military Genius & Mighty Machines, running from December 7, 2012 to April 10, 2013, recreated a fascinating period of the Roman Empire and allowed visitors to explore and experience interactive machine models and smart technologies from the Roman period. Integrating ancient technologies and the wider historical context in one show, the exhibition was welcomed by a wide range of audiences with different backgrounds and interests.



A mock-up "battle" between modern children and Roman Empire soldiers.

In response to public's enthusiasm for novelty, the museum established a Prototype Zone in 2012 where new exhibits designed and produced by the museum are displayed. This brand-new exhibition platform allows visitors to try out the new interactive exhibits, and share their views on their design and performance. Popular exhibits will be put on permanent display in the relevant galleries.

The museum's Science News Corner showcases the scientific and technological achievements of local universities. During the year it presented three thematic exhibitions: Technologies Enhancing Patient Care, Computer Transformation – Transform Smartphones or Notebook Computers into Robots, and Painless Vaccination. The exhibitions were organised jointly with the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the University of Hong Kong, and City University of Hong Kong respectively.

In November 2012, five leading scientists from the Mainland and Hong Kong delivered lectures in the Distinguished Chinese Scientists Lecture Series, organised jointly by the China Association for Science and Technology, the Beijing-Hong Kong Academic Exchange Centre, the China Association (Hong Kong) for Science and Society, and the Science Museum. Topics ranged from space technology and deep-sea research to endoscopic treatment of gastrointestinal diseases. The lectures shed light on recent developments in science and technology, with a focus on the contributions being made by Chinese scientists.



The Vice-Chancellor of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, Professor Joseph J Y Sung, gives the first lecture in the Distinguished Chinese Scientists Lecture Series.

In March 2013, the museum organised the biennial Secondary School Science Quiz Competition 2013, in which 59 schools participated.

Science Alive 2012, sponsored by the Croucher Foundation and jointly presented with the British Council, the Education Bureau and Hong Kong Education City Limited, offered a variety of educational activities, including a science communication contest, a debating competition, a lecture series, workshops, demonstrations and science walkabouts.



A father and son stand inside a huge soap bubble at a Science Alive 2012 gathering.

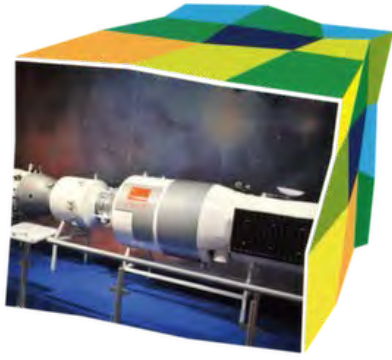
The museum also worked with academic institutions, professional bodies and government departments on a number of special programmes. These included the Fun Science Competition, the 15th Innovations in Science and Environmental Studies; the Hong Kong Student Science Project Competition, the 45th Joint School Science Exhibition, the Robotic Olympiad, Research Grants Council Public Lectures, and the Science in the Public Service campaign.

During the year, 1 435 447 people visited the exhibitions and 223 057 took part in the education and extension activities.

Hong Kong Space Museum

The Hong Kong Space Museum, which opened in 1980, is the major local institution dedicated to popularising astronomy and space science. Its main facilities include the Stanley Ho Space Theatre and two exhibition halls – the Hall of Space Science and the Hall of Astronomy. The exhibition halls feature more than 50 groups of exhibits, predominantly interactive. The Space Theatre offers awe-inspiring educational experiences with its OMNIMAX and Sky Shows.

To commemorate China's First Manned Docking Mission, the museum staged a special exhibition titled Shenzhou 9, from May 2012 to October 2012.



Docking model of
Tiangong-1 and
Shenzhou-9,
exhibited in Hong
Kong.

Renovation of the two exhibition halls has begun, and the conceptual design for the new exhibition halls has been completed. The entire project is expected to be completed by 2015. The museum's website (<http://hk.space.museum>), carrying a wealth of information and educational resources on astronomy and space science, remains very popular.

The Young Astronaut Training Camp is jointly organised by the Space Museum, the Chinese General Chamber of Commerce, the China Astronaut Research and Training Center and the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center. Thirty local secondary students were selected to participate in a space science and astronaut training study visit to Beijing and Jiuquan from July 27 to August 2, 2012, as part of the training camp.



A member of the
Young Astronaut
Training Camp tries
on a spacesuit.

The Hong Kong Space Museum collaborated for the first time with the Chabot Space & Science Center, USA, in the exchange programme known as the Digital Skies Student Partnership. Twelve Hong Kong students were selected to team up with US students and jointly develop planetarium shows. They visited their US partners in Oakland, California from March 28 to April 3, 2013 to showcase their joint productions and to promote astronomy in local schools and communities there. The US students likewise visited Hong Kong in July 2013. The programme was funded by a grant from the Museum Connect Cultural Exchange programme underwritten by the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and administered by the American Association of Museums.



Students from Hong Kong and the United States at an exchange under the Digital Skies Student Partnership.

During the year, the museum presented three Sky Shows, four OMNIMAX Shows and three School Shows, attracting a total of 362 076 visitors.

457 204 people visited the Hall of Space Science, the Hall of Astronomy and 11 special exhibitions, while 24 719 people participated in 183 extension activities.



Astronomy enthusiasts observed the rare Transit of Venus from the Avenue of Stars in Tsim Sha Tsui on June 6, 2012.

Hong Kong Heritage Museum

The Hong Kong Heritage Museum offered a diverse range of programmes and activities in line with its vision and mission.

Continuing with its focus on exhibitions related to applied arts such as photography and design, three significant shows were held this year. The Hong Kong Photography Series 3: Beyond the Portrait exhibition covered the development of portrait photography in Hong Kong, and initiated an open dialogue on current debates relating to this art form. The exhibition was guest-curated by three photographic scholars, Wong Wo-bik, Yvonne Lo and Lukas Tam, and included more than 300 works from established and young photographers, collectors and publishers.



The Hong Kong Photography Series 3: Beyond the Portrait exhibition showed early studio photos and contemporary works by 18 well-established and up-and-coming artists, illustrating the development of portrait photography in Hong Kong over the last century.

In partnership with the Hong Kong International Photo Festival 2012, the Post-Straight: Contemporary Hong Kong Photography exhibition opened at the museum as one of the major exhibitions of the festival. Most of the participating artists were young photographers, and the main objective of the show was to investigate the multifaceted photographic landscape of post 1990s Hong Kong. The Creative Ecologies + exhibition, a partnership project between the Hong Kong Design Centre and the Hong Kong Heritage Museum, featured representative and recent works by a diverse group of both established and up-and-coming young designers, and explored how internal and external forces have impacted on the growth of the design industry since the beginning of the 20th century.



The Creative Ecologies + exhibition project charted the growth of Hong Kong's design industry.

To widen appreciation of the Lingnan School of painting, the museum staged the exhibitions *The Heavenly Breeze: Selected Works of Gao Qifeng and His Disciples* and *Free and Unfettered: Chinese Paintings and Calligraphy by Au Ho-nien* during the year. The first of these explored the unique history of the Lingnan School of painting through the works of Gao Qifeng and his disciples, while the second featured the art and accomplishments of Prof Au, a key figure in the third generation of the Lingnan School.



A key figure in the third generation of the Lingnan School of painting, Professor Au Ho-nien (left) has produced an oeuvre that includes landscapes, figures, birds and flowers, insects, fish and animals.

With a view to sharing world treasures with local audiences, the museum also presented two world-class exhibitions. In celebration of the 15th Anniversary of the Establishment of the HKSAR, the exhibition *PICASSO – Masterpieces from Musée National Picasso, Paris* opened in May 2012, offering a rare opportunity for local audiences to view a full range of Picasso's work. The exhibition was received enthusiastically by the Hong Kong public and visitors alike, and enjoyed a record-high attendance of 294 711 in the two-month exhibition period.



Showcasing 56 of the artist's original works, the *PICASSO – Masterpieces from Musée National Picasso, Paris* exhibition was by far the most comprehensive show of Picasso's works ever held in Hong Kong.

Opening in February 2013 was the exhibition *Fabergé: Legacy of Imperial Russia*. It featured examples of the outstanding craftsmanship of Russian master jeweller and goldsmith Peter Carl Fabergé, and offered a vivid glimpse of royal life in the final years of the Russian Empire. Exhibits were loaned from the Moscow Kremlin Museums and the Fersman Mineralogical

Museum, and included examples of the astounding imperial Easter eggs. This was the largest Russian art exhibition ever staged in Hong Kong.



Numbering over 200 in total, the exhibits at the Fabergé: Legacy of Imperial Russia exhibition were on loan from the collections of the Moscow Kremlin Museums and the Fersman Mineralogical Museum of Russia.

During the year, the museum offered a variety of education and extension programmes to tie in with its exhibitions. To complement the PICASSO – Masterpieces from Musée National Picasso, Paris exhibition, the museum teamed up with the Consulate General of France in Hong Kong & Macau to co-organise the Jockey Club Picasso Educational Programme: Junior Docent Scheme. This programme offered senior secondary art students a valuable opportunity to provide guided tour services for the Picasso exhibition. A series of interactive programmes were held in association with the Applauding Hong Kong Pop Legend: Roman Tam exhibition.



The exhibition Applauding to Hong Kong Pop Legend: Roman Tam was held to commemorate the 10th anniversary of Tam's death. Picture shows children at a stage-costume design workshop, organised to tie in with the exhibition.

In connection with the exhibition Hong Kong Photography Series 3: Beyond the Portrait, a series of talks entitled Constructing Images – Exploring Life was held at which guest curators, artists and professional photographers were invited to share their insights into various aspects of portrait photography. For the exhibition Free and Unfettered: Chinese Paintings and Calligraphy by Au Ho-nien, the museum organised a Sharing Forum on the Art of Au Ho-nien. In addition, it organised a series of talks and workshops titled Interesting Art – Russian Culture in relation to the Fabergé eggs, to tie in with the exhibition Fabergé: Legacy of Imperial Russia.



The Curator of the Moscow Kremlin Museums (in red) shares some of the fascinating stories behind the exhibits on show at the Fabergé: Legacy of Imperial Russia exhibition with workshop members.

The museum also collaborated with the Education Bureau to run gallery talks, workshops and seminars in support of Life-wide Learning and the New Senior Secondary Curriculum during the year.

For the annual International Museum Day 2012 for which the theme was Museums in a Changing World: New Challenges, New Inspirations, the museum acted as the main coordinator for the LCSD and other local museums and heritage bodies in the organisation of a variety of entertaining and educational programmes for the public in May 2012.

ICH had always been an important focus of the museum. Commissioned by the museum, the South China Research Center of the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology completed a territory-wide survey of Hong Kong's ICH and submitted the final report with a proposed inventory in March 2013, after more than three years of investigatory work. The report and the proposed inventory have been endorsed by the Intangible Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee.

Field trips, talks and demonstrations were arranged throughout the year in collaboration with various community groups to raise public awareness of the four local ICH items on the third national list – the Jiao Festival of Cheung Chau, the dragon boat water parade of Tai O, the Yu Lan Ghost Festival of the Hong Kong Chiu Chow community, and the fire dragon dance of Tai Hang.



Huge towers of buns are always the focus at the Jiao Festival of Cheung Chau, which takes place from the fifth to the ninth days of the fourth Chinese Lunar month.

Furthermore, local paper-craft masters were invited to produce traditional hand-made lanterns for display at the Mid-Autumn Lantern Carnival at Victoria Park and the Lunar New Year Lantern Carnival at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, to foster public appreciation of our folk handicrafts. A series of talks was also co-organised with the Open University of Hong Kong which explored intangible aspects of our cultural heritage. Also on this topic, in December 2012 the Ministry of Culture approved the application of Mr. Chan Tak-fai for inscription as a national ICH bearer of Tai Hang Fire Dragon Dance.



A gigantic Lunar New Year lantern outside the Hong Kong Cultural Centre.

Two cultural exchange activities relating to ICH were organised during the year. In collaboration with the Ministry of Culture and the Department of Culture of Sichuan Province, an exhibition cum talk on The Greatest Skills of Shu: Intangible Cultural Heritage of Sichuan was held at the Hong Kong Central Library in June 2012 in conjunction with National Heritage Day. Bearers of Sichuan's ICH demonstrated their splendid handicraft skills to a Hong Kong audience on the occasion. In addition, together with the Chinese University of Hong Kong and the University of Tours, France, the museum organised a three-day international conference on ICH in which over 30 experts and academics, coming from such diverse places as the Mainland, Hong Kong, Macau, Taiwan, Japan, India, Australia, the US, France, Israel and Morocco, participated to share their research and experiences.

The Hong Kong Heritage Museum, which attracted 693 761 visitors during the year, also manages three branch museums: the Sam Tung Uk Museum, the Hong Kong Railway Museum, and the Sheung Yiu Folk Museum. These three branch museums attracted 96 238, 205 370 and 37 314 visitors, respectively.



The Sam Tung Uk Museum is a 200-year-old walled village that was declared a historical monument in 1981 and restored. Picture shows a corner of the museum.

Art Promotion Office

The Art Promotion Office (APO), in co-operation with various partners, organised a series of community and public art projects in 2012-13 designed to enrich our cultural life and promote the appreciation of art among the public.



An artist demonstrates his sculpture skills at the Awakened Sleepers·Transformed Places – Hong Kong International Sculpture Symposium 2012 exhibition, presented by the Hong Kong Sculpture Society with support from the Art Promotion Office.

The Park Déco – Cornwall Street Park project was aimed at giving the signage and furniture of the Cornwall Street Park a face-lift. It adopted a holistic design-oriented approach, with a view to establishing a set of design principles that can be applied to other public parks in Hong Kong in the future. The work was completed in September 2012.



The Park Déco Scheme has enriched Cornwall Street Park with new art installations.

As part of the ArtAlive@Park2012, new works by architecture students from three local universities together with complementary programmes were hosted at Tsim Sha Tsui East Waterfront Podium Garden, Tai Po Waterfront Park and Stanley Promenade, from March 2012 to January 2013.



The artwork Painting with Light, created by architecture students from the City University of Hong Kong, on show at Stanley Promenade as part of ArtAlive@Park2012.

To complement the neighbouring renovated Yau Ma Tei Theatre, 70 students from primary and secondary schools in the Yau Tsim Mong District were engaged in a New Look for Public Places: Shanghai Street Public Art Project. The beautification work of the nearby building housing a refuse collection point, street sleeper's shelter and public toilets in Shanghai Street was completed in July 2012.



An interesting Cantonese opera workshop experience for students under the Shanghai Street Public Art Project.

Art@Government Buildings 2012-13 commissioned six artists to create artworks for six government buildings, namely the Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex, Tokwawan Market and Government Offices, Sha Tin Government Offices, Queensway Government Offices, Lai Chi Kok Government Offices and North Point Government Offices. The aim was to apply works of art so as to beautify the environment of these buildings and enrich the daily lives of both users and visitors. Together with the extended exhibition at Tsuen Wan Government Offices and Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices from a previous Art@Government Buildings project, artworks are now being displayed at eight government buildings from November 2012 to November 2013.



A new look for the Lai Chi Kok Government Offices, after a fantastic makeover under Art@Government Buildings 2012-13.

In partnership with the Architectural Services Department, an open call for proposals for the Public Art Scheme of the Town Park, Indoor Velodrome-cum-Sports Centre, in Area 45, Tseung Kwan O was launched in 2012. Three artwork proposals were selected at the final adjudication in December 2012. The expected completion date of installation would be sometime in late 2013.

The Grandpa Grandma Memory Boxes exhibition, in collaboration with Art for All and with support from the Tung Wah Group of Hospitals i-dArt, was a multimedia art exhibition presenting artworks created by a group of senior citizens and six local artists, with the aim of encouraging senior citizens to get involved in creative art activities. Workshops, artist sharing sessions and guided tours were held to share these artistic creations, and generate interest among members of the older generation.

The Sculpting Space – Hong Kong Public Art Design exhibition of the 2012 Hong Kong and Macao Visual Arts Biennial was held at the World Art Museum in the China Millennium Monument in September 2012. The Hong Kong exhibition, which featured 17 groups of sculpture created by active local sculptors, was presented by the Ministry of Culture in collaboration with the Home Affairs Bureau of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, organised by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, and curated by the Art Promotion Office and the Hong Kong Sculpture Society.

Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre (VAC)

The VAC, a visual arts training institution managed by the APO, organised signature programmes including the Art Specialist Course, a year-long art-training programme for amateurs and young artists. In summer 2012, the VAC in collaboration with the Centre for Community Cultural Development, organised Art Summer@VAC art camp to enable young people to co-create with people with disabilities from the Hong Kong Down Syndrome Association and the Hong Kong Red Cross John F. Kennedy Centre.

"My Culture" App

In early September 2012, the Department launched a brand new mobile application 'My Culture', which gives users of iPhone and Android smartphones access to a constant stream of regularly updated cultural information. An iPad version was later added for those using this mobile platform.



Our "My Culture" App brings news about our latest cultural programmes to patrons as soon as information is available.

The app is available in English, traditional Chinese and simplified Chinese, and covers an array of cultural events categorised by venue, date, and genre (Music, Dance, Chinese Opera, Theatre, Multi-Arts, Family Entertainment, Film and Special Exhibition). Users can easily select their programmes of choice, and then connect directly to their preferred online or telephone ticketing service for booking. Events can also be bookmarked in the calendar of the mobile device, and notifications set up to so events are not missed.

The day after its launch, the app ranked third in the Lifestyle Category and 34th overall in the Apple App Store; it ranked 10th in the Lifestyle Category and 51st overall in Google Play a week after its launch. Within just three months of launch, it had been downloaded 14 500 times. Users have commented positively about the app, praising its "excellent clear interface", and its "attractive design and speedy operation". Other comments have noted that the app is "easy and convenient to use", and "an ideal app for finding cultural events".

Conservation Office

The Conservation Office continued to provide public museums with essential preservation and conservation services for their museum collections, as well as the necessary technical support in mounting thematic exhibitions. During the year, the office was able to conserve a total of 532 cultural objects, including paintings, historical documents, textiles, photographs, metal objects, sculptures, organic objects, and archaeological finds. It was a busy but rewarding year for the office, which was heavily involved in a number of blockbuster exhibitions in celebration of the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR.



Colleagues from the Conservation Office and their Mainland counterparts join hands to install a terracotta chariot for the exhibition *The Majesty of All Under Heaven: The Eternal Realm of China's First Emperor*.

At the invitation of the Committee of Art Museums in China, in late 2012 our conservation staff delivered a series of lectures on conservation policy, service development, the role conservation plays in art museums, collection management, community engagement, and conservation education, for a national training programme for senior art museums professionals held at the Guangdong Museum of Art.



Conservation staff delivered numerous talks on conservation-related topics to Mainland counterparts during the year.

The office continued to offer a vibrant education and extension programme to help interested members of the public and school students better appreciate their conservation work. It ran a total of 38 programmes, including workshops for the School Culture Day Scheme, behind-the-scene laboratory visits, and lectures. More than 940 persons participated in these programmes, including 591 students from 21 school groups.



Students produce woodblock prints with guidance from a conservator, under the School Culture Day Scheme.

The Conservation Volunteers Scheme began in 2002, and under it this year the office recorded a record-breaking 4 612 hours of service delivered by some 70 volunteers. Tasks performed by the conservation volunteers included the installation of exhibits, preserving collections, conducting workshop demonstrations, and carrying out practical conservation treatment in various specialty areas.



A conservation volunteer removes stains from a calligraphic work on a suction table.

To heighten the profile of the local conservation service and to foster professional exchange with overseas counterparts, the office presented two academic posters at the International Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works 2012 Vienna Congress in September 2012, one of which won the Best Poster Prize.

Antiquities and Monuments Office (AMO)

The AMO plays an important role in the preservation and promotion of Hong Kong's archaeological and built heritage.

With support from the Antiquities Advisory Board, the AMO is arranging for the Béthanie in Pok Fu Lam and the Cenotaph in Central to be declared as monuments for permanent protection under the Antiquities and Monuments Ordinance. The declaration procedures are expected to be completed in mid 2013.

The AMO also carried out restoration and repairs on a number of historic buildings. Major projects included: the Yan Tun Kong Study Hall in Ping Shan, the Tung Wah Museum in Yau Ma Tei, the Maryknoll Convent School in Kowloon Tong, the Morrison Building in Tuen Mun, Tai Fu Tai in San Tin, the Tang Kwong U Ancestral Hall in Kam Tin, the Guest House of the Tang Ancestral Hall in Ha Tsuen, and St John's Cathedral and the Helena May in Central. Archaeological surveys and excavations necessitated by small-scale development projects such as small house development in the New Territories were conducted by the AMO in Tuen Mun, Yuen Long, Sai Kung, and Cheung Chau. These archaeological surveys and excavations successfully salvaged any archaeological heritage materials at the sites. A long-term exhibition featuring the archaeological and built heritage of the territory is on display at the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre. During the year, the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre and the Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery cum Heritage Trail Visitors Centre attracted 217 125 and 78 141 visitors respectively. The AMO also organised a wide variety of educational and publicity programmes including lectures, guided tours, workshops and seminars, all to promote heritage conservation.



Established in 1993, the Ping Shan Heritage Trail links various historic buildings along a convenient walking route. Picture shows Kun Ting Study Hall, a Grade 1 historic building along the trail.

Expert Advisers on Cultural Services

Our 172 advisers in 20 fields advise the department on the performing arts, literary arts and museum activities. They include artists, authors, academics and practitioners who have made significant contributions to their respective fields.

Major Cultural Events

October 2010 – Art@Government Buildings
November 2013 2010-11

New Look for Public Places:
October 2011 – July 2012 Shanghai Street Public Art
Project



Refuse Collection Point got a totally new look under the New Look for Public Places: Shanghai Street Public Art Project.

November 2011 –
September 2012

4.23 World Book Day
Creative Competition in
2012: Read • Enriching
Our World

A sharing session at the
prize presentation
ceremony of the 4.23
World Book Day Creative



Competition in 2012: Read
• Enriching Our World.

December 2011 – May
2012

Thematic Storytelling
Workshops: The Adventure
of 'Small Ears'



Reading for leisure was promoted to children and their parents through interactive storytelling workshops.

December 21, 2011 – July 30, 2012 Applauding Hong Kong Pop Legend: Roman Tam

January – July 2012 Competition on Story Writing in Chinese for Students in 2012

January – September 2012 22nd Chinese Poetry Writing Competition

January – November 2012 Awards for Creative Writing in Chinese in 2012

January 2012 – late 2013 Public Art Scheme of the Town Park, Indoor Velodrome-cum-Sports Centre, in Area 45, Tseung Kwan O

March – November 2012 Meet-the-Authors 2012: Reading the Life of ...

March – December 2012 Explore the World of Medicine: Public Lecture Series 2012

March 2012 – January 2013 ArtAlive@Park2012



Twilight, an artwork created by architecture students from the City University of Hong Kong, on show at Stanley

Promenade as part of
ArtAlive@Park2012.

April – May 2012

Leaders' Talks Series 2012

April 12 – 13 & 15, 2012

Psy by The Seven Fingers
(Canada) at Sha Tin Town
Hall and Tuen Mun Town
Hall

April 25, 2012

Borodin Quartet (Russia)
at Hong Kong City Hall

April 27 – June 10, 2012

Transformation of the
Qipao exhibition

May – December 2012

Subject Talks on
Cosmopolitan Hong Kong

May 6, 2012

*Guitar and Cello Duo
Concert* by Yang Xuefei
and Wang Jian at Hong
Kong City Hall

May 11 – 12 & 14, 2012

Flamenco sin Fronteras –
by Paco Peña Flamenco
Dance Company (Spain) at
Tuen Mun Town Hall and
Hong Kong City Hall



Built around the art of
flamenco, the *Flamenco sin
Fronteras* show by Paco
Peña Flamenco Dance
Company also presented
other forms of Latin
American song and dance.

May 19 – July 22, 2012

PICASSO – Masterpieces
from Musée National
Picasso, Paris



The PICASSO - Masterpieces from Musée National Picasso, Paris exhibition enjoyed a record-high attendance of 294 000 in its two-month exhibition period.

May 25 – July 25, 2012

Imperishable Affection:
The Art of Feng Zikai
"Cultivating Life and Soul"

May 25 – October 7,
2012

Imperishable Affection:
The Art of Feng Zikai
"Creating a World of
Compassion"

May 25 – October 7,
2012 (Macao Museum)
November 13, 2012 –
May 19, 2013
(Guangdong Museum)

Maritime Porcelain Road:
Relics from Guangdong,
Hong Kong and Macao
Museums

June 10, 2012

Community Thematic
Carnival: *Fun under Sun* at
Ap Lei Chau Wind Tower
Park

June 15 – August 5, 2012

Chinese Opera Festival
2012 at various LCSD
venues



The Chinese Opera Festival 2012 opened with the Kunqu Opera classic *The Story of the West Chamber*, presented by the Suzhou Kunqu Opera Theatre of Jiaangsu Province.

June 22 – 24, 2012

International Military
Tattoo at Hong Kong
Coliseum



Over 10 military bands and performing groups from the Mainland, Hong Kong and overseas took part in the International Military Tattoo.

June 22 – October 14,
2012

A Lofty Retreat from the
Red Dust: The Secret
Garden of Emperor
Qianlong



An exhibit at The Secret
Garden of Emperor
Qianlong exhibition.

June 28 – July 15, 2012

The 9th Hong Kong
Literature Festival



A press conference
performance for the 9th
Hong Kong Literature
Festival.

June 29 – October 17,
2012

Creatures of the Abyss



Games with “deep-sea animals” at the opening ceremony of the Creatures of the Abyss exhibition.

July 1, 2012

Fireworks Display to Celebrate the 15th Anniversary of the Establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

July 6 – August 19, 2012

International Arts Carnival 2012



Jumping for the sky at the opening of the International Arts Carnival.

July 7 – 8, 2012

Fantasia of Tales Adventure - Outdoor Programme in support of the International Arts Carnival 2012 at Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza

July 14, 2012

Community Thematic Carnival: *Go Dream! Youth Gala* at Yuen Long Theatre Avenue and Foyer

July 14 – November 26, 2012 Hong Kong Photography Series 3: Beyond the Portrait



A black-and-white corner at the Hong Kong Photography Series 3: Beyond the Portrait exhibition.

July 21 – August 20, 2012 Summer Reading Month 2012



Parents are encouraged to read together with their children during Summer Reading Month.

July 25 – November 26, 2012 The Majesty of All Under Heaven: The Eternal Realm

of China's First Emperor exhibition



Measuring 12 x 12 metres, this 3-D painting was displayed at the Hong Kong Museum of History during the exhibition The Majesty of All Under Heaven: The Eternal Realm of China's First Emperor.

July 27 – August 10, Art Summer@VAC

2012

August – November 2012 Subject Talk Series on Life and Death Education: Different Forms of Death and their Impacts

August 2012 – April 2013 The 24th Hong Kong Print Awards

August 2 – 5, 2012 *Nine Songs* by Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan at Hong Kong Cultural Centre



The *Nine Songs* cycle of poems was written by Qu Yuan some 2 300 years ago. Drawing on its ancient imagery, *Nine Songs* choreographer created a thoroughly contemporary piece where distant and recent pasts collide.

August 4 – 5 & 7 – 8, 2012 Summer Fun Party: *Aloha! Summer Fiesta!* at Queen Elizabeth Stadium and Sha Tin Town Hall

August 12 to 26, 2012 Exhibition on China's First Manned Space Docking Mission



The Exhibition on China's First Manned Space Docking Mission was very popular, attracting more than 60 000 people.

August 29, 2012 –
August 5, 2013

A Date with Chinese Tea

September 2012

Talk Series on Chinese
Music as World Intangible
Cultural Heritage

September 2012

Park Déco – Cornwall
Street Park



The launch ceremony for
Park Déco on September 4,
2012.

September 2012

Asian Museum Network
Conference Hong Kong
2012

Coinciding with the city's
celebration of 2012 as
"Hong Kong Design Year",
the Asian Museum Network

Conference 2012 focused
on design museums as well
as museum design in the
context of Asia and its
people.



September 2012

The Sculpting Space –
Hong Kong Public Art
Design exhibition of the
2012 Hong Kong and

Macao Visual Arts Biennial

September 2012

Grandpa Grandma Memory Boxes Exhibition



Grandpa Grandma Memory Boxes is a community art project jointly organised with our department's Art Promotion Office, Art for All, with dedicated support and participation from i-

dArt, Tung Wah Group of Hospitals.

September 13 – October 21, 2012

2012 Mid-Autumn Lantern Display: *Terracotta Warriors of the Qin Dynasty* at Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza

September 14 – 16, 2012

Rambert Dance Company (UK) at Kwai Tsing Theatre

September 15 – November 25, 2012

All Are Guests – Hong Kong at the Liverpool Biennial 2012

September 15, 2012 – June 17, 2013

Free and Unfettered: Chinese Paintings and Calligraphy by Au Ho-nien

September 27 – October 6, 2012

Mid-Autumn Lantern Design Competition Entries Exhibition 2012 at Hong Kong City Hall

September 28 – 30, 2012

2012 Mid-Autumn Lantern Carnivals at Tung Chung Man Tung Road Park, Tai Po Waterfront Park and Victoria Park



The Mid-Autumn Lantern
Carnival at Victoria Park.

October 1, 2012	2012 National Day Fireworks Display
October 7, 2012	Hong Kong International Jazz Festival 2012: Outdoor Concert at Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza
October 11 – 14, 2012	Verdi – <i>La Traviata</i> at Hong Kong Cultural Centre



A final rehearsal for Verdi's
La Traviata.

October 12, 2012	Collecting for 50 Years – The People and Their Stories
October 15, 2012	Gidon Kremer and Kremerata Baltica at Hong Kong Cultural Centre
October 16, 2012	The English Concert at Hong Kong City Hall
October 19 – November 17, 2012	New Vision Arts Festival 2012



Launched in 2002, the biennial New Vision Arts Festival has developed a striking identity over the years with its innovative, cross-cultural programming with an Asian focus.

October 27, 2012

New Asia Lecture on Contemporary China 2012

October 30, 2012

Wells Cathedral Choir (UK)
at Hong Kong City Hall

November 2012

Public Lectures on Asian Studies 2012

November – December 2012

Hong Kong Week 2012 – Culture & Creativity @ Taipei



A performance at the press conference for Hong Kong Week 2012 - Cultural & Creativity @ Taipei. The event was the first of its kind showcasing Hong Kong's attraction as a cultural metropolis to Taiwanese audiences.

November 2012 – November 2013

Art@Government Buildings 2012-13



A pleasant corner at the Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex under Art@ Government Buildings 2012-2013.

November 3 – 4, 2012	<i>Music Beyond Borders</i> - Outdoor Programme in support of the New Vision Arts Festival 2012 at Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza
November 7, 2012	Piano Recital by Krystian Zimerman at Hong Kong Cultural Centre
November 8 – 9, 2012	San Francisco Symphony at Hong Kong Cultural Centre
November 11, 2012	Community Thematic Carnival: <i>Breezy Sai Kung</i> at Sai Kung Waterfront Park
November 18, 2012	Asian Ethnic Cultural Performances 2012 at Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza
November 19, 2012	Piano Recital by Piotr Anderszewski at Hong Kong City Hall
November 25, 2012	Cantonese Opera Day at Hong Kong Cultural Centre



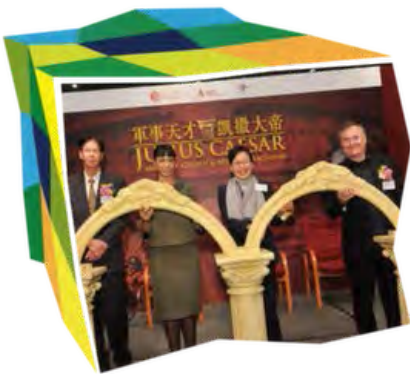
A stage performance by young troupers on Cantonese Opera Day 2012.

November 30, 2012 – January 9, 2013

Chinese Painting and Calligraphy of Song, Yuan and Ming Dynasties from the Osaka City Museum of Fine Arts

December 7, 2012 - April 10, 2013

Julius Caesar: Military Genius & Mighty Machines



Officiating guests at the opening ceremony of the exhibition Julius Caesar - Military Genius and Mighty Machines.

December 9, 2012

Concert in the Park at Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza

December 16, 2012 – April 1, 2013

Andy Warhol: 15 Minutes Eternal



The Andy Warhol: 15 Minutes Eternal exhibition was very popular with art lovers. Picture shows the 100 000th visitor on January 29, 2013.

December 27, 2012

Marching Band Parade
2012 at Hong Kong
Cultural Centre Piazza

December 31, 2012

New Year's Eve Countdown
Carnival 2012 at Sha Tin
Park and Sha Tin Town Hall
Plaza cum City Art Square



The New Year's Eve
Countdown Carnival 2012
in Shatin.

January and April 2013

Public Lectures on History
and Business in China
2012-13

January 4 – 6, 2013

Mascagni & Leoncavallo –
Cavalleria Rusticana and *I
Pagliacci* at Hong Kong City
Hall



Sensational Italian verismo
operas *Cavalleria
Rusticana* and *I Pagliacci*
have enjoyed continuous
success ever since their
premieres in the 19th
century. They are often
performed as a double bill
because of the similarities
they display, with both
telling stories of love,
jealousy and murder.

January 9 – February 5,
2013

Thirteen Hongs of Canton:
selected pictures and
documents exhibition



The Thirteen Hongs of
Canton: Selected Pictures
and Documents exhibition
took visitors back to the
era of international trade in
Canton between the 17th
and 19th centuries.

January 11 – 13, 2013

Edward Lam Dance
Theatre - *What is Success?*
at Kwai Tsing Theatre

January 25 – 27, 2013

Shakespeare's Wild Sisters
Group (Taiwan) - *Once,
upon hearing the skin tone*
at Hong Kong Cultural
Centre

January 30 – May 13,
2013

The Wonders of Ancient
Mesopotamia exhibition



Through 170 stunning
artefacts carefully selected
from the British Museum's
collection, The Wonders of
Ancient Mesopotamia
exhibition explored three
of the great centres of
ancient civilisation, Sumer,
Assyria and Babylon, and
brought their rich histories
to life.

February 6 – April 29,
2013

Fabergé: Legacy of
Imperial Russia



An elegant exhibit from the Fabergé: Legacy of Imperial Russia exhibition.

February 7 – March 17, 2013

2013 Lunar New Year
Lantern Display: Treasures
Fill the City at Hong Kong
Cultural Centre Piazza



The thematic lantern display Treasures Fill the City showcased different gods of fortune, all conveying wishes for good fortune to members of the public.

February 11, 2013

2013 Lunar New Year
Fireworks Display

February 17, 2013

Youth Band Marathon 2013
at Hong Kong Cultural
Centre Piazza

February 22 – 24, 2013

2013 Lunar New Year
Lantern Carnivals at Tsing
Yi Park, Fanling Recreation
Ground and Hong Kong
Cultural Centre Piazza

Financial Management

The Director of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) is the controlling officer of the department's budget, and is tasked with ensuring that the department delivers quality services efficiently and economically.

Source of Funds

The LCSD is funded by the Government. The revised expenditure estimate for 2012-13 of \$6,238 million covered operational and capital expenditure in five major areas: Recreation and Sports, Horticulture and Amenities, Heritage and Museums, Performing Arts, and Public Libraries. The funds were also used to support the Hong Kong Life Saving Society, the Hong Kong Archaeological Society, local sports bodies, and camps run by non-government organisations.

The Government's Capital Works Reserve Fund finances the department's installation of major systems and equipment costing more than \$2 million per item. The fund also finances capital works projects of the department. The Architectural Services Department supervises the funding and progress of such projects.

Budgetary Control

To ensure good financial control of the approved budget, the department operates a three-tier structure involving 200 budget holders authorised to deploy funds, who are accountable for expenditure.

Fees, Charges and Revenue Collection

The LCSD administers more than 740 types of fees and charges, ensuring that they are collected on time, properly accounted for and periodically reviewed.



Visitors to the Hong Kong Flower Show 2013 using an Octopus card payment system for admission.

The revised revenue estimate for 2012-13 of \$1,006 million came primarily

from fees and charges, ticket sales and facility rentals. Revenue is credited to the General Revenue Account.

Public Feedback

In 2012-13, the department conducted 17 surveys to gauge customer satisfaction with its services. Of the 14 completed surveys about outsourced sports centres, 13 showed more than 80 per cent user satisfaction, with the other one recorded an approximately 75 per cent satisfaction rate. Another opinion survey on museum services was completed in November 2012; the results indicated that around 90 per cent of visitors were satisfied with the services at museums. A physical fitness test for the community was also completed and its major findings released to the public in the form of a press release in November 2012.

An opinion survey on the LCSD's performing arts activities is expected to be completed by April 2013.

Our 'Views from the Public' system maintains a database of feedback received through various channels regarding the department's policies, facilities and services. This information is regularly analysed, and reports made to management which help them identify areas for improvement.



Customer
appreciation notes
collected.

Outsourcing

The department follows the Government's efficiency guidelines on outsourcing non-core activities to the private sector. Major services outsourced include cleaning, security, horticultural maintenance, and facility management. As at March 2013, the department was managing 107 outsourced contracts for major services at a total value of \$3,811 million. These contracts covered both leisure and cultural facilities.

The department's outsourcing practice follows these principles:

- Contracts must be commercially viable,
- Service standards must not be reduced,
- Services must be cost-effective, and
- Staff should not be declared redundant.

To deliver quality services to the public more cost-effectively through the private sector, up to March 2013 the department had contracted out the management of the following 14 sports centres: the Jockey Club Tuen Mun Butterfly Beach Sports Centre, the Quarry Bay Sports Centre, the Chun Wah Road Sports Centre, the Cheung Sha Wan Sports Centre, the Chuk Yuen Sports Centre, the Choi Hung Road Sports Centre, the Wo Hing Sports Centre, the North Kwai Chung Tang Shiu Kin Sports Centre, the Ap Lei Chau Sports Centre, the Fa Yuen Street Sports Centre, the Wong Chuk Hang Sports Centre, the Hiu Kwong Street Sports Centre, the Yeung Uk Road Sports Centre, and the Tin Shui Wai Sports Centre.

In addition, the department contracts out the management of several cultural facilities, including the Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre, the Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum, the Fireboat Alexander Grantham Exhibition Gallery, and the Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery cum Heritage Trail Visitors Centre.



A service contractor looks after daily management of the Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery cum Heritage Trail Visitors Centre.

Contract Management

The department closely monitors its service contractors, paying special attention to safeguarding the wages and benefits of non-skilled workers. The department also maintains a computerised appraisal system, which gives an overview of the performance of its contractors. Contractors' past performance may be taken into account when the department evaluates future tender offers. Regular meetings are held between the department's contract management team and contractors' senior managers to discuss contract management issues, to keep lines of communication open, and to remind contractors that the department does not condone exploitation of non-skilled workers.

Human Resources

Manpower Planning

As at the end of March 2013, the department was staffed by 8 202 civil servants. Apart from fulfilling new service demands, additional civil service staff were deployed to fill existing vacancies and replace non-civil service contract (NCSC) staff in public libraries to enable us to offer better frontline services. To man new facilities and services and enhance existing services, the department expects to further strengthen its workforce with around 250 new posts in 2013-14.

Employment Situation for NCSC Staff

NCSC staff are employed by the department under the NCSC Staff Scheme to meet service and operational requirements. They are mainly responsible for providing support services in LCSD venues or offices, and are deployed for general administrative support, frontline and customer services, technical support, and information technology services.

Over recent years, the department has made good progress in replacing 800 positions identified for replacement under the special review of NCSC staff by the Civil Service Bureau in 2006. In addition, the department has replaced some 280 NCSC positions with civil service posts by phases in recent years, following a review of the mode of governance in public museums and a review of frontline and support services in public libraries. The number of NCSC staff is expected to decrease as continued efforts are being made to convert NCSC positions with long-term service needs into civil service posts.

Recruitment of Civil Service Staff

The department conducted recruitment exercises for the posts of Amenities Assistant III, Assistant Librarian, and Assistant Manager, Cultural Services in 2012-13. Around 390 new recruits reported for duty in the period, filling existing vacancies and taking up new posts in various grades to cope with new service demands and to replace NCSC positions.

Staff Training and Development

The department's Training Section offered a wide range of programmes in 2012-13.

Growing environmental awareness and public concern for tree management increased the need for tree specialists. The Training Section organised professional training to boost the professional arboricultural knowledge of staff involved in this area.

During the year, the focus of training was on tree inspection, pathology, risk assessment, remedial tree surgery and old and valuable tree (OVT) management, with the aim of improving curative measures for problematic trees. The training programme included 10 courses on Visual Tree Inspection and Remedial Tree Surgery for about 150 staff; one Tree Hazard Assessment Course with Integrated Assessment (LANTRA Professional Tree Inspection Qualification) in February 2013 for 10 Leisure Services Managers and Amenities Assistants; a number of Thematic Arboriculture seminars attended by over 400 staff; one Specialist Arboriculture training course for 31 staff; and an OVT Management Training Programme for 31 staff.



Frontline staff at a training course practising chainsaw skills for tree pruning.

In June and December 2012, we organised re-certification training programmes for the International Society of Arboriculture Certified Arborists. As a result, 26 Leisure Services Managers and Amenities Assistants were re-certified for this professional qualification. We also arranged training for other recognised qualifications, including the Professional Diploma in Arboriculture (CUHK), the BSc (Hon) Degree in Arboriculture (UK), the Arboriculture Level 3 BTEC Diploma/Extended Diploma (UK), the Certificate Course on Subtropical Urban Tree Care (Hawaii), and Tree Surgery for Craftsmen (UK).

Striving for service excellence is one of the department's core missions. The Training Section provides comprehensive customer service training to Cultural Services Branch staff. In 2012-13, the very popular Know Your

Customers, Serve Better series featured a wide variety of seminars, highlights of which were seminars on Decoding Children’s Psychology and on The Visually Impaired and their Guide Dogs. This latter customised training was designed to give staff the knowledge and skills needed to welcome guide dogs at cultural services venues. By learning more about the needs of different customers, staff were able to evaluate and improve their service standards.

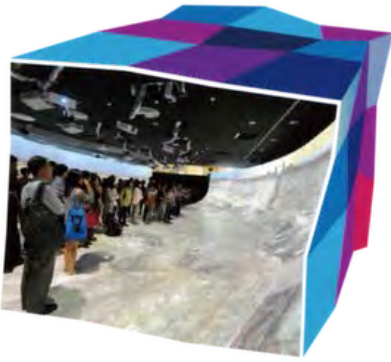


A member of the public with visual impairment (with guide dog) gives input at a sharing session on customer service.

In support of the department’s goal of creating an inclusive society and improving access for the visually impaired, the Training Section organised a course on web accessibility. People with disabilities were invited to share the difficulties they encountered in using websites, in a way that helped staff understand the importance of ensuring that websites are accessible to all. The training also covered common pitfalls and introduced some best designs and practices for improving website accessibility.

Staff also received training in Mobile and Social Media Marketing, in the form of a 2-day fundamental course and three seminars. Pioneers in various digital fields shared the spotlight in the first two seminars, introducing the latest trends and sharing their successes. The third seminar was hosted by the Hong Kong Observatory; in it, they disclosed how they initiated their mobile App, My Observatory, overcame early failures, and then relaunched their refined version with resounding success.

To further raise professional standards, the Training Section organised structured training in museology, librarianship, arts administration and performing arts appreciation. It also arranged training in such important areas as leadership, audience building, intellectual property rights, crowd and emergency management, fund-raising, stage and technical management, and Administrative Law.



Staff enjoy an experience-sharing session and guided tour on the organisation and management of the exhibition *The Majesty of All Under Heaven - The Eternal Realm of China's First Emperor*.

Staff were also given opportunities to broaden their cultural knowledge by taking part in overseas training, and internship programmes or exchanges with prestigious international cultural institutions. The valuable experience and knowledge thus gained have enabled them to plan our public events even more imaginatively, helping Hong Kong retain its status as a world-class events capital.

The Training Section continued to organise Occupational Health and Safety (OSH) training programmes to ensure a safe and healthy environment for all staff, as well as for customers visiting our premises or participating in our activities. This year, over 600 staff received training in the use of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs), and received relevant certification. Other general OSH courses, such as Prevention of Violence in the Workplace, Breakaway Techniques, Avoiding Snake Bites, Dog Behaviour, Fire Prevention, and Electrical Safety, helped raise occupational safety awareness among frontline staff.

We also continued to offer competence certificate courses, such as the Mandatory Basic Safety Training Course, the General Safety for Workers in Confined Spaces and Revalidation Course, the Certificate of Competence in Display Screen Equipment Assessment, and the Certificate of Competence in Manual Handling. In addition, the Training Section organised OSH management courses for district and venue safety officers, including, among others, Basic Safety Management Training and General Training on Occupational Safety and Health for District/Venue Safety Officers.



Lifeguards practising skills to avoid muscle fatigue.

In 2012-13, the department continued a government initiative to offer temporary jobs to young people through two schemes: the Swimming Pool Trainee (SPT) scheme and the Beach Trainee (BT) scheme. Under these schemes, the Training Section provided four to six months' training to 36 young people, all of whom passed tests to gain lifeguard qualifications.

These graduates were then able to find jobs in public and private aquatic venues, with some applying to join as civil service lifeguards.

Our Training Section also delivered a number of regular programmes covering various leisure and cultural services disciplines, as well as providing training in general knowledge and skills, supervisory management, language and communication, computer software applications, and IT.



Lifeguards learning sea search techniques at Stanley Main Beach.

Overall, 2012-13 was a productive year for staff training. In the year under review, we offered a total of 17 444 training places to all grades and ranks, including NCSC and ex-Council contract staff. According to trainee feedback, our training programmes were seen as generally effective.



Frontline staff being trained in the use of grass-cutting machinery at Hong Kong Stadium.

Staff Relations and Communication

The department enjoys good staff relations as a result of its commitment to maintaining excellent communication.



Staff from many different units were commended for their contributions to the Hong Kong Flower Show 2013.

Management maintains regular contact with staff through meetings of the Departmental Consultative Committee and the General Grades Consultative Committee, and meetings with staff unions. In addition, ad hoc meetings, informal gatherings and briefings are held to discuss issues of mutual concern. The Director of Leisure and Cultural Services also meets with staff and union representatives to obtain a better understanding of their concerns, and take appropriate action.



Management maintains close contact with staff through regular meetings.

Individual needs are given equal attention. The Staff Relations – Staff Welfare Unit attends to requests and enquiries from staff regarding welfare and other concerns. Staff are encouraged to make suggestions about improving and streamlining the department’s operations and management.

The department also organises recreational activities such as the annual karaoke contest. To enhance team spirit, we also organise popular special-interest classes on such topics as horticulture and physical fitness.



The department organises a wide range of leisure activities for staff.

The departmental Volunteer Team and 15 sports teams are also good outlets for worthwhile activities. This year, the Volunteer Team visited residents of a home for the elderly. We also made arrangements for underprivileged families to attend the annual Hong Kong Flower Show. Our sports teams participated in various open and inter-departmental competitions.



Members of the department's swimming team pose with their medals and trophies.



Colleagues mobilised for the 2012/2013 Hong Kong and Kowloon Walk for Millions.

The quarterly Staff Newsletter continues to prove another effective medium for good staff communication.

Staff Motivation

Recognition plays a key role in building a motivated and committed workforce. Staff who have served well for 20 years or more are eligible for consideration for Long and Meritorious Service Certificates and Long and Meritorious Service Travel Awards. In 2012-13, 132 staff received Certificates of Merit for their meritorious service.

The department also nominates staff for external commendations. In 2012-13, five of our staff members received commendations from the Secretary for the Civil Service for their consistently excellent day-to-day performance. We are particularly proud of the three officers who received awards from the Chief Executive at the 2012 Honours and Awards Ceremony in recognition of their exceptional service.



Colleagues who won the Secretary for the Civil Service's Commendation Awards for outstanding performance.

The department's Customer Appreciation Card Scheme is a channel by which staff can receive direct customer feedback. Staff are also encouraged to develop and improve their service standards through the Staff Suggestion Scheme and Work Improvement Teams. In 2012-13, a competition was held among Work Improvement Teams in Parks and Playgrounds.

Customer Service

Customer focus is a core value of the department. In 2012-13, we received more than 14 500 appreciation cards and over 1 300 compliments from our customers. This represented a very encouraging increase over the previous year, especially for our frontline staff.

Environmental Efforts

In line with the Government's environmental goals, the department takes environmental considerations into account, from project inception to management/operation to minimise pollution, conserve resources, protect the natural environment and promote the appreciation of the beauty of our environment.



Waste separation bins are located at the department's venues.

The LCSD is committed to:

- Promoting greening and horticulture,
- Preserving assets of our heritage,
- Providing aesthetically pleasing open space,
- Practising waste reduction and energy saving, and



The department promotes energy-saving building service installations, and uses high-efficiency lighting systems wherever possible. Picture shows a green corner at the Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Public Library.

- Minimising air and noise pollution in organising leisure and cultural activities.

We follow the above environmental policies when planning new facilities and maintaining existing ones. We promote energy-saving building service installations and environmentally-friendly materials. We use high-efficiency lighting systems as much as possible. Wherever feasible, we have minimised the duration of lighting at our venues. In summer, we generally maintain the government recommended office room temperature of 25.5°C. At places such as museums, sports centres and performing arts venues where we cannot strictly maintain this temperature because of essential operational or customer service factors, we work with the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department (EMSD) to keep the temperature as close to 25.5°C as practicable.

Other major environmental efforts over the year included:

- Upgrading existing landscape areas and planting more trees and shrubs,
- Running community greening activities, such as the Hong Kong Flower Show, the Community Planting Day, the Green Volunteer Scheme and the Greening School Subsidy Scheme,



The department runs various community greening activities for children.

- Organising public education and publicity programmes to promote heritage conservation,
- Saving water by planting drought-tolerant species in suitable locations, using less water for water features in major parks, and installing water efficient fittings and salt water flushing at various facilities,

- Conducting energy audits and energy-saving improvement works where practicable, in collaboration with the EMSD and the Architectural Services Department,
- Adjusting lighting operating hours at our venues where reasonable, and installing occupancy sensors to control lighting at a number of leisure venues and in our Sha Tin headquarters,
- Taking part in the Earth Hour 2012 lights-out campaign, organised by the World Wide Fund for Nature in March 2012,
- Switching off lights on external walls and in outdoor areas of our venues, unless they are needed for operational and safety/security reasons,
- Encouraging colleagues to support Hong Kong No Air Con Night organised by Green Sense and to turn off air-conditioners at home for 12 hours in September 2012,
- Planning to gradually replace conventional retired departmental vehicles with environmentally-friendly vehicles,
- Installing photovoltaic systems at the Hong Kong Science Museum, the Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence and the Hong Kong Museum of Art,
- Widely promoting good environmental practices and publicising green tips on conserving energy and reducing waste in offices and at events and meetings,
- Promoting greater use of green products and recycled paper,
- Engaging contractors to recycle magazines, newspapers, waste paper and printer cartridges,
- Encouraging waste reduction as well as recycling of waste paper, metals and plastics through poster promotions and by placing more waste separation bins at our venues,

- Recycling paper and unserviceable library materials, and reducing paper by giving users the option of receiving overdue and reservation notices by e-mail,
- Recycling exhibition materials at museums and the Hong Kong Film Archive, and placing collection boxes for used guide maps and pamphlets discarded by patrons,
- Publicising programmes and collecting feedback electronically at performing arts venues and programming offices,
- Cutting down on printed material by tightly monitoring distribution, and by recycling unused flyers and programme guides,
- Reducing the use of plastic shopping bags, and
- Conducting an annual performance review to monitor the adoption of green measures and waste reduction practices by individual sections/offices.

In January 2013, the department issued its 12th Environmental Report, describing our green management practices and activities in greater detail.



The department issued its 12th Environmental Report in January 2013, giving a full account of its green activities.

Facilities and Projects

The LCSD works closely with District Councils to provide leisure and cultural facilities that best meet the needs of the local community. Since the department's establishment in 2000, a total of around 120 projects have been completed, at a total cost of approximately \$20 billion. Significant progress was made over the year in both implementing and completing projects.

New Facilities Completed

Three capital works projects were completed during the year. These were the Lam Tin Complex, comprising an indoor heated swimming pool complex, a district library and a music centre; the sports centre and community hall in Area 101, Tin Shui Wai; and the conversion of the secondary pool at the Lai Chi Kok Park Swimming Pool into an indoor heated pool. Appendix 5 gives a full list of projects completed during the year.



The Lam Tin Complex comprises an indoor heated swimming pool complex, a district library and a music centre.

Facilities under Construction

At the end of 2012-13, 12 capital works projects were in progress, including the Public Library and Sports Centre in Area 3, Yuen Long; Hong Kong Velodrome in Area 45, Tseung Kwan O; the district open space, sports centre and library in Area 74, Tseung Kwan O; the sports centre, community hall and district library in Area 14B, Sha Tin; the open space in Area 117, Tin Shui Wai, mainly comprising an artificial turf pitch; Kwun Tong promenade (stage 2); the Runway Park at Kai Tak, Kowloon City District – Phase 1; and the Annex Building at the Ko Shan Theatre. Redevelopment projects include work on the Victoria Park Swimming Pool Complex, the Kwun Tong Swimming Pool Complex, and the Kwun Tong Recreation Ground. Appendix 6 gives a complete list of works in progress.



Construction of the Velodrome in Tseung Kwan O is in progress.

Minor Works Projects

Ten minor works projects, costing less than \$30 million each and involving the construction of new small venues or significant improvement to existing venues, were completed during the year. A further 17 are under construction.

Information Technology

The LCSD makes extensive use of information technology in delivering its services to the public. In 2012-13, 41 computerisation projects were being implemented at a total expenditure of \$94.1 million, for the purposes of enhancing service quality and improving operational efficiency.

Computerisation of Public Libraries

A new page in public library services was turned in late 2011, when Phase 1 of the Next Generation Integrated Library System (NGILS) project was fully rolled out in all public libraries and the Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) pilot scheme was rolled out in six selected branch libraries. NGILS Phase 1 provided automated library services, including library material circulation and online catalogue searching as well as acquisition and cataloguing support for internal library operations. The pilot scheme included the introduction of RFID-enabled self-charging terminals, self-returning stations, and book sorter systems. The RFID-enabled Sha Tin Public Library also conducted a pilot test on a 24-hour self-returning service enabling readers to return loaned materials at any time.



A reader uses the self-return service at Sha Tin Public Library.



Book sorter systems in operation at Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Public Library.

In 2012, Phase 2 of NGILS was implemented in full pace. It introduces several new functions and services, such as self-service printing, e-payment, customer relationship management, a virtual reference service, electronic resources management, inter-library loans, and a management information system. These new functions and services are being launched progressively from March 2013.

A feasibility study on the further implementation of RFID in public libraries was begun in August 2012. In February 2013, a business study was carried out to identify viable business options, ascertain the business case and define its scope. This was followed by a technical study, to be completed in 2013, which will confirm the details and deliver both a cost and benefit analysis and an implementation plan.

The Multimedia Information System (MMIS) is a digital library system that allows patrons to search for and gain instant access to digitised documents in the Hong Kong Central Library and 28 branch libraries, as well as both digital and analogue audio and video material. The system has been in place for ten years, and a major system upgrade began in late 2011. This has been progressing well and several major milestones have been completed on schedule. It is expected to be operational in 2013.

Our libraries contain over 1 900 internet-enabled computer workstations for public use. To meet increasing demand for speedy internet access, the network infrastructure has been improved and some 450 workstations have been upgraded.

Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Public Library, Hong Kong's second largest public library, was opened in late February 2013, and the upgraded Lam Tin Public Library opened in late March. Both libraries are equipped with full-scale computer facilities for public use.

Leisure Link System

The Leisure Link System (LLS) allows the public to book leisure facilities and enroll in recreational and sports activities through different channels, including at counters, through the internet, at self-service kiosks, and by phone. In 2012, LLS was enhanced to further improve its services. Now, facility bookings can be cancelled online by registered members, and enquiries about booking records can be made online and at self-service kiosks using a Personal Identification Number. Stage 1 of the system upgrade was completed in March 2012 and the performance of booking services improved significantly. The full upgrade will be completed in 2013. Currently, LLS is being further enhanced to make its services even more user-friendly.

Urban Ticketing System (URBTIX)

URBTIX is Hong Kong's leading ticketing system, serving the public and those hiring LCSD performance venues. It covers 44 performing arts facilities with an aggregate seating capacity of more than 100 000. There are 41 URBTIX ticketing outlets territory-wide.

The URBTIX online booking service was enhanced in 2012 to make it possible to purchase tickets for multi-session mega exhibitions held in LCSD museums. In early 2013 the web accessibility design of the online booking service was improved so visually impaired customers could more easily purchase tickets online.

A tendering exercise was arranged in 2012 for a new ticketing system with improved functions and services, to be provided once the current contract expires. The new contract was awarded in March 2013, and new ticketing services will be made available to the public in 2014.

King Yin Lei Virtual Reality Touring System

In April 2012, we launched a virtual reality touring system on the restoration of King Yin Lei. The system, utilising computer graphics and 3D animation, is designed to educate the public about our heritage, and enables individuals to tour King Yin Lei virtually, without having to visit in person. Apps are currently being developed to provide mobile access to this service; they will be available in 2013.



A fascinating 3D image helps members of the public learn more about our heritage.

Web Accessibility of Websites

In line with the Government's Web Accessibility Campaign, the LCSD websites are enhanced to conform to Level AA standard of the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines Version 2.0 promulgated by the World Wide Web Consortium. Enhanced websites of the Antiquities and Monuments Office, the Antiquities Advisory Board, the Hong Kong Science Museum, the Hong Kong Museum of Art and the Hong Kong Museum of History were launched in early 2013. The departmental website and other thematic LCSD websites will also be enhanced, and launched progressively from 2013 onward.



The department strives to make its web content accessible to all.

Museum Portal

After its soft-launch in February 2012, the Museum Portal was refined in January 2013 to incorporate feedback from various focus groups. It continues to provide a one-stop platform for all the LCSD museums. The websites for the Museum of Art and the Museum of History were also revamped in March 2013, and the website for the Art Promotion Office in April 2013. These will serve as reference models for the other museums, showing how individual websites can seamlessly integrate with the Museum Portal in a way that enhances the user experience of the public when navigating the museum information/services.

Projects in Progress

- A Film Archive Management System (FAMS) is being developed to replace the existing system and improve the management of films and related items in the Hong Kong Film Archive (HKFA). The new system will enable people to search the catalogue online. It will also provide more functions that will help streamline the HKFA's business operations. The new system will be ready in 2013.
- The Civic Centre Management System (CCMS) is being enhanced to provide the public with new e-submission and e-payment services. Other new internal functions are being added to further improve the booking process. These will be ready in 2013.
- The Hong Kong Public Libraries (HKPL) web portal is being revamped to better promote our diverse library services, and to improve public access to all our online library services. Phase 1 of the revamped portal is expected to be ready in 2013, and the project will be completed in 2014.

Public Relations and Publicity

The role of the Information and Public Relations Section (IPRS) is to promote and disseminate information about the department's services, facilities and programmes. During the year, the IPRS issued 2 059 press releases, arranged 95 press visits, and organised 77 press conferences and media briefings.

The IPRS is also responsible for planning and implementing the department's promotional campaigns, and provides public relations support for major events. In addition, the IPRS provides creative support and photographic services for publications and publicity materials such as posters, outdoor displays, exhibitions, and Announcements in the Public Interest made on television or radio.

During the year, the IPRS was responsible for publicising a number of major events held to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR. The publicity campaigns for these events were valuable for significantly enhancing the department's public image.

Major publications produced by the IPRS included an e-version of the department's Annual Report, outlining our activities and achievements and a quarterly Staff Newsletter for the department's 9 604 staff members.

The department's website provides comprehensive information about our many services and facilities, as well as about the leisure and cultural programmes being run. Publications, application forms and tender notices are also available from the website. The site attracted 475 546 797 page views in 2012-13, ranking it third among all Hong Kong government websites. Weekly highlights of major activities were emailed direct to 197 563 subscribers in the form of an e-magazine.

An Emergency Information Centre, operated by the IPRS, keeps the public informed about the status of LCSD programmes and activities in the event of typhoons and other emergencies.



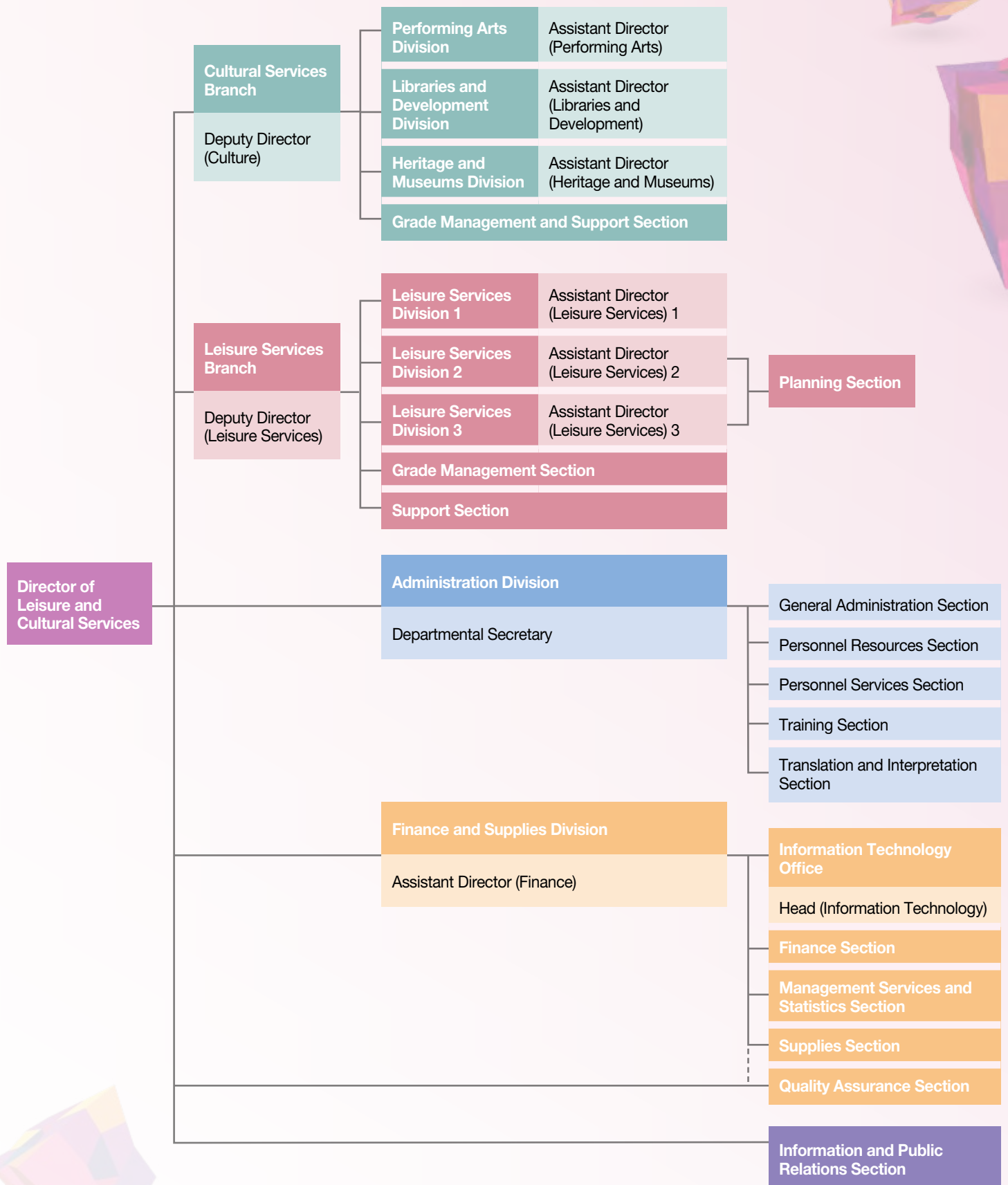
Director of Leisure and Cultural Services Mrs Betty Fung (centre) at a press conference to announce the China's First Emperor exhibition, which went on to enjoy overwhelming public response over its four-month exhibition period.

Appendices

- Leisure and Cultural Services Department Organisation Chart
- Establishment, Strength and Vacancies by Branch and Grade
- Performance Achievements
- Statement of the Estimated Revenue and Expenditure for the Financial Year 2011-12
- Leisure and Cultural Services Department Capital Works Projects Complete in 2011-12
- Leisure and Cultural Services Department Facilities Under Construction
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- Attendances at Cultural and Entertainment Programmes
- Attendances of Cultural Presentations, Festivals, Entertainment, Arts Education and Audience Building Programmes
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- Usage of Public Libraries
- Major Cultural Venues
- Selected Publications on Heritage and Museums

Leisure and Cultural Services Department Organisation Chart

(As at 31.3.2013)



Establishment, Strength and Vacancies by Branch and Grade

(As at 31.3.2013)

Branch/Grade	Establishment	Strength	Vacancy (No.)
Leisure Services Branch			
Directorate grades	4	3	1
Non-directorate grades			
Departmental grades	1 806	1 798	8
General/Common grades	3 799	3 412	387
Sub-total	5 609	5 213	396
Cultural Services Branch			
Directorate grades	4	4	0
Non-directorate grades			
Departmental grades	1 481	1 440	41
General/Common grades	1 101	1 019	82
Sub-total	2 586	2 463	123
Administration			
Directorate grades	4	4	0
Non-directorate grades			
Departmental grades	18	19	-1
General/Common grades	514	503	11
Sub-total	536	526	10
Total	8 731	8 202	529

Performance Achievements -

CULTURAL SERVICES

1. PERFORMING ARTS

(A) Performing Venues

Type of Service	Target	Achievement in 2012-13
To confirm bookings as follows:		
(a) Ordinary	To give a written reply within 14 working days from the monthly closing date for applications	100%
(b) Special	To give a written reply within 14 working days from the monthly closing date for applications	100%
(c) Late		
(i) Major facilities	To give a written reply within 7 working days from the weekly closing date for applications	100%
a) including Auditoria, Concert Halls and Exhibition Halls/Galleries		
b) Arenas of the Hong Kong Coliseum and the Queen Elizabeth Stadium	To give a written reply within 7 working days from receiving an application	100%
(ii) Minor facilities including Lecture Rooms, Dance Studios, Conference Rooms, etc.	To give a written reply within 7 working days from receiving an application	100%

(B) Ticketing

Type of Service	Target	Achievement in 2012-13
To confirm bookings as follows:		
Sale of tickets at the box office	To serve the customer within 25 minutes except during rush periods when counter ticket sales begin for popular events and major arts/film festivals; and to supply a ticket within 4 minutes	100%
Telephone enquiry service	To serve the customer within 5 minutes except during peak hours (10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.)	100%
Telephone booking service	To post the tickets by the next working day to registered patrons using the service	100%

Performance Achievements -

2. LIBRARY SERVICES

(A) Libraries

Type of Service	Target	Achievement in 2012-13
To achieve the following performance standards for 90% of the opening hours, including peak hours:		
(a) Applying for a new library card	10 minutes	100%
(b) Replacing a library card	10 minutes	100%
(c) Borrowing a library item	5 minutes	100%
(d) Returning a library item	5 minutes	100%
(e) Returning a library item	5 minutes	100%

(B) Book Registration

Type of Service	Target	Achievement in 2012-13
To gazette a bibliography of registered books in accordance with the Books Registration Ordinance, Cap. 142 of the Laws of Hong Kong	At quarterly intervals	100%

Performance Achievements -

3. HERITAGE AND MUSEUM SERVICES

(A) Museums

Type of Service	Target	Achievement in 2012-13
To process requests for school visits and guided tours	Within 7 working days	100%
To maintain the hands-on exhibits in use in the Hong Kong Science Museum and the Hong Kong Space Museum	At least 90% of hands-on exhibits in use at all times	100%
To provide a balanced mix of museum programmes	(i) 4 exhibitions of various themes per month (ii) 750 sections of educational programmes per month	100% 100%
To preserve Hong Kong's art and material culture by acquiring works of art, film and historical objects	An annual increase of 1% to 2% of the collections	100%

(B) Antiquities and Monuments

Type of Service	Target	Achievement in 2012-13
To process applications for location filming	10 working days	100%
To process applications for the reproduction of photographs and slides	14 working days	100%
To process applications for photocopies of sites and monument records	4 working days	100%

Performance Achievements -

4. FOR ALL CULTURAL SERVICES

Type of Service	Target	Achievement in 2012-13
Refund of fees and charges for hiring facilities, admission tickets for museums and programme presentations, fees for museum activities and services, course and participation fees for music training, replacement cost for library items and deposit for temporary library card		
(a) Refund of non-credit card payment under normal circumstances		
(i) Applications submitted in off-peak seasons (Jan - Jun and Nov - Dec)	To complete processing 95% of the applications within 30 working days ^(Note) after receipt of the completed applications with full documentary support	100%
(ii) Applications submitted in peak season (Jul - Oct)	To complete processing 95% of the applications within 50 working days ^(Note) after receipt of the completed applications with full documentary support	100%
(b) Refund of credit card payment under normal circumstances*	As refund of credit card payment can only be made to the credit card account that was used for the payment, at least ten extra calendar days are required for processing by Government agents and credit card issuing bank	100%

Note: Excluding Saturday, Sunday and public holidays

* Not applicable for venues/offices where credit card payment is not available

Performance Achievements -

LEISURE SERVICES

Type of Service	Target	Achievement in 2012-13
For activities enrolled on a first-come-first-served basis		
(a) At District Leisure Services Office counters/ venue booking counters	Within 15 minutes queuing time except peak period (8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.)	100%
(b) By post	To notify applicants within 7 working days from the closing date	100%
For activities enrolled by balloting	(i) To publicise the balloting result within 5 working days from the balloting date	100%
	(ii) To notify the successful applicants within 7 working days from the balloting date	100%
Applications for the use of sports facilities in person at venue booking counters	Within 15 minutes queuing time except peak period (7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.)	100%
Waiting time for admission to swimming pools	Less than 20 minutes when the maximum pool capacity has not been reached	100%

Performance Achievements -

Type of Service	Target	Achievement in 2012-13
Processing new licence applications for billiard establishments, public bowling-alleys and public skating rinks:		
(a) To issue a letter of acknowledgement to the applicant and forward the application to the relevant government departments for comment	Within 5 working days upon receipt of all the required documents and inspection of the premises	100%
(b) To issue a letter of requirements to the applicant	Within 5 working days upon confirmation that the relevant government departments have raised no objection	100%
(c) To issue a licence to the applicant	Within 5 working days upon confirmation that all the licensing requirements have been satisfied	100%
Processing renewal of licence applications for billiard establishments, public bowling-alleys and public skating rinks:		
(a) To issue a letter of acknowledgement to the applicant and forward the application to the relevant government departments for comment	Within 5 working days upon receipt of all the required documents	100%
(b) To issue an approval letter of renewal of Places of Amusement Licence	Within 5 working days upon confirmation that the relevant government departments have raised no objection and all the licensing requirements have been satisfied	100%
Processing licence transfer applications for billiard establishments, public bowling-alleys and public skating rinks:		
(a) To issue a letter of acknowledgement to the applicant and forward the application to the relevant government departments for comment	Within 5 working days upon receipt of all the required documents	100%
(b) To issue an approval letter of transfer of Places of Amusement Licence	Within 5 working days upon confirmation that the relevant government departments have raised no objection and all the licensing requirements have been satisfied	100%
Refund of fees and charges for recreational and sports activities and hire of leisure facilities		
(a) Refund of non-credit card payment under normal circumstances		
(i) Applications submitted in off-peak seasons (Jan - Jun and Nov - Dec)	To complete processing 95% of the applications within 30 working days ^(Note) after receipt of the completed applications or completion of the activities (whichever is later)	100%
(ii) Applications submitted in peak season (Jul - Oct)	To complete processing 95% of the applications within 50 working days ^(Note) after receipt of the completed applications or completion of the activities (whichever is later)	100%
(b) Refund of credit card payment under normal circumstances	As refund of credit card payment can only be made to the credit card account that was used for the payment, at least ten extra calendar days are required for processing by Government agents and credit card issuing bank	100%

Note: Excluding Saturday, Sunday and public holidays

Statement of the Estimated Revenue and Expenditure for the Financial Year 2012-13

	2012-13 \$ M	2011-12 \$ M
Revenue		
Rent	218	216
Fees and charges		
Admission and hire charges	653	651
Programme entry fees	39	38
Others	29	29
Other receipts	67	78
Total revenue	1,006	1,012
Recurrent expenditure		
Personal emoluments	2,350	2,147
Mandatory/Civil Service Provident Fund contribution	54	37
Departmental expenses	2,992	2,854
Cultural presentations, entertainment programmes, activities and exhibitions	179	168
Recreation and sports activities, programmes, campaigns and exhibitions	40	33
Library materials and multi-media services	87	89
Artefacts and museum exhibitions	75	59
Publicity	54	51
Subventions	291	273
Total recurrent expenditure	6,122	5,711
Deficit for the year after recurrent expenditure	5,116	4,699
Non-recurrent expenditure		
Plant, vehicles and equipment	85	92
Others	32	22
Total non-recurrent expenditure	117	114
Total deficit for the year	5,233	4,813

Notes

(1) These figures are revised estimates for the financial year 2012-13.

(2) These figures represent the actual revenue and expenditure for the financial year 2011-12.

Leisure and Cultural Services Department Capital Works Projects Completed in 2012-13

Project Title	Project Cost (\$ M)	Construction Completion Date
Conversion of secondary pool of Lai Chi Kok Park Swimming Pool into indoor heated pool	166.70	4/2012
Lam Tin Complex	708.50	6/2012
Sports Centre and Community Hall in Area 101, Tin Shui Wai	629.80	6/2012

Leisure and Cultural Services Department Facilities Under Construction

Project Title	Works Start Date	Target Completion Date
Reprovisioning of Pak Tin Public Library	6/2008	Late 2013
Redevelopment of Victoria Park Swimming Pool Complex	8/2009	Late 2014
Redevelopment of Kwun Tong Swimming Pool Complex and Kwun Tong Recreation Ground	11/2009	Late 2014
Hong Kong Velodrome in Area 45, Tseung Kwan O	3/2010	Late 2013
Public Library and Sports Centre in Area 3, Yuen Long	7/2010	Late 2015
Construction of an Annex Building at the Ko Shan Theatre	11/2010	Late 2013
District open space, sports centre and library in Area 74, Tseung Kwan O	9/2011	Late 2014
Runway Park at Kai Tak, Kowloon City District – Phase 1	8/2012	Late 2013
Local open space at Chung Yee Street, Kowloon City	8/2012	Early 2014
Open space in Area 117, Tin Shui Wai	8/2012	Mid 2014
Sports centre, community hall and district library in Area 14B, Sha Tin	12/2012	Early 2016
Kwun Tong promenade (stage 2)	2/2013	Late 2014

Recreational Facilities -

Recreational facilities	No.
SPORTS FACILITIES	
Sports centres	94
Courts (indoor and outdoor)	
Badminton	597
Basketball ⁽¹⁾	491
Handball	40
Volleyball ⁽²⁾	256
Netball	40
Squash ⁽³⁾	290
Tennis	256
Tennis practice	15
Turf pitches (natural)	
Soccer	33
Soccer cum other ball games	12
Rugby	2
Rugby cum other ball games	2
Stadia (outdoor)	2
Turf pitches (artificial)	
Soccer	16
Soccer cum other ball games	13
Hockey	2
Hard-surfaced soccer pitches ⁽⁴⁾	231
Gateball courts (natural and artificial)	35
Sports grounds	25
Bowling greens (indoor and outdoor)	11
Obstacle golf course	1
Open air theatres	15
Archery fields	4
Roller skating rinks	27
Jogging tracks/fitness trails	101
Cycling tracks	19

Recreational facilities	No.
Model boat pools	6
Boating park	1
Beaches	41
Swimming pools	43
Water sports centres	5
Holiday camps	4
Horse riding schools	2
Golf driving ranges (indoor and outdoor)	4
Camp site	1
PASSIVE FACILITIES	
Major parks	25
Small parks/Gardens/Sitting-out areas	1 521
Fountains	86
Children's playgrounds	694
Zoos/Aviaries	5
Conservatories	3
Bathing sheds	40
Barbecue pits	650
Road safety towns	4
Community gardens	21
Total area of sites provided with horticultural maintenance ⁽⁵⁾ (hectares)	1 528
Total area of leisure facilities administered ⁽⁶⁾ (hectares)	2 292

Notes

- (1) Including 6 3-on-3 basketball courts.
- (2) Including 2 beach volleyball courts.
- (3) Including 8 squash courts used as American pool table rooms and those squash courts which are temporarily changed to other use (such as table-tennis room).
- (4) Including hard-surfaced soccer cum other ball games pitches.
- (5) Including all LCSD venues, government compounds and roadside amenity areas provided with horticultural maintenance and undergrowth cutting.
- (6) Including the indoor and outdoor leisure facilities and roadside amenity areas maintained by the LCSD.

Usage of Recreational and Sports Facilities - (Percentages, unless otherwise specified)

Type of Recreational and Sports Facilities	Unit	Usage Rate (%)
Hard-surfaced courts		
Tennis	hour	59.4
Obstacle golf (number)	game	2 000
Turf pitches		
Natural turf pitches	session	98.0
Artificial turf pitches	session	73.5
Bowling greens	hour	31.1
Hockey (artificial)	hour	61.9
Rugby	hour	100.0
Sports grounds		hour 99.4
Sports centres		
Arenas	hour	80.2
Activity rooms/dance rooms	hour	66.0
Children's playrooms	hour	82.4
Squash courts ⁽¹⁾	hour	57.4
Holiday camps		Attendance Rate (%)
Day	person	79.9
Residential	person	72.2
Evening (attendance)	person	39 991
Others (attendance) ⁽²⁾	person	14 989
Water sports centres		
Day	person	87.8
Tent	person	110.8
Craft-hour used	hour	407 236

Notes

$$\text{Usage Rate (\%)} = \frac{\text{Total hours/sessions used (based on booked records)}}{\text{Total hours/sessions available}} \times 100\%$$

$$\text{Attendance Rate (\%)} = \frac{\text{No. of attendances}}{\text{Capacity}} \times 100\%$$

(1) Including all multi-use squash courts such as for table-tennis rooms, activities rooms.

(2) Including other camp users, e.g. those who attending wedding ceremonies.

Recreational, Sports and Amenity Programmes -

Events/Programmes	No. of Events/ Programmes	No. of Participants/ Attendees
Recreational and sports activities	37 800	2 136 600
Sports Subvention Scheme	11 212	745 336
Zoo Education Programme	373	22 492
Horticulture Education Programme	404	21 953
Greening School Subsidy Scheme	889	231 140
One Person, One Flower Scheme	1 162	371 840
Hong Kong Flower Show	1	517 436
Greening Hong Kong Activities Subsidy Scheme	6	97 476
Green Volunteer Scheme	483	7 778
Community Planting Days	22	4 941
Greening Exhibitions/Talks	366	33 551
Community Garden Programme	50	10 805
Outreaching Greening Promotional Activities	141	41 601

Addresses and Enquiry Numbers of LCSD District Leisure Services Offices

District	Address	Enquiries
Central and Western	Room 1001, 10/F, Sheung Wan Municipal Services Building, 345 Queen's Road Central, Central, Hong Kong	2853 2566
Kowloon City	10/F, To Kwa Wan Government Offices, 165 Ma Tau Wai Road, Kowloon	2711 0541
Sham Shui Po	7/F, Un Chau Street Municipal Services Building, 59-63 Un Chau Street, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon	2386 0945
Eastern	3/F, Quarry Bay Municipal Services Building, 38 Quarry Bay Street, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong	2564 2264
Kwun Tong	No 2, Tsui Ping Road, Kwun Tong, Kowloon	2343 6123
Southern	4/F, Aberdeen Municipal Services Building, 203 Aberdeen Main Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong	2555 1268 / 2555 1263
Wan Chai	9/F, Lockhart Road Municipal Services Building, 225 Hennessy Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong	2879 5622
Wong Tai Sin	4/F, Ngau Chi Wan Municipal Services Building, 11 Clear Water Bay Road, Wong Tai Sin, Kowloon	2328 9262
Yau Tsim Mong	1/F, Kowloon Park Management Office, 22 Austin Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon	2302 1762
Islands	Rooms 617-623, 6/F, Harbour Building, 38 Pier Road, Central, Hong Kong	2852 3220
Kwai Tsing	Room 805, 8/F, Kwai Hing Government Offices, 166-174 Hing Fong Road, Kwai Chung, New Territories	2424 7201
North	4/F, Shek Wu Hui Municipal Services Building, 13 Chi Cheong Road, Sheung Shui, New Territories	2679 2819
Sai Kung	9/F, Sai Kung Tseung Kwan O Government Complex, 38 Pui Shing Road, Tseung Kwan O, New Territories	2791 3100
Sha Tin	Units 1207-1212, 12/F, Tower 1, Grand Central Plaza, 138 Sha Tin Rural Committee Road, Sha Tin, New Territories	2634 0111
Tai Po	3/F, Tai Po Complex, 8 Heung Sze Wui Street, Tai Po, New Territories	3183 9020
Tsuen Wan	Room 330B, 3/F, Yeung Uk Road Municipal Services Building, 45 Yeung Uk Road, Tsuen Wan, New Territories	2212 9702
Tuen Mun	3/F, Tuen Mun Government Offices, 1 Tuen Hi Road, Tuen Mun, New Territories	2451 0304
Yuen Long	Room 212, 2/F, Yuen Long Government Offices, 2 Kiu Lok Square, Yuen Long, New Territories	2478 4342

Attendances at Cultural and Entertainment Programmes

Venue	2012/13 Performance ⁽²⁾ (No.)	2012/13 Attendance ⁽²⁾ (No.)
Hong Kong Cultural Centre ⁽¹⁾	420	533 700
Hong Kong City Hall	184	92 404
Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre	231	63 557
Sheung Wan Civic Centre	157	44 963
Ko Shan Theatre	69	45 050
Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre	202	35 536
Yau Ma Tei Theatre ⁽³⁾	258	39 313
Tsuen Wan Town Hall ⁽¹⁾	316	87 341
Tuen Mun Town Hall ⁽¹⁾	245	136 572
Sha Tin Town Hall ⁽¹⁾	415	192 908
Kwai Tsing Theatre ⁽¹⁾	189	64 594
Yuen Long Theatre ⁽¹⁾	288	127 394
Tai Po Civic Centre	47	12 533
North District Town Hall	87	16 365
Hong Kong Film Archive Cinema	455	38 870
Hong Kong Coliseum	7	41 879
Queen Elizabeth Stadium	48	22 050
Hong Kong Science Museum Lecture Hall	78	11 143
Hong Kong Space Museum Lecture Hall	106	9 957
Other LCSD Venues	446	730 546
Non-LCSD Venues	1 882	470 049
Total	6 130	2 816 724

Notes

- (1) Including foyer and piazza programmes.
- (2) Excluding programmes organised by hirers.
- (3) Yau Ma Tei Theatre was opened in July 2012.

Attendances of Cultural Presentations, Festivals, Entertainment, Arts Education and Audience Building Programmes

Type of Performance	2012/13 No. of Performances	2012/13 Attendance
Cultural Presentations Section		
Music	251	168 969
Dance	122	55 587
Multi-Arts	197	45 329
Theatre	255	49 995
Chinese Opera	165	123 904
Total	990	443 784

Type of Performance	2012/13 No. of Performances	2012/13 Attendance
Audience Building, Festivals and Entertainment Section		
Arts Education and Audience Building*	1 113	278 591
Festivals*	462	170 191
Entertainment	662	1 033 980
Total	2 237	1 482 762

* Excluding performances/activities presented by subvented arts companies and other LCSD offices.

Appendix 13

Attendances at Museums -

Venue	Attendance
Hong Kong Museum of Art	763 210
Hong Kong Museum of History	1 125 809
Hong Kong Science Museum	1 435 447
Hong Kong Space Museum	819 280
Hong Kong Heritage Museum	693 761
Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence	117 664
Sam Tung Uk Museum	96 238
Hong Kong Railway Museum	205 370
Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware	203 073
Sheung Yiu Folk Museum	37 314
Law Uk Folk Museum	12 097
Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum	38 096
Hong Kong Film Archive	194 935
Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre	217 125
Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery cum Heritage Trail Visitors Centre	78 141
Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum	63 097
Fireboat Alexander Grantham Exhibition Gallery	62 437

Other Venue	Attendance
Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre	778 042 (51 930 in-house and 726 112 outreach)

Usage of Public Libraries -

	2012-2013
No. of Libraries	77
Registered Borrowers	4 109 059
Library Stock	
Books	11 366 841
Multimedia Material	1 747 315
Materials Borrowed	55 158 734
No. of Requests for Multimedia Services	3 715 273
Reference and Information Enquiries Handled	3 688 313
No. of Extension Activities	20 608
Extension Activities Attendance	19 441 849
Internet Library Services	
Visits to Library Homepage	128 460 575
Internet Renewals	16 036 632
Internet Reservations	885 987
Use of Multimedia Information System	2 272 253
No. of Books Registered	14 564
No. of Periodicals Registered	11 349
No. of International Standard Book Numbers Issued	1 119

Major Cultural Venues -

Venue	Address
Hong Kong Cultural Centre	10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon
Hong Kong City Hall	5 Edinburgh Place, Central, Hong Kong
Sheung Wan Civic Centre	4-8/F, Sheung Wan Municipal Services Building, 345 Queen's Road Central, Hong Kong
Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre	111 Shau Kei Wan Road, Sai Wan Ho, Hong Kong
Ngau Chi Wan Civic Centre	2-3/F, Ngau Chi Wan Municipal Services Building, 11 Clear Water Bay Road, Wong Tai Sin, Kowloon
Yau Ma Tei Theatre	6 Waterloo Road, Yau Ma Tei, Kowloon
Ko Shan Theatre	77 Ko Shan Road, Hung Hom, Kowloon
Tsuen Wan Town Hall	72 Tai Ho Road, Tsuen Wan, New Territories
Sha Tin Town Hall	1 Yuen Wo Road, Sha Tin, New Territories
Tuen Mun Town Hall	3 Tuen Hi Road, Tuen Mun, New Territories
Kwai Tsing Theatre	12 Hing Ning Road, Kwai Chung, New Territories
Yuen Long Theatre	9 Yuen Long Tai Yuk Road, Yuen Long, New Territories
Tai Po Civic Centre	12 On Pong Road, Tai Po, New Territories
North District Town Hall	2 Lung Wan Street, Sheung Shui, New Territories
Hong Kong Coliseum	9 Cheong Wan Road, Hung Hom, Kowloon
Queen Elizabeth Stadium	18 Oi Kwan Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Public Library	Address
Hong Kong Central Library	66 Causeway Road, Causeway Bay, Hong Kong
City Hall Public Library	2-6/F and 8-11/F, City Hall High Block, Central, Hong Kong
Kowloon Public Library	5 Pui Ching Road, Ho Man Tin, Kowloon
Sha Tin Public Library	1 Yuen Wo Road, Sha Tin, New Territories
Tsuen Wan Public Library	38 Sai Lau Kok Road, Tsuen Wan, New Territories
Tuen Mun Public Library	1 Tuen Hi Road, Tuen Mun, New Territories
Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Public Library	High Block, Ping Shan Tin Shui Wai Leisure and Cultural Building, 1 Tsui Sing Road, Tin Shui Wai, New Territories

Major Cultural Venues -

Museum	Address
Hong Kong Museum of Art	10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon
Hong Kong Museum of History	100 Chatham Road South, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon
Hong Kong Science Museum	2 Science Museum Road, Tsim Sha Tsui East, Kowloon
Hong Kong Space Museum	10 Salisbury Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon
Flagstaff House Museum of Tea Ware	10 Cotton Tree Drive, Central, Hong Kong (inside Hong Kong Park)
Lei Cheng Uk Han Tomb Museum	41 Tonkin Street, Sham Shui Po, Kowloon
Law Uk Folk Museum	14 Kut Shing Street, Chai Wan, Hong Kong
Sheung Yiu Folk Museum	Pak Tam Chung Nature Trail, Sai Kung, New Territories
Hong Kong Railway Museum	13 Shung Tak Street, Tai Po Market, Tai Po, New Territories
Sam Tung Uk Museum	2 Kwu Uk Lane, Tsuen Wan, New Territories
Hong Kong Museum of Coastal Defence	175 Tung Hei Road, Shau Kei Wan, Hong Kong
Hong Kong Film Archive	50 Lei King Road, Sai Wan Ho, Hong Kong
Hong Kong Heritage Museum	1 Man Lam Road, Sha Tin, New Territories
Hong Kong Heritage Discovery Centre	Kowloon Park, Haiphong Road, Tsim Sha Tsui, Kowloon
Dr Sun Yat-sen Museum	7 Castle Road, Mid-Levels, Central, Hong Kong
Fireboat Alexander Grantham Exhibition Gallery	Quarry Bay Park, Hong Kong
Ping Shan Tang Clan Gallery cum Heritage Trail Visitors Centre	Hang Tau Tsuen, Ping Shan, Yuen Long, New Territories
Hong Kong Visual Arts Centre	7A Kennedy Road, Central, Hong Kong

Selected Publications on Heritage and Museums -

- 1 Exhibition catalogue: Imperishable Affection: The Art of Feng Zikai Cultivating Life and Soul
- 2 Exhibition catalogue: Imperishable Affection: The Art of Feng Zikai Creating a World of Compassion
- 3 Exhibition catalogue: A Lofty Retreat from the Red Dust: The Secret Garden of Emperor Qianlong
- 4 Exhibition catalogue: Hong Kong Currency
- 5 Exhibition catalogue: The Majesty of All Under Heaven – The Eternal Realm of China’s First Emperor
- 6 Exhibition booklet: The Majesty of All Under Heaven – The Eternal Realm of China’s First Emperor
- 7 Collected Essays of the International Conference on the Majesty of All Under Heaven: The Eternal Realm of China’s First Emperor
- 8 Exhibition catalogue: The Wonders of Ancient Mesopotamia
- 9 Exhibition booklet: The Wonders of Ancient Mesopotamia
- 10 Exhibition catalogue: Free and Unfettered: Chinese Paintings and Calligraphy by AU HO-nien
- 11 Exhibition catalogue: Hong Kong Photography Series 3: Beyond the Portrait
- 12 Hong Kong Memories in Cinema
- 13 Fei Mu’s Confucius (DVD)
- 14 Golden Harvest: Leading Change in Changing Times