

Press Release

The “Greater Bay Area Youth Orchestra” Successfully Holds Macau Concert on its Debut Concert Tour

(Macau, 12 August 2023) The “Greater Bay Area Youth Orchestra” (GBAYO) 2023 season, jointly organised by The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (“HKAPA”), Xinghai Conservatory of Music, and the Macao Youth Symphonic Orchestra Association, is being held from 31 July to 16 August 2023. The project aims to promote cultural and artistic exchanges among the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, enhance the performance skills and broaden the horizons of young musicians, with the goal of becoming one of Asia’s preeminent youth orchestras. SJM Resorts, S.A (“SJM”). is the co-organiser of the Macau concert, and the Macau Tower Convention and Entertainment Centre (“MTCEC”) is the venue sponsor.

Distinguished guests attending the concert included: Ms. Ao Ieong U, Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture of Macau SAR Government; Ms. Yan Zhichan, Deputy Director of the Liaison Office of the Central People’s Government in Macao SAR; Mr. Liu Xianfa, Commissioner of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China in Macao SAR; Ms. Cheong Lai San, Acting Director of the Cultural Affairs Bureau of Macau SAR Government; Mr. Alexandre Leitão, Consul-General of Portugal in Macau and Hong Kong; Ms. Leong Veng Hang, Adviser to the Office of the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture of Macau SAR Government; Ms. Bai Bing, Director of the Department of Publicity and Culture of the Liaison Office of the Central People’s Government in Macao SAR; Ms. Maisy Ho, Council member of The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts and Director of SJM Resorts, S.A.; Ms. Angela Leong, member of the Legislative Assembly of Macau SAR and Director of SJM Resorts, S.A.; Mr. Wong I Wun, Chairman of Macao Youth Symphony Orchestra Association; Mr. Hoi Kin Wa, President of Macao Youth Symphony Orchestra Association; Professor Gillian Choa, Director of The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts; Dr. Iñaki Sandoval, Dean of the School of Music of The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts; Mr. Zhang Zhuoping, Chairman of John Swire & Sons (China) Limited; and Mr Arnold Cheng, Director - Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area of John Swire & Sons (China) Limited.

The GBAYO debut tour- Macau edition was held on 12 August 2023 at 7:30 pm at the Theatre of MTCEC. Led by Sharon Andrea Choa, Head of Conducting and Cultural Leadership at the HKAPA and Conductor of the GBAYO, the orchestra performed Tan Dun’s “Internet Symphony: Eroica,” Dvořák’s “Symphony No. 9 in E minor, From the New World”, and Beethoven’s “Triple Concerto in C major for Violin, Cello, and Piano” The soloists for the concerto were Li Jinzhu (violin) from Guangzhou, Thomas Hung (cello) from Hong Kong, and Cheong Hoi Leong (piano) from Macau. The concert was immensely enjoyed by a full house of audience who responded with rounds of thunderous applause.

The GBAYO project brings together talented and impassionate young musicians from Guangdong, Hong Kong, and Macau. They are carefully selected through rounds of competitive and comprehensive auditions. With the generous support of the Founding Patron, the Swire Group, experienced professors and inspirational artists from around the world are invited to provide professional training and guidance to these young musicians. GBAYO aspires to become a globally recognised youth orchestra, injecting new creativity into the arts and culture scene through diverse performances. During a two-week intensive residency, the orchestra offers professional training, touring performances, and cultural exchange opportunities to its members. This experience fosters collaboration and friendships among the musicians, while they pursue artistic excellence and a shared passion for music, aiming to establish the most outstanding platform for orchestra performances and becoming one of the most remarkable youth orchestras in the world. The training program concludes with performances in Hong Kong, Macau, Shenzhen, and Guangzhou, showcasing the results of their hard work to audiences in these cities.



Guests of Honour pose together for a group photo.



Guests of Honour and the youth orchestra members pose together for a group photo.



The “Greater Bay Area Youth Orchestra debut tour- Macau edition” successfully held at the Theatre of the Macau Tower Convention and Entertainment Center.