

Press Release

**SJM Successfully Co-hosted the Second  
Greater Bay Area Youth Orchestra Concert Tour in Macau**  
*Fostering Musical Excellence Among Greater Bay Area Youth*

(Macau, 10 July 2024) For the second season running, SJM Resorts, S.A. (“SJM”) has co-hosted the Greater Bay Area Youth Orchestra (“GBAYO”)’s concert tour in Macau. This year, the GBAYO Concert Tour 2024 – “Romancing the Dragon” at the University of Macau - University Hall (N2) concluded on 10 July to widespread acclaim. SJM also invited students from local higher education institutions and secondary schools, as well as “SJM Scholarship” recipients and SJM’s volunteer team members to attend the event and immerse themselves in the musical celebration. The concert spotlighted the extraordinary talents of the Greater Bay Area’s youthful musicians and fostered cultural exchanges through collaborative learning and inspiration. This event underscored SJM’s unwavering dedication to cultivating artistic talents and its commitment to bolstering cultural and artistic growth both locally and regionally.

Distinguished guests attending the concert included: Mr. Cheang Kai Meng, Acting President of the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Macao SAR Government; Mr. Cheng Wai Tong, Acting Director of the Macao Government Tourism Office; Ms. Bai Bing, Director of the Department of Publicity and Culture of the Liaison Office of the Central People’s Government in the Macao SAR; Mr. Benjamin Toh, Chief Operating Officer of SJM; Mr. Iau Teng Pio, Member of the Legislative Assembly of the Macao SAR; Mr. Lai Chan Keong, Member of the Board of Directors of Macao Foundation; Mr. Wong I Mun, President of the General Assembly of the Macao Youth Symphony Orchestra Association; Professor Gillian Choa, Director of The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (“HKAPA”); Mr. Liu Xuguang, Chief Business Manager of Bank of China Macau Branch; and Mr. Nigel Lau, Chief Representative - Zhuhai & Macao of John Swire & Sons (China) Ltd..

Ms. Daisy Ho, Managing Director of SJM, commented, “The enthralling performance by the GBAYO not only treated Macau’s music aficionados to an unforgettable musical gala but also provided young musicians from Macau and the GBA a valuable platform to display their skills and engage in fruitful exchanges. This initiative allows for mutual learning and demonstrates the vibrant cultural spirit and artistic excellence of the Bay Area’s youth on the global stage. Through SJM’s support and sponsorship of this concert, we aspire to reinforcing Macau’s role as ‘One Base,’ establishing a cultural hub which is to be central to the GBA’s artistic exchanges.”

Themed “Romancing the Dragon,” the GBAYO Concert Tour 2024 is jointly organised by the HKAPA, Xinghai Conservatory of Music, and the Macao Youth Symphony Orchestra Association. The tour features 92 top-selected musicians from Guangdong, Hong Kong, and Macau, who were recruited after a rigorous screening process and coached by world-renowned musicians. The tour commenced on 8 July at the HKAPA, with Macau serving as the second stop. The orchestra is also set to enchant audiences in Guangzhou and Shenzhen, offering a series of soul-stirring musical feasts.

Led by Sharon Andrea Choa, Professor of Conducting and Cultural Leadership at the HKAPA, the ensemble performed an eclectic mix of classic and contemporary pieces. Highlights included Bernstein’s “West Side Story” Symphonic Dances, Chan Ming-chi’s “Dragon Roaming the Earth,” Tan Dun’s “Crouching Tiger Concerto 4th & 5th Movement,” and Tchaikovsky’s “Romeo and Juliet” Fantasy Overture — a fusion of Eastern and Western melodies that bridges the past and present, creating a truly captivating auditory experience.

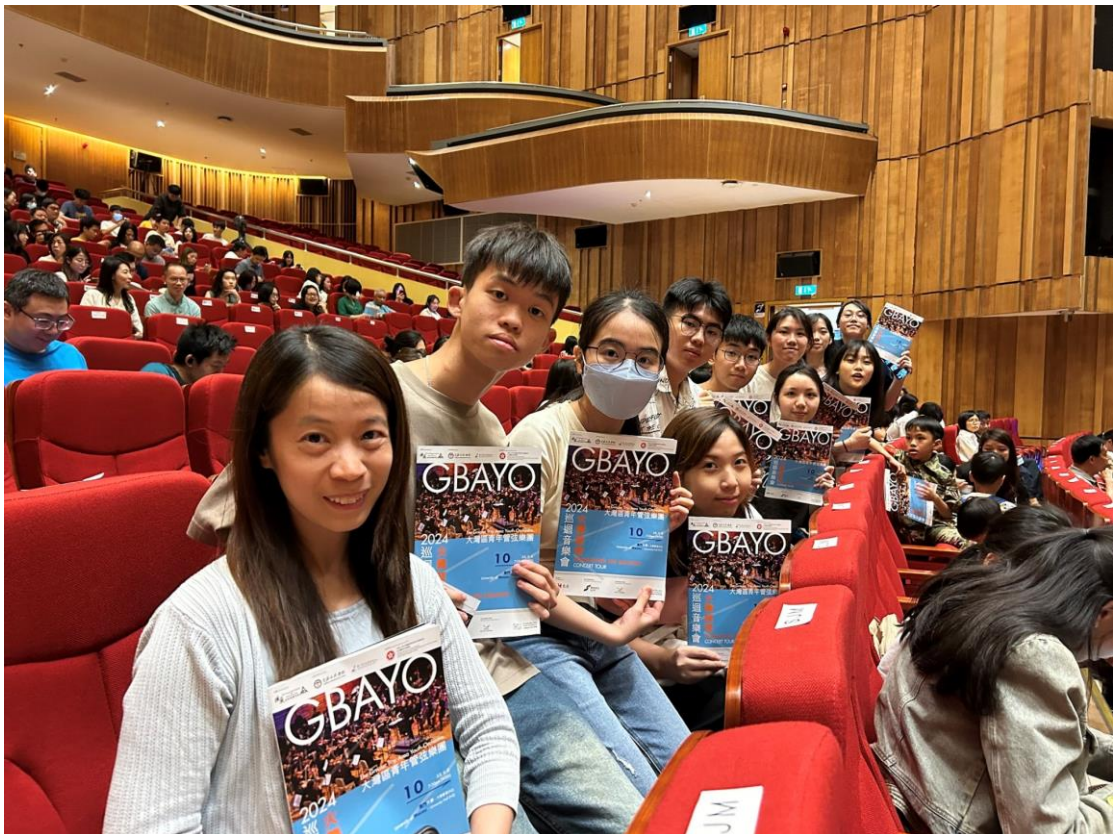
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Guests of Honour attend the GBAYO Concert Tour 2024 – “Romancing the Dragon” in Macau.



92 rigorously selected musicians from Guangdong, Hong Kong, and Macau showcase their talents, heralding a new era in the cultural and artistic evolution of the Bay Area.



SJM invites students from local higher education institutions and secondary schools to the concert.