

# LCSD launches free online programme "Hong Kong Young Talent Cantonese Opera Troupe – Performance of Cantonese Opera Excerpts"

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department has launched the free online programme "Hong Kong Young Talent Cantonese Opera Troupe – Performance of Cantonese Opera Excerpts".

The programme will include excerpts from four operas, namely "The Secret Pledge" from "Empress Xiaozhuang", "Chastising the Princess" and "The Reconciliation" from "The Warrior's Marriage" and "Kneeling by the Pond" from "The Lioness Roars". The performers of the shows will include young Cantonese opera talents To Wing-sum, Wang Kit-ching, Doris Kwan, Lam Tsz-ching, Ng Lap-hei, Fei Fenger, Yuen Sin-ting, Chan Kei-ting and Ng Kwok-wa.

The story of "The Secret Pledge" from "Empress Xiaozhuang" follows Da Yu'er, dubbed the "number one beauty" among the Mongolians and Jurchens. She meets Dorgon, the 14th son of Khan Nurhaci, on a mound. It is love at first sight for both, but it is a love that is not to be. Dorgon's half-brother, Hong Taiji, aims to take the throne of the khanate on the death of their father. He forces the Royal Concubine – Dorgon's mother – to be buried with Nurhaci's remains. Then Yu'er is told that Dorgon has died on an expedition, so she marries Hong Taiji to become one of his many wives. On their wedding day, Dorgon returns, obviously injured. Now Yu'er sees through Hong Taiji as a cold and heartless man who has no love for his family. She visits Dorgon at night, and gives him a cut strand of her hair as a pledge of her love.

The story of "Chastising the Princess" takes place in the Tang dynasty. General Guo Ziyi was made Lord of Fenyang for putting down the An Lushan Rebellion. His son, Guo Ai, marries Princess Junrui. Though they are a loving couple, the Princess's over-pampered behaviour leads to a family dispute: on the double celebration of the birthdays of Guo Ziyi and his wife, she refuses to attend the banquet at the Guo Residence. Guo Ai sits through the banquet amidst the prickly teasing of his family members and gets drunk. He returns to the palace and has a heated quarrel with his wife. In the heat of the moment, he slaps her. The Princess goes to the emperor and tearfully relates the whole incident, which leads to dire consequences.

The story of "The Reconciliation" from "The Warrior's Marriage" follows Hua Yunlong, who is on a mission to go to Wuchang to win the hand of Princess Yinping, the daughter of Chen Youliang. He adopts a false name and succeeds in marrying her. At his persuasion, Yinping agrees to merge two armies and put them under his command. This leads to the death of her father in the battle of Lishan. Upon hearing the terrible news, she leads her army to besiege the fortress where Yunlong is stationed. Not without guilt and

remorse, he comes out of the fortress gate to surrender to her. The Princess struggles with her mixed emotions for her husband, then vows to kill him to avenge her father.

The story of "Kneeling by the Pond" from "The Lioness Roars" takes place during the Song dynasty. Chen Jichang is a Prefect. He lives in fear of his wife, Liu Yu'e, who is so prone to jealousy that she always goes on a rampage. Jichang feels the shame of being unable to stand up to her as a man. One day, his friend Su Dongpo sends him an invitation to go together to enjoy the plum blossoms in the snow. However, Dongpo has arranged to be in the company of the courtesan Qincao. Jichang is immediately enamoured of Qincao because of her beauty. She tells him that she is willing to be his concubine. When Jichang returns home, Yu'e calls him a liar, cudgels his calf, and makes him kneel by the pond for the whole night as punishment.

Performed in Cantonese with Chinese subtitles, the programme was today (July 7) uploaded to the department's one-stop Online Resources Centre at [www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/onlineresources.html](http://www.lcsd.gov.hk/en/onlineresources.html). For programme enquiries, please call 2268 7325 or visit [www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/CulturalService/Programme/en/chinese\\_opera/programs\\_983.html](http://www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/CulturalService/Programme/en/chinese_opera/programs_983.html).

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## **CHP reminds public on precautions against heat stroke during very hot weather**

The Centre for Health Protection (CHP) of the Department of Health (DH) today (July 7) reminded members of the public, particularly those undertaking outdoor activities, to take heed of necessary measures against heat stroke and sunburn in very hot weather.

"The public should carry and drink plenty of water to prevent dehydration while engaging in outdoor activities," a spokesman for the CHP said.

"Those engaged in strenuous outdoor activities should avoid beverages containing caffeine, such as coffee and tea, as well as alcohol, as they speed up water loss through the urinary system," the spokesman explained.

"The obese, the sick, including those with heart disease or high blood pressure, the old and the young are more vulnerable to heat-related illnesses. They should pay special attention," the spokesman added.

The public should adopt the following precautions:

- Wear loose and light-coloured clothing to reduce heat absorption and facilitate sweat evaporation and heat dissipation;
- Avoid vigorous exercise and prolonged activities like hiking or trekking as heat, sweating and exhaustion can place additional demands on the physique;
- Perform outdoor activities in the morning or late afternoon;
- For indoor activities, open all windows, use a fan or use air-conditioning to maintain good ventilation; and
- Reschedule work to cooler times of the day.

If working in a hot environment is inevitable, introduce shade in the workplace where practicable. Start work slowly and pick up the pace gradually. Move to a cool area for rest at regular intervals to allow the body to recuperate.

The public should also note the latest and the forecast Ultraviolet (UV) Index released by the Hong Kong Observatory (HKO). When the UV Index is high (6 or above):

- Minimise direct exposure of the skin and the eyes to sunlight;
- Wear long-sleeved and loose-fitting clothes;
- Wear a wide-brimmed hat or use an umbrella;
- Seek a shaded area or put on UV-blocking sunglasses;
- Apply a broad-spectrum sunscreen lotion with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of 15 or above. Apply liberally and reapply after swimming, sweating or toweling off; and
- While using DEET-containing insect repellents for personal protection against mosquito-borne diseases, apply sunscreen first, then insect repellent.

If symptoms develop, such as dizziness, headache, nausea, shortness of breath or confusion, rest and seek help immediately, and seek medical advice as soon as possible.

The public may obtain more information from the DH's Health Education Infoline (2833 0111), [heat stroke](#) page and [UV radiation](#) page; the HKO's Dial-a-Weather (1878 200), latest [weather and forecast](#), [UV Index](#) and weather information for [hiking and mountaineering](#); and [press releases](#) of the Labour Department on precautions against heat stroke for outdoor workers and their employers when the Very Hot Weather Warning is in force.

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## [Assess the risk of heat stroke to employees](#)

Attention duty announcers, radio and TV stations:

Please broadcast the following special announcement immediately, and repeat it at frequent intervals when the Very Hot Weather Warning is in force:

The Labour Department reminds employers that as the Very Hot Weather Warning is in force, they should assess the risk of heat stroke to their employees and adopt effective preventive measures such as providing cool drinking water, setting up temporary sunshade and providing mechanical aids to reduce physical exertion of employees. Employees should drink water regularly and be mindful of their physical condition. If early heat stroke symptoms such as headache and thirst appear, they should rest in a cool or shady place and drink water immediately. They should also inform their supervisors to take appropriate actions.

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## Very Hot Weather Warning issued

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

The Hong Kong Observatory has issued the Very Hot Weather Warning.

To prevent heat stroke, avoid prolonged activities outdoors.

If engaged in outdoor work or activities, wear a wide-brimmed hat and light-coloured, loose-fitting clothes. Stay in shaded areas as much as possible.

Drink plenty of water, and avoid beverages containing caffeine or alcohol.

If you feel sick, consult a doctor right away.

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## Fatal traffic accident in Yuen Long

Police are investigating a fatal traffic accident in Yuen Long today (July 6) in which a 76-year-old man died.

At about 5.17am, a bicycle rode by the 76-year-old man was travelling along Shap Pat Heung Road towards Shap Pat Heung Roundabout, a taxi driven by

a 57-year-old man was travelling along Tai Tong Road towards Shap Pat Heung Road, while a taxi driven by a 62-year-old man was travelling along Tai Tong Road towards Tai Shu Ha Road West. When reaching the junction of Tai Tong Road and Shap Pat Heung Road, the taxi driven by the 57-year-old man reportedly failed to stop and collided with the bicycle. The taxi driver swerved right but further ran over a pedestrian refuge and collided with the taxi driven by the 62-year-old man.

Sustaining serious head injury, the 76-year-old cyclist was rushed to Tuen Mun Hospital in unconscious state and was certified dead at 2.40pm. The 57-year-old taxi driver, the 62-year-old taxi driver and a 32-year-old male taxi passenger sustained slight injuries and were sent to Pok Oi Hospital in conscious state.

The 57-year-old taxi driver was arrested for dangerous driving causing death. He has been released on bail pending further enquiries and is required to report back to Police in mid-August.

Investigation by the Accident Investigation Team of Traffic, New Territories North is underway.

Anyone who witnessed the accident or has any information to offer is urged to contact the investigating officers on 3661 3800.