

Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival captivates New York crowd (with photos)

The annual Hong Kong Dragon Boat Festival was once again an iconic event on New York's summer calendar. Shortly after daybreak on August 12 (New York time), the Meadow Lake of the Flushing Meadows Corona Park was filled with heightened excitement and exhilaration.

Coming from the United States (US) and multinational corporations, education institutes, medical organisations, government agencies, diplomatic circle, and a wide range of business and community groups, some 180 teams and over 1 500 paddlers saw the Festival as an excellent platform to promote physical fitness, display sportsmanship and appreciate cultural diversity.

Being the founder and supporter of the Festival for over three decades, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in New York (HKETONY) was proud to join hands with other enthusiasts in presenting this extravaganza to the New York community. Speaking at the opening ceremony, the Director of the HKETONY, Ms Candy Nip, said, "Dragon boat racing resembles a passionate quest for vigour, stamina, team spirit and harmony. These are also traits shared by Hong Kongers and New Yorkers alike."

Ms Nip went on to highlight the "Hello Hong Kong Invitational" this year. "Echoing the reopening campaign of the city, this special race is a fun way for the Hong Kong Tourism Board to say welcome to our US friends," she said.

The opening ceremony of the Festival was attended by, among others, the Mayor of New York City, Mr Eric Adams; the Borough President of Queens, Mr Donovan Richards, and the New York City Comptroller, Mr Brad Lander.

Apart from dragon boat racing, the two-day festival also features cultural performances, arts and crafts, and culinary delights.



