

Red flag hoisted at Middle Bay Beach

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (August 30) that due to big waves, the red flag has been hoisted at Middle Bay Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island. Beach-goers are advised not to swim at the beach.

World-class Italian orchestra to debut in Hong Kong with acclaimed pianists

Led by charismatic music director and conductor Sir Antonio Pappano, the celebrated Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia – Roma will make its debut in Hong Kong along with two acclaimed young pianists for two concerts in November.

The first concert, an all-Russian programme, will be held at 8pm on November 22 (Thursday) at the Concert Hall of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre. The orchestra will play Glinka's "Overture to Ruslan and Lyudmila" and Tchaikovsky's "Symphony No. 4 in F minor". The sought-after Russian pianist Daniil Trifonov will also perform Rachmaninov's "Piano Concerto No. 3 in D minor".

The second concert comprises a "feast" of Beethoven, which will be staged at 8pm on November 23 (Friday) at the same auditorium. The evening will embrace the energy of the composer's second and fifth symphonies, while Korean pianist Seong-Jin Cho will be the soloist for Beethoven's virtuosic "Piano Concerto No. 3 in C minor".

Founded in 1908, the Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia – Roma is the first Italian orchestra to devote itself exclusively to the symphonic repertoire, giving premieres of major contemporary masterpieces. The orchestra has been conducted by some of the major musical figures of the 20th century, from Mahler and Debussy to Karajan and Abbado. Leonard Bernstein was the honorary president of the orchestra from 1983 to 1990. With Pappano at the helm, the orchestra has appeared at major music festivals and performed in some of the world's best-known venues.

Sir Antonio Pappano has been the orchestra's music director since

October 2005. Before that he carried out the same role at the London's Covent Garden, the Den Norske Opera of Oslo and the Théâtre Royal de la Monnaie in Brussels. He has conducted many major orchestras including the New York Philharmonic, the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, the Philadelphia Orchestra, the Cleveland Orchestra, the Berliner Philharmoniker, the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra, the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, the Bavarian Radio Symphony Orchestra, the Staatskapelle Dresden and the London Symphony Orchestra.

Grammy Award winning Russian pianist Daniil Trifonov – winner of Gramophone's 2016 Artist of the Year award – has made a spectacular ascent in the world of classical music as a solo artist and a champion of the concerto repertoire. Trifonov won medals at three of the music world's most prestigious competitions, taking third prize in the International Chopin Piano Competition, first prize in the Arthur Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition, and both first prize and grand prix in the International Tchaikovsky Competition. He is currently the artist-in-residence at the Berliner Philharmoniker for the 2018/19 season.

Seong-Jin Cho came to the world's attention in 2015 when he won the coveted first prize at the International Chopin Piano Competition in Warsaw. With an overwhelming talent and innate musicality, Cho is rapidly embarking on a world-class career and is considered one of the most distinctive artists of his generation. Critics have described his playing as thoughtful yet colourful, combining panache with purity and driven by a natural sense of balance.

The concerts by the Orchestra dell'Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia – Roma are presented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department. The first concert is sponsored by Mr Albert Hung and Mr Wilfred Ng. Tickets ranging from \$300 to \$1,250 are now available at URB TIX (www.urbtix.hk). For telephone credit card bookings, please call 2111 5999. For programme enquiries and concessionary schemes, please call 2268 7321 or visit www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/CulturalService/Programme/en/music/programs_500.html.

Labour Department to hold occupational health public talks

The Labour Department (LD) will hold a public talk entitled "Occupational health of office workers series (III): More exercise, smart work" at 6.30pm on September 6 (Thursday). During the talk, an occupational health nurse from the LD will introduce the benefits of exercise, with demonstration and practice of workplace exercise.

The LD will hold another talk entitled "Health hazards of hot environment at work" at 3pm on September 14 (Friday). The talk, to be given

by the LD's occupational health nurse and occupational hygienist, will cover symptoms of heat stroke, its first aid treatment and preventive measures, to enhance the awareness of heat stroke prevention among workers in hot environments.

Both talks will be conducted in Cantonese and held in Activity Room 1, G/F, Hong Kong Central Library, 66 Causeway Road, Causeway Bay. Admission is free. For enquiries or registration, please call 2852 4040.

Co-investment Partner of Innovation and Technology Venture Fund selected in second round

The Innovation and Technology Commission today (August 30) announced that Radiant Tech Ventures Fund LP, a venture capital (VC) fund managed by RTV GP I Limited, has been selected as a Co-investment Partner (CP) of the Innovation and Technology Venture Fund (ITVF).

Including the five CPs announced earlier, there will be a total of six VC funds participating in the ITVF.

From last September to this January, the Government invited the VC industry to join as CPs of the ITVF, and received applications from 14 VC funds. The Government selected the CPs on the advice of the ITVF Advisory Committee. The selection criteria encompass the VC fund's capabilities and its management team's experience as well as the adequacy of its local resources and knowledge.

With funding of \$2 billion from the Government, the ITVF was set up to encourage VC investment in local innovation and technology start-ups. The CPs are responsible for identifying investment targets, conducting due diligence and making investment proposals to the Government. The Government will co-invest with the CPs at an investment ratio of about 1:2. The maximum aggregate government investment with each partner is \$400 million and the maximum aggregate government investment in each of the start-ups is \$50 million.

Brief background information on the six CPs is in the Annex and on the ITVF webpage (www.itc.gov.hk/en/funding/itvf.htm).

Red flags hoisted at several beaches

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Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (August 30) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Chung Hom Kok Beach, St Stephen's Beach, Turtle Cove Beach, Shek O Beach, Big Wave Bay Beach and Repulse Bay Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island; Hung Shing Yeh Beach, Lo So Shing Beach, Pui O Beach, Upper Cheung Sha Beach, Lower Cheung Sha Beach and Tong Fuk Beach in Islands District; and Hap Mun Bay Beach in Sai Kung District.

Meanwhile, due to inclement weather, red flags have been hoisted at Clear Water Bay First Beach and Clear Water Bay Second Beach in Sai Kung District.

Beach-goers are advised not to swim at these beaches.