



Haw Par Music Foundation's *SoundFest Party* Creates New Music Learning Experience Combines German "Orff Schulwerk" and Chinese musical elements

(Hong Kong, 6 January 2015) **Haw Par Music Foundation's *SoundFest Party*** is a groundbreaking musical learning experience for children in Hong Kong. The unique programme enables children and parents to explore the vibrant world of music through a variety of fun activities, including traditional music, dance, Chinese musical instruments and mini games. Not only will the event inspire childrens' interest in music and stimulate their talents, it will also allow parents to experience a new approach to music learning.

Following on from last year's enriching and fulfilling learning experiences *SummerFest 2014* and *Junior SoundFest*, non-profit organisation Haw Par Music Foundation will continue their efforts by collaborating with the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra and Hong Kong Orff Schulwerk Association for this spectacular family music event. The innovative combination of the highly recognised German Orff Schulwerk method with Chinese musical elements is sure to captivate children and parents alike.

The Hong Kong Orff Schulwerk Association's continuous efforts in the development of Hong Kong music education have made German composer and educator Carl Orff's philosophy a reality. Miss Zerlina Wong, the President of the Association commented that "The German Orff Schulwerk Approach emphasises the importance of personal exploration and the experience of the participant. The family-style classes, combined with melodious and story-telling Chinese musical elements, will provide children with enjoyable learning experiences and inspire their imagination and musicality."

Many outstanding performers from the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra are also participating in curriculum planning, including dizi soloist Choo Boon-chong, zhonghu soloist Han Jingna, and pipa soloist Wong Yui-kiu. Ms. Celina Chin, the Executive Director of Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra and Chinese Music Program Advisor of Haw Par Music Foundation, commented that "this event will be driven and guided by professional performers and children's music educators. It will supplement the current teaching environment, which is dominated by Western music and

instruments, allowing children to connect with Chinese music during the early development of their interest in music. This also reaffirms the role of the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra as a cultural ambassador that constantly promotes the education of Chinese musical art.”

Haw Par Music Foundation’s Program Sub-Committee Convener Professor Chan Wing-wah is thrilled about the event’s pioneering arrangement. He remarks that “the elegance of Chinese music united with the efficiency of German musical teaching techniques and the expertise of Hong Kong professional music educators will inspire children’s creative potential and introduce a new chapter in music education.”

Haw Par Music Foundation’s curriculum is designed to be different from ordinary music education; it aims to develop students’ interest in music in a comprehensive manner. The curriculum focuses on inspiring and motivating; students can gain knowledge beyond textbooks through communicating and working closely with mentors and fellow students. Haw Par Music Foundation aims to promote cultural involvement through interlocking Chinese and Western music teaching, and invites internationally and locally renowned musicians and music institutions to participate in the creation of an innovative curriculum experience for Hong Kong’s next generation.

This summer, Haw Par Music Foundation will once again organise *Haw Par SummerFest*, providing an opportunity for young Hong Kong music lovers to innovatively connect with Chinese and Western music. More details will be announced later.

Haw Par SoundFest Party

Date: 11 January 2015
Time: First session: 11am – 1pm
Second session: 2pm – 4pm
Target: Children aged 4-7 and parents
Tuition: HKD500 for each child and accompanying parent
Venue: Rehearsal Hall, Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra
7/F, Sheung Wan Municipal Services Building, 345 Queen’s Road Central,
Sheung Wan
Language: Cantonese
Website: www.hawparamusic.org
Children who complete the program will be awarded a certificate

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About Haw Par Music Foundation:

Haw Par Music Foundation (HPMF) is a newly formed not-for-profit educational organisation. The Foundation envision to serve a dual purpose: to provide a cultural environment for the people of Hong Kong to study Western and Chinese music as well as to conserve the unique Haw Par Mansion as a heritage landmark open to the public in 2017. While the fully revitalised building will only be ready some years later, HPMF strives to create a shared vision with the society as well as to develop a series of inspiring programs commencing from 2014.

Following the *Junior SoundFest 2014* for children as well as the *Standard Chartered Hong Kong 150th Anniversary Community Foundation Haw Par Music SummerFest 2014 Summer String Orchestra Camp* for young string players, *SoundFest Party* is the third music education project organised by the Haw Par Music Foundation.

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