

Festive Chamber

LOVE IN ALL SEASONS

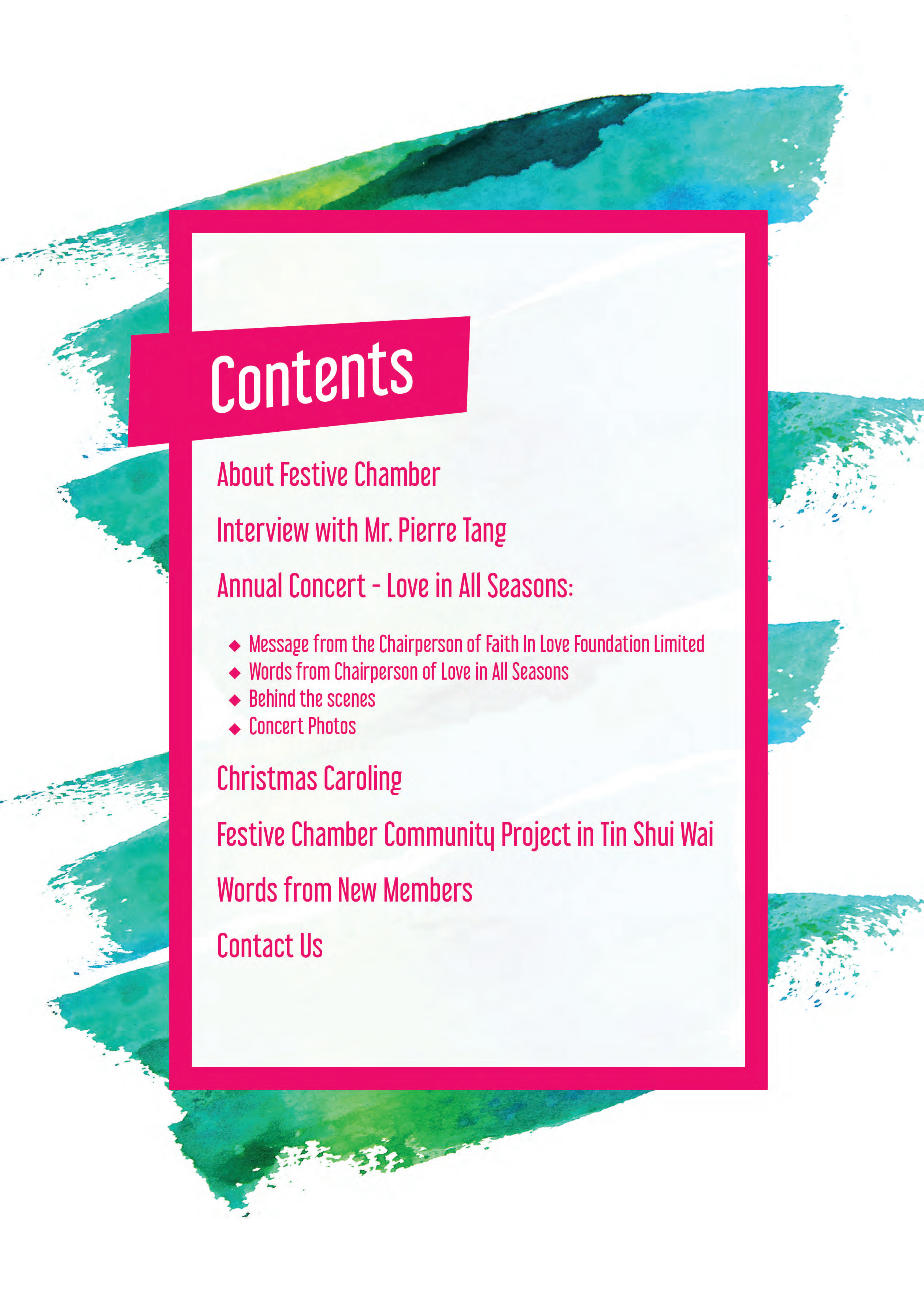


2016 VOL.7

Through the window of music,
we aim for the continuation of
a self-directed mode of learning,
to refine our musical and
generic life skills,
as well as experiencing
different genres of music.

We Sing
We Dance
We Explore to Learn
We Celebrate Life

-
Festive Chamber



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FESTIVE CHAMBER

菁薈雅頌



Honorary Advisor
Dr Timothy Brimmer
Butler University



Honorary Advisor
Professor Victor Chan
The Chinese University of Hong Kong



Honorary Advisor
Dr Allison So
The Hong Kong Institute of Education



Director
Dr Joyce Chun
The Speech and Hearing Sciences
The University of Hong Kong



Honorary Consultant
Mrs Betty Tham



Pianist
Miss Annie Yuen



Composer and Arranger
Mr Alvin Chu



Festive Chamber was formed in 2010 by a group of passionate and talented young people. They are experienced choristers with a diversified singing repertoire, including religious music, choral jazz, classical choral music, contemporary works and ethnic folk. It provides a platform for young choristers to share their belief in choral singing and to pursue their common dreams. Festive Chamber members believe that music is for appreciation, acceptance and support among human beings. They believe that singing should be a tool to explore oneself and for celebration of life.

Festive Chamber has the honor to be under the guidance of its advisors, Professor Victor Chan of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Dr. Allison So of The Hong Kong Institute of Education and Dr. Timothy Brimmer of Butler University, U.S.A.

On top of the Annual Festive Caroling Programmes in the Mandarin Oriental Hotel and Peninsula Hotel, their musical achievements include:

- 2011 Champion of Ensemble Singing in the Hong Kong International Children and Youth Choir Festival; Participation in the Taipei Choral Festival;
- 2012 "Festive Praises", Charity Concert at St. John's Cathedral;
- 2013 "Festive Musical Fanfare", fund raising concert for the Hong Kong Single Parents Association;
- 2014 "Wings of Life", fund raising concert for the Hong Kong Hereditary Breast Cancer Family Registry; and
- 2015 "World of Love", fund raising concert for the University of Toronto (Hong Kong) Foundation.

菁薈雅頌成立於2010年，由一群充滿激情和才華的年輕人組成。他們在合唱方面都是經驗豐富的，並擁有多元化的歌唱曲目，包括宗教音樂、爵士音樂、古典合唱音樂、當代藝術作品和民族音樂。菁薈雅頌為年輕人提供了一個平台，讓他們透過歌唱分享他們對音樂的信仰及追求同一個夢想。菁薈雅頌的成員相信透過音樂可以讓人與人之間表達互相欣賞、互相接納及互相支持的信息。他們也認為可以透過歌唱探索自己並讚頌生命。

菁薈雅頌很榮幸能邀請到中文大學的陳偉光教授、香港教育學院的蘇明村博士及巴特勒大學的Timothy Brimmer博士，成為他們的顧問。

除了每年聖誕節於香港文華東方酒店及半島酒店的演出，菁薈雅頌亦積極參與及推廣不同的合唱和舞台藝術活動，當中包括：

- 2011年 在香港國際兒童及青少年合唱節當中取得冠軍
參加台北國際合唱節
- 2012年 於聖約翰座堂之慈善音樂會「Festive Praises」
- 2013年 應邀為香港單親協會籌款的年度音樂會「菁薈 眾樂樂」
- 2014年 應邀為香港遺傳性乳癌家族資料庫籌款的年度音樂會「沿路有你」
- 2015年 應邀為多倫多大學（香港）基金會籌款的年度音樂會「愛的世界」

Interview with Mr. Pierre Tang

Mr. Pierre Tang has served as a conductor of various choirs, orchestras, and bands after he completed his studies in the Chinese University of Hong Kong and University of Illinois, USA. He is an experienced pianist, accompanist, composer and conductor. He is at present the Symphony Orchestra Manager of University of Illinois at Urbana- Champaign.

Festive Chamber was delighted to interview Mr. Tang in July 2016 and got to know more about his beliefs in music.

**Festive Chamber (FC), Mr. Pierre Tang (P)



FC : What caught your interest in music?

P: Music is one of the indispensable components in my life. I especially enjoy playing ensemble music because I am able to express myself through the wonderful melodies we play. I'm delighted to be involved in various rehearsals in choirs, orchestras, and bands. I enjoy the process of music making and composing, which are also very rewarding and inspiring to me. Music provides many opportunities for young musicians to share the joy and passion of playing different kinds of music. When a group -- no matter in a choir, orchestra or band -- can actively practise and perform, they experience the wonder of music collectively. To me, the unforgettable and collective memories created by music involvement caught my interest in music.

FC : Thank you for being our accompanist and our rehearsal conductor in the past years. Do you have any advice about our charity concerts ?

P : The charity concerts are valuable opportunities where performers can share their happiness among themselves and with the audience. The donations that we have raised can help the underprivileged to improve their quality of life. The concerts also provide opportunities for performers to learn how to be leaders and manage the choir members. Although all members are voluntary singers, they still strive hard to maintain a very high standard through their determination, dedication, diligence and passion towards music. Through the concerts, the audience are always touched by the beautiful voices of the performers. The performances can also raise the awareness of community towards music development in local communities.



FC : You are an experienced conductor who has performed in many concerts. What are the important elements of a good conductor?

P : Being a conductor is not a privilege. Anyone can be a conductor. I am not just talking about being a music conductor, but being a conductor of our own lives.

There are three major elements to being a music conductor:

Firstly, you must have great interest and high sensitivity towards music as well as possess leadership. The conductor is the leader, the soul of the team. They may need to sacrifice for the team in order to strive for perfection in performances and competitions. As a conductor, we are here to serve and to strive for betterment of the team. I believe every conductor has a mission. -- Some say, education is a life-on-life behavior, a matter of

inspiration. I do believe the obligation of a conductor is not only to lead the team but also to devote time and effort to nurture the seeds of music (the young musicians) through education. Through hard work and dedication, they will come to realize music education is meaningful and rewarding, and sharing of its joy and happiness with the public.

FC : Any advice for young musicians in HK?

P : Music is not about instant satisfaction. When effort is put, you will feel satisfaction at the end of the show. Young musicians should have faith; they should believe their teachers and the leaders they are following. You should believe that they are always supporting you, teaching you and giving their best to you. Musicians can gain more experience and knowledge by a willingness to sacrifice. Remember to work hard in each production. Do not be afraid of losses and build your own music pathway in the future.



FC : What are the expectations in your music pathway?

P : Music is an example of citizens' beliefs, which can be more than simply amusement. It can be real. Music is a part of my life. It affects me and also my parents a lot. In each production, I can inspire and learn by modeling, step by step to gain more. It is a good experience. Music is the best media to tell others the pathway of my life. By using our voices we can move the audience, accomplish our mission in life and raise the awareness of the community.

FC : Any comments on the Hong Kong music scene?

P : People have different concepts about music. Some think music is just for leisure (as the general public are greatly influenced by consumerism). There is a big difference between music development in Hong Kong and the US. In Hong Kong, the general public rarely appreciate or embrace the accomplishment of young musicians in our local community. They emphasize mainly on the more commercialized work. They may even treat music as "consumer goods". However, in the US, people treat music learning seriously. Musicians treat music as their life-long career and the general public treat it as an "art".

They respect music; this is what creates the soul of music. Young musicians in Hong Kong should show their passion by treating music seriously, treat it as an essential element in your life.

Some people may also think music is powerful and attempt to set up chances for competition for youngsters. But I think music is an assembly of people who can find a good leader in the group and explore more.

There are different young musicians boosting the music industry. Some are motivated by competition, and winning will give them satisfaction.

Some are motivated by the social aspect, and through the support of family and the public they got some energy to work hard.

Some musicians are motivated by the music, which they think is beautiful. Different musicians have their own reason to love music. I say just keep our passion in music and you can strive for the best.



VENUE SUBSIDY:



大學會堂

Academic Community Hall

A CHARITY CONCERT FOR
FAITH IN LOVE FOUNDATION

LOVE IN ALL SEASONS

19 NOVEMBER 2016 8:00P.M
HONG KONG BAPTIST UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC COMMUNITY HALL

PRESENTED BY
FESTIVE CHAMBER CHOIR



MESSAGE FROM CHAIRPERSON OF FAITH IN LOVE FOUNDATION LIMITED

Harcourt
PUBLISHERS

以生命影響生命

教育是香港社會迫切需要解決的問題，相信愛基金專注為有需要兒童提供資助和服務。

一般家庭會為子女報讀補習班和興趣班，但有些兒童卻沒有這方面的支援，為了讓他們也能得到栽培，我們的義工團隊有時在平日晚上或周末便出動去兒童院補習，她們的學業往往落後同齡學生一大截，要幫助他們追上所讀的年級進度很困難，尤其英文是最大的障礙之一。

我大學在英國做義工時認識的美國友人艾雲(Arwen)，曾有一段時間在日本大學教英文。她一位鄰居女孩一直被同學和老師認為又蠢又懶所以學不好英文，一次上課時哭著衝出課室，並為自己感到很慚愧，但真相是女孩有學習障礙。艾雲知道事件後決定伸出援手，每星期一晚替她補習英文，但女孩始終很難記住英文串字和發音。一天艾雲帶了本英文版的日本兒童故事書給女孩，女孩的眼睛立刻亮了起來，並提出希望只做一半英文補習題，可以有多些時間讀故事，艾雲說當然可以。那晚女孩大聲朗讀故事書時臉上流露著喜悅，從那天開始她愛上了閱讀，這件事讓艾雲感到前所未有的欣慰。

青少年對生命充滿好奇，很多事情都想嘗試，我們也提供課外活動和興趣班，不過為兒童院提供每一項服務前要先得到院舍的批准，在安排上並不能很靈活處理。得知有些女童對烹飪有興趣，我們與Citysuper主廚張倩敏小姐合作、舉辦烹飪課程，教女童們製作食物及甜點，還義務提供廚房和製作材料，女童們對課程反應踴躍，她們之後還自行上網找食譜，在兒童院的中央廚房自制糕點呢！

跨代貧窮是刻下最深層次的問題，扶助有需要兒童的成長，就是對香港未來的長遠投資。歡迎大家加入「相信愛基金」的義工行列，為有需要的生命提供指導和服務，以生命影響生命。

在此特別鳴謝「菁菁雅頌」的支持，選擇了「相信愛基金」為今年的受惠機構，並製作了一個高質素的音樂會，期待能帶給大家一個充滿愛的晚上。

趙式芝
相信愛基金主席

A portrait of Porcia Leung, a woman with long dark hair, wearing a black jacket with silver trim. She is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background is a warm, golden-yellow interior space.

WORDS FROM CHAIRPERSON OF LOVE IN ALL SEASONS

Festive Chamber is proud to present our fifth production – “Love in All Seasons”, a Charity Concert for Faith In Love Foundation.

Festive Chamber was formed in 2010 by a group of passionate and talented young people. They are experienced choristers with a diversified singing repertoire, including religious music, choral jazz, classical choral music, contemporary works and ethnic folk. It provides a platform for young choristers to share their belief in choral singing and to pursue their common dreams.

Festive Chamber members believed that music is for appreciation, acceptance and support among human beings, that singing should be a tool to explore oneself and for celebration of life.

On behalf of Festive Chamber, I would like to thank all the performers including singing groups from Chinese YMCA College, Hoi Ping Chamber of Commerce Secondary School, Law Ting Pong Secondary School, St. Teresa Secondary School; renowned pianist, Ms I-Heung Lee, who came all the way from the US; two outstanding ensembles – Redbricks Harmonica and The Bleu Fondue and emerging soloist Ms Joanne Shao.

The production of this concert involves long and arduous preparation by different group of people, credits should go to our honorary advisors Dr Allison So and Mrs Betty Tham for their patience and guidance. Heartfelt thanks to our concert committee and production team, who volunteered to help to make tonight’s program happens.

Last but not least, our deepest gratitude to the patrons and all of you here tonight. We hope you’ll enjoy the program we have prepared tonight and share the joy in singing with FAITH and LOVE!

PORCIA LEUNG
CHAIRPERSON
LOVE IN ALL SEASONS CONCERT COMMITTEE

Photo courtesy of Ho Ho Lee Photography





LOVE IN ALL SEASONS

CONCERT HIGHLIGHTS





Behind the Scenes

Christmas Carolling







Festive Chamber Community Project in Tin Shui Wai

- ◆ explore the integrated art form of CHORAL SINGING and CHORAL VERSE-SPEAKING
- ◆ enhance children's self-confidence, self-management, positive thinking & attitudes and inter-personal skills
- ◆ share the Joy of Music & Speech with the community





FESTIVE CHAMBER NEW MEMBERS



Agassi Yau

I am a secondary student who loves music so much . I'm a pianist , cellist and guitarist and I hope to be a singer as well but I didn't get a chance until the end of 2015 when friend brought me to Festive Chamber . Actually , I had experience of singing in school choir before but I was not satisfied with singing for competitions only.

It's a different experience to sing in Festive Chamber. While preparing for the production "Love in All Seasons", I enjoyed the beautiful music and the singing time with the group. With support and comment during rehearsals, I knew I should cherish the chance to sing, dance and learn with this group of passionate music lovers . I'm glad to be a member in Festive Chamber family .



Howard Chan

I didn't even know how to sing 2 years ago. I didn't understand what music was before. However, when I started my secondary school, I was given a chance to sing in Festive Chamber. It gave me chances to sing and share the happiness of singing with everyone. I participated in Festive Chamber's production , 'Love in All Seasons' and the Carolling Programme. I improved my singing skill and enhanced my confidence to sing on stage, as well as my inter personal skill. Now, to me, music is fun and a happy message from me to everyone !



Log G

This is my first year joining Festive Chamber. I used to be a percussionist in orchestras but Festive Chamber gives me a whole new experience on how I can make music with a group of singers. Presenting music is not just about following the score, but also about how we communicate with music to bring out the message of the song. In presenting the songs, we have to look at each other to sing and act. For me, it is a brand new experience and I really enjoyed it. In the process of listening to blend my voice into others, I start to understand more of my groupmates and I know I will have more friends in pursuing good music.



Saidal Chan

這幾個月來在和孩子們一起練習的時候，我深切地感受到孩子們在音樂上遇到的難處。每人都有不同的困難，有的是缺乏自信心，有的是不知道正確有效的方法，有的是不夠了解音樂。他們都需要一些外在的幫助——有哪個小孩子不是呢？在奧地利跟Gerald Wirth學習指揮的時候，我明白到小時候受的音樂是影響深遠的。我們教音樂的，要讓孩子在無意中便能做到一些事情，而要是孩子們做不到，那不是孩子的錯，那是身為教師的我們的錯。同時，我們也要鼓勵他們，要讓他們感受到練習成果的美好，讓他們願意為美好的聲音而努力。最重要的是讓他們感受音樂。音樂能讓人有一個美麗的心。除了音樂本身，在音樂裡深刻的歌詞即使現在未必能夠感受得到，也是孩子們日後會在人生中回味的東西。在 Festive Chamber，除了和大家一起練習，一起唱歌，希望還能作為一個音樂學生，以我對音樂的態度影響身邊的人。如果可以我希望能盡可能把我所知道的方法，把我的經驗，把我從音樂中所感受到的，傳達給每一個人，讓他們學會更加享受音樂的過程，那我便非常高興了。

FESTIVE CHAMBER NEW MEMBERS



Karry Wun 念澄凱

我透過參加學校合唱團後，獲得老師推薦參加了聯校音樂慈善表演，在那裏我認識了菁菁雅頌。我參加菁菁雅頌後，我發覺我的自制能力和自覺高了很多。由知道明天就要比賽了，但今天晚上還在吃上火零食的我，變成明明知道三個月後才有演出，但現在卻已經開始戒吃所有煎炸的食物，以保護聲音。

起初也不覺，後來才發現，原來自己不自覺地，自己在加入了菁菁雅頌後，有了轉變，學識了珍惜自己和主動學習。例如，在菁菁雅頌裏，遇到新曲目，就必須努力跟上，不能怠慢。最後我希望自己不論是學業或在唱歌方面，可以更積極好學。



Violet Chan 陳妍明

我從未接受專業的歌唱或音樂訓練，以前亦覺得合唱團是種枯燥無味的活動。後來加入了菁菁頌，從零開始學習到現在。我的歌唱技巧亦因此提升了許多。中間縱使遇到許多困難如讀譜及發聲，但我在堅持的過程中，卻感受到音樂和歌唱的無窮魅力。菁菁雅頌與學校合唱團最大的分別是：不會像在家裏母親餵哺嬰兒般，或像在學校的老師，事事為我們準備好，而是要自己主動去追求音樂上的知識，用心去領畧合唱音樂的奧妙。菁菁雅頌令我變得更有責任心、主動、堅毅和個人有很大的成長。

音樂是一條把我和菁菁雅頌其他不同年齡層的年輕人聯繫在一起的弦線，不需言語卻只是用歌聲向人分享自己對生命的頌讚，希望盡綿薄之力透過自己熱愛的音樂令世界變得更美好。



 festivechamber
<http://www.festivechamber.com/>

