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The logo for Festive Chamber, featuring the word "Festive" in red script and "Chamber" in black script, separated by a stylized red and black musical note.

Festive Chamber

FESTIVE CHAMBER

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Congratulatory Message from Mrs Fanny Law

My warmest congratulations to Festive Chamber on the formation of the music ensemble and its Inauguration Publication.

I am very pleased to see this group of self-initiated youngsters whose passion for choral singing has brought them together and energized them to reach for high standards. They share the conviction that "Music is for appreciation, for expression, for mutual understanding, acceptance and support among human beings. Singing should be a tool to explore oneself and for celebration of life". Their unswerving commitment and team spirit are exemplary.

With the professional guidance of their advisors, Professor Victor Chan Wai Kwong and Dr. Allison So, and their conductor, Mrs Betty Tham, and most of all the hard work and dedication of its members, I am sure Festive Chamber will bring immense joy and entertainment to its audience.

May Festive Chamber succeed in the pursuit of excellence, celebrate life and bring enjoyment to the world with choral singing.

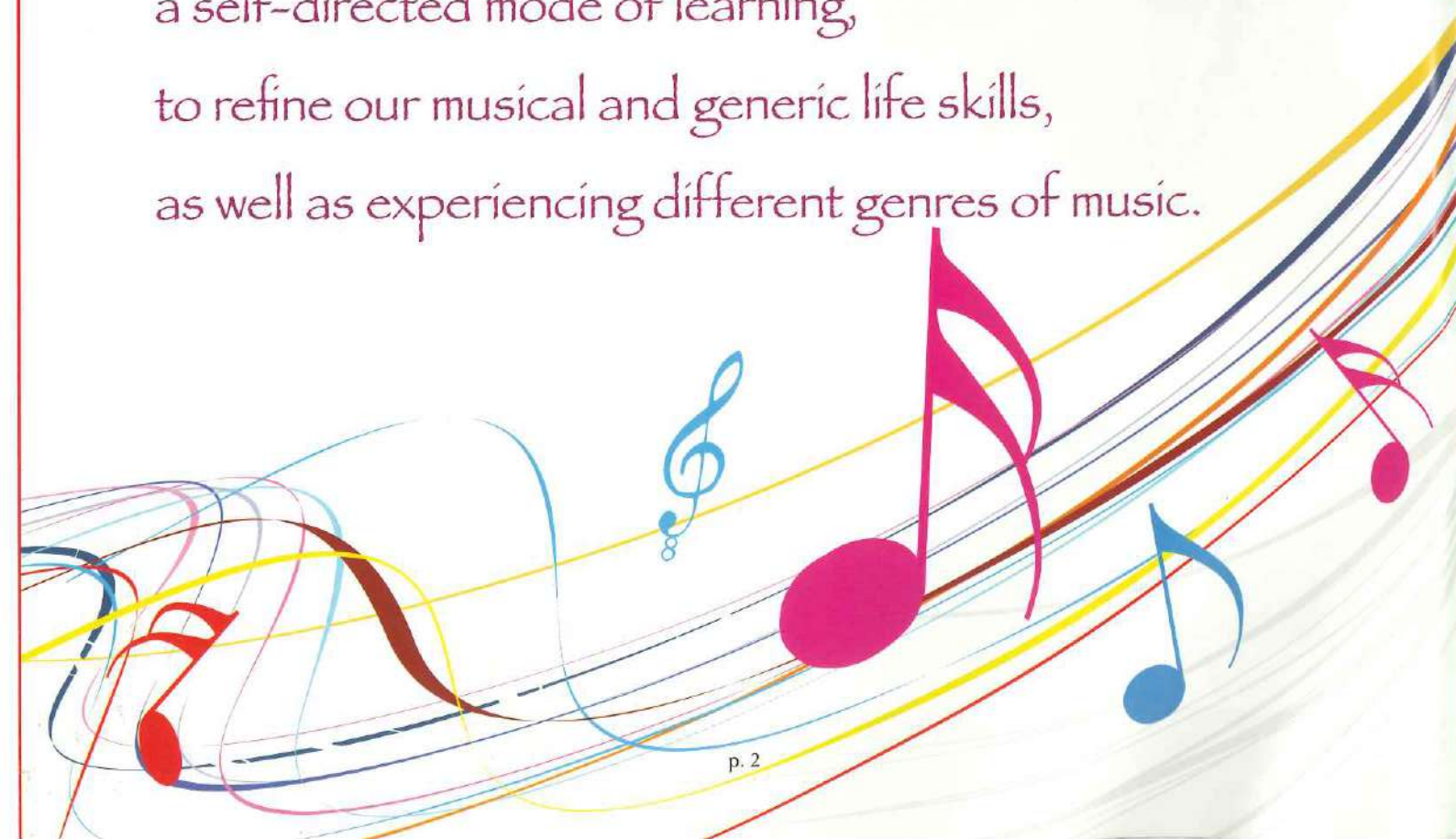


Fanny Law

*HKSAR Representative of the National People's Congress
People's Republic of China*



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.

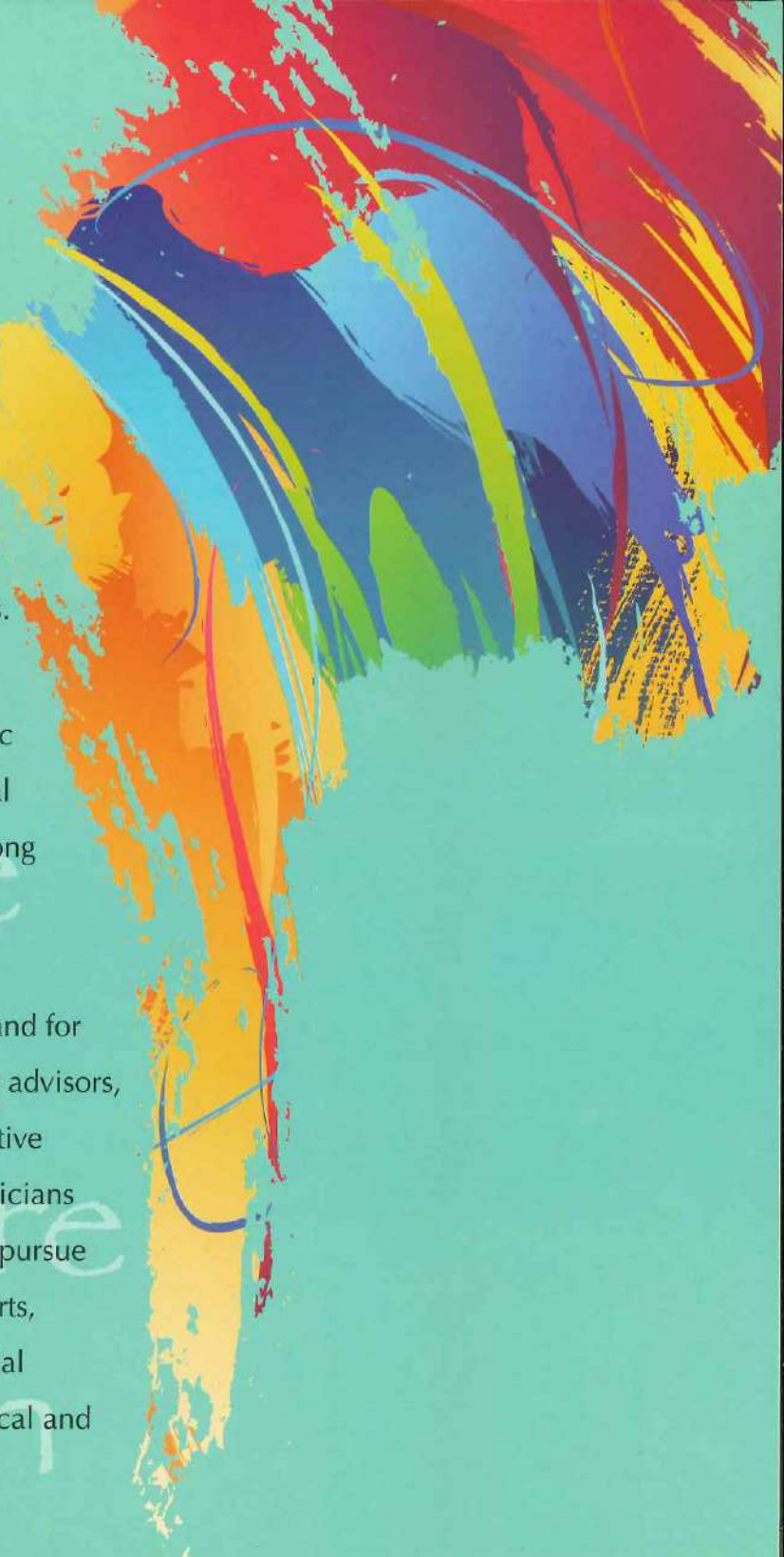


Festive Chamber is a non-profit
making organization, newly formed
by a group of passionate and talented
youth who are experienced choristers with
a diversified singing repertoire, including
religious music, choral jazz, classical choral
music, contemporary works and ethnic folks.

Festive Chamber members believe that music
is for appreciation, for expression, for mutual
understanding, acceptance and support among
human beings.

Singing should be a tool to explore oneself and for
celebration of life. Under the guidance of its advisors,
Professor Victor Chan and Dr. Alison So, Festive
Chamber provides a platform for young musicians
to share their belief in choral singing and to pursue
their common dreams through public concerts,
church services, caroling performances, social
service performances and participating in local and
international music festivals

The main goal, of course, is for all members to enjoy singing
together as a team, to share the joy of singing with their
audience and to celebrate life.



HONORARY ADVISORS



Professor Victor Chan Wai Kwong
The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Victor Chan (PhD, University of York, UK) is an active composer, conductor and promoter of contemporary music. His works have been widely performed and have officially represented Hong Kong on numerous international events, including the Asian Composers' League Festivals, the UNESCO International Rostrum of Composers Conference, and the Tanglewood Music Festival. His latest works include "Hui" (Symphonic Fantasia) (in celebration of the 1997 reunification of Hong Kong and China), 'Fanfare for Orchestra' (commissioned for the opening of the 1997 WBG/IMF Annual Meetings), 'From Within' (released in 1999 by Global Music Network, UK), 'Dreams Afar' (commissioned for the Philharmonic Orchestra of Radio France), and 'Cherished Moments' (commissioned to mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of the PRC).



Dr. Allison So Ming Chuen
*Assistant Professor,
The Hong Kong Institute of Education*

Dr. Allison So graduated from the Royal College of Music in London. He obtained the B. Mus. from University of London, M. Mus. and Diploma in Advanced Music Studies from University of Reading, Ed. D. from University of Leicester. At present, he is Assistant Professor at the Department of Cultural and Creative Arts of the Hong Kong Institute of Education. He is also conductor of the Hong Kong Oratorio Society, assistant conductor and accompanist of Allegro Singers, Artistic Advisor of Centre of Culture and Art in Zhongshan, China, music advisor of the Yun On County Education Bureau, Guangdong Province, China, vice-chairman of the Sacred Music Commission of the Catholic Diocese of Hong Kong, board of directors of the Hong Kong Music Institute and Hong Kong Association for Music Educators. Dr. So is also a columnist in newspapers and magazines, and serves as adjudicator in various major competitions.

DIRECTOR



Dr. Joyce Chun

Dr. Joyce C. Chun received her PhD in Speech and Hearing Sciences in the University of Hong Kong. A former Assistant Professor in University of Hong Kong, Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences. An Expert Speech-language therapist with over 10 years of experience evaluating patients of all ages with communication deficits and dysphagia; implementing appropriate treatment; documenting provision of such care, utilizing support staff and participating in special projects as designated. Professional qualifications including Certified VitalStim Therapy Provider, Certified Deep Pharyngeal Neuromuscular Stimulation Provider etc. Dr. Chun has many years of clinical experience in speech therapy, specializing in handling clients who have: learning difficulties or special educational needs, speech problems caused by injury, difficulties due to a medical condition such as Parkinson's disease or a stroke, or problems associated with having a cleft palate and lip. Dr. Chun gets invited for media interviews from time to time, and host workshops for various organizations to share her expertise on a regular basis.

HONORARY CONDUCTOR



Mrs Betty Tham

Betty Tham read her Master of Music Education at the Hong Kong Institute of Education. She served as both teacher and panel chairperson in a girls' secondary school. Tham has been in the field of Arts Education for more than 36 years training school choirs and choral verse-speaking teams, where she implemented her Arts Education belief of nurturing students, who through an integrated arts program, can be independent, intellectual and reflective leaders with passion for arts as well as being mindful of their responsibilities and contribution to society. In the past, Tham has performed with her students in Canada, Austria, China, Australia, New Zealand, Japan and the Philippines and have won numerous awards in the local music and speech festivals. The latest award her choir received was the Gold Prize in the 5th World Choir Games, 2010. As an Arts Education Consultant in charge of the arts education development in different schools, Tham gives workshops and seminars to teachers and students, especially in choral verse-speaking and choir training.

INTERVIEW WITH PROFESSOR VICTOR CHAN

Interviewers: Sarah Chau, Tiffany Tam, Jade Wong

Can you tell us about your beliefs in choral music education?

I would like to clarify that my profession is composing. Music has a number of areas, and composing is one of the specialties. Music can be divided into two large divisions: one is more of personal experiences, like composition and performance. These need first hand experiences in the process of making music. The second division is things that are rather theoretical - an example is the objective knowledge of the music. Let's put it in this situation. I am to understand a piece of music and have to play it in a performance. It is not enough just to keep on practicing the music, correct all the pitches and technical details. To understand all that are related to the music, the interpretation, the cultural background, the historical background, all these are of rational cognition. To conclude, learning music can be divided into these two categories, one tends to be more practical and related to personal experiences, and the other is more theoretical. The two categories are equally important. As for me, I am a person more into creating and composing, or taking part in performing activities as one of the performers, so you can put me into the first category.

What I compose would have to be performed. I would have to ensure that the way performers interpret my music is how I expect it to turn out. I think that it is best for a conductor to be able to interpret the music together with the singers. Therefore, I always prefer to participate in the performance. If it is choral music, I would become one of the singers or the pianist, where I can participate in the interpretation of the music and convey the music. As you know, a conductor is the weakest one in a performance; he cannot do anything but keep silent, even if the performers would not follow his conducting. Nothing can be done.

What is your belief?

What motivates you to contribute in music education?

I enjoy teaching others, because I could have more opportunities to interact with different people at close quarters. Here, I could be with the students, not only during lessons but also afterwards. In music education, the learning experience is not limited to lectures - students and teachers work together to make music. It is more obvious when I teach composing - together with the students, we work on the details of the music. If I am to teach them how I compose, it will be like applying my thoughts on individuals and expect them to think and do it my way. This will make me the worst teacher, for everyone is unique and have their own values and thoughts. Teachers are there only to lead and assist students in a way that their creation will not be distorted. As a professor, if I would like to blend into my students' thoughts, and interpret things from their viewpoint, I would have to spend more time interacting with them. The nature of my work needs me to live with my students. This enables me to have more time interacting with my students, and this explains my passion for this job and work.

My belief in music education, in short is, "Music is a part of life". It means the quality I put in music education is equivalent to the quality that exists in my everyday life. For example, if I pay a lot of attention to details in everyday life, I will also emphasize on details in discussing music with my students, as I believe this is highly important. I personally enjoy the process rather than the outcome of various activities. My enjoyment of the "creating process" is often also brought into my music. To conclude, my belief is that "Music is part of everyday life", so my

personal views and morals about life should often be reflected in my daily life. Also, music does not take up my entire life - it is only a small part of it.

We find we have many roles to play and many duties to fulfill. Sometimes, we find we are torn among our roles and we have difficulties to choose. However, we know that besides being the professor of Chung Chi College, you have many other successful roles as well. Have you encountered any role conflict so far and how do you face these conflicts?

This has to be related to the meaning of existence. Starting from birth, we have different roles. I like to talk with people. This is part of my life. If a person has a clear priority on how he should allocate his time, he would then make choices. If I know you want to talk with me, and I regard this as important, then I would squeeze some time for it. So the answer is, the weighting of being your advisor should be quite high. What drives me to make this decision is a long, long story.

The time we have is limited. If you ask me what are the most important things in my life, music would have low priority. You can try write out all the roles you have in your life, prioritize them, and when you would realize you have many roles at the same time, then you know which is more important or which is not. Usually you would not be that conscious



about your roles. If you are not that clear about the priorities, sometimes it would be very difficult to make decisions.

One of the examples is that many people are inclined towards their career too much. I witnessed some of my colleagues who focused most of their time on their career and they had accomplishments that made people and themselves proud. They were also highly respected. A professor was still very healthy all through his career path, but his health condition deteriorated tremendously after his retirement. This is not because of lack of exercise or any other reasons. A more crucial reason is that he focused too much on his career and neglected most of the other roles all those years. And when his role of being a professor was over, he could not adapt to his own life so many problems then arose.

I reflected much after hearing this. One cannot incline too much to a certain role as some of our roles in life will eventually come to an end. I go to church every Sunday, and this represents the identity of my religion rather than one of my roles. It exists through my entire life. And as for being a professor,

it does not count as a role as the concept is very ambiguous. The job of being a professor would be a role instead. For example I have a chance to think with teenagers around 18 to 22 years old, like they would like to be a better person, which is an attractive yet vague idea. Still, 'a better person' can be one of your roles in your life. So think about it.

Would you like to comment on our beliefs in music education and learning, upon our focus and the direction we are heading?

I totally support the beliefs in music education of Festive Chamber. Only thinking of outmatching all rivals is a very rotten theory: People glorify this kind of theory as "To improve through competition". This has been a concept our leaders have always tried to impress on us. It seems noble, but deep inside, it is very vulnerable.

In life, there are a lot of obstacles. If you are to overcome all of them in order to build up your value, this kind of thinking would be very delicate, because one can fail. I have observed my students, especially the PhD students, are all doing better than I. Looking back, my progress was far behind when I was a PhD student compared to the students now. With regard to the difference between time and society, people now are fortunate to receive music education at an early age, like playing the piano since they are 3 years old. In my time, I remember that I was

15 when I started playing the piano, and began to receive proper music education by the age of 18. The younger generation has started early. Therefore, my students are all at a more advantageous position than I. If I had the concept that, "Being the supervisor of the students, I must not let my students surpass me", then I would have been someone who is always miserable and anxious. There are a lot of talented people in the world with great potential. If we want to gain a sense of security through competing with the others, the feeling would be nothing but an illusion, temporary and insubstantial. This is why I do not wish to surpass anyone.

In my opinion, failure is a good thing, a valuable experience that all should embrace. If a person never experienced failure, hopelessness or desperation, he never knows the feeling of those who think lowly of themselves, as there are always more "losers" than "winners". A person, who can not share the common feeling with the ones beside him, is a grave regret, because he will be all alone for not being able to understand others or being understood. Even those who are well respected have had experienced depression in the midst of failing; people respect them for they have the ability look on issues from the view of different people. Students nowadays are learning to perceive things through multi perspectives, through their Liberal Studies. It is difficult to be in another person's shoes when you have never shared the feelings of others. If leaders could perceive an issue like an act of crime in public, he would not only criticize the one committing the crime, but also analyze the reasons behind the act from the committers' standpoint. In conclusion, I think that Festive Chamber has a very noble belief.

Would you like to give us some advice as to what we should do and look for in our pursuit of our dreams?

I wish that all of you could learn to be contented. When you have to get something done, I hope that you can use a very happy attitude to face it, in a way that you would have a desire to treasure it and think of it as a joyous memory in the future. Being able to see that, you girls, members of the Festive Chamber, are singing together for celebration and joy, makes me feel glad, because by observing you, I have already shared your enthusiasm for music. I sincerely hope that the Festive Chamber will continue with what it has started, and every one of you will enjoy participating in it. You do not have to focus on your singing standard, or aim to see the result for your effort during practice. All these will happen naturally when every member enjoys the progress in singing and practicing.



INTERVIEW WITH DR. ALLISON SO

Interviewers: Regis Tang, Jasmine Cheng, Jamie Cheung, Wong Ho lam

Why did you consent to be the advisor of Festive Chamber?

I admire music making groups, especially ones which are founded by students. These groups need support because they have a special aim. In the same way, I appreciate the objectives of Festive Chamber. They aim to learn musical knowledge and contribute to the community.

On top of being the associate professor in Hong Kong Institute of Education, what are you doing recently?

I am still learning and studying as a student. I am investigating traditional Chinese culture. Actually, there are different interesting things in the traditional Chinese culture. The word "culture" includes many different aspects of things, e.g. Music, Literature, etc. These subjects are quite attractive and well-worth learning. There are field trips in the course where, I can visit temples and know more about things in different historical periods. Apart from that, we can learn the different ideology in Chinese. Other than that, I have also experienced different

identities. I view things from the angles of students and have reflected on my teaching. Last but not least, I am still learning because I believe in "Life-long learning, keep pace with time".

Can you define what a 'good choir' is?

A good choir embodies well-trained and skillful singing techniques, like accuracy of pitch or rhythm and appropriate use of dynamics. What is more is the sustainability of a group of singers. Keeping a group together is a lot more difficult than starting and forming a group. This depends on the commitment and the acceptance of the group members. A commitment is the promise that members make to join and attend the practices and activities of the group. There should also be acceptance of all members, both founding or newly-joined members. For example, will one be a good listener taking in and accepting others' opinions? Would



the group still exist or disappear if it ended up with only 5 members? And how would the group keep on working if that is the case? Actually there are many ways to sustain it. Again, it relates to the commitment within the group. Apart from that, the learning attitude of the choir is also an aspect which has to be considered seriously. One must have heart, passion and effort as well as self-direction and self-motivation.

Should we choose our concert repertoire by following the trends of choral music or the preference of adjudicators in competitions?

I think we should not follow trends in learning music, neither should we choose music to study based on its fame nor focus on the preference of competition adjudicators. Your choice of music may be based on the style of the choir or what the choir is good at. You may also choose music from different nations and languages, for example traditional Chinese folk

songs, Jazz types, African songs, musicals, etc. You should not restrict yourself to a particular genre of music, but try to extend and explore more. After satisfying your desire to explore music, you may also try to influence the community through music. Remember, music is the best media to communicate.

What is your impression about Festive Chamber?

First of all, you girls have an unspoken consensus among all of you. You all hold the same belief and the linkage between every one of you is very strong. Your passion is shown through your will to put great effort on the choir. It is from your heart, it is not being forced. It can be shown by learning by heart a great number of songs, spending time for practices or functions and the will to make improvements. All these are greatly appreciated. Your projective voice also leaves a remarkable impression on me. In my mind, you girls are trying new and different things, which are presented by a combination triad. Apart

from that, there is also a special learning mode and effort in your group. You motivate yourselves to learn which is really impressive. Teachers are only facilitators. They only give opinions but not absolute instructions. Anyway, the consensuses among you are somehow special.

We are going to hold different kinds of functions, what advice can you give us?

First of all, music is for communication in daily life. Different centers provide performance platforms for musicians to share their passion in music. However,

you should first identify your aim to perform. For example, you may want to hold joint concerts to interact with different performing groups, to demonstrate your strength to other groups and at the same time gain from them. Your musical horizon will be broadened after holding these kinds of concerts. There are many different ways to present music. Therefore you should extend your community circle and range. Time and resources are also one of the main concerns. Think of the requirements and the suitability also at the same time. Starting a group is easy, but sustaining the group is a lot more difficult. I sincerely hope that you will hold on to your belief and keep up with your good work.



CONGRATULATORY NOTES

I congratulate warmly the inauguration of Festive Chamber. Choral singing is one of the most important tools to integrate societies, cultures and the world into one family that shares the hope of love and peace. I wish Festive Chamber every success.

Kathy Fok

Music Director,
The Hong Kong Children's Choir
Vice Chairman,
World Association of Chinese Youth Choirs



It is my great pleasure to witness the birth of another choir of angelic voices with strong passion for singing. I have known most of the singers in this group for some years and their eagerness to advance in both singing skills and repertoire expansion have impressed me most. I strongly wish them many fond memories when they make music together!

Lesley Ka-Hei CHAN

Director, Hong Kong Treble Choirs' Association
Member of Executive Committee,
Hong Kong Schools Music and Speech Association

It is a great pleasure for me to celebrate the inauguration of Festive Chamber. Hong Kong suffers from too much emphasis on music competitions and graded examinations, leading to the somewhat distorted value of associating musical artistry with performing a limited repertoire well, often overlooking the importance of tackling a balanced programme. The determination of Festive Chamber to perform a good variety of choral music is an apt addition to existing choirs that may be less flexible in attempting music other than large-scale choral works. This will also allow young talented singers to share the joy of music making amongst themselves, as well as using this opportunity to educate the public. The unreserved support from professionals is a great encouragement to any new performing group, and may Festive Chamber flourish

for many years to come.

Mrs LAM WONG Mi-lan,
Chief Quality Assurance Officer,
Education Bureau,
Hong Kong Government



Congratulations!

Wish the choristers of Festive Chamber will continue to spread the spirit of Joy, Hope and Love to all in every brilliant performance that they stage.

Mrs Virginia Walker

Music Panel Chair of
Good Hope Primary School 1980-2010

I heartily endorse FESTIVAL CHAMBER as an excellent opportunity for talented youth to experience diverse choral genre from across the globe. With artistic focus and strong academic leadership, this non-profit organization challenges musicians to advance themselves and the arts while engaging and informing local and international audiences. What an excellent undertaking you've created for Hong Kong and the rest of the world to enjoy and benefit from.

Dr. Tim Brimmer

Professor of School of Music,
Jordan College of Fine Arts, Butler University
Director, Jordan Jazz, Vocal Jazz Activities
Director, Multisensory Learning Facilities

Festive Chamber, which comprises a group of enthusiastic vocalists, represents a new era of musical development in Hong Kong. The formation of Festive Chamber, no doubt, will add colours to the cultural life here, especially when much attention has been given to the construction of the West Kowloon Cultural Complex, and the increased effort given to music and arts education in schools. I sincerely hope that Festive Chamber will get enough exposure in the community, as it will be coached by highly professional music directors, and its repertoire will encompass all common choral genres. Music is an art by itself, but if it is shared by many, it becomes a joy to all. May I wish Festive Chamber every success in its future endeavours.

Dr. Lam Ching Wah

Co-ordinator of Postgraduate Studies in Music
Hong Kong Baptist University



Blessing from Sr. Mary Olga Lam, MIC

I am so glad to hear about the birth of the "Festive Chamber". The name chosen for this new 'entity' is indeed very significant to me. It conjures up in my mind and heart, Joy, Colour and Gaiety.

Joy: I see in my mind's eyes and hear in my inner ears the choirs of angels that appeared and sang to the Shepherds, announcing the birth of Christ. I often catch myself humming a merry-tune when I'm light-hearted.

Colour: Multi-coloured decorations at festivities burst forth before me: green and yellow, green and red etc. I also hear the "colour" of the tones in the singing. Music has put colours into my life.

Gaiety: There is laughter in the air! Everyone feels happy: each person is contented because s/he is in touch with her/his blessings. "A grateful heart is a joy-filled heart." Life becomes a hymn of Perpetual Thanksgiving.

Congratulations to you all for expressing your Passion for music into something concrete.... embodying your Passion in the "Festive Chamber". As you live your Passion for Music, you will be led to travel 'far and wide', not just outwardly, but especially inwardly. In your inner journey, you will be led to discover and encounter the many gifts that God has loaded you with! Such encounters will generate a fuller life that 'explodes' into sharing with others. Living your Passion, you will become Compassionate.

I pray that each member of the 'Festive Chamber' grows to be more God-like, God whose great Passion for us led him to give us Jesus. (We celebrate this at Christmas, don't we?) Throughout his public life, Jesus embodied for us the Compassion of God, the intensity of which "exploded" in the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus. We know that by rising from the tomb, Jesus has conquered Death and won for us Eternal Life!

May Music empower you to courageously choose Life and reject whatever that diminishes Life.

Reflections of Sr. Mary O. Lam, MIC

Offered as a gift to the Festive Chamber, at its inauguration.

WORDS FROM FOUNDING MEMBERS

When I watch the joy and satisfaction that shine on the faces of FC Members, I really admire their strong will and belief in singing. It is my honour to participate in "MUSICKING" with Festive Chamber to support these young musicians.



Clare Chan

Rehearsal conductor

I am honoured to be the chairperson of Festive Chamber. Festive Chamber provides a platform for all music-lovers who share the same passion and vision to realise their dreams. Each individual in the group contributes the talent they possess. We aim at striving for excellence and the saying of "unity in diversity". As young leaders, our courage to fulfill our vision comes from our passion. I believe through this self-driven way of learning, we will not only acquire singing techniques, but also skills that will be useful to us for the rest of our lives. The understanding that we can make a difference to our society through music is a great motivation for us. We welcome all young musicians to join the family of Festive Chamber, sing the music of your soul and to celebrate life. The harvest we reap in Festive Chamber will be multiple and so will the joy we experience in this family.



Lydia Yau

Chairlady



Alexandra Lai

Vice-Chairlady

After I had graduated from high school, I no longer belonged to any choir. I felt an emptiness in my heart. Just being surrounded by academic work in university, seemed a bit meaningless to me, until one day, a friend invited me to join and establish a choir- Festive Chamber. I immediately saw the chance for me to sing in a choir again and to serve again, but not to be served. I have thus volunteered to be a vice chair-lady in Festive Chamber. This is a new challenge for me and I know there is a lot to learn in my post. To be a successful and mature person, we must take the initiative to learn or else we will not be able to move forward. With my experience of choral singing and taking an active leadership role in my high school before, I will be able to put this experience in helping in the administrative work of Festive Chamber as well as share my knowledge of singing.



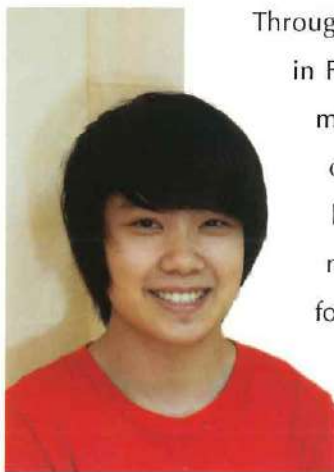
Festive Chamber is different from other singing groups. Aside from singing, I shall enhance my practical life skills that result in my holistic development. Festive Chamber encourages me to work hard to become a versatile person. It also leads me to understand "no pain, no gain". No one can enjoy life without a serious working attitude and a well-defined goal.



Lulu Cheng
Co-chair lady

Through the years I have been connected to friends in Festive Chamber and with one another through music, and through music we have ascertained our identity. What we have experienced together has united us to pursue our dream to acquire music in a self-directed way. I am determined to follow this path though it may be difficult at times.

With Festive Chamber, I am anticipating a greater story in life.



Tiffany Tam
Vice chairlady

Being able to stay with people with not only the same interest but also a strong passion to achieve a common goal is the most blessed thing. I am very delighted to see the establishment of Festive Chamber as it tells me what passion is and motivates me to strive for a better life. Festive Chamber also gives us freedom. It lets us explore choral music in a small ensemble. We can choose our repertoire and share our views. All of us are responsible for writing the pages of Festive Chamber.

I treasure and enjoy this freedom. All these result in a strong sense of belonging. As a Vice Chairperson of Festive Chamber, I can share my ideas on handling our choice of music; and my experiences in overseas music tours, co-ordination among group members and organizing activities. Festive Chamber! Let us explore the world of music and share our passion with others!



Agnes Tse
Vice chairlady

Music fills my life and singing has always been a way to express my deepest feelings.

Through singing, I have found lifelong friends who share the same vision as I do; through singing, I have met foreign musicians who sang with me on streets just on the spur of the moment; and through singing, I have joined Festive Chamber because it gives me opportunities to fulfill my dream and explore the beauty of music. Festive

Chamber is another home for us young musicians, and for people who want to open themselves up and welcome music into their souls. Here as conductor, I could feel the unity and devotion of its members and was moved by their determination in bringing singing to an even higher standard and level. I wholeheartedly wish Festive Chamber every success and congratulate those who have the foresight and opportunity to let music to be part of their lives.

Lastly, may I quote from my favorite book, "The Little Prince":

"grow five thousand roses in one garden...

yet they don't find what they're looking for...

and yet what they're looking for could be found in a single rose..."

To me, I have found my rose, right here in Festive Chamber.



Sari Ng
Student conductor

It is a great pleasure to be an overseas member of Festive Chamber. Though I am not in Hong Kong, I treasure the friendships that I have made in FC and will continue our bonding through singing in Festive Chamber when I return from the UK. I hope I can share what I have learnt in the UK with FC members too.



Abby Cheng
Overseas member

Festive Chamber is like a milestone in my life: from a point near the end of my school life to a new start in my social life. This is a place for singers to gather, to learn and to share our music with one another.



Angel Chu
Librarian





Christie Yung
Publication in-charge

We have the same goal and we participate to sing and to enjoy. I have chosen to serve this group by advertising about it. I will update and share all our memorable experiences through our website. I am looking forward to learning different types of music and songs of the world and their unique dance steps.

We established Festive Chamber as a channel for all of us to achieve our common goal – enjoy singing together as a team, not targeting to defeat others in competitions but to influence and connect with others with music. It is never easy to have a group of companions who have the same goal.



Crystal Wong
Librarian

Through establishing Festive Chamber, I have taken the initiative to step forward and try new things. Most importantly, I discover that passion is significant in our lives. Young people should strive their best to aim high and achieve high in both academic and extra-curricular activities.

I realize that we should always have faith in ourselves and grasp every opportunity to utilize our full potentials.

I joined Festive Chamber because I would like to improve my singing skills, learn to be more independent and be more proactive. Through the choir practices in Festive Chamber, I am sure that I can also learn how to co-operate with one another as we need to work as a team. In fact, after every ensemble singing practice, I am amazed by the team spirit we have.



Sarah Chau
member



Angel Tsang
General Affairs



Hayley Tong
Publication in-charge

Different members in Festive Chamber are responsible for different things; if one of us gives up, our team cannot function well. I have experienced the importance of working as a team and I cherish such bonding which cannot be found in other groups.

Festive Chamber is a club established for people who are passionate about choral singing. Apart from singing, members also learn to be more independent and disciplined. Although I am already a member of my school choir, I believe that Festive Chamber can let me develop further beyond the school network, to embrace choral singing from a different perspective. We have to discipline ourselves to read and study the scores on our own, and this can train us not to rely only on teachers but to be responsible for our roles as active learners and participants.



Jade Wong
Secretary



Jaime Cheung Tin Wing
Internal Activities in-charge

I enjoy choral singing in FC because I can express my views, my happiness or my sadness. While singing with FC friends, I am being recognized. Singing in FC also requires individual thinking and group brainstorming. In our practice, we are trained to keep our minds working all the time because we have to be mindful of pitches, rhythm, dynamics, tone quality in a piece of music. After joining FC, I have greatly improved in time management because I need to arrange a proper balance of time for practice, time for study and time for rest.





Jamie Leung
Librarian

We may not know different languages to communicate with people from other places; however, through music, we can spread the message of love and gather different people together.

After joining FC, I was able to try many things that I had not experienced before. I have started to establish my own principles.

I hope that music made by the Festive Chamber can be a gift to all of you. We sing to touch people's hearts, make others believe in what we believe, where everyone can share happiness or sadness together without worries and boundaries.



Jasmine Cheng

With the support from our expert advisors, parents and each member of Festive Chamber, I am certain I will further develop myself through all the activities and the music programs that Festive Chamber has prepared for me..



Jasmine Lau
External Activities in-charge

I love both singing and dancing because I think both of them have great relationships. Therefore, I have chosen to be a choreographer and a rehearsal pianist. I will try my very best to share my talents and serve happily in Festive Chamber.



Kylie Cheung
Choreographer, rehearsal pianist

I was really excited when I heard that Festive Chamber was formed. It is because I know that I can sing again with people who are warm and sincere. I strongly feel that 'I am not alone' every time I sing with the FC!



Scally Lam
Liaison Person

The self-directed mode of learning in the group not only extends our musical techniques, but also refines and moulds our positive attitudes towards life. As one of the founding members of Festive Chamber, I really hope that I can take a part in letting more people to explore the delight of the world's common language. Festive Chamber is my source of energy. I experience passion and friendship, which are two vital elements of a colourful life.



Sherriane Chiu
Internal Activities in-charge

Singing as a group gives me the opportunity to learn from others, to listen to others and to myself, and to learn from mistakes. I am confident that Festive Chamber can help me to grow into a mature, independent and well-disciplined young lady.



Candy Tsang
Publication in-charge

It is the first time that I am able to sing in a small ensemble. I know I have to learn other skills to handle these pieces. I am sure that I will gain new experiences and insights in my singing through FC. FC shall also train me to acquire different life skills, like time management and wise use of resources. As one of the founding members we need to work extra hard to face challenges as well as be at the forefront.



Venus To
Treasurer





Wong Ho Lam

External Activities in-charge

I believe singing is also a good way to learn. I learn different vocal techniques useful life skills like looking after ourselves and problem-solving skills as well. Through different practices and performances, we make memories which only belong to us and which we can cherish for the rest of our lives. Although I am still young, I would like to learn from the more senior members of FC on how to organise activities and contribute not only to FC but later to the whole of society. Apart from my personal growth, I believe I can broaden my music horizons by joining FC.

Before joining Festive Chamber, I had mixed feelings. I worried that I might not have enough time to prepare for my HKALE. However, after joining the group, I found singing in the ensemble added colours to my tight study schedule. In Festive Chamber, I practise my leadership skills and taste the joy of working as a team. I am now confident that I will grow with Festive Chamber, we will bloom in the years to come.



Regis Tang

External Activities in-charge

Choral singing brings us unity. When we are singing together, we share our feelings as sisters and our hearts and minds are linked. This is the reason why I enjoy singing in Festive Chamber. Most importantly, I hope every one of us will go for our dreams and will not give up easily.



Flora Ho

Attendance

Singing has always been my drive in growing to be a better person.

It is such a great joy for me to participate in Festive Chamber. When I was told about the chance of joining such a group, I knew I found the chance to further develop myself, both in music and as a person.



Jamie See

General Affairs

I support Festive Chamber because I think art and music are very important in building one's style and character.

Festive Chamber provides a space for young music lovers and artists to share their talents, as well as their joy they find in creating art and music.



Veronica Bassetto

I joined Festive Chamber (FC) because I love singing very much. I love the moment I am standing on the stage. Everyone focus their attention on me and the feeling is great! In FC, I am selected to be the General affairs of the group. I learn to serve others and see to their needs. I am very glad that I have a chance to join this group to sing to dance and to share love and happiness with those who listen to us.



Vivian Lin





Vivian Lam

"Good, better, best. Never let it rest. Until your good is better and your better is best."

Tim Duncan

I learnt this attitude through Festive Chamber. Hard work can lead to success, but the most important is the attitude. Every time I step into the studio, I can feel the passion from this group of singers, and it is the passion which helps me put aside my worries and sing with them. FC gives us many opportunities to sing to express our feelings, to stand on stage, to take the initiative to voice out our views when practicing and even lead the whole group.

I hope that we, may carry on with this passion and attitude to strive for our best!

Festive Chamber is indeed an excellent platform to unite young musicians, sharing their enthusiasm in music, not only internally with the group, but with society as well. Zoltán Kodály says "No man is complete without music". Joining Festive Chamber enables me to utilize my talents to serve. With such a warm family, we can always realize our dreams. Let our passion live on!



Pearly Poon

Rehearsal Pianist

I was flooded with passion in life and music when I was playing accompaniment for Festive Chamber. I knew that I found the ensemble to which I should belong.



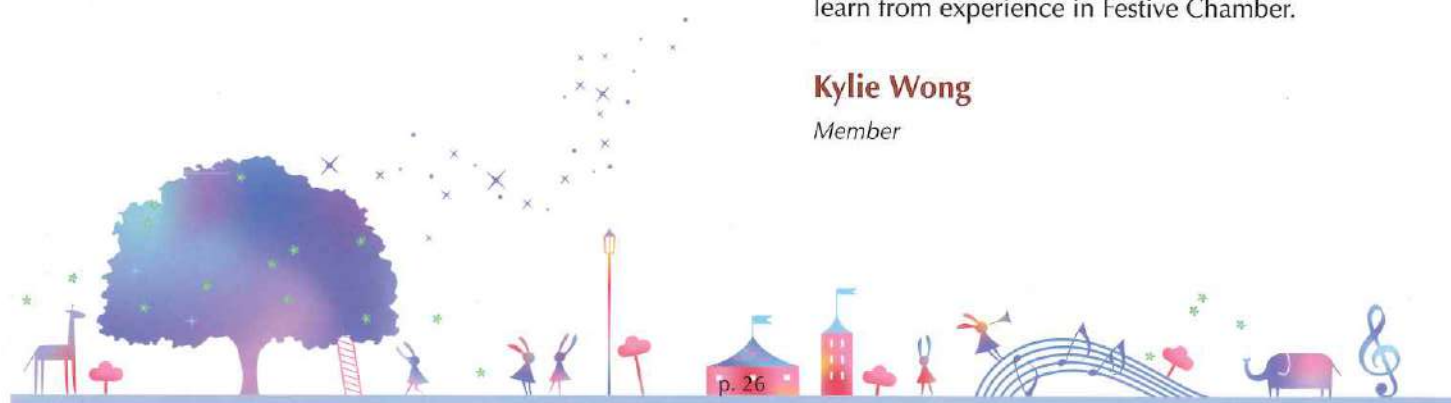
Selene Au

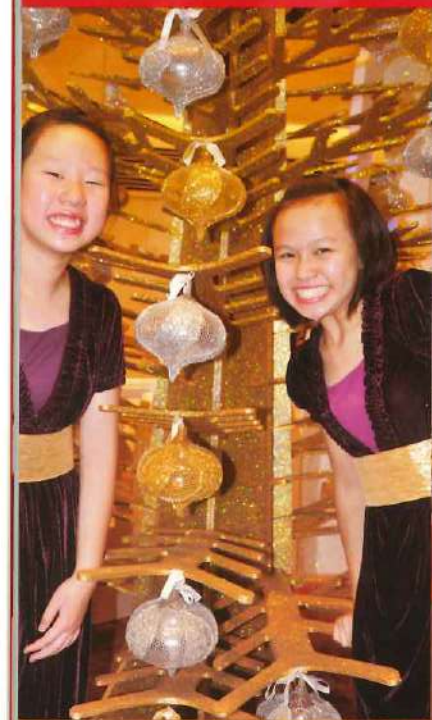
Pianist

We sing for laughter, we sing for tears, we sing for madness, we sing for fears, we sing for hopes, we sing for screams. We are the singers, we create dreams. I will take initiative to voice myself and learn from experience in Festive Chamber.

Kylie Wong

Member







PARENTS' WORDS

As a parent, we always aspire for our children to become independent and responsible individuals in the future. At the same time, we hope the learning process is meaningful and rewarding. Being a member of Festive Chamber has provided my daughter with new and challenging responsibilities to help create a new platform to express and share the joys of song and expression with the public. In addition, it is great to see my daughter taking on new roles such as media publication. She will be able to hone her skills in organization, interpersonal communication and creative expression. It is with anticipation and eagerness to see the fruits of their labor. I am looking forward to their upcoming performances and events.

Lucia Jap

Mother of Christie Yung Wai In

父母讓子女學習音樂，是希望他培養多方面興趣，陶冶性情，提升個人修養和自信心，亦增強自我價值觀的肯定。音樂智能強的人對節奏、音調、旋律或音色較具敏感性，在學習時是透過節奏旋律來思考，使他變得更有察覺力和辨別力。雖然每個人的音樂智能都有差異，但我相信誰也能發揮其音樂潛能，只要他有機會遇到一個好老師。MRS. THAM 就是一位好老師，她不但教導其學生的音樂技考，同時亦教導他們很多做人的道理。令他們從小就學懂自我管理，來準備明日的挑戰。喜歡音樂的我，看著 FESTIVE CHAMBER 的成員們能在這良好的環境中成長，真是你們的福氣！

胡美琴 Phelia

Parent of Kylie Wong

女兒成為FESTIVE CHAMBER一分子，正好延續她對歌唱藝術的熱誠。從FC起步的時候，可令她體會從零開始的決心；到往後的日子，願她能堅持不懈和不斷地進步。在這群體中，無論擔當甚麼角色也是磨鍊自己的好機會，希望她能珍惜這此一點一滴。不管她嚐的是酸或是甜，我會樂意地聆聽她的分享。在感恩之餘，我期盼妳們的歌聲在人群中永遠發光發熱。

徐潔儀

作為一位家長，最希望見到子女學業有成，過一個積極快樂有用的人生。香港雖沒有一孩政策，奇怪的是大部份夫婦也自行實施一孩政策。萬般寵愛放在一孩上，那望子（女）成龍（鳳）的心情可能更甚。但若子女只是終日沉迷網上遊戲，生活完全沒有方向，更遑論成龍成鳳。在恨鐵不成鋼之際，又有何良方呢？

回看女兒的成長，高興的是她找到自己的興趣——唱歌，更可喜的是合唱團提供了一個幫她成長的平台。這合唱團讓成員有高度參與，一班志同道合的成員為合唱團共同建設。有淚有汗，有哭有笑，在經一事，長一智之中，人也變得成熟，及充滿自信。

因時制宜，這合唱團演變為新的形式存在。在這遍新土地上，我衷心希望它茁壯成長，讓更多青少年在這裡發揮她們的興趣，而最重要的是藉這個平台，讓她們過一個積極快樂有用的人生。對那些迷惘無助的家長來說，更不防讓他們的女兒試一試參加這合唱團，透過音樂來培養出積極的人生態度——這也許是你們渴望的良方。

家長謝黃愛環女士

parent of Agnes Tse

「音樂」，這名詞對我倆來說，只是陶冶性情而已。不過這只是以往的感覺……到底是什麼令我倆改變對它的看法呢？

答案很簡單——自從女兒參加了合唱團之後，最感受到是她們自信的提升，她們滿足的流露，她們自願的能力……令我倆不得不佩服一直以來培訓她們的導師——譚太，在此再衷心的感謝您對學生的教導，是那般的投入及盡心付出，我倆會繼續支持你和FESTIVE CHAMBER的。

曾先生、曾太

Parent of Angel Tsang and Candy Tsang

Learning Activities

Presented by Festive Chamber

21st Dec 2010

Christmas Program in The Element

2nd Dec 2010

Guest performance in Lane Crawford 160th Celebration

24th and 25th Dec 2010

Caroling Performance in Mandarin Orient Hotel and Peninsular Hotel

8th Jan 2011

Guest Performance in Organ Recital in Cultural Center

Jan - Mar 2011

A Cappella Workshop

April 2011

Festive Chamber/ Festive Junior Mini Concert

July 2011

Guest Performance in Hong Kong Choral Jazz Festival

Nov 2011

Joint Performance in Celebration of Doming Lam's 85th birthday

Festive Chamber

