A Question of Hong Kong Culture

When the Pompidou or Guggenheim comes to Hong Kong, does it mean our children will have better art education? Does it mean our artists will be given more resources?

asks Lung Ying-tai, former Cultural Minister of Taipei, currently Visiting Professor of HKU’s Journalism and Media Studies Centre.

The Wang Gungwu Lecture Theatre and three other lecture rooms with video feed nearby were filled to capacity with enthusiastic participants who attended Professor Lung’s public lecture entitled, “Cultural Policy and Civil Society: Possibilities for Hong Kong”, on November 9.

Taking Centre Stage at HKU

“Sun Yat-sen and I” Drama Performance

As part of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department’s Community Cultural Ambassador 2004 series, Sun Yatsen and I (孫中山與我), a new and exciting play written by Ms Tsoi Mui-suet of the Spring-Time Experimental Theatre. The drama performances featured seasoned directors and performers, and also participants from community-based drama workshops. It was especially remarkable when experienced at the evocative historic Fung Ping Shan Building at the University Museum and Art Gallery.

Violinist Li Chuan-yun

ArtsAll’s evening with great music with rare violins

Over 200 fine music fans came to the University Museum and Art Gallery to hear violinist Li Chuan-yun playing violin pieces on some of the best and most expensive antique violins in the world. These fine instruments were made during the 16th and
17th centuries by renowned master violin-makers Antonio Stradivari, Giuseppe Guarneri and JB Guadagnini, provided by the Stradivari Society in Chicago.

Concert Series

Each year, the Department of Music stages a series of concerts on campus, the "HKU Concert Series". It invites outstanding performers from both Hong Kong and around the world to share their talents and virtuosity with students and the community at large.

Many of the concerts are held in Loke Yew Hall, which was Hong Kong’s very first concert hall.

Over the years, it has hosted countless ensembles and artists, including the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra and Kunqu master Yu Zhenfei. In recent seasons, it has invited distinguished artists from all parts of the world, including the Oscar winning composer Tan Dun, also a master of Chinese culture and music.

In keeping with the University’s mission to serve as a focal point of intellectual and academic endeavours in Asia, and act as a gateway for scholarship with the rest of the world, the HKU Concert Series commits itself to bringing world-class performances to the community.

Darren Sigesmund Jazz, an emerging and significant new voice on the Toronto music scene

Beefolk, the crossover Austrian folk-jazzy chamber orchestra comes from Graz, a city with a proud and blossoming jazz tradition and history.

www.hku.hk/music/concerts
Three winners of The Shaw Prize in Life Science and Medicine honoured HKU with lectures about their work. The Prize was awarded for the first time this year.

**Professor Herbert Boyer,** Professor Emeritus of Biotechnology and Biophysics, UC San Francisco

His discovery that genes from any biology species can be propagated and cloned in foreign cells has had a phenomenal impact on how we view disease and its prevention.

**Professor Kan Yuet-wai,** Louis K Diamond Professor of Haematology, Medicine and Laboratory Medicine at UC San Francisco

Professor Kan (MBBS 1958; DSc 1980; HonDSc 1987) was happy to be back to his alma mater for his lecture on “A Slow Boat from China”.

When he was a HKU student, he studied under a host of influential teachers including FJS McFadzean, Stephen Cheng, Rosie Young and David Todd. “In 1960 McFadzean told me that if I wanted to do research I must learn biochemistry.” He took the words to heart and never looked back.

The seminal contributions made by Professor Kan on DNA polymorphism made it possible to trace the transmission of disease-causing genes in families. As a direct result of these discoveries, novel DNA-based diagnostic procedures have been developed to detect pre-natal genetic disorders such as sickle cell anaemia.

**Sir Richard Doll,** Regius Professor of Medicine in Oxford 1969 - 1979

He is widely considered to be the father of modern epidemiology, and has made enormous contributions to our understanding of the preventable causes of cancer over the last five decades.

The visiting National Olympic Gold Medallists were greeted with a high-spirited and colourful welcome to HKU on September 8. Close to a thousand enthusiastic students and staff were able to meet and chat with the medallists at Loke Yew Hall. The Olympic fever reached its peak when the medallists moved to the Sun Yat-sen Place to cheer and play games with students, joined by alumnus Alex Fong (BBA (Acc&Fin) 2004) and many exchange students.

“The University of Hong Kong is a highly acclaimed international university. If I were given a chance, I would have chosen this University”, said Luo Xuejuan, 100m breaststroke gold medallist.
In the Business and Entrepreneur Enhancement Programme (BEEP), students from 12 HKU student bodies and 11 secondary schools jointly develop businesses for a total of 19 stalls at the Chinese New Year Market in Fa Hui Park, Boundary Street (界限街花墟公園) from February 3 to 9, 2005.

BEEP aims at enhancing participants’ business sense and creative entrepreneurship. It provides a chance for them to develop their abilities and competencies in formulating business ideas and preparing business proposals. Participants will have a practical chance to examine the feasibility and effectiveness of their business ideas. BEEP can also foster closer partnerships among HKU students and alumni, and secondary school students; and bring HKU to the community.

Prizes will be awarded to teams with outstanding performance in areas such as stall design, creative products and services, cost control, fiscal management, profitability, teamwork, etc.

Participating groups:

**Secondary Schools**
- Kiangsu Chekiang College (Kwai Chung) 華海鎮公學
- Hong Kong Sam Yuk Secondary School 香港三育中學
- Munsang College 民生書院
- Baptist Wing Lung Secondary School 軍校會永隆中學
- Pooi To Middle School 香港培道中學
- Wah Yan College, Kowloon 華仁書院
- The Boys & Girls Clubs Association of Hong Kong South Kwai Chung Children & Youth Integrated Services Centre

**Student Associations, HKU**
- Sociology Society
- Undergrad 學苑
- Statistics and Actuarial Science Society
- Industrial Engineering Association
- Students’ Union 學生會
- China Education Association
- R.C. Lee Hall Students’ Association
- University Hall Students’ Association
- Ricci Hall Students’ Association
- Wei Lun Hall Students’ Association
- BBA (Law) Students (Year 1)
- BBA (Law) Students (Year 2)

Organisers:
- Hong Kong Economic Times
- General Education Unit, HKU
- Convocation, HKU
- Faculty of Business & Economics, HKU

Sponsor:
- CITIC Ka Wah Bank Limited