

Press Release
(For immediate release)

Opera Hong Kong Announces the Newly Elected Chairman and Board of Directors



(Hong Kong, 27 March 2019) - Opera Hong Kong (OHK) is pleased to announce that, subsequent to the Annual General Meeting, Mr. Ronald Kwok (郭永聰先生) was elected as the Chairman of the company with effect from 26 March 2019.

Mr. Kwok has been a Director of Opera Hong Kong since 2009 and the Chairman of its Membership Committee since 2010. He serves on a number of other positions to promote art and culture in Hong Kong. Ronald is currently a Member of the Advisory Committee on Arts Development and the Committee on Venue Partnership in Hong Kong. He was formerly a Council Member of the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts.

Mr. Kwok's main passion has always been singing. Musically trained at an early age, he won several singing competitions in Sydney, Australia. Since 1998, he has performed as a soloist at numerous fundraising events and wedding banquets in Hong Kong. Since 2006, Mr. Kwok has been singing opera arias under the artistic direction of his singing coach Mr. Alex Tam (Chorus Director of Opera Hong Kong). In 2013, he released a CD album (singing mostly Opera arias) to promote and raise funds for Opera Hong Kong.

Mr. Kwok said, "It is my honour and pleasure to take up the baton to lead Opera Hong Kong. I am very proud of our company which has established a solid foundation of bringing world class opera productions and initiating a comprehensive series of education and outreach programmes to our Hong Kong audience. However, there is no room for complacency. We will respond to the trust and support of all our opera lovers and sponsors. They are the impetus for us to strike for excellence in promoting the art of opera."

OHK will celebrate its 16th anniversary in 2019. The company will be presenting a series of celebratory programmes including fully staged productions of Mozart's *Don Giovanni* (which is based on the legends of Don Juan, the infamous Spanish womanizer) in May and Verdi's *Rigoletto* in October, semi-staged productions of *Cavalleria Rusticana & Pagliacci* in August, and the Annual Performance of the Young Artists in the Jockey Club Opera Hong Kong Young Artist Development and Education Programme in November.

OHK would like to express its heartfelt gratitude to Mr. KL Wong, the company's former Chairman, for his outstanding contribution in time, talents and financial support for very many years. OHK would also like to congratulate Mr. Kwok on his appointment, and believes under his leadership leadership, the company will continue to deliver strong results and reach new standards of excellence in the coming year. OHK also welcomes Ms. Vena Cheng and Ms. Mabel Lui who are joining the Board

of Directors. OHK has also setup the Young Artist Development Committee under the chairmanship of Mr. Chester Hoang to provide more focus to the Young Artists' development and integrate the Young Artists' programmes more closely with those of OHK.

Below is the full list of Board members of Opera Hong Kong:

Chairman

Mr. Ronald KWOK

Honorary Treasurer

Mrs. Teresa LIN

Honorary Secretary

Mr. Gordon JONES, BBS

Honorary Legal Advisor

P. C. Woo & Co.

Honorary Auditor

Patrick Wong C. P. A. Ltd

Directors

Ms. Vena CHENG

Ms. CHIU Wen Ling

Miss. CHUNG Yan Yan

Mr. Philip EISENBEISS

Mr. Chester HOANG

Mr. Francis LIU

Ms. Mabel LUI

Ms. Paddy LUI, BBS, JP

Ms. Sonia LUI

Ms. Emily TSANG Wing Hin

Executive / Finance Committee Chairman

Mr. Ronald KWOK

Artistic Committee Chairman

Mr. Gordon JONES, BBS

Education & Outreach Committee Chairman

Ms. Sonia LUI

Development Committee Chairman

Miss. CHUNG Yan Yan

Membership Committee Chairman

Mr. Ronald KWOK

PR & Audience Building Committee Chairman

Mr. Gordon JONES, BBS

Young Artists Development Committee Chairman

Mr. Chester HOANG

Artistic Director

Mr. Warren MOK

~Ends~

High resolution images and Chairman bio can be downloaded at: <https://bit.ly/2UiCmCW>

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About Opera Hong Kong

Established in 2003, Opera Hong Kong is a non-profit making organization committed to the mission of enhancing the appreciation of the art of opera and promoting local musical talents under the direction of Warren Mok, world-renowned Chinese tenor from Hong Kong. In addition to staging operas and concerts, education and outreach programme are also held regularly to reach the young population. Opera Hong Kong Chorus and Opera Hong Kong Children Chorus (OHKCC) were established in 2004 and 2008 respectively and are becoming recognized forces in the local choral scene.

Riding on the success of the Jockey Club Opera Hong Kong Young Artist Development Programme (the Programme) which commenced in 2015, The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust has renewed the programme with Opera Hong Kong for another 3 years. The programme, accompanied by a series of outreach activities, provides intensive vocal training to 12 local young artists.

The establishment of OHK's new music centre in Wanchai has marked a milestone for the development of our Education and Outreach endeavour. A wide range of courses are being organized for early age children to adults in addition to the OHKCC classes. The recent national policy of developing the Greater Bay Area, with its anticipated economic and population boom, will create an even better environment for OHK to initiate more collaborations and bring opera to an even bigger audience.