

Chairperson's report 2023

Dear members of the Hong Kong Dance Alliance and fellow dance enthusiasts,

I am honored to present the Chairman's Report for the year of 2023 at the Hong Kong Dance Alliance's Annual General Meeting (AGM) highlighting the key activities and achievements of our vibrant dance community. This year has been marked by resilience and creativity as we navigated through unprecedented challenges in the global landscape.

Our commitment to promoting dance in all its forms has remained uncompromising. Despite the limitations imposed by the ongoing pandemic till the middle of the year, we successfully adapted our programs to virtual formats before and brought them back to live one by one, ensuring continued engagement with our diverse dance community.

Firstly, let's reflect on the 24th Hong Kong Dance Awards Gala Performance and Awards Presentation Ceremony – an impressive occasion that celebrated outstanding contributions to dance. Notably, Lindsey McAlister received the Distinguished Achievement Award, and Hu Song-Wei Ricky were recognized for his exceptional choreography and artistic direction for the event.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our Guest of Honor, Ms. Winsome Chow, for her presence and contributions. Despite some unavoidable absences, our VIP invitations reached influential figures in the government and dance community, symbolizing the diverse support for our artistic endeavors.

Presenters of the Awards:

- Tang Shu-wing, Lindzay Chan, Paul Tam, Natasha Rogai, Andy Wong, Gillian Choa, Daniel Lo. They presented 15 awards in total to celebrate excellence in dance here in Hong Kong in the year 2022.

We embraced environmental responsibility and aligned with our budget by opting for an online format for the Awards Booklet this year.

Moving on to the 30th Anniversary Dance Sector Party, jointly presented with the West Kowloon Dance Team, we experienced a long overdue gathering where dance and celebration seamlessly reconnected.

Looking ahead to the 25th Hong Kong Dance Awards, our vision transcends a mere artistic celebration.

- Formed a steering committee with past chairpersons and colleagues
- Objectives: Strengthen the dance community and connect local artists globally

I am excited to announce new panelists for the Dance Awards 2025, reflecting our dedication to fostering fresh perspectives in the dance community. Additionally, we are exploring international collaborations, considering guest panelists for Choreography Awards from Europe and U.S.

Collaboration has been a cornerstone of our efforts. We forged partnerships with local and international dance organizations, amplifying our impact and broadening our reach. These collaborations have not only enriched our programs but have also positioned the Alliance as a key player in the global dance dialogue.

We launched initiatives to support emerging talents, emphasizing the importance of representation across various dance genres. New Force in Motion initiative has continued to develop, this year it showcased 3 diverse choreographers.

- Lo King San (contemporary), Suen Nam (street dance) and Ryan Lee Chun Hin (Chinese dance)

Our commitment to fostering an inclusive environment extends beyond performances to educational programs, promoting dance as a universal language that transcends cultural boundaries, with a promising schedule and theme, "Movement and Music Journey," under the guidance of Artistic Advisor Lai Tak Wai, and Music Advisor Anthony Yeung.

Dance Journal/HK Highlights:

- Published four issues with diverse focuses and insightful articles. Explored crucial topics like audio description of dance and the journey of the Hong Kong Breakdancing Team to the Paris Olympics.
- Reviews covered a range of productions, enhancing our understanding of the dance landscape.

Online Presence and Distribution:

- Website sessions increased, with 5,632 site sessions recorded in the latest cycle.

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- Facebook followers reached 1,324.
- Printing and distribution maintained at 2,000 copies per issue.

DanceHub: Lecture Series

- Workshop hosted by Dr. Fung Hiu Ying Melody on mental health awareness and mindfulness in dance.

Looking ahead, we remain optimistic about the future of dance in Hong Kong. As we gradually emerge from the challenges of the past year, the Hong Kong Dance Alliance stands poised to play a pivotal role in the dance community.

In conclusion, I extend my gratitude to the dedicated members of the Hong Kong Dance Alliance, the board members, staff, volunteers, and all those who contribute to our dance ecosystem. Your passion and commitment have been instrumental in our collective success.

In closing, the Hong Kong Dance Alliance continues to thrive, celebrating achievements, fostering inclusivity, and embracing the rich diversity of dance. As we embark on the 30th Anniversary and plan for the 25th Hong Kong Dance Awards, let us dance forward into a future filled with creativity, collaboration, and artistic brilliance.

Thank you and let the rhythm of dance guide us forward.

Allen Lam

Chairperson, Hong Kong Dance Alliance

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