15 April 2012

CLP Helps Youngsters Overcome Obstacles with the Power of Classical Music

Classical music is well known for its beneficial effects on intellectual as well as cultural growth, particularly among children. Recognising an opportunity to provide the gift of classical music for disadvantaged youth in Hong Kong, CLP Power Hong Kong Limited (CLP) recently invited 30 kids from The Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hong Kong to a company-sponsored music event, ‘Good Music This Day 2012’.

The event, organised by the Hong Kong Sinfonietta (HKS), was designed to bring classical music to a much wider audience. CLP took this one step further by organising an exclusive ‘Young Musical Minds, Big Orchestral Dreams’ session for the youngsters, designed to provide an environment where they could learn about classical music by interacting with both HKS musicians and CLP volunteers.

‘Good Music This Day 2012’ featured a series of casual, interactive concerts and musical games that both CLP and HKS hope will foster a love for classical music among children and their families. The open-house initiative represents an important part of CLP’s community investment program because of its focus on youth- and education-related initiatives.

During ‘Young Musical Minds, Big Orchestral Dreams’, the students – ranging in age from 8-17, with varying degrees of previous musical exposure and lessons – were able to explore various classical pieces and learn about the instrumental composition of an orchestra. HKS violinist Ms Sophia Teng and principal bassoonist Mr Chin Hing-sang then shared their success stories with the children. Ms Yip Wing-sie, the Music Director of HKS also encouraged children of any background to achieve their dreams with persistence and hard work.

Miss Daisy Chan, Public Affairs Director of CLP Power said, “CLP believes that everyone should have the opportunity to enjoy music. In not only promoting arts and culture, but also broadening youth education to embrace youngsters from less fortunate families, we are proud to have helped make this event an especially meaningful one. Our business is closely intertwined with the wellbeing of Hong Kong, and ‘Care for the Community’ is one of our core values. CLP will continue to
uphold its corporate citizenship by caring for the underprivileged community and nurturing young talent.”

Ms Yip Wing-sie, the Music Director of HKS, said, “We greatly appreciate CLP’s continuous support to Hong Kong Sinfonietta throughout the years. Support from corporations like CLP is really vital to us in helping us to bring classical music closer to the Hong Kong community.”

The ‘Good Music This Day 2012’ event was held on Sunday 15th April from 2:30 to 5:30 pm at Hong Kong City Hall. CLP was the sole corporate sponsor for this programme.

**About CLP Power Hong Kong Limited**
CLP Power Hong Kong Limited (“CLP Power”) is the Hong Kong utility subsidiary wholly owned by CLP Holdings Limited, a company listed on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange and one of the largest investor-owned power businesses in Asia. CLP Power operates a vertically integrated electricity supply business in Hong Kong, and provides a highly reliable supply of electricity and excellent customer services to 5.7 million people in its supply area.

**About Hong Kong Sinfonietta**
Hong Kong Sinfonietta was established in 1990 and the orchestra performs live close to 100 times a year. With renowned conductor Yip Wing-sie as Music Director, HKS has made a name abroad as Hong Kong’s premier orchestra, renowned for its innovative programming and audience development achievements. HKS has collaborated with renowned musicians and groups such as Domingo, Pavarotti, The Royal Ballet, and New York City Ballet. The orchestra has also been a regular participant at major music festivals and performed overseas in countries such as Japan, Italy, France, Brazil, and many more. Last year at the Shanghai Expo, the orchestra had the honour to perform for the Hong Kong Week Closing Performance.
Around 30 young students joined CLP’s ‘Young Musical Minds, Big Orchestral Dreams’ session at ‘The Good Music This Day 2012’ event. They all enjoyed a memorable afternoon and learned more about classical music at the session.

Assisted by CLP volunteer (middle), Hong Kong Sinfonietta members Ms Sophia Teng (right) directed a participating student to play the violin.
Ms Yip Wing-sie, the Music Director of HKS (second left) encouraged participating children to achieve their dreams with persistence and hard work. HKS members Ms Sophia Teng (middle) and Mr Chin Hing-seng (second right) shared how their passion for music and hard work paved the way for their successful careers as professional musicians.

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