

CONTROLLING OFFICER'S REPLY

S-HAB006

(Question Serial No. S029)

Head: (95) Leisure and Cultural Services Department

Subhead (No. & title): (-) Not Specified

Programme: (4) Performing Arts

Controlling Officer: Director of Leisure and Cultural Services (Vincent LIU)

Director of Bureau: Secretary for Home Affairs

Question:

According to a written reply, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department will set up the "East Kowloon Cultural Centre Academy for Arts Tech" (the Academy) to offer short-term courses of different levels. In this connection, please inform this Committee of the following:

- (1) Will the Academy collaborate with arts groups and/or companies in the industry? If so, please give examples of their nature.
- (2) Will the Academy act as a connector between tertiary institutions and the above groups/companies to ensure that job opportunities in the industry will be provided systematically to course participants upon completion of the on-the-job-training?

Asked by: Hon WONG Yuen-shan (LegCo internal reference no.: 4)

Reply:

- (1) The Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) has launched a series of activities in phases since 2021 to promote arts technology (arts tech) and strengthen ties between the arts and technology communities. Sharing sessions, workshops, a temporary "Pre-testbed Studio" and guided visits were launched by the LCSD to introduce arts tech to the relevant sectors and give young people an idea of the prospect of the industry. Meetups-cum-retreats were also held at the Science Park and Cyberport to serve as communication platforms for the arts and cultural sector and the innovation and technology (I&T) sector to foster collaboration and exchanges. As at February 2022, a total of 140 sessions of activities were organised for about 5 900 participants. The East Kowloon Cultural Centre (EKCC) will continue to liaise closely with artists/arts groups and relevant organisations to gauge the needs of the industry in arts tech development when formulating suitable course contents. The "EKCC Academy for Arts Tech" (the Academy) will collaborate with relevant I&T professionals to promote arts tech development. Programmes initially planned include application and programming courses on immersive audio system, computer moving lights, media servers and live streaming system.

- (2) The EKCC has been maintaining strong ties with tertiary institutions running courses related to creative media, artists and technology professionals. It is expected that through the short-term training courses of different levels and internship opportunities offered by the Academy, structured training could be provided to young people and tertiary students who aspire for a career in arts tech, and participants could be encouraged to share, study, learn and create alongside technology professionals and artists on this platform set up by the Academy. In the long run, the practical experience gained will benefit participants when they go for arts tech creative jobs and enter the stage technical support industry with keen manpower demand.

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