

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Standard Chartered Arts in the Park 2022

**A spectacular weekend of Dickensian Christmas cheer ended successfully with a Giant Puppet and Dramatic Costume Showcase  
Attracts over 30,000 visitors injecting positive energy to the community**



Photo 1:

Attracting over 30,000 visitors this year, the outdoor carnival *Standard Chartered Arts in the Park 2022* wrapped up today with a spectacular Giant Puppet and Dramatic Costume Showcase! The colourful event featured 400 performers and 11 four-metre-tall giant puppets, all inspired by the wonderful works by British writer Charles Dickens.



Photo 2:

Officiating at the *Standard Chartered Arts in the Park 2022* Giant Puppet and Dramatic Costume Showcase finale ceremony were Mr Benjamin Hung, Chief Executive Officer, Asia, Standard Chartered Bank (front row centre); Ms Lindsey McAlister, Founder of Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation (front row right) and Ms Betty Fung Ching Suk-ye, CEO of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority (front row left).



Photo 3:  
The Giant Puppet and Dramatic Costume Showcase at *Standard Chartered Arts in the Park 2022* featured 400 local artists and students, encouraging the development of local youth arts.



Photo 4:  
*Standard Chartered Arts in the Park 2022* transformed the West Kowloon Cultural District Art Park into nineteenth-century Victorian England with Dickensian Christmas spirit! Events included a spectacular Giant Puppet and Dramatic Costume Showcase, eleven interactive art stalls, stage performances, storytelling theatre, a cappella performances, African drum jams, circus workshops, plus exhibitions featuring over 9,000 colourful circle weaving artworks and painted wooden dolls.



Photo 5:  
*Standard Chartered Arts in the Park 2022* presented a Dickensian-themed family carnival inspired by four works by British writer Charles Dickens – *Oliver Twist*, *A Christmas Carol*, *David Copperfield* and *Great Expectations*!

**Download high-resolution images:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/o8lhtaam84hppjx/AABBa2YBfMoQUYVOQWlriYrya?dl=0>

(Hong Kong, 4 December 2022) The two-day outdoor carnival *Standard Chartered Arts in the Park 2022* ended today after a hugely successful weekend! Attracting over 30,000 visitors, the annual arts carnival

closed with a spectacular Giant Puppet and Dramatic Costume Showcase that comprised a team of 400 local primary and secondary students and artists. Officiating at the finale ceremony, and supporting participating students and artists, were Mr Benjamin Hung, Chief Executive Officer, Asia, Standard Chartered Bank; Ms Lindsey McAlister, Founder, Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation, and Mrs Betty Fung Ching Suk-ye, Chief Executive Officer of the West Kowloon Cultural District Authority.

*Standard Chartered Arts in the Park 2022* was a Dickensian-themed spectacle inspired by four works by British writer Charles Dickens – *A Christmas Carol*, *Oliver Twist*, *David Copperfield* and *Great Expectations*. The iconic annual event offers an opportunity for participants and audiences of all ages to engage in positive creativity. This year, around 8,000 Hong Kong artists and students devoted a total of 20,000 hours to create artworks and dance performances for our family-oriented arts carnival.

Organised by Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation, sponsored by Standard Chartered Community Foundation and powered by Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited, *Standard Chartered Arts in the Park* is Hong Kong's largest outdoor youth arts carnival. Now in its 22nd year, *Standard Chartered Arts in the Park* is an event held over two days every year, bringing joy to over 190,000 visitors and helping young participants develop important life skills such as creativity, teamwork, problem solving, leadership and self-confidence. This year, alongside two days of outdoor events, we also presented a five-day-long programme of online arts activities – all inspired by the stories of Charles Dickens – to kick off the Christmas season.

For more information about *Standard Chartered Arts in the Park*, please visit [www.scartsinthepark.com](http://www.scartsinthepark.com) or follow us on Facebook [@SCArtsInThePark](https://www.facebook.com/SCArtsInThePark).

## NOTES TO EDITORS

### **About Standard Chartered Arts in the Park**

*Standard Chartered Arts in the Park* is an annual youth education programme through the arts. The six-month programme provides participants with exciting opportunities that help improve their self-confidence and enhance important life skills such as creativity, team spirit and leadership. Every year, the programme culminates in a two-day, free admission family-oriented arts carnival that nurtures positivity, creativity and appreciation of Hong Kong's talented youth.

Launched in 2001, *Standard Chartered Arts in the Park* first took place at Stanley Plaza. Since then, the event has become the largest outdoor youth arts festival in Hong Kong, moving to Victoria Park in Causeway Bay in 2008. In 2012, the *Grand Finale Parade* expanded out of the park and onto the streets of Causeway Bay, and in 2013 the very first illuminated *Night Parade* took place. In 2020, a week-long online programme was launched to help children get creative at home. Each year, over 3,500 young people come together with local and overseas organisations to produce vibrant costumes and giant puppets for spectacular street parades, plus a variety of stage performances and art stalls, attracting over 190,000 visitors annually.

### **About Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation (HKYAF)**

Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation (HKYAF) is a charity that provides access to high quality, non-competitive free-of-charge arts experiences for all young people aged 5 to 25. Established in 1993 by Lindsey McAlister OBE, JP, HKYAF organises inclusive and inspirational projects that reach out to youngsters of all cultures, backgrounds, languages and abilities, and actively creates opportunities for those who are disadvantaged and underprivileged. Each year, HKYAF reaches over 800,000 people through its projects, exhibitions and performances.

### **About Standard Chartered**

Standard Chartered is a leading international banking group, with a presence in 59 of the world's most dynamic markets and serving clients in a further 83. Our purpose is to drive commerce and prosperity through our unique diversity, and our heritage and values are expressed in our brand promise, here for good.

Standard Chartered PLC is listed on the London and Hong Kong Stock Exchanges.

The history of Standard Chartered in Hong Kong dates back to 1859. It is currently one of the Hong Kong SAR's three note-issuing banks. Standard Chartered incorporated its Hong Kong business on 1 July 2004, and now operates as a licensed bank in Hong Kong under the name of Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Standard Chartered PLC.

For more stories and expert opinions please visit [Insights](#) at [sc.com](#). Follow Standard Chartered on [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#).

### **MEDIA ENQUIRIES**

#### **Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation**

Josephine Leung      (852) 2877 2625 | [josephine@hkyaf.com](mailto:josephine@hkyaf.com)  
Rosata Ching          (852) 2214 0266 | [rosata@hkyaf.com](mailto:rosata@hkyaf.com)  
Melody Lau            (852) 2877 2207 | [melody@hkyaf.com](mailto:melody@hkyaf.com)