

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Standard Chartered Arts in the Park 2024** returns this winter  
Join us for a captivating giant puppet parade that brings  
Jules Verne's *Around the World in Eighty Days* to Victoria Park



High-resolution images: <https://bit.ly/40aPSKr>

(22 October 2024, Hong Kong) Next stop: Hong Kong!

Phileas Fogg and his valet Jean Passepartout – from French writer Jules Verne's famous novel *Around the World in Eighty Days* – have taken on a challenge to travel around the globe. After setting off from London, they finally make it to Hong Kong!

This year, Hong Kong's largest outdoor youth arts festival, *Standard Chartered Arts in the Park*, takes inspiration from Jules Verne's acclaimed tale of adventure. Between 30 November and 1 December, join us for an around-the-world weekend getaway in Causeway Bay with Phileas Fogg, Passepartout and our flamboyant giant puppets!

Organised by Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation (HKYAF), *Standard Chartered Arts in the Park* is sponsored by Standard Chartered Community Foundation and powered by Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited, with support from the Hong Kong Tourism Board.

The two-day event features a puppet parade, 15 creative arts booths, 70 non-stop live performance groups, finger-popping African drumming workshops, engaging live storytelling, a display of over 1,000 pieces of creative art work, and meet-and-greet sessions with 10 giant puppets.

### See our four-metre-tall giant puppets up close

On Sunday, 1 December at 2:30pm, the hugely popular Grand Finale Parade sets off from Victoria Park, heads along Great George Street and past Sogo before looping back to East Point Road. The parade features 10 four-metre-tall puppets and 500 young people, including 400 students from 100 local schools and 4 groups of professional dancers. Join us along the route and get to see some colourful characters from *Around the World in Eighty Days* up close!



### A creative showcase celebrating diverse cultures



Taking inspiration from the globe-spanning adventures of Phileas Fogg and Passepartout, this year's creative artwork showcases heritage artefacts like the Egyptian Sphinx, exotic elephants and snakes, and colourful modes of transport like ships and balloons! In addition, local giant puppet artist Jimmy Hsieh works his magic again this year presenting a giant Phileas Fogg puppet — dressed in a steampunk-style suit decorated with cogs and clocks.



For more information on *Standard Chartered Arts in the Park 2024*, please visit [www.scartsinthepark.com](http://www.scartsinthepark.com) or follow us on Facebook [@SCArtsInThePark](https://www.facebook.com/SCArtsInThePark).

Remarks: The above pictures are event highlights of *Standard Chartered Arts in the Park 2023*

### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

#### **Standard Chartered Arts in the Park 2024**

**Date:** 30 November and 1 December 2024 (Saturday and Sunday)

**Time:** 10am – 5pm

**Venue:** Central Lawn, Victoria Park, Causeway Bay

#### **Standard Chartered Arts in the Park 2024 – Grand Finale Parade**

**Date:** 1 December 2024 (Sunday)

**Time:** 2:30pm – 4:00pm

**Route:** Starting from Victoria Park, the parade passes along Great George Street and past Sogo, before turning back at East Point Road

### **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 each year previously.

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### **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 53 of the world's most dynamic markets and serving clients in a further 64. 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.

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## Standard Chartered Arts in the Park 2024

### Standard Chartered Arts in the Park – Enriching the Life Skills of Hong Kong’s Youth through the Arts

*Standard Chartered Arts in the Park (AIP)* 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 including 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.

### Hong Kong’s Largest Outdoor Youth Arts Festival and Puppet Parade

Launched in 2001, and inspired by London’s *Notting Hill Carnival* and Brazil’s *Rio de Janeiro Carnival*, *AIP* 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. In 2020, we launched our first-ever week-long online series of art programmes for participants to stay creatively connected at home. Each year, over 3,500 young people and local and overseas organisations come together 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 each year previously.

### 2024 Theme and Inspiration

Taking inspiration from Jules Verne’s acclaimed tale of adventure *Around the World in Eighty Days*, the two-day event features a puppet parade, creative arts booths, live performances, and more. Join us for an around-the-world weekend getaway in Causeway Bay with Phileas Fogg, Passepartout and our flamboyant giant puppets!

Project Organiser: Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation  
 Project Sponsor: Standard Chartered Community Foundation  
 Powered by: Standard Chartered Bank (Hong Kong) Limited  
 Supporting Organisation: Hong Kong Tourism Board

### 2024 Key Facts

Youth participants involved in artworks creation	Over 1,500 individuals
Youth participants and professional artists involved in the Grand Finale Parade	Over 500 individuals
Schools and youth organisations	Over 100
Participating artist groups	44 groups
Preparation time for creation of artworks and dance performances	Over 13,000 hours
Parade costumes and puppets	About 300 pieces
Event volunteers	Over 300 individuals

### 2024 Event Highlights

<b>Grand Finale Parade</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Inspired by Jules Verne’s <i>Around the World in Eighty Days</i>, this year’s creative artwork showcases heritage artefacts, exotic animals, transports, and more from around the world.</li> <li>Featuring 10 four-metre-tall giant puppets co-created by professional artists and students, plus a display of over 300 colourful costumes and artworks.</li> </ul>
<b>Arts education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In preparation for this year’s carnival, 44 Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation artist groups conducted artist-in-residence workshops at over 100 schools and youth organisations, collaborating with over 1,500 students to create and showcase giant puppets, colourful costumes and dance performances.</li> </ul>
<b>Diversity and inclusivity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Led by volunteers, sparks the dreams of underprivileged youth and youth from ethnic minorities with arts.</li> </ul>
<b>Performances by 70 youth groups</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two days of non-stop live performances showcasing the talent and creativity of local youth groups.</li> <li>Varied performances including traditional dance, jazz, street dance, contemporary dance, and choir.</li> </ul>
<b>2 storytelling theatre sessions, 15 free interactive art stalls and more</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Storytelling theatre sessions of <i>Around the World in Eighty Days</i> in Cantonese and English take the audience on Phileas Fogg’s journey.</li> <li>15 free interactive art stalls offer the chance to get creative making headdresses, costumes and accessories, trying out face painting and balloon twisting, and more.</li> <li>Activities such as African drum jam sessions, offering a taste of percussionists and a carnival vibe.</li> <li>Plus a scenic photo area for capturing fun moments with our giant puppets.</li> </ul>
<b>Exhibition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An exhibition featuring 10 handmade four-metre-tall giant puppets.</li> <li>Plus a showcase of over 1,000 artworks created by students including colourful decorative clocks and carnival costumes.</li> </ul>

## Standard Chartered Arts in the Park 2024 – Event Overview

DATE	TIME	VENUE	EVENTS
<p>30 November &amp; 1 December, 2024 (Saturday &amp; Sunday)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Carnival</b> From 10am to 5pm</p>	<p>Central Lawn, Victoria Park, Causeway Bay</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Storytelling Theatre <i>Around the World in Eighty Days</i> (Cantonese and English)</li> <li>• African drum jam</li> <li>• Live performances showcasing the talent of 70 local youth groups</li> <li>• 15 interactive art stalls</li> <li>• A giant puppet photo area</li> <li>• An exhibition showcasing 1,000 artworks including colourful decorative clocks and carnival costumes</li> </ul>
<p>1 December, 2024 (Sunday)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Grand Finale Parade</b> From 2:30pm to 4pm</p>	<p>Starting from Victoria Park, heading along Great George Street and past Sogo before looping back to East Point Road</p>	<p>A spectacular <b>Grand Finale Parade</b> featuring 10 giant puppets inspired by <i>Around the World in Eighty Days</i> and co-created by local artists and local primary and secondary students, as well as 500 youth participants in dramatic costumes, and the talented dancers and performers from Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation.</p>