

1 June 2017, 11:45 – 1:00 p.m.

PLENARY SESSION 1: 全體環節(一)

Current Situation and Development of Inclusion in the Cross Strait Four Regions

兩岸四地傷健共融的情況與發展

Eng: Arts Inclusion in Hong Kong

Chin: 藝術共融在香港

Speaker:

Ms Pauline YEUNG

Senior Researcher of Our Hong Kong Foundation

團結香港基金高級研究員楊寶蓮女士

Medium of Speech: English

The art market has boomed in Hong Kong in the past five years. With the arrival of international galleries, major auction houses, and small and large art fairs, Hong Kong has undoubtedly become Asia's commercial art hub and an important destination on the global art circuit. As much as we welcome these developments, in this presentation we argue that art is not just about business activity and market growth. In fact, we believe that culture and creativity – encompassing the visual arts, performing arts, design and architecture – are powerful elements in building an inclusive society, where the elderly, the disabled, and those with special needs can enjoy equality and respect in the community.

This presentation explores arts inclusion from four different angles:

- (1) Achieving accessibility through inclusive design;
- (2) Healing the mind and soul through arts therapy;
- (3) Breaking down barriers through cultural engagement; and
- (4) Attaining self-actualization through creative employment

Indeed, with major trends such as a rapidly ageing population and a growing awareness of inclusiveness, combined with ongoing developments in arts and culture and increasing emphasis on cultural innovation, we believe that time is ripe for Hong Kong to capture the arts as a means for engaging those in societal periphery.