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Hong Kong Disneyland Resort Teams Up with Make-A-Wish® to Host Summer Snow Day Wishes Celebration

Fulfilling wishes for wish children from across the region

HONG KONG, December 15, 2023 – For the first time in forever, today Hong Kong Disneyland Resort (HKDL) teamed up with Make-A-Wish® to grant life-changing wishes at the all-new themed land World of Frozen.



Eleven children living with critical illnesses and their families from around the world traveled to Hong Kong to visit World of Frozen and have their wishes granted. They are among approximately 130 guests traveling from local Make-A-Wish affiliates including Hong Kong, Singapore, the Philippines and Taiwan to join the Summer Snow Day Wishes Celebration.



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“Making wishes come true is some of the most important work that we do at Disney,” said Jill Estorino, President and Managing Director of Disney Parks International. “In fact, Disney is the largest wish-granter in the world for Make-A-Wish. Hong Kong Disneyland joined that journey when it opened in 2005, and has been bringing Disney magic to the local community and beyond ever since.”

The entire event was inspired by one child’s wish to meet the Imagineers involved with the all-new World of Frozen.



Dominic, a wish child from Singapore, was diagnosed with hemophilia seven days after birth. Despite facing an incurable condition that requires a lifetime of treatment, he remains steadfast in his pursuit of knowledge, fueled by a passion for mathematics, science, engineering, and space.

After watching the documentary “The Imagineering Story” on Disney+ during the pandemic, Dominic was deeply inspired by the Imagineers’ creativity and innovative use of technology to build Disney parks and attractions.

“While many Disneyland guests may only see what is presented, I am drawn to explore the rationale behind the scenes,” he said. “The work of Imagineers combines robotic techniques, architecture, engineering and other disciplines, turning imagination into reality through numerous trials and experiments. I am thrilled to meet them to learn more about their work.”



Jo Phoa, Director of Creative Development of Walt Disney Imagineering Hong Kong, and Angus Chan, Principal Ride Control System Engineer of Walt Disney Imagineering Hong Kong, were touched by Dominic’s thirst for knowledge and excitement about Imagineering. They designed a special exploratory tour for Dominic, guiding him through the new attraction Frozen Ever After, which utilizes state-of-the-art Audio-Animatronics technology.



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Additionally, Dominic learned about the electric motion simulator system of Iron Man Experience – the first at any Disney park, and had the unique opportunity to witness the design process.



Dominic, who visited a Disney park for the first time, expressed his thrill at exploring the new World of Frozen and learning about its technology and operations. His conversations with Phoa and Chan reaffirmed his passion for science, inspiring him to become an Imagineer.

Meanwhile, four-year-old Ali, who underwent the first phase of chemotherapy following a medulloblastoma diagnosis in June, admires her favorite character Elsa for her bravery and loving nature. Her wish to meet Elsa was granted at World of Frozen on Summer Snow Day where she was also greeted by Anna, Olaf and other beloved characters from the Walt Disney Animation Studios film “Frozen.”



Ali (second from left) meets with Elsa

With the courage and positivity of Elsa, Ali courageously faces her illness with a smile and positivity. Her family noted that the visit to World of Frozen infused her with hope, providing a welcome distraction from her illness and treatment, and created cherished memories. Meeting Elsa and receiving an autograph from her added extra joy to Ali’s magical experience.

“This is a remarkable day for Make-A-Wish. For the first time ever, we are granting wishes from the Southeast Asia region at Hong Kong Disneyland,” said Dr Kevin Lau, Board Director of Make-A-Wish International. “I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to Hong Kong Disneyland for inviting us to this special event celebrating the power of wishes at the kingdom





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of Arendelle and joining hands with Make-A-Wish in bringing hope to children from all around the world.”

To commemorate the opening of World of Frozen and the 25th anniversary of Make-A-Wish Hong Kong, the resort will donate HK\$10 for every transaction made at Tick Tock Toys & Collectibles in the kingdom of Arendelle to Make-A-Wish Hong Kong from today until Jan 10, 2024. Combined with the proceeds from the recent “Wish Upon A Chocolate Cake” charity sales at the resort, HKDL plans to contribute a total of HK\$600,000 to support the development of Make-A-Wish Hong Kong.

For over 40 years, Disney and Make-A-Wish have together fulfilled more than 150,000 Disney-inspired wishes around the world. The bravery, tenacity, and optimism displayed by the wish children are an inspiration for all cast members at HKDL, and the resort will continue to work with Make-A-Wish Hong Kong and other Make-A-Wish International affiliates to support the wishes of wish children living with critical illnesses and their families, creating magical memories that last a lifetime.

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About Make-A-Wish®

Make-A-Wish creates life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses. Founded in 1980, Make-A-Wish is the world's leading children's wish-granting organization, having granted more than 550,000 wishes in nearly 50 countries worldwide. Together with generous donors, supporters, staff and more than 30,000 volunteers around the globe, Make-A-Wish delivers hope and joy to children and their families when they need it most. Make-A-Wish aims to bring the power of wishing to every child with a critical illness because wish experiences can help improve emotional and physical health. For more information about Make-A-Wish International, visit worldwish.org or follow @makeawishintl on social media.

About Make-A-Wish Hong Kong

Make-A-Wish Hong Kong was registered in Hong Kong as a charity (registration number: 91/5366) in 1998 and became a member of Make-A-Wish Foundation International, the world's largest wish-granting organization with 40 affiliates serving over 50 countries and territories nowadays. Collectively we have realized over 550,000 wishes worldwide since 1980. Our mission is to create life-changing wishes for children with critical illnesses aged between 3 and 17, in Hong Kong and Macau, to enrich the human experience with hope, strength and joy. To date, Make-A-Wish Hong Kong has transformed over 2,200 children's lives. We are dedicated to making every eligible child's wish come true.

About Hong Kong Disneyland Resort

Hong Kong Disneyland Resort offers unforgettable, culturally distinctive Disney experiences for guests of all ages and nationalities. Filled with your favorite Disney stories and characters, Hong Kong Disneyland offers guests the opportunity to explore eight diverse themed lands that are home to award-winning, unique attractions and entertainment. Complete your adventure with stays at the resort's luxurious Disney hotels. The magic doesn't end at our doorstep; as a dedicated member of the local community that cares deeply about societal wellbeing, Hong Kong Disneyland Resort spreads its magic through community service programs that help families in need, boost creativity among children and families, encourage the protection of the environment and inspire healthier living.



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Mobile app gives the latest updates & helps plan your visit



The Hong Kong Disneyland mobile app keeps guests informed of all the excitement at Hong Kong Disneyland Resort, from operating hours to entertainment schedules. Reserve your park visit and get Disney Standby Pass to meet Disney friends inside the park. Use the GPS-enabled map to find your way around the park or make reservations for park

and hotel restaurants, and make every moment count with wait times for each attraction. Magic Access members can also view block-out calendars and membership privileges, designed to make your visit even more magical. Download the Hong Kong Disneyland mobile app for free:

iOS users: <https://itunes.apple.com/app/id1077550649>

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