

Please click [here](#) for high-resolution photos and videos

## Hong Kong Disneyland Resort Stages a Magical Celebration for International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2024 and Hong Kong China Paralympic Delegation's Achievements

- Resort donates 9,000 park tickets to celebrate inclusivity for all
- Paralympic athletes and dancers with visual impairments inspire guests



**HONG KONG, Dec 1, 2024** – Hong Kong Disneyland Resort (HKDL) today hosted a Magical Celebration for International Day of Persons with Disabilities (IDPD) 2024 and Hong Kong China Paralympic Delegation's Achievements. Around 1,000 guests, including people with disabilities from approximately 30 NGOs, and athletes to the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games gathered in celebration of the delegation's remarkable accomplishments while highlighting the strength found in unity through diversity and inclusion.

Paralympics medalists including boccia player Ho Yuen-kei and swimmers Chan Yui-lam and Ng Cheuk-yan shared encouraging personal stories of their relentless pursuit of their dreams. The joyous ceremony at the Castle of Magical Dreams also featured a special appearance from Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse, adding a magical touch for all participants.



The excitement reached even greater heights with a breakdancing performance by a young talent with visual impairments, B-boy ShadowKid, and his partner Jojo Lui, who captivated the audience with their striking moves, celebrating the power of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

To commemorate IDPD and showcase HKDL's unwavering commitment to inclusion, the resort additionally donated 8,000 tickets to the Hong Kong Council of Social Service, inviting people with disabilities to enjoy a visit to the Happiest Place on Earth.

### **Celebrating the Spirit of Inclusion and Achievement**

Joining the ceremony as guests of honor were Secretary for Labour and Welfare of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, Chris Sun; Benny Cheung, Chairperson of the Hong Kong Joint Council for People with Disabilities and the Organizing Committee for IDPD; Jenny Fung, President, China Hong Kong Paralympic Committee; and Tim Sypko, Senior Vice President of Operations, HKDL.



Sun said it was a pleasure to attend the celebration this year. "The government will continue to strengthen rehabilitation services and policies, including the establishment of 14 Integrated Community Rehabilitation Centres across the city to support persons with disabilities based on their individual needs and rehabilitation progress, creating 90 additional peer-support posts to enhance peer assistance for persons with disabilities and their carers, introducing the "Caring Employer" medal, and commending employers who actively engage

persons with disabilities."

"At Hong Kong Disneyland, we believe in making our resort accessible and inclusive so that everyone can experience Disney magic," said Sypko. "We proudly support IDPD year after year, expressing our deep appreciation for the tireless efforts of those who champion inclusion and are dedicated to fostering a culture where everyone feels valued and inspired."



Cheung expressed gratitude to the Labour and Welfare Bureau and HKDL for their longstanding support of the IDPD and congratulated the athletes on their outstanding achievements at the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games. Cheung said, "The successful annual celebration of the IDPD by the Hong Kong Joint Council for People with Disabilities and the Hong Kong Council of Social Service is made possible by the unwavering support of the government, corporate partners, and the community. I look forward to continuing to join hands with all sectors to build a society grounded in equality and inclusion."

Fung added, "Para sports and rehabilitation have always been partners, with many elite athletes starting their career through rehabilitation. As the 60th anniversary of Hong Kong Joint Council for People with Disabilities, I'm very pleased that our delegation can celebrate with our friends in the rehabilitation field together at HKDL."





Ho Yuen-kei, a boccia athlete who clinched two golds at Paris Paralympics, expressed her excitement to be at HKDL. "Amid our intense training schedules, today's celebration at HKDL offered a wonderful chance to relax and have fun with our families. Training for the Paralympics is never easy, but it is the support from my family and friends that keeps me going. I hope Hong Kong continues to embrace inclusivity, raise public awareness, and create a community where everyone feels valued."

To Chun-hing, also known as B-boy ShadowKid, has overcome incredible challenges since being diagnosed with a rare genetic eye disease at age 10, which caused him to lose around 95% of his vision. Despite this, his unwavering passion for breakdancing serves as a powerful example of resilience and determination, inspiring everyone to be limitless. His journey of self-discovery continues to encourage everyone to embrace their unique potential and pursue their dreams with courage.



After his performance, B-boy ShadowKid explored the tactile scale models of Frozen Ever After and Wandering Oaken's Sliding Sleighs, two attractions at World of Frozen, which enriched his experience before enjoying the two rides. HKDL recently introduced full scale, color tactile models that available at the two ride entrances, allow guests with visual impairments to engage with the textures, shapes, and intricate details of the ride vehicles, creating an immersive and inclusive experience.

### **Extending the spirit of inclusivity beyond Hong Kong**

In addition to the IDPD celebration, HKDL recently welcomed a group of climbers from YMCA Singapore who successfully tackled Hong Kong's longest trail, the MacLehose Trail. This group of 20 participants, including hikers with special needs, volunteers, and guardians, even extended their stay in Hong Kong to visit HKDL.

The resort is also creating an inclusive work environment, including the "Disney Side-by-Side Journey." Since its launch in 2007, HKDL has collaborated with over 30 NGOs to hire people with disabilities. The upcoming program will start accepting applications from mid-February 2025 through referrals from HKCSS or Labour Department.

– THE END –

## **About Hong Kong Disneyland Resort**

Hong Kong Disneyland Resort offers unforgettable, culturally distinctive Disney experiences for guests of all ages and backgrounds. Filled with your favorite Disney stories and characters, Hong Kong Disneyland Resort offers guests the opportunity to explore eight diverse lands that are home to award-winning, one-of-a-kind 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.

## **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>

Android users: <https://goo.gl/ZbHHbP>

## **Media Enquiry**

Media Relations, Hong Kong Disneyland Resort

Email: [HKDLMediaRelations@disney.com](mailto:HKDLMediaRelations@disney.com)