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CULTURE AND SPORT



Culture and Sport

Eastern and western cultures have co-existed in Macao for over 400 years. A wide variety of cultural traditions, languages, values, religious beliefs, and customs have all existed side by side and influenced one another. Out of this melting pot, a regional culture unique to Macao has gradually developed into its present richness. Macao's culture is thus a diverse mixture, with traditional Chinese culture as its heart, and it has assimilated Western, particularly Portuguese, cultural influences in perfect harmony.

Following its policy of promoting Chinese culture while preserving the unique pluralistic cultural heritage of Macao, the Government has hosted various cultural and artistic activities invited art troupes from mainland China and overseas, as well as Macao, to perform. These have created opportunities for audiences to learn more about the history, society, and culture of different regions, as well as enhancing cultural exchange and the quality of cultural life of Macao's residents.

Cultural Development Fund

The Cultural Development Fund (FIC) is an autonomous public corporate person in terms of administration, finance and assets, which was established according to By-law No. 40/2021, and is under the supervision of the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture.

The Cultural Development Fund aims at supporting the cultural policies of the Macao SAR, utilising its resources to support the development of cultural and art activities and exchanges, cultural industry projects, and cultural heritage conservation activities and projects.

In 2023, the Cultural Development Fund launched 11 subsidy programs related to culture and art, cultural industries and cultural heritage conservation, approving 1,762 activities and projects with subsidies totalling 197 million patacas.

As regards cultural industries, the Cultural Development Fund followed up on the execution of 40 cultural industry projects. Among them, 26 were completed, involving a total investment of 108 million patacas, 34 percent of which was from subsidies, and creating 234 jobs.

Among the 26 completed projects, a fashion design project sold over 30,000 home brand garments within the two-year subsidy period and established a footing in the Thailand market; on the cultural tourism development front, a funded project held a 360-degree panoramic scenery exhibition, displaying the urban beauty of Macao, for half a year in the Macao Science Centre, and attracted about 300,000 visitors; as regards the film and television industry, Zhejiang Satellite TV and Tencent Video conducted two seasons' shooting of a variety show in Macao, garnering over two billion views and related comments. The two seasons ranked 3rd and 4th nationally in terms of viewership among satellite TV programmes.

In the culture and arts sector, the fund followed up regarding 585 cultural activities and projects, with 2,825 cultural activities held, serving 31,068 people and reaching an audience of 548,535 people. In 2023, the Fund launched the National Arts Fund Supplementary Plan, to encourage the application of the National Arts Fund among Macao art organisations and art workers, with a view to fostering the diversification and professional development of Macao's culture and arts sector.

On the cultural heritage conservation front, in 2023 the fund launched the Historic Building Maintenance Subsidy Scheme, to support property owners with arranging structural inspections or examinations and façade conservation of private cultural heritage buildings and architecture of cultural value, to enhance the conservation of historic buildings.

Further, the fund leased out 12 retail shops at Anim'Arte NAM VAN through public tendering, to create a cultural and arts activity zone combined with the open square. The fund also granted Cultural Industry Incentives – Excellent Cultural Enterprise Awards to seven Macao film and television production enterprises, and held training programmes together with tertiary institutions, helping boost the business operating knowledge of industry players.

Cultural Affairs Bureau

The Cultural Affairs Bureau is a government department that sets out the Government's key objectives in cultural matters. The bureau is responsible for protecting cultural heritage, giving guidance on aesthetic appreciation, supporting community organisations, nurturing talent in arts and culture, developing local cultural industries, as well as organising cultural entertainment programmes, such as concerts, exhibitions, seminars, music classes, dance, drama courses, Macao International Music Festival, Macao Arts Festival, Macao City Fringe Festival, Art Macao, International Art Biennial of Macao, Arts and Cultural Festival Between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries, Chinese Culture and Natural Heritage Day, Macao Youth Music Competition and Macao Annual Visual Arts Exhibition. It also engages in publishing and support for research projects.

The bureau is actively promoting the establishment of a “multi-cultural exchange and cooperation base with an emphasis on Chinese culture”, thereby promoting and engaging the public with traditional Chinese culture. It also actively enhances the utilisation and promotion of buildings of cultural heritage and intangible cultural heritage, fully realising advantages arising from the long history of Sino-Portuguese cultural exchanges and their rich humanities-related resources. Moreover, it is committed to promoting the development of cultural tourism in the wider Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, better integrating into the overall national development plan.

The Macao SAR Government revised By-law No. 4/2014 through By-law No. 18/2019, to set up the Cultural Heritage Committee, which acts as a consultative body providing advice to the Government regarding matters under consultation, with a view to enhancing cultural heritage conservation. Also, through By-law No. 42/2021, the MSAR Government merged the Cultural Consultative Committee and the Committee for the Cultural Industry into the Cultural Development Consultative Committee. The committee acts as a consultative body supporting the Government in its stipulation of cultural industry related policies, strategies and measures. The two committees operate through plenary meetings and task-specific groups, with technical and administrative support from the Cultural Affairs Bureau.

Cultural Information Platform

The website of the Cultural Affairs Bureau (www.icm.gov.mo) provides cultural services information regarding cultural activities, performances, exhibitions, heritage protection, promotion of arts

education, and academic research. There are affiliated websites for cultural facilities including the Macao Public Library, Macao Archives, Macao Conservatory, Museum of Macau, the Macao Museum of Art, and the Macao Cultural Centre. The websites also provide detailed information on cultural events such as the Macao Arts Festival, the Macao International Music Festival, and the Tap Seac Craft Market. In 2023, the website received 7,455,982 visits.

Furthermore, the Cultural Affairs Bureau has established the Cultural Heritage of Macao website (www.culturalheritage.mo), Macau World Heritage website (www.wh.mo), and the Macao Cultural and Creative Industries Website (www.macaucci.gov.mo). In 2023, the three websites received 286,796, 940,153 and 421,781 visits, respectively.

The Cultural Affairs Bureau has set up multiple new media platform accounts to spread knowledge of arts and culture and enhance the image of “cultural Macao”. The official Facebook page of the Cultural Affairs Bureau, “IC Art”, attracted about 15,254,284 views of its posts in 2023; while an official WeChat service account, “IC Macao”, and a subscription account, “IC”, were set up, with 131,622 and 228,350 views of posts in 2023, respectively.

In late April 2023, the Macao SAR Government launched a website (www.enjoyMacao.mo) and Xiaohongshu account named “Enjoy Macao”, covering activities in Macao; a related mobile app and WeChat mini program were added in late August. “Enjoy Macao” posts cover information about Macao festivals, exhibitions, performances, athletic competitions and more, so that both local citizens and tourists can keep abreast of the latest Macao activities. In 2023, the “Enjoy Macao” Xiaohongshu posts received about 58,918 views.

Protection of Cultural Heritage

Macao promulgated the first decree law on the protection of cultural heritage in 1976, and subsequently passed and gazetted two more decree laws, in 1984 and 1992, to enhance cultural heritage conservation.

In 2014, Law No. 11/2013 - Cultural Heritage Protection Law came into effect, further specifying the scope of and approaches to cultural heritage protection, the mechanism and standards for evaluations, and related legal responsibilities and obligations. A Cultural Heritage Committee was set up as a consultant authority, to clarify the system for protecting cultural heritage in Macao.

By the end of 2023, Macao had 159 such protected properties, which are classified into four categories: monuments; buildings of architectural and artistic interest, architectural complexes and sites, scattered across the Macao Peninsula, Taipa, and Coloane. The Government formulates protection measures according to the value and characteristics of the heritage, and actively safeguards and promotes Macao and its cultural heritage, which is characterised by unique multicultural diversity and harmony.

The Intangible Cultural Heritage of Macao

The Chinese and Western cultures in Macao have complemented each other over the centuries, and Macao’s diverse lifestyles, cultural traditions and customs have formed a distinctive intangible

cultural heritage, representing the harmonious fusion between Chinese and Western cultures in Macao, with tangible cultural heritage.

In 2006, the Convention on Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage passed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization came into effect in Macao. Following the enactment of the Cultural Heritage Protection Law, the Cultural Affairs Bureau has constantly carried out intangible cultural heritage protection work, strongly promoting the identification, research, study and inventory-making of local intangible cultural heritage items as well as inscription into the List of Macao Intangible Cultural Heritage. At present, there are 70 items on the inventory of intangible cultural heritage, and a total of 12 have been inscribed on the List of Macao Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Since the establishment of the National List of Representative Items of Intangible Cultural Heritage and the System of Representative Inheritors, Macao has been supporting the country's work on safeguarding intangible cultural heritage safeguarding work through active applications, aiming to boost the recognition of Macao's intangible cultural heritage and enhance the related protection efforts.

At present, there are a total of 11 items in Macao inscribed on the National List of Representative Items of Intangible Cultural Heritage: Yueju Opera (Cantonese Opera), Herbal Tea Brewing, Woodwork – Religious Figure Carving, Cantonese Naamyam (Narrative Songs), Taoist Ritual Music, Festival of the Drunken Dragon, Belief and Customs of A-Ma, Belief and Customs of Na Tcha, Macanese Gastronomy, Patuá Theatre and Belief and Customs of Tou Tei.

There are seven Recognised Representative Inheritors of National Intangible Cultural Heritage: Tsang Tak Hang – Sculpture of Sacred Images in Wood, Ng Peng Chi – Taoist Music (Taoist Ritual Music), Ng Wing Mui (deceased) and Au Kuan Cheong – Naamyam's Narrative Songs, Chan Kin Chun – Festival of A-Ma (Belief and Customs of A-Má), and Chiang Kun Kuong and Ip Tat – Popular Tradition (Belief and Customs of Na Tcha).

In November 2022, the MSAR Government announced an order (No. 85/2022) issued by the Secretary for Social Affairs and Culture approving the “intangible cultural heritage management guidelines”, thereby defining the specifications and guidelines about inventories, directories, protection work units, inheritors and support measures, further reinforcing the related protection and management work. All public departments of the MSAR, private entities, communities, groups, and individuals should follow the relevant requirements when safeguarding and promoting intangible cultural heritage.

Genesis and Spirit – Showcase of Hainan Intangible Cultural Heritage

The opening ceremony of “Genesis and Spirit – Showcase of Hainan Intangible Cultural Heritage” took place at Mount Fortress Garden on 30 June 2023. Two performance sessions by Hainan intangible cultural heritage performing groups were staged on 1 July, with the ceremony also featuring nine Hainan traditional performing arts shows and exhibitions covering national or provincial level intangible heritage, attracting a total of 560 participants. Following the ceremony, “Genesis and Spirit – Showcase of Hainan Intangible Cultural Heritage” was held at the Museum of Macao from 1 July to 8 October 2023, attracting 135,794 visitors.

Cultural and Creative Industries

In 2010, the bureau established the Department for the Promotion of Cultural and Creative Industries, to proactively promote cultural and creative industries and so boost their development – including through promoting and exhibiting cultural and creative products; conducting studies of the cultural and creative industries; formulating a policy framework and measures for the development of the cultural and creative industries; and establishing a database on cultural and creative industries.

In 2023, the bureau:

- Launched talent incubation programmes including “Local View Power Programme”, the “Scripts in Focus — Film Scriptwriting Advanced Programme”, and “Echo Program · Music Creativity Camp”;
- Constantly refined the services of the Filming Permit Application Platform;
- Provided film and fashion related services through Cinematheque · Passion and the Macao Fashion Gallery;
- Held “Style · Encounter Moment” – Fashion Parade of the Subsidy Programme for Fashion Design Sample Making, and launched a fashion show crossover with the Greater Bay Area – Macao Fashion Pop-up Store that was held at Hengqin;
- Held the Tap Seac Craft Market, “Craft Market in the Greater Bay Area – Guangzhou Zili Market”, Macau Hengqin Craft Market, The “Macao Craft Market @ Foshan Lingnan Tiandi” and Lai Chi Vun Shipyards Market;
- Organised delegations to visit arts and creativity industry parks, and participate in local and foreign cultural and museum fairs, licensing shows and tourism expos in mainland China; and
- Launched an open call for proposals for Cultural Brand Products based on the Museum Collection of Macao’s Firecracker Industry, and an open tender for Space No. 3 of the Former Iec Long Firecracker Factory site.

Art Macao: Macao International Art Biennale 2023

Macao’s large international cultural and art event, Art Macao: Macao International Art Biennale 2023, was launched in July 2023. Diverse art exhibitions consisting of eight components – main hall exhibition, public art exhibition, city hall, special exhibition, exhibition of local artists by invitation, local curation programme, tertiary institutions art exhibition and collateral event – totalling 31 categories plus 600 extension activities were held over 28 locations, gathering over 200 artists/arts organisations from more than 20 countries and regions. The total number of visitors exceeded 16 million.

The 33rd Macao Arts Festival

The 33rd Macao Arts Festival (MAF) was held from 28 April to 28 May 2023, with the theme “The Long Artistic Journey”, featuring 19 programmes and 21 extension activities including a

visual arts exhibition and several drama, opera, dance and music performances. The performances programmes and extension activities involved over 100 shows, attended by nearly 50,000 people. Meanwhile, new media and traditional online platform publicity reached an audience of nearly 1.9 million people.

The programmes included the *Rites of Spring* produced by renowned Chinese dancer Yang Liping; a Portuguese Contemporary Dance Company's *On Substance of Time*; stage show *Keigo Higashino – The Miracles of the Namiya General Store*, directed by Liu Fangqi; the ancient Greek tragedy *Electra*, jointly produced by the national drama company Shanghai Dramatic Arts Centre and a Greek production team; and *Xiao Ke*, a dance collaboration between Chinese dancer Xiao Ke and French choreographer Jérôme Bel. Moreover, to promote the professional development of local art groups, half the programmes were by local artists, including a multimedia full-length Cantonese opera, *Bonds of Hato*; a VR and theatre combo *m@rc0 p0!0 endg@me 2.0*; a dance partnership between Macao and German troupes, *Club Loneliness*; and the *Carnavaland*, performed as the closing piece in celebration of the 30th anniversary of Dóci Papiaçám di Macau Drama Group. There were also several extension activities and the outdoor programme Performing Arts Gala, bringing sumptuous artistic experience to the citizens.

The 35th Macao International Music Festival

The 35th Macao International Music Festival was held from 30 September to 30 October 2023, with the theme “Melodic Reconnections”. It featured 16 programmes and 14 extension activities, encompassing operas, Chinese and western music, Portuguese Fado and Jazz. The programmes and extension activities included 47 shows, attended by nearly 12,000 people. Through social media and traditional online platforms, the festival events and publicity reached an audience of over four million people. The music festival was promoted and published online in both local and Greater Bay Area media, with certain programmes shown on the social media platform of China Media Group.

The programmes included: two performances of Gioachino Rossini's *The Barber of Seville*; Japanese music master Joe Hisaishi's *Joe Hisaishi Presents Music Future, The Legends, and Spirited Away*; German-Japanese pianist Alice Sara Ott's *Echoes of Life*; Long Yu and Shanghai *Symphony Orchestra*; the King's Singers' *Tom and Will and Legacies*; and American Jazz icon Stacey Kent's *Songs from Other Places*. The music festival also featured a series of talks, workshops and community programmes.

The 5th Encounter in Macao – Arts and Cultural Festival Between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries

The 5th Encounter in Macao – Arts and Cultural Festival Between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries was held from October to December, 2023. The festival further expanded the connotations and denotation of Macao being the “theme park” of Sino-Portuguese culture and, in tandem with the 2023 GEG Lusofonia Festival, launched seven series of programmes: the Annual Arts Exhibition between China and the Portuguese-speaking Countries, China and Portuguese-speaking Countries Film Festival, Camané and Macao Chinese Orchestra Concert, Chinese and Portuguese Picture Books Fair, GEG Traditional Music and Dance Performance in the Community, and Wine Tasting

Workshops. With participation by 600 artists and performers, these helped to implement and deepen the plan for developing Macao as the centre for cultural exchanges between China and Portuguese-speaking countries. A total of 70 shows attracted audiences totalling over 83,000 people.

The 2023 Lusofonia Festival

Held during 27 October to 29 October 2023, the 2023 Lusofonia Festival featured ten cultural booths with local Macanese in Macao or Macao Portuguese-speaking communities from Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Goa, Daman and Diu, Mozambique, Portugal, Sao Tome and Principe and Timor-Leste. Local Portuguese-speaking arts groups performed stylish music and dances, while troupes from Cape Verde, Portugal and Guinea-Bissau displayed their skills. The three-day festival attracted audiences totalling around 23,000 people.

hush! Beach Concerts x Urban Yo~ga Wellfest 2023

Jointly organised by the Cultural Affairs Bureau and MGM, and co-sponsored by the Macau Government Tourism Office, Municipal Affairs Bureau, Marine and Water Bureau, the “hush! Beach Concerts x Urban Yo~ga Wellfest 2023” was held from 27 October to 5 November 2023 at Macau Contemporary Art Center - Navy Yard No. 2, Largo Eduardo Marques and Hac Sa Beach, lining up over 30 local and overseas music bands and musicians, which gave a total of 20 performances with 11 events.

In addition to “hush!”, there were a variety of music activities, extension activities and workshops, bazaars, music-themed stalls, musical instrument experiences and handicraft stalls. The “hush! 300 Seconds” short video competition was held, and a public call for submissions of outdoor art installations on the concert’s theme was organised. Moreover, a new health and wellness tourism initiative, a cross-over with MGM, resulted in an annual flagship pop music event of refreshing cross-boundary charm for citizens and tourists. These activities were attended by over 24,000 people. Several “hush!” activities were shown live through online platforms, attracting an audience of 13,000 people, and reaching nearly 1.28 million people through social media publicity.

Lunar New Year Celebrations 2023

The Spring Festival Celebration Series – 2023 Lunar New Year Festivities invited Shaanxi Song and Dance Theater, Shaanxi Folk Art Theater and Shaanxi Acrobatic Troupe to give a series of outdoor new year performances in the community during the first to third days of the New Year (22 January to 24 January) at the Anim’Arte NAM VAN, Areia Preta Urban Park, Mount Fortress, Rotunda de Carlos da Maia, Eduardo Marques Garden, Largo do Pagode da Barra and the former site of Iec Long Firecracker Factory, enhancing the festive vibes for local citizens and tourists alike to celebrate together. These activities were attended by about 8,000 people.

Haojiang Moonlight Night – Large-scale Dance Drama “The Eternal Wave”

Haojiang Moonlight Night – Large-scale Dance Drama “The Eternal Wave” was staged in Macao on

22 September and 23 September. This dance drama was created by Shanghai Dance Theatre, and is China's first dance drama with spy wars as the theme, and attracted a total audience of 1,784 people.

Performance to Celebrate the 74th Anniversary of National Day of the People's Republic of China – Large-scale Original Acrobatic Drama “The Bridge”

Staged during 30 September and 1 October, 2023, this drama was created by China Nanjing Acrobatic Troupe. Through high-end acrobatics, the drama rendered the major scenes of the building of the Nanjing Yangtze River Bridge, incorporating dance, drama and video, and showcased public heroism and the love for families and countries. The two performances attracted a total audience of 1,884 people.

Showcase of Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao Cantonese Opera Masters

Jointly organised by the Department of Culture and Tourism of Guangdong Province; the Culture, Sports and Tourism Bureau of Hong Kong; and the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the MSAR, this show was staged in Macao on 2 December 2023, featuring a joint performance of Cantonese opera excerpts by Cantonese Opera masters from Guangdong, Hong Kong and Macao, namely: Zeng Xiaomin, Jiang Wenduan, Peng Qinghua, Wen Ruqing and Huang Chunqiang from Guangdong province; Loong Koon-tin, Lee Lung, Sun Kim Long, Tang Mi-ling, Wan Yuk-yu and Wan Yiu-sing from Hong Kong, and Peng Chiquan and Zeng Hui from Macao. It attracted an audience of 2,617 people.

2023 Macao Countdown Concert

A firework display that was chiefly organised by the Cultural Affairs Bureau, with the Macau Government Tourism Office, Municipal Affairs Bureau and Teledifusao de Macau as co-organisers, and presented by SJM Resorts, was held on 31 December 2023 at Praca Do Lago Sai Van, featuring veteran Macao performers with female Brazilian singer Lia Sophia as the performers during the finale. The fireworks display and concert attracted an audience of 16,000 people.

2023 New Year's Eve Countdown Concert in Taipa

Held in the evening of 31 December at the Taipa Houses-Museum, this concert featured female singer Joey Wong from Hong Kong for the finale, and local performing troupes as well as performers from the Philippine and Indonesian (returned overseas Chinese), Myanmarese and Vietnamese communities in Macao that gave a series of shows and performances with distinctive cultural characteristics. Moreover, cultural booths of Australian, Philippine, Indonesian, Myanmarese and Vietnamese communities residing in Macao were set up onsite. A total of 4,800 people participated in the event.

Macao Cultural Centre Programmes

The Cultural Affairs Bureau brought various kinds of international large-scale performances to

the local community on an ongoing basis, including the classical dance drama *The Lady of the Camellias* by Shanghai Ballet, and the masterpiece of pioneering Chinese theatre director Stan Lai, *Writing in Water*. To facilitate the development of Macao's cultural industry, and enhance the cultural-tourism experience of Macao, the bureau held two large-scale musicals – *The Sound of Music* and *Alice by MOMIX* in summer and during Christmas, respectively – and for the first time put tickets for sale on two major online ticketing platforms in mainland China. The four keynote programmes were staged in Macao Cultural Centre Grand Auditorium a total of 27 times, attracting a live audience of 20,424 people.

ARTmusing Fun Art Carnival

The Cultural Affairs Bureau held the ARTmusing Fun art carnival on three consecutive evenings from 25 August to 27 August 2023 in the open square at Macao Cultural Centre, featuring cultural and creative booths, food stalls, performances with unique characteristics, outdoor film shows, an X-Game zone, stylish decorations and selfie corners. These allowed both locals and tourists alike to experience a unique outdoor parent-child art experience, attracting 15,472 participants.

Performances in the Sphere of Insightful Cultural Excursions

“Performances in the Sphere of Insightful Cultural Excursions” were held from November 2022 to April 2023, with over 150 foreign and local singers, bands, singing groups, dance troupes and arts groups invited to offer diverse community cultural and arts experiences through singing, dancing, interactive theatre and musicals. Parent-child workshops held in various formats brought a myriad performance appreciation experiences to citizens and tourists alike. There were 33 activity sessions in total from January to April 2023, with about 10,280 participants in all.

Busking Programme

The Busking Programme allows street art performances by buskers, and so establishes more performance platforms for local arts and culture practitioners, while encouraging the public to appreciate and participate in cultural and arts activities. Eight busking spots – the Anim'Arte NAM VAN, Taipa Houses-Museum, Mount Fortress Garden, Largo do Pagode da Barra, the Nossa Senhora Village, the former site of Iec Long Fireworks Factory, the Shipyard at Lai Chi Vun and Travessa do Aterro Novo Square (in the vicinity of Rua da Felicidade) – are made available every Friday to Sunday and Public Holidays through the programme.

In 2023, about 320 new busker cards were issued. More than 600 buskers performed at the busking spots, attracting a total audience of over 210,000 people.

Unforgettable Melodies at the Ruins of St Paul's

During the Saturday early evenings from January to February 2023, and on 11 November and 25 December, the Cultural Affairs Bureau held the Unforgettable Melodies at Ruins of St Paul's near the Ruins of St Paul's. Macao Orchestra and Macao Chinese Orchestra took turns giving live

performances of classical music, further enriching Macao's cultural tourism experience. Some concerts were live-streamed online. A total of 16 concerts were held in 2023, attracting a live audience of over 38,172 people.

Unforgettable Melodies at St. Dominic Church

The Cultural Affairs Bureau held the Unforgettable Melodies at St. Dominic Church at St. Dominic Church early every Friday evening during January and February in 2023, with the Macao Orchestra and Macao Chinese Orchestra presenting classical pieces. In 2023, seven concerts were held, attracting an audience totalling of 887 people.

Macao Orchestra Limited

Since 1 February 2022, the Macao Orchestra and Macao Chinese Orchestra, originally under the administration of the Cultural Affairs Bureau, have been operated by Macao Orchestra Limited, which is wholly owned by the MSAR Government. They continue in accordance with their charter of raising the industry's professional standards, as well as providing citizens and tourists with high-quality, diverse musical activities, which included the organisation of annual concert seasons and concerts on an ongoing basis, namely the 2022-23 and 2023-24 Concert Seasons of Macao Orchestra, and the 2022-23 and 2023-24 Concert Seasons of Macao Chinese Orchestra.

Macao Orchestra

Established in 1983, the Macao Orchestra has become an outstanding orchestra in Asia that integrates the cultures of east and west, and performs classics from the past and present. The orchestra plays an important role in the cultural life of Macao citizens and overseas audiences.

The orchestra continued infusing music education and community promotions with creativity and energy, by organising numerous Music for All concerts to connect with schools, communities and the underprivileged, thus expanding the classical music audience.

From January to July 2023, six concerts in the Macao Orchestra 2022-23 Concert Season were held by the MSAR Cultural Affairs Bureau and jointly organised by Macao Orchestra Limited, attracting a total audience of about 1,954 people. From September to December 2023, the Macao Orchestra 2023-24 Concert Season co-organised by the Cultural Affairs Bureau, Macao Orchestra Limited and six major integrated resort operators (Galaxy Entertainment Group, Melco Resorts & Entertainment, MGM, Sands China, SJM Resorts, and Wynn Macau) involved ten concerts, attracting an audience totalling about 3,859 people.

Macao Chinese Orchestra

The Macao Chinese Orchestra was established in 1987, which has always been dedicated to serving Macao by reaching the general public in communities, social groups and schools. It has a mission as a cultural ambassador of the Government of Macao, and spares no efforts in manifesting Macao's unique mix of Chinese and Western cultures, and promoting traditional Chinese music and arts

and culture with distinctive Macao characteristics.

The Macao Chinese Orchestra continued organising arts education, arts promotion and care and concern concerts in schools and communities, including Strolling in the Garden, Listening to Music, Museum Concerts, and Music in World Heritage; and collaborated with various organisations to develop an audience for Chinese orchestra. From January to July 2023, there were 25 performances in the Macao Orchestra 2023-24 Concert Season held by the Cultural Affairs Bureau and co-organised by Macao Orchestra Limited, attracting an audience totalling some 3,968 people.

Cultural Promotion Month 2023

The Cultural Promotion Month was held in April 2023, featuring seminars and art and cultural experiences with the themes' aesthetics of architecture and nature, art space, inheritance of intangible cultural heritage artistry and cultural career experience, encompassing multiple areas including world heritage, intangible cultural heritage, literature, films, theatre, music and architecture. Community-specific sessions were also held together with various organisations to bring art and culture into communities, showcasing the cultural potential of Macao to the wider public. "Lecture on Aesthetics: When Architecture Meets Nature – The Aesthetics of Chinese Architecture" was presented by Professor Wang Shu, winner of the 2012 Pritzker Architecture Prize and Dean and Professor of the Faculty of Architecture of the China Academy of Arts. The Cultural Promotion Month 2023 involved 42 activities, which attracted applications from 3,000 people, 1,100 of whom participated. The online promotions reached a total audience of over 450,000 people.

Culture Lectures

Culture Lectures is a cultural and arts promotion scheme in the form of small-class lectures on topics such as local history, cultural heritage, local culture, the cultural and creative industries, performing arts, community arts, architecture, music, films, animations and street culture.

In 2023, the Culture Lectures featured interactive seminars on campus, for ongoing promotions to various institutions and organisations and holding public sessions in the community. In all, 131 activities were organised during the year, with around 5,208 participants.

Macao Youth Arts and Culture Programme

In June 2023, the first Macao Youth Arts and Culture Programme admitted 32 junior secondary school pupils aged 12 years to 14 years to a three-year phased training programme.

The first phase of training began in July 2023, with professionals from the Cultural Affairs Bureau teaching Macao's cultural heritage, archaeology and museum knowledge, visual arts appreciation, file organisation, cultural communication concepts and speech presentation skills.

The training also covered guided tours, performance appreciation, field trips, hands-on practice and external exchange activities. The hours of training totalled 50, and 31 pupils who fulfilled the requirements of the first-phase training were granted the title of first "Cultural Affairs Bureau

Student Cultural Ambassadors”. They will continue with advanced training for two more years.

The 41st Macao Young Musicians Competition

The Macao Young Musicians Competition aims to promote classical music development in Macao, providing a valuable performance platform and learning opportunities for young people and raising their performance standards. It has become a tradition that piano competitions are held in odd-numbered years, while Chinese music, Western music and vocal music competitions are held in even-numbered years.

The 41st Macao Young Musicians Competition was held in 2023, as a piano competition. Over 600 candidates registered. The competition resumed the pre-pandemic format of onsite competition and evaluation, with 15 categories and 23 contests. In all, 423 awards were presented. There were three awards for the Special Prize Competition, with one recipient receiving the Cultural Affairs Bureau Prize.

Belt and Road Cultural Talk Series

The bureau has held the Belt and Road Cultural Talk Series since 2017. In 2023, it invited masters of traditional handicrafts from mainland China, South Korea, Singapore and Malaysia to hold four talks in a series titled “Heart of Artisans – Belt and Road Cultural Talk Series” in Macao. The talks were attended by a total of 156 people.

“People, Place, Purpose and Poetry” Seminar

The Cultural Affairs Bureau held the “People, Place, Purpose and Poetry” Seminar on 28 November 2023, inviting Francine Houben, an internationally renowned architect, and founding partner and creative director of Dutch Mecanoo International B.V. – which is the design team of new Macao Central Library, to introduce his architectural masterpieces and share his design concepts to a Macao audience.

Cultural Affairs Bureau Online Book Shop

Launched in 2020, the Cultural Affairs Bureau Online Book Shop provides a fast, convenient channel for Macao and overseas readers to purchase selected publications from the Cultural Affairs Bureau, with topics covering history, literature, visual exhibition, performing arts, culture and academic studies, and in languages including traditional Chinese, simplified Chinese, Portuguese and English. At present, there are some 400 titles for sale.

Visual Arts Exhibition

The Visual Arts Exhibition organised by the Cultural Affairs Bureau aims to showcase outstanding art from around the world, stimulate creativity among Macao artists, enable public appreciation of various types of visual artworks, and promote arts exchanges.

In 2023, eight local visual arts exhibitions were held in the Exhibitions Gallery and Nostalgic House of the Taipa Houses-Museum, the Tap Seac Gallery, Pátio da Eterna Felicidade, the Macao Contemporary Art Centre - Navy Yard No.1, former Municipal Cattle Stable (Ox Warehouse), the Museum of Art at the University of Macau, the Iec Long Firecracker Factory and the Shipyard at Lai Chi Vun.

Macao Conservatory

Established in 1989, the Macao Conservatory is a subsidiary of the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the MSAR Government. It comprises the Schools of Dance, Music and Theatre, and is a formal public institution that nurtures local performing arts talents. The conservatory implements a dual-track policy of providing both professional and general arts education.

By offering the public a range of systematic, regular, and ongoing arts education programmes in dance, music and theatre, the conservatory promotes cultivation of humanity values among the general public; while by establishing a music curriculum for secondary schools, it nurtures knowledgeable and creative performing arts talents. At present, it has 1,510 students.

In the 2022/2023 school year, the Education and Youth Development Bureau co-launched new performing arts courses with the Cultural Affairs Bureau, with a view to jointly nurturing performing arts talents in Macao by consolidating mutual resources and advantages.

Macao Public Library

Founded in 1895, the Macao Public Library is under the Cultural Affairs Bureau. It comprises the Macao Central Library, Library in Ho Yin Garden, Senado Library, Sir Robert Ho Tung Library, S. Lourenço Library, Patane Library Red Market Library, Wong Ieng Kuan Library in Luis de Camões Garden, Ilha Verde Library, Mong Ha Library, Wong Ieng Kuan Library in Areia Preta Urban Park, Wong Ieng Kuan Children's Library in Areia Preta Urban Park, Wong Ieng Kuan Library in Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Municipal Park, Taipa Library, Seac Pai Van Library, and Coloane Library.

Currently the largest public library network in Macao, it houses a collection of 1,080,000 books and multimedia items, including 1,010,000 books, 70,000 multimedia items, electronic books in 10,148 categories, about 1,900 items of 848 types in the microfilm section, about 4,023 latest journal articles of 727 types, about 2,808 magazines of 628 types, and about 1,215 newspapers of 99 types. There are 26 databases for electronic resources.

In 2023, a total of 2,544,000 visitors were received. The lending volume was 570,000 books/items, and electronic resources received about 994,346 views.

Services provided by the Macao Public Library include the lending of library materials, browsing of current and past newspapers and magazines, references of Macao information, processing of reader's cards, broadband internet and microfilms, browsing of online electronic resources databases, printing and photocopying of information, processing applications for ISBN and ISRC, as well as providing an additional collection point for Legal Deposit according to the Legal Deposit system.

In 2023, there were 769 applications for ISBNs. In 2023, the Macao Public Library continued

optimising library spaces, to provide good reading environments. New functions were added to the *My Library* mobile app, including e-payment, library card application/renewal, and user account switching, providing more convenience for citizens using public library services. Every year, the Macao Public Library hosts a range of activities to encourage reading and recommend library services. It also receives group visits from schools and various groups.

In 2023, the Macao Public Library organised over 900 reading promotion activities, attracting nearly 340,000 participants.

Macao has many other smaller libraries, including the well-known octagonal Chinese Library. In addition, various Government departments and tertiary educational institutions have their own libraries. Each contributes to the ever-expanding supply of books and knowledge available to the people of Macao.

Macao Archives

The Macao Archives is a subsidiary of the MSAR Cultural Affairs Bureau. The archive is mainly responsible for collecting, organising, safekeeping and protecting Macao documents of historical value and providing access to them for the general public. The archive currently houses more than 70,000 archive files, 70,000 images, 6,000 types of books and journals. The media are mostly in paper format. Other formats include photographs, slides, sound tapes, discs, and objects. The main language of the files is Portuguese. The earliest file can be traced back to the year 1630.

Tap Seac Gallery

Built in the 1920s, the Tap Seac Gallery is a two-storey building divided into two blocks. The two blocks were combined into one after reconstruction. The ground floor is the 500-square-metre Tap Seac exhibition hall, which is mainly used for holding visual arts exhibitions and a variety of cultural activities.

The gallery and its peripheral buildings were all constructed during the same period. Together, they form a unique cluster of historic monuments in the Tap Seac Historic District, one of Macao's designated heritage sites. In 2023, the gallery received 21,158 visitors.

Old Courthouse

The Old Courthouse currently has a temporary space for exhibitions and performances. The ground floor is an exhibition hall designed for exhibitions and various kinds of arts and cultural events. The black box theatre on the first floor is designed for small-scale drama and dance performances. With basic stage equipment, the seating and stage area can be arranged into various setups to realise creators' ideas. It can accommodate an audience of about 90 persons.

In the first two quarters of 2023, 47 performances in 11 programmes, and seven exhibitions and arts and cultural events were held in the Old Courthouse. The performances attracted audiences totalling 3,685 people, while the exhibitions and other arts and cultural events attracted 2,562 visitors.

Dom Pedro V Theatre

Built in 1860, the Dom Pedro V Theatre was the first Western-style theatre in China. It houses a vestibule and a performance hall, with a capacity of 276 seats arranged in curved rows in the shape of a shell. Having operated for more than 150 years, it remains a popular performance venue in Macao. In 2023, 266 performances and activities were held in the theatre; most were musical performances and competitions, attracting live audiences totalling 9,672 people. Especially as the theatre is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, it received 101,531 visitors in 2023.

Macao Contemporary Art Centre – Navy Yard No.1

Situated in Zona da Barra, the Macao Contemporary Art Centre – Navy Yard No.1 (formerly known as D. Carlos I dock mechanical room) is the former mechanical room of the Government Dockyard. It has displayed the works of outstanding artists around the world. In addition, it cooperates with various performing arts groups to hold experimental performing arts programmes and integrate with visual arts exhibitions. In 2023, it received 2,472 visitors.

The Macao Contemporary Art Centre – Navy Yard No.2

Situated in Barra district, the Macao Contemporary Art Centre – Navy Yard No.2 was originally the dockmaster office of Carlos I. The Navy Yard No.2 was lent to local societies and individuals as a performance venue for free, so they could organise musical and drama events. In the first two quarters of 2023, the venue was lent for music and drama performance rehearsals, as well as staging over 26 sessions of occasional workshops, shows and competitions, attracting a total of 5,030 participants.

The Mong-Ha Villas

The Mong-Ha Villas is at 55 to 69 Avenida do Coronel Mesquita, and were formerly dormitories for civil servants, comprising single houses. After the buildings were renovated, the Cultural Bureau conserved the building's façade and appearance and maintained the spatial characteristics of the front and back yards. The Mong-Ha Villas are used for holding visual arts exhibitions and activities, to promote community art development. At the end of 2022, the Mong-Ha Villas became a pilot area for the launch of a historical building revitalisation subsidy programme by the Cultural Industry Fund.

Former Municipal Cattle Stable (Ox Warehouse)

Built in 1912, the Former Municipal Cattle Stable was used to quarantine and keep cattle. In 1924, the complex was reconstructed, maintaining its layout and exterior, which have been mostly unchanged. Later, in 1987, the cattle stable functions were moved to Ilha Verde, and part of the structure was converted into a storehouse, while the remainder was turned into an exhibition venue. The Former Municipal Cattle Stable comprises two bungalows that are in parallel, with truss roof structures. The colour combination of the mahogany roofs and khaki walls superbly exemplifies Portuguese

eclecticism in architecture. In 2023, the Former Municipal Cattle Stable received 2,636 visitors.

Museums and Exhibition Halls

Handover Gifts Museum of Macau

The Handover Gifts Museum of Macau is situated next to the Macao Museum of Art, on Xian Xing Hai Avenue in the Outer Harbour Reclamation Area (NAPE). This was the site of the temporary venue where the Macao Handover Ceremony was conducted by the Chinese and Portuguese governments on 20 December 1999. The structure was dismantled afterwards, and its location became the construction site of the Handover Gifts Museum of Macau, in commemoration of the momentous occasion of Macao's return to the motherland.

The Handover Gifts Museum of Macao displayed the Handover Gifts Exhibition, which is permanent and managed by the Macao Museum of Art, and the Youth Patriotic Education Base exhibition area, which is managed by the Education and Youth Affairs Bureau. In 2023, the Handover Gifts Exhibition received 490,331 visitors and provided 139 guided tours for a total of 7,069 visitors.

Museum of Macau

The Museum of Macau is situated on the Mount Fortress heritage site, which is part of the Historic Centre of Macao, while to its immediate west is the Ruins of St Paul's.

The Museum of Macau was opened on 18 April 1998. It houses a rich display of Macao's history and diverse culture. With a collection of deep historical and cultural value, the museum highlights the changes to Macao over several hundred years, and tells the story of people from different countries and cultural backgrounds settling in Macao and living in harmony.

In 2023, the Museum of Macau held two special exhibitions. During the year, it received 602,890 visitors, and provided 1,218 guided tours to a total of 17,302 participants. It also held 107 activities, which attracted a total of 421,826 participants.

Mount Fortress Garden

Mount Fortress Garden is at the historical heritage site of Mount Fortress. It is a major Macao scenic spot, affording a panoramic view of the Macao peninsula. People may enter from the main gate at the south-eastern wall of Mount Fortress. There are bungalows at both sides of the main gate, which were originally for military use, and have now house tourist facilities.

We learn from history that there were military facilities on both the fortress platform and underneath the fortress, such as the ammunition depot inside the bastion on the west (now used as a gallery for the Macao Museum) and the water tank (now used as the museum's Inner Harbour exhibition area). In 2023, Mount Fortress Garden was listed as part of the historic area revitalisation scheme, with three large-scale recreational activities held, attracting participation by a total of 401,604 people.

Monte Fort Corridor

Located at the foot of Mount Fortress's east, Monte Fort Corridor is a passageway linking the S. Lazaro Area pedestrian zone to Mount Fortress. Thus, it facilitates the robust development of the city's entire historical centre. The public space of the corridor has been fully utilised as it has been chosen as the venue for various arts exhibitions. In 2023, it received 134,305 users.

Macao Museum of Art

The Macao Museum of Art is the only museum in Macao dedicated to art and cultural heritage. With an exhibition area of more than 4,000 square metres, it is also the largest visual arts museum in Macao.

In 2023, the Macao Museum of Art received 338,995 visitors to ten exhibitions. It conducted 562 guided tours for a total of 11,555 participants. In addition, the museum organised 131 activities including lectures, performances, and workshops, which attracted 5,749 participants.

Pawnshop Museum

In partnership with a non-governmental organisation, the Government has established the first museum dedicated to the pawnshop industry. The opening of the Pawnshop Museum in March 2003 marked the success of a new mode of heritage protection. Built in 1917 as the Tak Seng On Pawnshop, the museum building consists of a pawnshop and a storage tower. The three-storey pawnshop and its relics offer visitors a clear picture of the pawnshop's layout and operation in its heyday.

In September 2004, the Tak Seng On restoration project was awarded an Honourable Mention in the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Heritage Awards for Culture Heritage Conservation. The project was awarded the title of Urban Best Practices Area (UBPA) of World Expo Shanghai 2010, demonstrating to the world Macao's fruitful efforts in conserving and recycling historic buildings. The museum received 43,025 visitors during 2023.

Treasury of Sacred Art of St Joseph's Seminary

St Joseph's Seminary was established by the Jesuits in 1728. For nearly three centuries, it has not only made a significant contribution to nurturing prominent Catholic clergymen, but has also been closely related to Macao's social development. It has also actively contributed to local culture, education, arts and charity.

St Joseph's Seminary is home to collections of religious relics, such as ancient books, oil paintings, statues and ritual supplies. In order to allow the public to appreciate these valuable historical collections, the Cultural Affairs Bureau has worked with the St Joseph's Seminary and the Diocese de Macau to establish the "Treasury of Sacred Art of St Joseph's Seminary", which was officially opened in October 2016. In 2023, it received 10,498 visitors.

Guia Fortress, Chapel and Lighthouse

Built in 1622, this fortress is renowned for its location on Guia Hill, which is the highest point on the Macao peninsula. Inside the fortress stand the Chapel of Our Lady of the Snows and the Lighthouse. The Chapel of Our Lady of the Snows was built around 1622, and dedicated to the Macanese. The Lighthouse was built in 1864 and commenced operation the next year, becoming the first modern lighthouse on the coast of China. In 1874, the Lighthouse was destroyed by a storm, after which it was restored, and reopened on 29 June 1910.

The Information Centre at Guia Fortress opened to the public in June 2015, to further promote the cultural value of Guia Fortress (including the Chapel of Our Lady of the Snows and the Lighthouse), and offer tourism information services on tourists. In 2023, virtual reality guided tours were joined by 2,474 people, while the site received 240,953 visitors.

Ruins of St Paul's College

The Ruins of St Paul's refers to the facade of the old church of Mater Dei of former St Paul's College, formerly known as the Church of Mother of God or Mater Dei, which was built between 1602 to 1640, and was adjacent to St. Paul's College. Both the church and the college were then destroyed by fire in 1835. The space behind the Ruins of St. Paul's is the ruin of the church, which includes the Crypt, and the Museum of Sacred Art that was built in 1996.

In March 2023, the Visiting the Ruins of St Paul's in Space and Time - Exhibition of Virtual Reality at the Ruins of St Paul's launched a complete edition, providing the public with a brand-new digital experience of Macao's cultural heritage. In 2023, 39,472 visitors entered the exhibition; the online virtual reality guided tours were joined by 2,187 people; and the physical site received a total of 4,516,408 visitors.

Crypt and Museum of Sacred Art

Between 1990 and 1995, the former Portuguese administration conducted archaeological excavations and repaired the Ruins of St Paul's (the Church of Mother of God or Mater Dei), and built the Museum of Sacred Art and Crypt on the site of the grave of Father Alexandre Valignano, who research showed to be the founder of St Paul's College. In 2023, it received a total of 2,107,924 visitors.

Preservation and Display Area of the Archaeological Remains of the Pit on Rua de D. Belchior Carneiro

Between 2010 and 2012, the Cultural Affairs Bureau of Macao and the Institute of Archaeology of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences jointly carried out an archaeological investigation and excavation project on the eastern area of the St Paul's College site, and discovered a shaft-like, circular pit that had been dug into the bedrock. Abundant pottery and porcelain items, bronze objects and construction materials were found in the site, including remains of Kraak porcelain that was mainly produced by folk kilns in Jingdezhen, Jiangxi province, during the late Ming and early Qing dynasties. The discovery is important archaeological evidence of Macao's role as a key

transshipment port and trade hub on the Maritime Silk Road during this time.

In 2021, the site was classified as immovable heritage; a preservation and display area was created, and the site was officially opened to the public on 15 September 2021. In 2023, the Preservation and Display Area of the Archaeological Remains of the Pit on Rua de D. Belchior Carneiro received a total of 91,105 visitors.

The Na Tcha Exhibition Room

The time-honoured Na Tcha Customs and Beliefs of Macao were inscribed on the National Intangible Cultural Heritage List in 2014. The Na Tcha Exhibition Room adjacent to the Na Tcha Temple was constructed in 2012, to present and display precious items and documentary materials about Na Tcha customs and traditional beliefs. In 2023, 380 visitors participated in online virtual reality guided tours, while the room received 128,333 visitors.

Taipa Houses-Museum

The Taipa Houses-Museum is a collection of residential buildings that form one of Macao's eight most famous landmarks. Constructed in 1921, these five European-style buildings were the official residences of the island's officers and the homes of Macanese families. The former Portuguese administration's Tourist Department bought and redecorated them in the 1980s. In 1992, they were collectively classified as an architecturally important monument. The administration thoroughly refurbished and reconstructed them, and the buildings were officially opened to the public in December 1999. In 2016, the Government joined hands with foreign consulates in Macao in launching the comprehensive Taipa Houses-Museum leisure project, to optimise the Taipa Houses-Museum by maintaining its beautiful and tranquil environment, and demonstrating its unique Portuguese features.

In September 2016, the Taipa Houses-Museum reopened after renovation. The five houses are the Macanese Living Museum, Exhibitions Gallery, Creative Casa, Nostalgic House and House for Receptions from west to east, respectively. Of these houses, three are exhibition halls, while the remaining two are leisure facilities. With a combination of featured exhibitions, outdoor performances and festive activities, the Taipa Houses-Museum has become a showcase of the culture of Portuguese-speaking countries and a stage for international exchange. The exhibition halls received 229,788 visitors in 2023.

Museum of Taipa and Coloane History

Opened on 7 May 2006, the Museum of Taipa and Coloane History consists of nine exhibition rooms and a souvenir shop. Built in 1920, the 638-square-metre, two-storey museum building was formerly the building of the former Island Municipal Council of Taipa. On the first floor are relics such as those unearthed in Coloane, and stone structural elements from the basement. These items provide visitors with an overview of the early history and culture of Coloane and Taipa. The exhibition rooms on the second floor have various themes, including the history of the former Municipal Council of the Islands, a look back at agriculture and handicrafts in the old days, the

architectural features of buildings on Coloane and Taipa, religious and cultural transformations of the villages on the two islands and their recent development. There were 101,182 visitors in 2023.

Xian Xinghai Memorial Museum

In commemoration of the great Macao-born musician Xian Xinghai, the Government has established the Xian Xinghai Memorial Museum, covering the musician's life history, to honour his contributions to the nation, promote his musical achievements and establish him as role model for young people. Located at No. 151-153, Rua de Francisco Xavier Pereira, the museum opened on 23 November 2019. It received 8,990 visitors in 2023.

Lou Kau Mansion

Completed in 1889 (the 15th year of the reign of Emperor Guangxu of the Qing Dynasty), Lou Kau Mansion was formerly the residence of the prominent Macao merchant Lou Kau and his family. It is among the few intact mansions of the wealthy in Macao that dates back to the late Qing Dynasty. With the architectural characteristics of a typical Xiguan Chinese residential building, complemented with decorative elements of Western architecture, the mansion is a notable building in Macao that incorporates both Eastern and Western cultural elements.

In 2023, 1,170 online visitors took virtual reality guided tours, while physical visitors totalled 339,175.

Mandarin's House

The Mandarin's House is the ancestral family residence of the modern Chinese master Zheng Guanying. Zheng's famous book *Shengshi Weiyao* (Words of Warning in Times of Prosperity) was completed here. The construction of the Mandarin's House was initiated by Zheng Wenrui, the father of Zheng Guanying. The house was probably built before 1869 and was a rare private residence of such scale for one family in Macao.

In February 2010, the Mandarin's House was opened to the public upon completion of restoration. The Cultural Bureau holds various events to promote cultural heritage at the Mandarin's house, especially to encourage young people to learn about world heritage.

In 2018, the Mandarin's House received the title of "World Heritage Youth Education Base" from the World Heritage Institute of Training and Research for the Asia and the Pacific Region under the Auspices of UNESCO (Suzhou).

In 2023, online virtual reality guided tours were joined by 2,799 people, while onsite AR experience was enjoyed by 4,196 people, and offline physical visitors totalled 87,104 people.

Zheng Guanying Memorial Museum

The Zheng Guanying Memorial Museum has four sections – "Ideas on Reform", "Practice in Self-Strengthening Movement", "One Hundred Years of Change in the Mandarin House" and

“Charity Work” – which present relics related to Zheng Guanying and his family, including literature, documents and correspondence, and information on his family history, to introduce Zheng Guanying’s life history and his role in the development of modern Chinese national enterprises, as well as the history of the Zheng family, and the family’s contributions to charity. It was temporarily closed in 2023 due to maintenance works.

Former Residence of General Ye Ting

A two-storey western style building, the Former Residence of General Ye Ting is the former residence of General Ye Ting, a founder of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army and distinguished militarist, and his family. The site has retained more than a dozen invaluable items of furniture of the former residence, along with objects of daily life and home decorations, such as wooden cupboards, a pendulum clock, and a wooden bed. The site opened to the public in May 2014. In 2023 it received 27,468 visitors.

Former Chong Sai Pharmacy

Located at No. 80 Rua das Estalagens, this building was a typical shophouse, built before 1892. In 1893, Dr. Sun Yat-sen established the Former Chong Sai Pharmacy here. This was among Macao’s first pharmacies and clinics with western medical services provided by a Chinese doctor. The building was subsequently rented out and changed hands several times afterwards, and was once used as a Taoist hall and a fabric shop.

In 2011, the Government acquired the building and carried out restoration and revitalisation work, adding new functions and public service facilities. The conservation work was completed in the second half of 2016, and in December that year, an exhibition space was opened to the public. In 2023, it received 41,614 visitors.

Patane Night Watch House

The Patane Night Watch House is the only remaining watch house in Macao. The Cultural Affairs Bureau and the Tou Tei Mio Patane Mercy and Charity Association collaborated in revitalising the Patane Night Watch House as an exhibition centre, to showcase Macao’s night watch history and the culture of Chinese communities in the past. The exhibition centre was opened to the public on 18 December 2015, and received 6,208 visitors in 2023.

The Nossa Senhora Village of Ka Ho

The Nossa Senhora Village of Ka Ho was the only site for treating leprosy patients in Macao. It was built in 1885 by the Macao administration, to admit patients, and was reconstructed in the 1930s, when it was expanded to create five houses and the original Our Lady of Sorrows Church. In 1966, the new Our Lady of Sorrows Church was built.

In 1963, the Italian priest Gaetano Nicosia of the Society of Saint Francis de Sales began his

service in the leprosarium in Ka Ho. The priest, together with the residents, decided to rename the leprosarium clinic as the Village of Our Lady. In 1992, the Social Welfare Bureau converted the houses of female patients into a nursing home for the recovered elderly residents of Ka Ho, and the Village of Our Lady in Ka Ho suspended its medical mission.

From 2016, the Cultural Bureau has carried out comprehensive restoration work, in phases; and in 2019 it partially opened the village to the public. Since 6 November, 2021, the Land of Hope – Historical Archives Exhibition on Leprosariums in Macao” has been staged on a permanent basis at Nossa Senhora Village of Ka Ho. At present, the Social Welfare Bureau and non-governmental institutions jointly offer cultural guided tours and exhibitions, cultural recreation, retail services and refreshments, in the four houses in the village of Our Lady. In 2023, it received 59,685 visitors.

Former Iec Long Firecracker Factory site

The firecracker industry in Macao flourished in 1920s, with a number of firecracker factories established in Taipa, and became a major Macao industry that was critical to the community and livelihoods in Taipa. During its golden era from 1950s to 1970s, fireworks were major exports, playing a major role in Macao’s economic development.

The former Iec Long Firecracker Factory site has a history spanning nearly a hundred years and an area of over 20,000 square metres. The former factory layout and environment are intact. This is the only relatively well-preserved firecracker industry heritage in Macao, reflecting the golden era of the traditional firecracker industry in the twentieth century in Macao, and bearing witness to Macao’s development of a modern handicrafts industry. The site trails, exhibition hall and arts and crafts gift shop were opened to the public on 23 December 2022. In 2023, the site received 173,675 visitors.

Shipyards at Lai Chi Vun

The Shipyards at Lai Chi Vun were first built in the 1950s, and gradually ceased operations in 1990s. The area is the only relatively well-preserved heritage site of the ship building industry in Macao, revealing the urban development of Macao in the past, as well as the former ship building industry and related lifestyles. On 24 June 2023, the X11-X15 section of the first-stage revitalisation of the Shipyards at Lai Chi Vun was first opened to the public. The section featured an exhibition, performance area and workshop, as well as a weekend bazaar and a monthly sunset concert. In 2023, it received a total of 61,204 visitors.

Kun Iam Statue

The Kun Iam Statue is a 32-metre-tall structure on an artificial island in NAPE, which is connected to the land by a 60-metre bridge. Comprising the statue and lotus flower base, the Kun Iam Statue was completed in March 1999 and was supported by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). It advocates mutual respect and friendship among human beings and civilisations, receiving 43,690 visitors in 2023.

Jao Tsung-I Academy

Professor Jao Tsung-I was a globally renowned “master of Sinology”, with a profound connection to Macao. He cared for and supported Macao’s cultural industry, and donated his painting and calligraphy works to collections in cultural institutions and museums in Macao. The Jao Tsung-I Academy was established by the Government, and opened to the public on 11 August 2015.

The academy’s premises were formerly a residence built in 1921. The building was inscribed on the list of protected heritage sites in 1984. The academy mainly introduces the public to the academic achievements of Professor Jao, and promotes Chinese culture and arts. It received 11,531 visitors in 2023, while 105 guided tours were joined by a total of 425 people.

House of Macao Literature

The House of Macao Literature, at Block A and B, No. 95 Avenida do Conselheiro Ferreira de Almeida, is a literature centre cum creative space with the functions of classics collection, exhibition, exchange, research and studies, promoting Macao’s literary image as well as the research and development of Macao’s literature. Opened on 17 September 2022, the house holds diverse cultural activities and exhibitions on an ongoing basis, and provides certain areas to social groups for temporarily hosting literary activities. In 2023, it received a total of 16,771 visitors.

Macao Cultural Centre

The Macao Cultural Centre is situated on Xian Xing Hai Avenue in NAPE. Completed and opened in March 1999, the complex comprises the Auditoria Building, the Macao Museum of Art Building, Macao Cultural Centre Square, the Handover Gifts Museum of Macao, and the Black Box Theatre inaugurated in July 2023.

The Auditoria Building contains two performance venues. One is a 1,076-seat multipurpose complex theatre, while the other is a 389-seat mini-theatre. The newly built Black Box Theatre consists of two venues – Black Box I with a seating capacity of 140 people, and Black Box II with a capacity of 160 people.

During 2023, the Macao Cultural Centre continued to offer cultural facilities and professional services to various local groups and organisations. During the year, 255 programmes and 937 performances or activities were organised, receiving 158,783 visitors.

Dr Sun Yat Sen Memorial House

Originally built by Dr Sun Yat Sen as a home for his family in the years after 1918, this Islamic style residence was opened as Dr Sun Yat Sen Memorial House in 1958.

Lin Zexu Museum

The Lin Zexu Museum in Lin Fong Temple was completed in November 1997, in memory of Imperial

Commissioner Lin Zexu, who defied the powerful and the mighty to institute a ban on opium and the opium trade. On 3 September 1839, Lin Zexu, who was then in charge in Guangdong, and Deng Tingzheng, the Governor of Guangdong and Guangxi, met the Consul of the former Portuguese administration to proclaim the prohibition of opium and China's sovereignty over Macao.

Fire Service Museum

Located inside the central operational fire station on Repouso Road, the Fire Service Museum was founded and opened to the public in December 1999, and received 50,206 visitors in 2023.

Maritime Museum

The Maritime Museum was founded in 1987 and is the first thematic museum in Macao. The exhibits reflect the vital role of the sea in Macao's history, including Macao's fishing village culture, the golden age of maritime trading and the circumstance of the port during the 20th century. In addition, the museum systematically displays the remarkable achievements of China and Portugal in maritime history, demonstrating the development of Chinese and Western maritime technology and the importance of the sea to human culture. In 2023 it received 107,714 visitors.

Grand Prix Museum

The Grand Prix Museum was inaugurated in 1993, closed for expansion in July 2017, and reopened to the public officially on 1 June 2021.

After expansion, the four-storey Grand Prix Museum has a gross floor area of about 16,000 square metres. Its layout emphasises a fun educational experience, and is divided into exhibition areas and experience zones, covering various types of races. There are also several racing cars and motorcycles that participated in past Grand Prix events that have been collected by the museum, providing visitors with knowledge, entertainment, leisure and a learning experience related to the Macau Grand Prix.

In 2023, to continue enriching the contents of exhibition and complement the 70th anniversary of the Macau Grand Prix, the museum joined hands with Madame Tussauds Hong Kong to introduce wax figures of eight renowned racers, installed a Grand Prix simulator, held a new exhibition titled "VR 360° MGP Race Highlights", and extended the opening hours of the museum during the Grand Prix racing season.

In 2023, the Grand Prix Museum received a total of 132,331 visitors, including 282 guided tours of 6,951 visitors.

Communications Museum of Macao

The Communications Museum, which opened in March 2006, is an interactive exhibition venue covering philately and telecommunications. In 2023 it provided 26 guided themed tours covering postal/philately or telecommunications topics; and there were seven demonstrations of science

topics, 27 fun workshops and five courses on electronics that schools and organisations could participate in through advance booking. During the year, there were 27,064 visitors and 431 advance visit bookings.

The museum also provides various visiting options to families and overseas tourist groups without advance booking. Through various topical exhibitions and annual competitions, participating in community activities and school outreach for special programmes, it strives to promote philately culture and popular telecommunications science to the public.

Macao Science Center

The Macao Science Center was inaugurated in December 2009, and opened to the public in January 2010. Designed by Ieoh Ming Pei, the Macao Science Center is a public cultural facility with an educational mission that comprises an exhibition centre, a planetarium and a convention centre. Its exhibits focus on public participation and fun.

In 2022, Macao Science Center was added to the First Batch of Recognized Lists of National Popular Science Education Bases (2021-2025) by China Association for Science and Technology, becoming the first science and technology centre in Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan to earn this title. Also that year, it was ranked among the first national Scientist Spirit Education Bases by China Association for Science and Technology, making it the only science and technology centre of its kind to earn the dual listing in Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan. The Macao Science Center was also the first science and technology centre approved to enter the China Science and Technology Culture Centre Consortium spanning Hong Kong, Macao and Taiwan.

The Macao Science Center is a hotspot for both local citizens and tourists alike. In 2023, it launched various activities for local citizens, students and overseas tourists, receiving a total of 662,236 visitors.

Museum of Nature and Agriculture

The first museum to be built on Coloane island, the Museum of Nature and Agriculture, under the Municipal Affairs Bureau, is within the Seac Pai Van Country Park. Built by the then Municipal Council of the Islands, the museum was opened on 21 March 1997. It is a cultural amenity with an educational purpose. The museum's thematic exhibitions are devoted to the Geography of Macao, Traditional Farming Tools and Everyday Appliances of the Islands in Bygone Days, Plant Specimens, and Reptiles.

Macao Tea Culture House

The Macao Tea Culture House, which is managed by the Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau, is the first exhibition gallery in Macao devoted to displaying tea-related artefacts. It was opened to the public on 1 June 2005. Through short-term and long-term exhibitions of various formats, as well as various tea culture activities, it is dedicated to demonstrating Macao's tea culture and everything about tea in China and the West. It also hopes to promote worldwide tea culture, knowledge and studies.

Iong Sam Tong Pavilion in Lou Lim Ieoc Garden

Iong Sam Tong Pavilion was built in the early 20th century as part of Yu Yuen (the former name of Lou Lim Ieoc Garden). The renovation of Iong Sam Tong Pavilion was completed in 2011, and it was reopened in May that year. It showcases 50 historical items of the Lou family, including photographs, letters, biographical materials, manuscripts and recordings.

Chun Chou Tong Pavilion in Lou Lim Ieoc Garden

Constructed in the early 20th century, this pavilion at the edge of a lake is the main structure of the garden. When Dr. Sun Yat-Sen came to Macao in May 1912, he was invited to stay here, where he met prominent Chinese and Portuguese figures in Macao. Chun Chou Tong is now a venue for visual arts exhibitions.

Commemorative Gallery of the Macao Basic Law

Situated in Avenida de Marciano Baptista at Outer Harbour Reclamation Area (NAPE), the gallery introduces the successful implementation of the Basic Law in Macao and its historical evolution in several exhibition zones, and provides education, including through public guided tours, subject-focused guided tours, self-guided tour equipment and QR code scanning. In 2023, there were 18,201 visitors to the gallery, and 182 guided educational tours were provided. It has been closed for renovation since 22 November 2023.

Chinese Ethnic Sculpture Park

The Chinese Ethnic Sculpture Park is Macao's first ethnic-themed sculpture park, with 56 ethnic sculptures in the park, and ethnic items in the exhibition venue. In 2023, there were 10,671 visitors to the park and the exhibition venue. It was closed for decoration work since December 2023.

Cultural and Recreational Activities for Community

The Municipal Affairs Bureau annually organises and co-organises various festivals and recreation classes for all people. In 2023, activities held included a series of Affinity with Macao activities, "Blossom and Moonlight" Mid-autumn Festival evening celebration, promotional activities about tea culture and 284 recreational activities for everyone, to enrich the spare time of citizens and promote integration of cultural recreation and community life.

The Municipal Affairs Bureau has enhanced the activity centres in various districts. The ten activity centres under its supervision are Iao Hon Activity Centre, S. Domingos Activity Centre, S. Lourenço Activity Centre, Patane Activity Centre, Fai Chi Kei Activity Centre, Edifício do Bairro da Ilha Verde Activity Centre, Rotunda de Carlos da Maia Activity Centre, Seac Pai Van Activity Centre, Ká Hó Activity Centre and Taipa Ponte Negra Activity Centre. The centres provide comfortable indoor leisure venues for residents. In 2023, their services were enjoyed by over 760,000 people.

Sports Events

The Government is committed to promoting sport for all, encouraging citizens to participate in all kinds of sport and recreational activities as a way to promote good health. Upholding the values of sport-for-all and life-long fitness spelled out in public slogans, the Government has led citizens towards building healthy lives by enjoying everyday sport. At the same time, the Government emphasises enhancing the standards of sport at the local level, and fully supports and encourages local sports institutions with organising and participating in tournaments in Macao and overseas.

The coordinated development of popular sport and athletics can only be realised through the provision of comprehensive modern sport facilities and sport medicine, thereby allowing citizens to exercise conveniently and scientifically, ultimately enhancing their quality of life.

Sports Bureau

The Sports Bureau is responsible for instructing, encouraging, assisting and promoting sports events, establishing the requisite conditions for the development of sports, and coordinating between sports associations and entities.

Major Sports Competitions

Major sports competitions in Macao during 2023 included Macao International Regatta, Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Cup 2023 – Year of the Rabbit Celebration Football Tournament, Macao International 10K, WTT Champions Macao, Macao International Dragon Boat Races, FIBA 3X3 World Tour Macau Masters 2023, Macao Open, 3X3 Greater Bay Area Tour 2023, Macau Grand Prix, Macao International Marathon and the 2023 CTA Tour Professional Finals (Macao) & National Tennis Championships. The brand effect of sports events was enhanced through organising engaging branded sport-tourism events with unique Macao characteristics, combining sports, tourism and cultural elements. Sports events were employed as a platform to promote the development of Macao’s sports, tourism and affiliated industries, unleashing the inherent socio-economic effectiveness and helping to build the distinct image of Macao as “City of Sports”.

The 2023 Macao International Regatta was joined by 35 teams racing in the Macao Cup International Regatta, the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Cup Regatta (IRC) and the International Catamaran Invitational (Hobie16).

The 2023 Macao International 10K attracted nearly 10,000 contestants to join the two races – 10K and Happy Run.

The Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Cup 2023 – Year of the Rabbit Celebration Football Tournament invited two Guangdong teams, one Hong Kong team and one Macao league team to compete, attracting a live audience of 2,600 people.

The 2023 Macao International Dragon Boat Races were held over three consecutive days, featuring a number of small boat and standard boat races with nearly 200 teams competing.

The FIBA 3X3 World Tour Macau Masters 2023 invited 14 teams from around the world to

compete in Macao.

The 2023 WTT Champions Macao were contested by 64 top players from around the world.

The 3X3 Greater Bay Area Tour 2023 held competition divisions in Guangzhou, Shenzhen and Guangdong-Macao Intensive Cooperation Zone in Hengqin. Division and final competitions were held in Macao, attracting a live audience of 44,556 people.

The 2023 Macao Open was joined by 144 players, including 124 elite players from top rankings in the Professional Golf Tour in Asia.

The 70th Macau Grand Prix was held for six days over two weeks, with a total of 11 races, and 245 race drivers participating, in front of an audience totalling 145,000 people.

The 42nd Macao International Marathon attracted participation by a total of 12,000 athletes, in three categories — Marathon, Half-Marathon and Mini Marathon.

The 2023 CTA Tour Professional Finals (Macao) & National Tennis Championships brought the top 16 male and female players in the national rankings to Macao. Participating players, technical officials, coaches and team followers totalled 1,650 people, and the live audience totalled 1,350 people. The competitions were broadcast live via the CCTV national media platform, all over the country.

Sport for All

In 2023, a total of 54,257 people took part in the 19 activities organised by the Sports Bureau, with 56,632 of them participating in the 2,583 Sport for All Fitness and Recreational Classes. As regards annual summer activities, 43,606 quotas were offered in 2023, including 19,791 quotas related to sports activities, spanning 105 types and 719 classes.

Competitive Sport

During 2023, the Sports Bureau provided sponsorship to sports associations for organising and participating in 335 competitions and 139 training programmes.

In 2023, 126 athletes, coaches and technical support crew members in 10 sports events were awarded cash prizes for their outstanding performances, while 298 athletes, coaches and technical support crew members from 19 sports associations were awarded certificates of merit.

To support and promote the long-term development of competitive sports in Macao, the Athletes Training Centre in Cotai began providing high-quality training facilities to athletes, thus improving Macao's athlete training system while making it more professional.

Sports Medicine

In 2023, the Sports Medical Centre provided medical services to 11,012 people. It provided medical assistance at 27 competitions and activities, during which it offered medical services to 998 people. Also, the centre provided Physical Fitness Assessments to 895 people, while 3,333 people took

part in fitness tests at the sports health information centre.

Furthermore, 1,775 people participated in the Anti-doping Outreach Education Campaign co-organised by the Sports Bureau and the China Anti-doping Agency (CHINADA).

Sports and Recreation Venues

Public Sports Facility Network

In 2006, the Sports Bureau set up a public sports facility network. Sports facilities within the network cover different districts in Macao. They are where residents take part in daily physical training, elite athletes are trained, and major sports events take place.

At present, major sports facilities in Macao include Tap Seac Multisport Pavilion, Victory Sports Centre, Artur Tamagnini Barbosa Sports Centre, Bosco Sports Complex, Lin Fong Sports Centre, Nam Van Lake Nautical Centre, Macao Forum, water biking at Anim'Arte NAM VAN, Sports Ground on Avenida do Comendador Ho Yin, Sports Ground on Estrada do Canal dos Patos, Sports Ground on Rua Central da Areia Preta, Sports Ground on Rua Central da Areia Preta, Sports Ground on Av. Do Almirante Magalhães Correia, Sports Ground at Veng Neng, Sports Ground at Sai Van, Dr. Sun Yat Sen Swimming Pool, and Estoril Swimming Pool, Mong Ha Sports Pavilion, San Kio Basketball Court, the basketball court of Keang Peng Secondary School, Ginásio Polidesportivo da Escola Primaria Oficial Luso-Chinesa Sir Robert Ho Tung, and the basketball court of Kwong Tai Middle School.

Sports facilities in Taipa include the Olympic Complex, Carmo Swimming Pool, Northeast Taipa Sports Centre, Sports Ground in Lake Building, Sports Ground in Taipa Central Park, Taipa Central Park Swimming Pool, UM Stadium & Sports Complex, and the Taipa Lago Integrated Services Centre of Macao Federation of Trade Unions.

Sports facilities in Cotai comprise the Macao East Asian Games Dome, International Shooting Range, Bowling Centre, Tennis Academy, Cheoc Van Nautical Club, Hac-Sa Nautical Centre, Coloane Karting Track, Hac Sa Park Swimming Pool, Sports Ground at Hac-Sa Beach, and Cheoc Van Swimming Pool.

Some of the above-mentioned sports facilities are managed by the Sports Bureau, while some organisations have joined the Public Sports Facility Network through a collaboration scheme to open sports facilities to the public, thus making good use of them.

There are also many other sports venues and golf courses owned by associations, institutions and individuals.

Public Swimming Pools and Beaches

Swimming is one of the most popular recreational activities among Macao residents. The public swimming pools in Macao include the Estoril Swimming Pool, Dr Sun Yat Sen Swimming Pool, Cheoc Van Swimming Pool, Hac Sa Park Swimming Pool, Taipa Central Park Swimming Pool, Bosco Sports Complex Swimming Pool, Artur Tamagnini Barbosa Sports Centre Swimming Pool,

Tamagnini Barbosa Sports Centre, Lin Fong Sports Centre Swimming Pool, Olympic Sports Centre - Aquatic Centre Carmo Swimming Pool and the Swimming Pool at UM Sports Complex.

In addition, Hac Sa Beach and Cheoc Van Beach are available for public use. They are managed by the Marine and Water Bureau.

Trails

Topographically, Macao has a lower elevation in the north and a higher elevation in the south. Sixteen trails covering a total length of 37 kilometres are located on Taipa and Coloane islands. These provide access to replanted forest areas where saplings still require care, and serve as firebreaks and access routes for fire fighters. For the vast majority of Macao's residents and visitors, however, the primary function of the trails is to facilitate exploration and enjoyment of the islands' natural attractions.

The 16 trails are Guia Hill Fitness Trail (1,200 metres), Mong Há Hill Fitness Trail (1,000 metres), Ka Ho Reservoir Trail (1,550 metres), Coloane Fitness Trail (1,250 metres), Taipa Grande Trail (4,000 metres), Taipa Pequena Trail 2000 (2,300 metres), Coloane Trail (8,100 metres), Coloane Northeast Trail (4,290 metres), Hac Sa Reservoir Circuit (2,650 metres), Hac Sa Reservoir Fitness Circuit (1,505 metres), Hac Sa Long Chao Kok Circuit (2,250 metres), Ka Ho Height Circuit (1,490 metres), Seac Pai Van Park Trail (1,680 metres), Coloane Stone Washbasin Ancient Route (about 1,375 metres), Long Chao Kok Coastal Trail in Hac Sa (1,200 metres), and Oscar Trail (1,150 metres).

Gardens and Parks

Though small in area, Macao is renowned for its many gardens in a variety of scenery and styles, offering a host of attractions. These form one of Macao's unique features as a tourist destination. The gardens are not only tourist attractions, but are also popular spots where local residents relax and exercise.

Guia Hill Municipal Park

Guia Hill Municipal Park is among Macao's major venues to enjoy fresh air. This tourist attraction boasts extensive natural resources. Of all the parks in Macao, it ranks first as a site for Chinese red pines, both in terms of their quantity and age.

Luis de Camoes Garden

Luis de Camoes Garden is one of the oldest gardens in Macao. It was the residence of a rich Portuguese merchant named Lourenco Marques. He loved to feed the pigeons and hundreds of birds nested around his home, creating a spectacular view. From a distance, the garden looked like a giant bird's nest, and the name has been used ever since.

Ho Yin Garden

Ho Yin Garden is situated to the north of Amizade Avenue. It was built to commemorate the late Chinese community leader, Ho Yin, and was opened to the public in 1993. In 2019, the Municipal Affairs Bureau specially relocated the Sculpture Park of Chinese Ethnic Groups on Taipa Grande to Comendador Ho Yin Park.

Carlos d'Assumpcao Park

Carlos d'Assumpcao Park is situated to the south of Amizade Avenue. It commemorates the Macanese community leader and former president of the Legislative Assembly, Carlos d'Assumpcao, and was opened to the public in 1996.

Flora Garden

Flora Garden is located at the foot of Guia hill. At the end of the 19th century, it was bought by the former Portuguese administration to serve as the Governor's summer residence. Sir Robert Ho Tung, a philanthropist, later bought it, but afterwards returned it as a gift to the former Portuguese administration. For this reason, the garden is still called "Ho Tung Garden" in Chinese. It is also known as "I Long Hau Fa Yun", as it is close to a spring.

A cable car was completed and went into service in 1997. The station for the uphill cable car is at the garden entrance. The cable cars can reach Guia Hill, allowing tourists to conveniently travel between the garden and Guia Hill.

In 2023, the construction of Flora Garden Children's Playground, with the theme natural forest exploration, was completed. Situated next to D. José da Costa Nunes Kindergarten on Avenida de Sidónio Pais, it is open to the public during extracurricular hours, realising both a friendly campus and community facility sharing.

Lou Lim Ieoc Garden

Lou Lim Ieoc Garden is the only garden in Macao with the classic ambiance of those found in Suzhou. It features pavilions, terraces, lakes, zigzag bridges, rocks and cascades, all of which reflect the beautiful scenery of the Jiangnan area on the southern, lower reaches of the Changjiang River.

Dr Sun Yat Sen Municipal Park

Dr Sun Yat Sen Municipal Park is located at Ilha Verde in northern Macao near the Border Gate. At the centre of the park is a 500-metre-long cloister, the longest of any in Macao's parks, linking most of the scenic spots of the park. Other facilities include an open-air theatre, a multipurpose sports court, recreational facilities, a swimming pool, and a public library.

There are many other gardens and parks in Macao, including Mong Ha Hill Municipal Park, Russa Hill Park, St Francis Garden, Victory Garden, Vasco da Gama Garden, Areia Preta Seaside Park,

Iao Hon Market Garden, Art Garden, Areia Preta Urban Park, Chunambeiro Park, Edf. Mong Tak Podium Garden, Reservoir Park, Temporary Leisure Area in Doca do Lam Mau and Leisure Area of Kun Iam Statue Waterfront on the Macao peninsula; Taipa Grande Nature Park, Taipa Central Park, Flower City Garden, Monument Garden and Pier Garden on Taipa island; and Seac Pai Van Park, Seac Pai Van Community Complex Terrace Garden, Hac Sa Park, Hac Sa Beach Park, and Coloane Height Park on Coloane island.



Art Macao



Launched in July 2023, the major international arts and cultural event “Art Macao: 2023 International Art Biennial of Macao” features 31 exhibitions in eight categories at 28 venues, and about 600 extension activities in the surrounding areas, bringing together more than 200 artists/ art organisations from over 20 countries and regions – thereby building the Art Biennial brand name and offering a new cultural and tourism experience in a world heritage city with a mix of abundance and enjoyment.



