

## Immediate Release

**tramplus x Hong Kong Handflute Association Present the  
HK's 1<sup>st</sup> Ding Ding Handflute Workshop**

Master STEM Principles of Sound and Play the Rhythm of the City with Your Hands

(Hong Kong, May 19 2025) Hong Kong Tramways' sister company, tramplus, is committed to nurturing a new generation with STEM thinking. STEM education does not necessarily require expensive equipment; by understanding the underlying principles, one's hands can also be an effective learning tool. Last weekend, around 15 students from Ying Wa College and Saint Barnabas' Society and Home took part in the "Everyday Symphony in Your Hands" Ding Ding Handflute Workshop, co-organised by tramplus and the Hong Kong Handflute Association (the Association). Participants had the unique opportunity to play the handflute first-hand, enjoy professional performances by Association members aboard the city's historic post-war tram, No. 120 and explore the STEM acoustic principles behind this amazing "instrument". The workshop brought the classroom onto the tram, seamlessly integrating learning with everyday life.

The handflute, as its name implies, is a wind sound-producing technique played solely by hands. It is becoming more popular in Hong Kong thanks to Association's promotion. Handflute is an affordable and environmentally friendly instrument, making it an ideal choice for students with or without music background. Its eco-friendly nature also echoes well with tram. The musical journey commenced at Whitty Street Depot, with the Association's members performing 2 classic songs related to the tram route: "Wedding Invitation Street" by Kay Tse and "The Next Station Days" by Twins, marking the beginning of a memorable musical voyage.

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*Around 15 student representatives from Ying Wa College and Saint Barnabas' Society and Home took part in the "Everyday Symphony in Your Hands" Ding Ding Handflute Workshop*

The melodious sound of the handflute drifts with the breeze, harmonizing beautifully with the city's scenery. During the "City Sound Hunt" session, students paid close attention as members of the Association mimicked familiar sounds from around the city along the tram route. They were invited to guess the sounds being copied, such as pedestrian crossing signals, the call of the so-called "Key-changing Koel," and ambulance sirens. Students were encouraged to listen



carefully to the everyday sounds around them and discover the unique rhythms and melodies of the city.

“Like the iconic ‘ding ding’ sound that brightens people’s hearts, the handflute melody brings a similar spark. We are delighted to collaborate with the Association to host this meaningful ECA activity aboard an eco-friendly tram. We believe that ‘learning by doing’ is the most effective way to learn. This workshop encourages students to keep experimenting and takes the initiative for learning firmly into their own hands. Rather than passively watching videos, they actively explore the STEM principles behind the hand flute and discover the joy of hands-on discovery.” said Nixon Cheung, General Manager of tramplus.



*Wilson Chung (in the picture on the left) and Ivan Yu (in the picture on the right), two among the founders of the Hong Kong Handflute Association, highlighted that the key to successfully producing tones is to ensure a sufficient space in the resonance chamber and seal all gaps except the blowing hole*

“The art of handflute playing has been passed down through my family from my great-grandfather. I hope to continue this tradition and allow the new generation to experience the joy of playing the handflute. tramplus’ vision aligns perfectly with that of ours — not only focusing on preserving heritage but also committed to innovation and enhancement, helping to promote and revitalise this traditional craft.” remarked Ivan Yu, one of the founders of the Hong Kong Handflute Association, as he explained to the students the origins of the handflute and the STEM principles behind sound production.

Wilson Chung, another founder of the Association, emphasized that the association aims to offer the public an additional free avenue to learn music through the hand flute, enabling people from all backgrounds to enjoy the joy of music.

Yu pointed out that to play a single note, one must clasp both hands together, curving the palms slightly to form a “resonance chamber.” The fingers are bent and aligned, leaving a small hole, then the lips are placed near the base of the thumb joint to blow air inward. This causes air particles to vibrate within the hands, producing sound. Since everyone’s hands differ in size, shape and skin texture, the tone produced varies from person to person. Children, with smaller hands, typically produce higher-pitched notes. To change or bend the pitch, one must continuously adjust their hand position to control the resonance space.

Caleb Leung, a student from Ying Wa College, successfully played single notes in just over ten minutes and quickly mastered simple pitch bending techniques. He expressed eagerness to return to school to share what he has learned and feels confident leading his classmates in

playing the handflute. “I don’t think the handflute is hard to master. Once you find the right lip position, producing sound becomes much easier.” Leung said.



*Leung (in the picture on the left), who successfully played single notes, practiced simple pitch bending on the lower deck. Meanwhile, others practiced by blowing into water bottles on the upper deck to better understand the principles of sound production*

During the two-hour musical journey, students practised playing single notes in groups under the guidance of members from the Association. Those who had mastered the basics moved on to practise simple pitch changes, while others who had not yet fully grasped the technique used blowing into water bottles as an aid to better understand the principles of sound production. Finally, the instructor led all participants in performing a simple ensemble piece, integrating what they had learned.

tramplus believes that such collaboration further strengthens the close ties between academia and industry partners. tramplus will continue to bring together outstanding local and international resources to promote diverse STEAM education, creating the best possible learning experiences for students. Additionally, tramplus is set to announce exciting news later this week — stay tuned!



**About the Hong Kong Handflute Association:**

The Association is the world's only organisation dedicated to promoting the handflute. It was established in 2021 and officially registered in 2023. The Association has numerous collaboration with social welfare organisations, elderly homes, business groups, universities, primary and secondary schools, community centres, and youth centres to organise events that promote the handflute and encourage a low-carbon, green lifestyle. The Association currently has 20 members and has accumulated over 4,000 followers on its social media platforms.

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/handflute\\_association](https://www.instagram.com/handflute_association)

**About tramplus**

Founded in 2021, tramplus is a sister company of HK Tramways and owned by the RATP Dev Group.

With the vision to advocate local STEM education, tramplus teams up with the world's leading institutions and educators to provide easy access to the world-class online and in-curriculum STEM education, by blending in the rich legacy of tram engineering wisdom with modern tech knowledge.

tramplus focuses on STEM-related curricula including basic science, mechanical and electrical engineering, coding and urban development. By approaching these topics from a daily life perspective, tramplus hopes to inspire students to adopt a radical mindset and equip them with a STEM foundation. Hence, equip them with the knowledge and skills to develop a smarter and a more sustainable future for the city.

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