Stories of the Hong Kong Palace Museum Treasures – "Noble Craftsmanship Meets Creativity" Design Competition (Secondary) 2026/27

Notice to Participating Schools

Organiser

The competition is co-organised by the Arts Education (AE) Section of the Curriculum Development Institute (CDI), Education Bureau (EDB) and the Hong Kong Palace Museum (HKPM).

1. Objectives

The competition aims to encourage secondary students to design 2-dimensional images inspired by the treasures on display at the HKPM. Through appreciating the craftsmanship and creativity of ancient artisans, students will develop their aesthetic sensibility, creativity, as well as proper values and attitudes, including "Perseverance", "Empathy", and "National Identity".

2. Division

Junior Secondary Division (Secondary 1 – 3)
Senior Secondary Division (Secondary 4 – 6)

3. Theme

The theme of this competition is "Noble Craftsmanship Meets Creativity". Throughout history, integrating exquisite craftsmanship, innovative thinking, and a human-centred approach is essential to outstanding design and art making. Participants should draw inspiration from the treasures on display in Gallery 5, "Design for the Forbidden City: Imperial Workshops of the Qing Court," at the HKPM, and apply visual arts knowledge and skills to design 2-dimensional images that express the theme.

4. Important Dates

From now on	Competition details are available on the Arts Education Key Learning Area (AE KLA) webpage: www.edb.gov.hk/en/arts/hkpm-sec	
23 October 2026	Online briefing session (Course ID: CDI020261342)	
16 November 2026	Professional Development Programme "From Concept to Production: Cultural and Creative Product Design (Secondary) (New) " (Course ID: CDI020270503)	
3 – 5 March 2027	Online submission of the entries (2-dimensional images) and relevant information	
Mid March 2027	First-round adjudication	

Late March 2027	Relevant schools will be notified of the **finalist entries** by **email**; the list will also be announced on the AE KLA webpage	
April 2027 (Date TBC)	Finalists	Participate in the "Design Workshop for the Finalists"
21– 22 April 2027		Submit the final entries (design of cultural-creative products) and the **true copy** of the signed "Declaration and Permission Slip"
May 2027	Final-round adjudication	
June 2027	Relevant schools will be notified of the **awarded entries** by **email**, and the list will also be announced on the AE KLA webpage	
Late August 2027	Award Presentation Ceremony and Exhibition will be held at the HKPM	

5. Participation Rules

- Participants must be full-time secondary students studying in Hong Kong schools.
- Each participant can submit up to **TWO** entries, and they should be the original and unpublished work of the participant.
- Awarded entries of Cultural-creative Product (applicable to the Final-round adjudication only) may be developed into products and potentially offered for public sale.
- All original work of entries will not be returned.
- Late submissions or entries with incomplete information will **NOT** be accepted.
- All entries should be submitted by schools.

6. Entry Requirements

- All entries should be inspired by the treasures on display in "Design for the Forbidden City: Imperial Workshops of the Qing Court" to express the theme.
- There are no restrictions on the medium and form of entries. Acceptable media and forms include Chinese ink, drawing, painting, printmaking, watercolour, comics and digital drawing.
- The entries should be presented on A4 paper (21cm x 29.7cm).
- **Each entry** should be accompanied by a designer statement of no more than 100 words (in either Chinese or English), explaining the concept and message conveyed by the work.
- All entries should be individual work; group works are not accepted.
- Any images created by generative artificial intelligence (Generative AI)must not be used. Only non-generative tools for editing, colour adjustment, background removal and file compression are permitted. The organiser reserves the right to request the source files (e.g., layered PSD/AI files or preliminary sketches) to verify the authenticity of the work.

7. Adjudication

- The judging panel comprises representatives of the EDB, HKPM and professional designers.
- Selection criteria include:
  (i) correspondence to the theme,
  (ii) correspondence to the functions,
  (iii) communication,
  (iv) aesthetic/visual appeal,
  (v) creativity and originality, and
  (vi) overall presentation.
- The decision made by the judging panel shall be final; any objection to the results and awards of the competition will not be accepted.

8. Awards and Prizes

Awards	Prizes
Grand Design Award of Cultural-creative Product (About 10 entries)	Prize and Certificate
Commendable Design Award of Cultural-creative Product (About 20 entries)	
Finalist Awards (All finalists of first-round adjudication)	Certificate and Exhibition Visit

9. Submission of Entries

First-round Adjudication (3 – 5 March 2027)	• **Schools** submit the **online form, digital files** of the entries, and related documents (Please refer to Annex 1 for the sample of the online form) • The link to the online form will be available on the AE KLA webpage in late February 2027. Please submit by school • Digital files of the entries should include: - The 2-dimensional images of the entries (P.1) - List of Treasures Reference (Annex 2) (P.2) • Specifications of digital files: - The digital file of **each entry** should be saved individually in PDF format - Each digital file should not exceed 5MB in size and have a resolution of at least 300dpi - Name **each** digital file of the entries in the following format: "Division (JS/SS)_Student Full Name in English_ English Title of Work" (e.g., JS/SS_CHAN Tai-man_Title of Work.pdf)
"Design Workshop	• Finalists will be invited to a "Finalist Design

for the Finalists" (April 2027) and **Final Adjudication** (21 – 22 April 2027)	Workshop" led by a professional designer to transform their designs into cultural-creative products. The final designs should be submitted between 21 and 22 April 2027. • The finalists will be announced in March 2027 on the AE KLA webpage. Details regarding the workshop and arrangements for final design submission will be sent to the relevant schools via email.

10. Intellectual Property Rights

All participants, their parents or guardians, as well as the schools should note and agree with the following:

- The participants must ensure that their entries do not infringe any intellectual property rights. Please visit the following intellectual property website for more details: https://www.ipd.gov.hk/en/copyright/index.html
- Any entries that have infringed any intellectual property rights would NOT be accepted;
- The participants shall bear full legal and related responsibilities arising from any possible breach of intellectual property rights in respect of their entries;
- The EDB and the HKPM take no liability whatsoever for such infringement; and
- The EDB and the HKPM reserve the right to develop entries into cultural and creative products, or to edit, modify, reproduce, and distribute them in any format for purposes such as exhibition, education, promotion, and public sale. They also reserve the final right of decision regarding the aforementioned actions.

11. Enquiries

For enquiries, please contact Ms WONG Kai-shan, Shandy of the Arts Education Section, Curriculum Development Institution, Education Bureau at 3698 3541.

Annex 1 – Sample of the Online Form (Please submit by school)

1. Basic Information of Participating School and Teacher-in-Charge	
School Name in Full	(Chinese) (English)
School Contact No.	
School Email	(Please provide a valid and accurate email address)
Full Name of Teacher-in-Charge	(Chinese) (English)
Mobile No. of Teacher-in-Charge	
Email of Teacher-in-Charge	(Please provide a valid and accurate email address)
Name of Principal	(Chinese) (English)
The principal has been informed and has agreed to allow the students to participate in this competition.	[Yes / No]
Our school confirms that the submitted entries are original and unpublished work of our students and do not infringe any intellectual property rights.	[Yes / No]
Our school agrees to and authorises the EDB and the HKPM to use the entries for exhibition, educational purposes and public sale.	[Yes / No]
Number of entries	

2. Participants and Details of Entries	
Each entry must provide the following information separately:	
Name of Participants in Full	(Chinese) (English) (Format: CHAN Tai-man)
Level/Grade	
Participating Division	Junior Secondary Division (Secondary 1 – 3) Senior Secondary Division (Secondary 4 – 6)
Title of the Entry	(Chinese) (English)
Designer Statement	(In Chinese or English, not more than 100 words, to explain the concepts and message of the work.)
Do you need to submit another entry?	[Yes / No] (If yes, questions in Part 2 of this form will be repeated)

3. Submission of the Digital Files of the Entries and Related Documents
Please upload the following files to the designated platform - **The digital files of the entries (P.1)** - **List of Treasures Reference (Annex 2) (P.2)** **Please name each digital file of the entries in the following format:** **"Division (JS/SS)_Student Full Name in English_ English Title of Work"** **(e.g., JS/SS_CHAN Tai-man_Title of Work.pdf), save all the files in a same folder with the English name of the school (e.g., ABC School).**