

Introduction to Honorary Degree Candidates

Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*

Internationally acclaimed educational psychologist whose works have had a profound impact on thinking and practice in education

Professor Howard E. Gardner

Howard E. Gardner is the John H. and Elisabeth A. Hobbs Professor of Cognition and Education at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. He also holds positions as Adjunct Professor of Psychology at Harvard University and Senior Director of Harvard Project Zero, founded at the Harvard Graduate School of Education by the philosopher Nelson Goodman to study and improve education in and through the arts. Professor Gardner received a MacArthur Prize Fellowship in 1981, among numerous other awards over the years. He has received honorary degrees from 29 colleges and universities around the world. In 2005 and again in 2008, he was selected by *Foreign Policy* and *Prospect* magazines as one of the 100 most influential public intellectuals in the world. Professor Gardner received the 2011 Prince of Asturias Award for Social Sciences. The author of 29 books translated into 32 languages, and several hundred articles, he is best known for his theory of multiple intelligences, a critique of the notion that there is but a single human intelligence that can be adequately assessed by standard psychometric instruments.

During the past two decades, Professor Gardner and his colleagues at Project Zero have been involved in a series of studies exploring the use of multiple intelligences in education. Since the mid-1990s, in collaboration with psychologists Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi and William Damon, Professor Gardner has directed the GoodWork Project – a study of work that is excellent, engaging and ethical. More recently, with long time Project Zero colleagues, he has conducted reflection sessions designed to enhance the understanding and incidence of good work among young people, and is also investigating the nature of trust in contemporary society and ethical dimensions entailed in the use of the new digital media. His latest book, *The App Generation: How Today's Youth Navigate Identity, Intimacy, and Imagination in a Digital World*, was published in 2013.

Doctor of Humanities, *honoris causa*

“God Father” of Cantonese pop music who has produced over 1,200 soul-stirring songs

Mr Joseph Koo Ka-fai, MBE, BBS

Mr Joseph Koo Ka-fai, one of the most widely respected composers in Hong Kong, was born in 1931 into a scholarly family in Guangzhou. In 1961, sponsored by Sir Run Run Shaw, he studied composition at the Berklee College of Music in Boston. Upon graduation, he worked for Shaw Brothers and Golden Harvest in Hong Kong as a film music composer and arranger, before turning his attention to writing for television. In 1974, his TV drama theme song *Lovers Marriage* marked the rise of Hong Kong pop music in Cantonese. He furthered his musical studies at the Dick Grove Music Workshop in the United States in 1981, and was music director for the long-running variety show *EYT* produced by Hong Kong’s Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB).

From the late 1970s until the mid-1990s, when he relocated to Canada, Mr Koo collaborated with lyricist Wong Jim on numerous memorable classics. He has composed over 1,200 songs to date. In 2007, he wrote the theme song *The Drive of Life*, for TVB’s celebration of 10th Anniversary of the HKSAR’s establishment. In 2008 and 2010, he conducted the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra in the hugely popular concerts *All-time Favourites by Joseph Koo*. In 2009, Hong Kong Composers and Authors Society (CASH) invited him to be an adjudicator for its Song Writers Quest.

Mr Koo has received numerous awards, including Member of the Order of the British Empire in 1982, HKSAR Bronze Bauhinia Star in 1998, Honorary Doctorate from the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts in 2011, Lifetime Achievement Award from the Hong Kong Arts Development Council in 2011, CASH Music Accomplishment Award in 1997 and Highest Honour Award at the Radio Television Hong Kong’s Ten Best Chinese Music Programmes awards in 1981. Additionally, he has received Best Music awards from the Asia Pacific Film Festival, Hong Kong Film Awards and Golden Horse Film Festival, Taiwan.

Doctor of Social Sciences, *honoris causa*

Young entrepreneur contributes to education development in Hong Kong and mainland China

Mr Lau Ming-wai, BBS, JP

A distinguished philanthropist and successful business leader, Mr Lau Ming-wai is Chairman and CEO of Chinese Estates Holdings Limited. He is currently a member of the Sichuan Committee of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, an Honorary Trustee of Peking University, a Board Member of the University of International Business and Economics in Beijing, Vice Chairman of the Bauhinia Foundation Research Centre, Deputy Chairman of the Ocean Park Corporation, co-opted member of the Community Care Fund Task Force and Societal Engagement Task Force under the Commission on Poverty, member of the Financial Infrastructure Sub-Committee of the Exchange Fund Advisory Committee, Council Member of City University of Hong Kong and a founding member of the Hong Kong Spirit Ambassador Programme.

A registered attorney in the State of New York and a Chartered Financial Analyst, Mr Lau obtained his LLB at King's College, his LLM at the London School of Economics and Political Science, and his doctorate in Law at King's College in 2007, at the age of 27. His book, *The Economic Structure of Trusts*, was published in 2011 by Oxford University Press, and his working paper on the nature of beneficial interest was presented at the Harvard Private Law Workshop in 2013.

Mr Lau is in charge of his family's charitable trust. Under his leadership, substantial donations have been made to academic institutions in Hong Kong, mainland China and overseas, including Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, City University of Hong Kong and HKIEd, to name a few. Thanks to his generosity and vision for education, the Institute set up a research centre to drive educational leadership and change in the Asia Pacific region in 2010. Mr Lau is also strongly committed to promoting children welfare. An example of such initiatives is a RMB5 million donation to establish 250 Homes for Stay-Behind-Children in China, benefitting close to 100,000 children. In 2008, following the devastating Sichuan earthquake, his company donated much-needed funding towards the relief work.

Doctor of Education, *honoris causa*

Renowned cycling coach who is highly regarded in Hong Kong and mainland sports arenas

Mr Shen Jinkang, BBS, MH

Mr Shen Jinkang has been Head Cycling Coach of the Hong Kong Sports Institute since 1994. Renowned for his unwavering dedication and systematic training approach, Mr Shen is celebrated for nurturing a generation of athletes, including world cycling champion Wong Kam-po and Olympic medallist Lee Wai-sze, leading to transformational impact in developing the sport of cycling in Hong Kong. As Head Coach, he has led the Hong Kong Cycling Team to the Olympics, Asian Games and many Asian and world championship tournaments.

Born in Shanghai, Mr Shen competed as a cyclist at the Asian Games in 1974 and 1978. Following a serious accident that prevented him from continuing his original career, he retrained as a cycling coach and became Chief Coach for the National Men's Cycling Team of China in 1985, as well as Chief Coach of National Cycling Team of China in 1986. He was also a Member of the China Olympic Committee, Vice-President of the China Cycling Association and Director of the Association's Coaching Committee. He served on China's Coaching Committee from 1985 to 1993, before relocating to Hong Kong in 1994. From 2011 to 2012, he was Adjunct Coach of China's National Cycling Team. He holds a Master of Education from Beijing Sport University and received an Honorary University Fellowship from Hong Kong Baptist University in 2014. He also received the 1997 All-rounded Outstanding Coach national award and the 2011 Hongkong Bank Foundation Coaching Awards' Distinguished Service Award. He is a six-time winner of the Coach of the Year Award from the Hong Kong Coaching Committee, most recently in 2014. He previously served on the Elite Sports Committee of the HKSAR Government. In recognition of his exceptional contributions and achievements, Mr Shen received from the HKSAR Government a HKSAR Chief Executive's Commendation for Community Service in 1999, Medal of Honour in 2006 and Bronze Bauhinia Star in 2011.