

**Honorary Doctorate Conferment Ceremony 2021**  
**Address by the President Professor Stephen Cheung Yan-leung, SBS, JP,**  
**Officier dans l'Ordre des Palmes Académiques**

Council Chairman and Members, distinguished guests, colleagues, ladies and gentlemen,

Thank you for joining us at today's ceremony. It gives me great pleasure to address you on this joyous occasion. Today, The Education University of Hong Kong (EdUHK) will confer honorary doctorates on Professor Harold Abelson, Professor Michael Connelly, Dr Joseph Lee Chung-tak and Dr Tan Dun. I am grateful for their presence at the University's first-ever conferment ceremony in hybrid mode in two continents.

Our honorary doctors have not only excelled in their own fields, but they are truly outstanding people who are committed to and passionate about passing the torch to the younger generations. Their unparalleled achievements deserve our greatest respect.

Professor Abelson has revolutionised the teaching and learning of computer science and coding. Globally, he has played key roles in initiatives to enable the public to freely access educational content and intellectual resources. Locally, he has made an invaluable contribution to a visionary project which equips teachers with computational thinking and programming pedagogies to bring the magic of computing to school children.

Professor Connelly is a leading authority in the field of curriculum and instruction, who has influenced how curriculum unfolds around the world, helping bridge values across cultural, ethnic and religious borders and boundaries. He helped set up a school network between Canada and mainland China and was director of a joint doctoral programme between the then Hong Kong Institute of Education and the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education.

Dr Joseph Lee Chung-tak is a distinguished business leader and a passionate forerunner in social entrepreneurship, who attaches great importance to whole-person development and character education. He has used his business acumen to benefit the management of public services, and championed several projects to help many people in need, as well as significantly transform the social service landscape of Hong Kong. Examples include the "Wofoo Leaders' Network" and "Wofoo Youth Network".

Dr Tan Dun is an Oscar and Grammy award-winning composer, who was named by the *New York Times* as one of the ten most important musicians in the world. He is an advocate of organic music from the East, and promotes a love for nature. Furthermore, he is a well-respected academic and is Dean of the Bard College Conservatory of Music in the United States.

The inspirational stories of the four distinguished individuals we are honouring today exemplify just how passion can help overcome the many challenges put before us. Each of them embodies the positive qualities that have not only been instrumental to their success but are also the characteristics we seek to instil in our students. Their achievements are living proof that foresight, dedication and perseverance count.

Before closing, may I once again extend my heartiest congratulations to the four honorary doctors. Also, may everyone keep well and stay healthy. Thank you.