

News Release

United Overseas Bank Hong Kong branches out to Garden Road to celebrate its Golden Jubilee

Announces winners of the inaugural UOB Golden Garden Installation Art Award

Hong Kong, 19 October 2015 – United Overseas Bank (UOB) Hong Kong has moved to bigger premises to accommodate its expanding Wholesale Banking business. With an increase of 70 per cent in total area, the new offices will enable UOB Hong Kong to provide stronger support for its customers in their business expansion needs across Asia.

The biggest of the offices is at Garden Road, which accounts for more than 60 per cent of the total area. Its official opening is part of UOB Hong Kong's Golden Jubilee celebrations. In addition to 50 years of presence in Hong Kong, UOB is also commemorating its 80th anniversary since the bank was founded in Singapore in 1935.

Mr Wee Ee Cheong, Deputy Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of UOB officiated the opening of the new office. He said, "Hong Kong is of great significance to UOB as this where we opened our first overseas branch in 1965. We have always held a far-sighted view of our business and from our beginnings, have been guided by thinking ahead for our customers and maintaining a long-term commitment to doing what is right for them. And it is with our clients' continued support that UOB is now celebrating its Golden Jubilee in Hong Kong."

In the last three years, UOB Hong Kong has also expanded its team of bankers by more than 45 per cent. They are mainly specialists in wholesale banking services such as cash management, trade finance and investment banking.

Appreciating art and artistic talent

Just as UOB helps its customers to grow their businesses regionally, the Bank encourages the development and appreciation of the arts in the communities in which it operates.

The inaugural UOB Golden Garden Installation Art Award presentation ceremony was held in conjunction with the opening ceremony of UOB Hong Kong's new office. Young artist Mr Tung Wing Hong was named

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the UOB Installation Artist of the Year with his work *Intertwinement*. A total of twelve winners received cash prizes worth HK\$150,000 in total.

The art competition catered to artists with various levels of experience through four award categories: Established Artist, Emerging Artist, Senior Student Artist (13 to 17 years old) and Junior Student Artist (9 to 12 years old).

Mrs Christine Ip, Chief Executive Officer of UOB Hong Kong, said, "To make the arts more accessible to the community in Hong Kong, we launched the UOB Art Academy in April this year. The Academy organises monthly workshops, forums, family art activities, exhibitions and mentorship programmes designed for children with special needs and those from less privileged backgrounds. The UOB Golden Garden Installation Art Award is the Academy's flagship event, which aims to identify artistic talent and to provide them with opportunities to showcase their work to a wider audience."

Local emerging artists also performed at the opening ceremony. Two opera singers Ms Joyce Wong and Mr Frank Liu from the Opera Hong Kong performed *Brindisi* from *La Traviata*. This was followed by illustrator Mr Jonathan Tsang from the Savannah College of Art and Design Hong Kong who showcased his fast sketching techniques with an illustration of the opening ceremony titled *A Blossom Day: In Celebration of UOB Hong Kong's Office Grand Opening*.

More than 200 guests attended the opening of UOB Hong Kong's new office.

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About United Overseas Bank

United Overseas Bank Limited (UOB) is a leading bank in Asia with a global network of more than 500 offices in 19 countries and territories in Asia Pacific, Western Europe and North America. Since its incorporation in 1935, UOB has grown organically and through a series of strategic acquisitions. UOB is rated among the world's top banks: Aa1 by Moody's and AA- by Standard & Poor's and Fitch Ratings respectively.

UOB opened its first overseas branch in Hong Kong in 1965 with a business focus on trade financing and corporate banking. Its activities in the territory have expanded to include wholesale banking and personal financial services.

UOB plays an active role in the community, focusing on art, children and education. It has, over more than three decades, held the longest-running art competition in Singapore, the UOB Painting of the Year, which has since been extended across Southeast

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Asia. In recognition of its contributions to the arts, UOB was conferred the Singapore National Arts Council's Distinguished Patron of the Arts Award for the tenth consecutive year in 2014. UOB also encourages its employees across the region to be involved in its regular volunteer activities. This includes the annual UOB Heartbeat Run which is held in China, Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand.

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