

Leadership Advancement Program for Student Organizations
Award Scheme 2024-25

LAPSO AWARD



THE OUTSTANDING
STUDENT
ORGANIZATION

**Mainland
Students and
Scholars Society**

**The Band Society,
HKUSTSU**

**University
Philharmonic
Orchestra, HKUSTSU**

THE INNOVATIVE
STUDENT-LED ACTIVITY
OF THE YEAR

**Silver Award
"Ghosting" - AR Game
Games Society, HKUSTSU**

**Bronze Award
Wotagei Workshop
Comics & Animation Society,
HKUSTSU**

The Innovative Student-led Activity of the Year

Silver Award: **"Ghosting" - Alternate Reality Game** **(Games Society, HKUSTSU)**

This activity impressed the panel with its remarkable innovation, integrating HKUST's unique features and academic knowledge into a highly engaging Alternate Reality Game (ARG). By incorporating real-world interactions on campus, the game offered a novel, multi-platform experience.

The Games Society executive committee demonstrated exceptional creativity by designing the entire game in-house, from the script to the interactive detective elements. Their use of technology and HKUST-specific elements further highlighted their originality. The panel suggested creating an English version of the activity to reach a wider and more diverse audience.



Bronze Award: **Wotagei Workshop** **(Comics and Animation Society, HKUSTSU)**



This activity introduced "Wotagei", a unique and culturally enriching form of physical engagement, to the HKUST community, presenting a fresh and dynamic image of the Comics and Animation Society. Participants had the opportunity to engage in a hand[1]on learning experience through step-by-step instruction on three sets of Wotagei movements, culminating in a group performance video. The Society would also include an interview with the Wotagei instructor in their e-Magazine to deepen members' understanding of the culture. Its physical nature broke language barriers and fostered inclusive participation.

While introducing a new culture to the campus is commendable, the panel expected to see greater originality and creativity in the activity. By enhancing the existing culture rather than simply presenting it, the organizers could enrich the experience and increase its impact. The panel also encourages exploring ways to infuse more unique elements into future initiatives and to expand participation.

The Outstanding Student Organization

Mainland Students and Scholars Society



Exceptional Management Skills and Dedicated Service: MSSS has grown into a prominent student organization recognized both within the university community and beyond. They have demonstrated outstanding management abilities by establishing nearly 20 sub-groups and effectively organizing a wide range of activities tailored to meet the diverse needs of mainland students. Their commitment to supporting mainland freshmen is particularly noteworthy, with initiatives such as pre-arrival briefings, the New Student Guide Series, anti-scam campaigns, and WeChat support groups, as well as summer storage coordination.

Strong Event Coordination and Community Partnerships: The organization excels in event planning, mobilizing peers, building community connections, and securing sponsorships from HKUST and external partners. In the 2024-25 session, MSSS is dedicating significant effort to engage not only mainland students but the broader community as well. For instance, the Chinese New Year Gala, which involved collaboration with various student groups, university offices, and external partners, was commendable. As a long-established society, they have truly embodied their motto: "Make HKUST Better Because We Exist."

The Band Society, HKUSTSU

Community Connections and Diverse Engagement: The Band Society, recognized as the Outstanding Student Organization for 2023-24, continued to thrive in the 2024-25 session. The panel was particularly impressed by their passion for band music, openness, and commitment to diversity. They actively connected local and non-local students to form bands, brought a variety of music genres and in different languages to campus, introduced new skill workshops for members and non-members, and collaborated with local music companies, indie bands and groups from other universities.



Impressive Achievements and Organizational Excellence: Despite having only five executive committee members this session, the society successfully presented a series of themed band shows on campus, drawing strong attendance and demonstrating their exceptional organization skills. By using music as a medium, Band Society fostered a welcoming, vibrant, and inclusive environment for everyone at the university and the broader community.

The Outstanding Student Organization

University Philharmonic Orchestra, HKUSTSU



Remarkable Progress and External Outreach: The University Philharmonic Orchestra (UPO) achieved significant progress in the 2024-25 session through the dedicated efforts of the Executive Committee. They effectively rebranded by redesigning their logo, enhancing their social media presence, and improving communication with the audience and the public while seeking various forms of support and collaboration. A notable highlight was the Joint-University Concert in partnership with the University Philharmonic Orchestra of HKU and the EdUHK Orchestra. Additionally, these outreach initiatives led to potential donation support.

Strong Leadership and Commitment to Music: UPO demonstrated strong leadership through their unwavering passion for music and fostering inclusivity within their team. They focused on improving performance quality by actively soliciting feedback from team members. The orchestra effectively organized multiple large-scale performances, each attracting hundreds of attendees. Initiatives like the "Conductor Workshop" for students with no prior instrumental experience helped promote music to a wider audience and strengthen connections within the university. The accomplishments of this session marked a major milestone, showcasing their ability to establish a strong and recognizable brand for HKUST.

LAPSO Award Presentation Ceremony cum Exco Tea Gathering

