

北美風沙 The North American Lasallians

JUNE 2022





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LSC 90th Anniversary Update

HKLSOBA

The 90th Anniversary is an extraordinary anniversary. Due to the pandemic and social distancing rules, some of the celebrations have to be modified, or rescheduled to the coming school year. This may mean a slightly longer wait for your most looked-forward events. But on the bright side, we have a longer time to celebrate this very exceptional birthday of our Alma Mater.

La Salle Dress Up Day

As the College kicked off celebrations on 10 September 2021, HKOBA launched the La Salle Dress Up Day. Many old boys, Hong Kong and overseas, shared pictures on social media, with clothing or accessories with the La Salle brand.



New Heritage Room

Another spectacular project is the revamp of the Heritage Room. The new Heritage Room is twice as large as the old, and features a History Corridor along the south wing of 1/F. Our historians, curators and designers assisted the school in this massive project. As of now, works on the History Corridor have been completed, while the works on the Heritage Centre are progressing as planned.



A piece of our Alma Mater

On the other hand, this year we have rolled out a record-breaking number of new products, from premium fashion and quality grooming to active sportswear. And there will be more to come - stay tuned!

Overseas delivery could at times be a headache. We are grateful that some overseas chapters organize group ordering. Please feel free to check with your local chapter or HKOBA for details.

Online Events

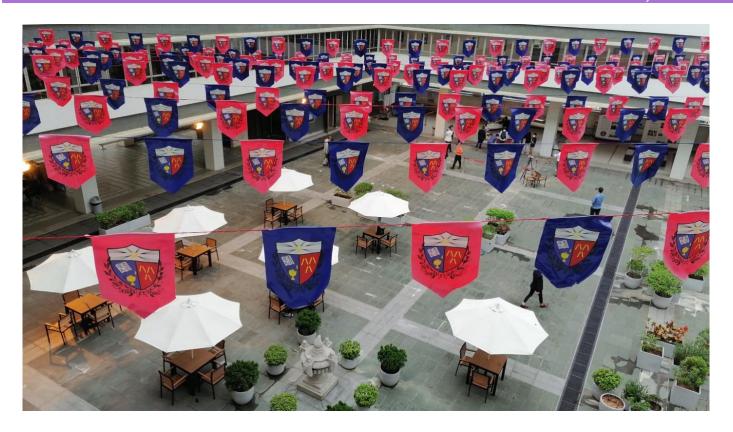
While flights between Hong Kong and North America have become way less frequent than they used to be, the distance between HKOBA and our North American brethren seemed to have diminished. Through the use of online platforms, old boys overseas may now take part in online Lunar New Year gatherings, regular town hall meetings, and the recent 90th Anniversary Virtual Campus Tour.

So this is some quick updates for now. Dear fellow Lasallians in North America, take care, stay safe, till we meet again. We are sure that the day is not far away.

Please click the event title to view the YouTube video for the celebrating event

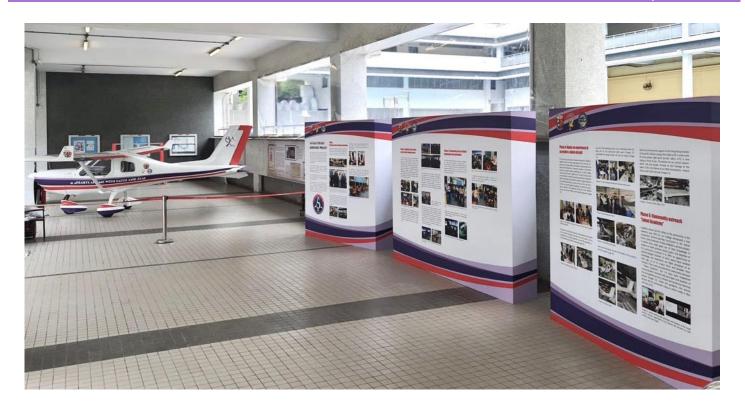


Founder's Day Homecoming (May 14, 2022)





<u>Aerospace Exhibition – student interview</u>





Class of 76 Mini-Reunion in Toronto

John Jean (76)

Since the 25th Graduation Anniversary celebration in 2001, the Class of 76 has been holding global reunions in Hong Kong every five years. Due to the pandemic, it was impossible to organize a reunion in HK last year and the class agreed to defer it.

With the HK mandatory quarantine requirements for inbound international travelers, together with expensive airfares and uncertainty due to the air flight melt down policy, the hope of organizing one this year in HK is still slim. As a result, regional reunions are planned with the first one in Toronto.

To commemorate the reunion, a special sport shirt was ordered, embroidered with our school badge on the chest, "Class of 76" on one sleeve, and "45th Reunion, North America" on the other.

A gathering was held on May 14, Saturday at Dragon Port (龍港壹號) in Richmond Hill (suburb of Toronto). A total of 7 classmates attended including one flying in from Phoenix, Arizona, and another traveling from New York City area. Prior to dinner, many of us met up for coffee. We all had a great time catching up with each other.

The next mini-reunion will be held in New York/New Jersey area in mid-June.





Edmonton Chapter Annual General Meeting

Bill Wong (66)

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and health restrictions imposed by the Alberta Government that restricted the number of people for indoor gatherings, the Edmonton Chapter of the LSCOBA has to comply with the rules and also to protect our senior members, we put all functions in a hiatus for the past three years.

After a long period of inactivity, the 2022 AGM was resumed and held on Friday, May 13, at Beijing Beijing Restaurant, and this was our first official meeting since 2019. Thirteen old boys with family members for a total of nineteen people in attendance.

An election was held before the dinner, and the following old boys were elected to the Board for the term 2022 to 2024: Bill Wong (66), Calvin Chan (71), Vincent Poon (71), Louis Chan (65), Peter Chiong (70), Davis Leung (79), and Jason Leung (92). Mike Kwong (67), being the Honorary President of the Edmonton Chapter is automatically to sit on the Board.

During the dinner, we discussed if we should resume our BBQ function this year, and the majority of the attended members agreed that we should resume the function as the event will be held outdoors and the health risk is at minimal. The date for the BBQ will be determined later. We mingled and chitchatted throughout the evening, and the AGM ended on a high note.



Vancouver Chapter Annual General Meeting

Victor Leung (77)

After over 2 years of Covid lockdown, Vancouver Chapter was finally able to host their annual general meeting/dinner in a face-to-face setting. The dinner meeting this year was held at Dragon Group Seafood Restaurant (福滿庭海鮮酒家) at Richmond, BC, which was attended by a total of 30 Old Boys and guests.

Even though the lockdown was officially declared over, it was still challenging to organize a face-to-face gathering on the tail-end of Covid. While some OBs were totally comfortable coming out for larger size public gathering, some were still not comfortable meeting in a face-to-face manner yet.

Amongst those who had registered for the event, some were forced to cancel during the last minute due to either tested positive for Covid or labeled as close contact to someone who had tested positive. That's why Vancouver Chapter was very appreciative of the continuous support for our members for this gathering, either

in person or by spirit! This is a truly "boys of courage, boys of daring" event! Vancouver Chapter was pleased to see a new member at the dinner meeting. Peter Tsang Ting Po (1953) is our senior C-Hing, who was a past teacher as well as a Past President of the HKOBA from 1974- 76. We are pleased to be able to re-connect with Peter again!

As part of our typical AGM agenda, the meeting was started with greeting message from our past-president, Albert Manson, who had also given us a brief report on the past year's activity of our Chapter. This was followed by a presentation of our annual financial report from our Treasurer, Harry Ching. Finally, a final in-person vote for the new Board of Director was held, which was followed by our annual AGM dinner. The dinner was wrapped up with the OB's tradition "school song singing". With the prolonged lockdown, some of the OBs were getting rusty on the school song lyrics. It was sure good to be given a chance to refresh our school song singing skills.

The following is a list of the new elected Board of Director by our members at the AGM:

New Executive Team: New Directors:

President Victor Leung (1977) Frankie Au (1970) Dominic Lau (1961) Vice-President: Albert Manson (1967) Charles Choi (1990) Patrick Li (1973) Vice-President: Anthony Wu (1973) Daniel Chung (1970) Ivan Mo (1985) Treasurer: Harry Ching (1967) Nick Domingo (1963) Paul Ng (1970)

Secretary: Currently vacant Tony Fung (1964)

Upcoming Toronto Chapter Annual General Meeting

Kevin Kwok (88)

Please be informed that the HKLSOBA - Toronto Annual General Meeting 2022 and the Dinner will be held on:

Date: Jun 17, 2022 (Friday)

Venue: Casa Deluz Banquet Hall 豪門宴 - 1571 Sandhurst Circle, Scarborough, Ontario

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Cost for dinner: \$45/ person, \$25/ students, free to any old boy 80 years and older

Proposed AGM agenda:

- 1. Confirmation of quorum
- 2. President's report
- 3. Treasurer's report
- 4. Nomination for Board of Directors for new term
- 5. Election of new Board
- 6. New Business
- 7. Adjournment

Please email kevinkwok26@gmail.com by Jun 12, 2022 and indicate your attendance to dinner and/or meeting; free of charge for attending the meeting only.

Eric Yip (2020) < Fricatives >

Source: The Guardian, 香港 01

National Poetry Competition has its youngest ever winner

A 19-year-old economics student from the University of Cambridge has become the youngest person to ever win the National Poetry Competition (the poet can be found here).

Eric Yip, who is from Hong Kong, won for his poem Fricatives, which plays with ideas about language to also comment on colonialism, race, migration, belonging and the guilt of leaving one's home behind.

"It was such a complete shock for me [to have won]," Yip told the Guardian. "Poetry is definitely one of the arts where you get better with age because you have more lived experiences and you read more and you write more.

"Being 19, I try to think of it as I still have a lot more poetry to write and a lot more poetry to read. I see this win as a beginning, an encouragement for me to keep writing and to keep improving."

Yip's work was chosen by judges Fiona Benson, David Constantine and Rachel Long, who read all the entries anonymously.

The title, Fricatives, comes from the term given to a type of consonant made by the friction of breath in a narrow opening, producing a turbulent air flow, including the sounds "f" or "th", such as in "free" or "three".

Benson said: "Fricatives is an immensely ambitious and beautifully achieved poem. It puts its reader into the position of a student of English as a second language, the fricative consonants tangling our mouths as we speak the poem, and intriguing us with the alternate meanings that rest precariously on the pronunciation. 'Proper' achievements – the correct pronunciation, the good education abroad, and the proud parents – are countered by an underworld of political prisoners and risky, grim sex."

She added: "This is an incredibly powerful, vulnerable story of an uneasy assimilation, and of government surveillance... It's a poem of poise and counterpoise, and is personal, political and acutely musical. What a tensile, high-wire reckoning."

Yip, who cites Ocean Vuong as a writer who made him realise he "had a right" to be heard, speaks Cantonese and Mandarin, but writes poetry in English.

"You almost feel a little bit guilty because when you're writing in English and when you write about Hong Kong, your home, your own culture, you're actively engaging in translation," he said. "That's something I'm very conscious about and it's one of the themes I wanted to explore."

Yip won £5,000 for the first prize. The National Poetry Competition also named nine other winners, including 92-year-old MR Peacocke for her poem Out of School.

All 10 poems will be published on the Poetry Society's website, with Yip's poem and the second and third placed works – I Picture Him Driving by Jed Myers and Emma Purshouse's poem Catherine Eddowes' Tin Box As a Key Witness – also published in the spring 2022 issue of the Poetry Review.

Past winners of the competition, which began in 1978, include Sinéad Morrissey, Ruth Padel, James Berry, Carol Ann Duffy, Jo Shapcott and Tony Harrison.

年輕師弟在英語世界得此殊榮 許多校友都替他高興 香港專欄作家馮睎乾(92)曾經在其 Facebook 戶口帖 其讀後感 連結在此(一)(二)



葉晉瑋現時身處英國劍橋大學讀書,並於英國國家詩詞比賽(National Poetry Competition)摘冠。



葉晉瑋於名校喇沙書院就讀, 曾於 2020 年 DSE 奪 得 6 科 5**及數學延伸部分(M2)5**。

Obituary - Mr. Andy Chan (62)

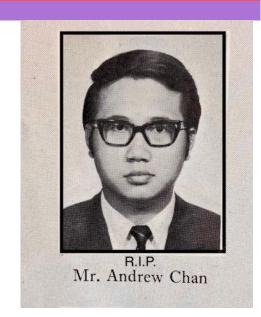
John Jean (76)

Mr. Andy Chan (nickname 肥陳) sadly passed away on May 7 (Saturday) at around 2 am HKT. His funeral service was held on May 21 with cremation on May 22 in HK.

Mr. Andy Chan was from the Class of 62 and later taught at LSC during the 60s and early 70s.

He subsequently moved to Canada, subsequently to California, USA, then spent some time in the Shanghai area before eventually moving back to HK to take care of his mother.

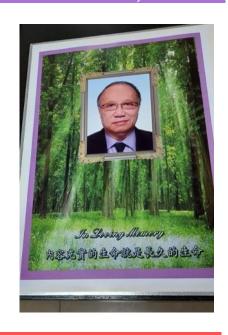
He is survived by his mother who is still being cared for by his youngest sister, three other younger brothers and a son.



I was fortunate enough to have Chan Sir as my form master during F.1F and as subject teacher in 2F. He passed on the La Salle spirit to us. I am grateful for his teaching, and he will forever be in my mind.

In closing, I would like to leave one of his famous quotes, which has become my motto, "All men are born lazy."

From his classmate of the Class of 62, Samuel Mok, "He is always very optimistic, a peace maker and understood perfectly the importance of a balanced life."



許冠文(62) 榮獲香港電影金像獎終身成就獎

Source: Ming Pao

香港電影金像獎協會公布「第四十屆香港電影金像獎」的「終身成就獎」得主為許冠文。

許冠文有「喜劇天王」美譽,他在上世紀 70 年代起以自編自導自演的經典喜劇電影開創港產片新風氣。他在1974年推出的首部作品《鬼馬雙星》票房破600萬,打破當時的香港中西票房紀錄;1976年的《半斤八両》以800多萬再創佳績;1981年的《摩登保鑣》更以1700多萬票房第三度衝破他所創的香港票房賣座紀錄。

許冠文 1982 年憑《摩登保鑣》成為首屆「香港電影金像獎」最佳男主角。他當年的出品不僅在香港,在日本及海外均叫好叫座,「許冠文電影」也是金漆保證。80 年代以後,許冠文開始多與其他導演合作,先後創作出《神探朱古力》、《雞同鴨講》、《合家歡》和《搶錢夫妻》等賣座作品。2016 年,他演出台灣片《一路順風》,以低調的演出的士司機一角滲出源源不絕的喜感,更為影片平添不少魅力。



A young Lasallian abroad

Joshua Raphael (18)

A core principle St. John Baptist De La Salle set forth included the characteristics of an inclusive community. This is exactly what Lasallians can expect to receive when working or studying abroad in communities with overseas OBAs.

As a Lasallian abroad (Class of 2018) in Toronto, the amount of support and sense of community I received from being part of the Toronto LSOBA has been outstanding. I am currently a graduating student at the University of Toronto and arrived in Toronto in 2018. From monthly dinners (Dim Sum events, restaurant outings with Old Boys etc.) to sports events, the Lasallian community in Toronto offered me a plethora of opportunities to connect with fellow old boys and people alike.

Initially, there was an element of culture shock when coming to a country with significant differences relative to Hong Kong. It takes time for one to adjust to these differences when coming to a new country. This is particularly true when it comes to a city like Toronto, where the weather at certain times may be a little too cold for pleasure.

In Hong Kong, we usually are used to winter temperatures reaching at lowest 5 degrees Celsius. In Toronto on the other hand, temperatures can go anywhere from -15 to -30 degrees Celsius in the peak of the winter season. These temperatures can be difficult to deal with at times, whether it be physically or mentally. Snow itself takes time to clear up, and can cause a lot of delays. Occasionally the city of Toronto also shuts down on major snowfall days. If one does not manage their daily schedules and maintain a sense of discipline, it becomes a lot easier to fall into loneliness or depression during these harsh weather conditions at times.

With that being said, it can be understood as to why the importance of a strong community like the Toronto LSOBA is vital when living alone abroad. A strong community allows for one to grow, be supported and feel included. Personally speaking, the community here in Toronto has made me even more proud to be a Lasallian, and as a part of the Lasallian family. I know that wherever I may go and whatever I end up doing, there will always be a support system available in the form of our Lasallian community. For future old boys, make sure to treasure this if you decide to study or work abroad, as a community like ours is a gem within the rocks.

Let us all continue to follow the values set out by St. John Baptist De La Salle and keep strong the Lasallian Family.





The Fourteen FIFA World Cup Since 1966 (part 4)

Danny Leung (71)

World Cup 1970 The Beautiful Game

The Winner - Brazil

Can a team win the World Cup with a careless defense and a mediocre goalkeeper? If a team has the four Aces attacking players like Brazil, they surely can. The 1970 World Cup produced the best attacking team of all time, Brazil. The free romp attacking flair will never be the same as the team scored 19 great goals, including unlocking the best defense of England, Italy and Uruguay but they also conceded 7 silly goals in their six games. With King Pele returned to the world stage at his vintage best, Brazil was unstoppable. Like the Chinese said "A favorable timing, geographical advantage and human support" are essentials for success. The Brazilian learnt their mistakes from four years ago and prepared the team under extreme physical condition three months ahead of the tournament. The plan was to fit into the high sea level where breathing would be difficult.

They spent a whole month in Mexico to get used to the climatic condition. The steaming heat of Mexico also fit into the Brazilian style of play as they were skilful enough to slow the game down, keep the ball at their feet and look for opportunities to strike at lightning speed. The local fans would adopt the Brazilians as their own and Pele has always been their hero. This is the era that the media and fans labeled soccer as the "BEAUTIFUL GAME". The joker of the pack was goalkeeper Felix with his spectacular flying saves but also demonstrated poor timing and judgment. With an attacking team like that, who needed a good goalie?

Coach

Joao Saldanha was the coach for the entire qualifying campaign in which the team scored 23 goals and conceded 2 in 6 games. However a disagreement led to the benching of his biggest star, Pele, saw him fired from the Confederation. Mario Zagallo, a left winger with a two-time World Cup winning medal was called into the job just a few months before the tournament. Zagallo, with knowledge and experience in soccer, packed the team with a psychologist, masseur, dentist, doctor, physical trainer with methods from the US military training and incorporated the NASA human stress data.

Tactics

While Saldanha used a free style all out attack with a traditional 4-2-4 display employing super talents in Pele, Jairzinho, Rivelino and Tostao in the same lineup, Zagallo was more cautious in pulling some of the strikers back. Their formation varied from a 4-4-2 to a 4-2-3-1 with a false number 9 (first glimpse of the popular formation these days) with Tostao the lone striker upfront holding the ball, Pele and Rivelino moving back to help out midfield, Jairzinho running from deep as he had the pace and Gerson feeding the attackers with his visionary passes. That fitted into the plan of moving the ball with flexibility and yet not conceding too much space in midfield.

X Factors -

- Pele is the symbol of a perfect footballer with thick thigh and muscular build who excelled in header, left and right foot, close control, acceleration, timing and dribbling. The soccer brain had endless bags of magical tricks. He never demanded the ball but it was attracted to him all the time. His two stunning acts were his 50 yards lob from centre circle against the Czechs and the fiendish dummy run against the Uruguay keeper, with both shots unfortunately missing the goal by a few inches. Two of his assists were no-look passes to his blind side which led to goals against England and Italy, making football a piece of art! He was credited with 4 goals.
- Jairzinho, right winger, the second top scorer in tournament with 7 goals. He had improved vastly from the last world cup and his fast tempo dribbling was devastating.
- Rivelino, left winger, tricky, skilful with dummy moves, step over, wicked banana powerful shot, scored 3 goals.
- Tostao, normally an inside forward but played as striker for his ball control skills and neat short wall passing, scored 2 goals.
- Carlos Alberto, captain and right back, joined in the attack frequently with his powerful run down the flank. He scored one of the best team goals, a rocket, from a blind side run in the final. He is a quiet and gentle man but let his feet do the talking.

Young guns – Clodoaldo, a 20 year old defensive midfielder would shine in this tournament. Other than his tireless running and sudden burst of speed, he scored the all important tying goals against Uruguay in the semi and dribbled around 4 Italian players before assisting a 3 player move to set up the beautiful Alberto's goal in the final.

Unsung hero – Gerson, midfield general who slowed down the pace, which was needed in the heat of Mexico but he always delivered accurate long passes to exploit the space. His long passes assisted two goals in the tournament and scored a beautiful cross shot in the final game.

The Champion's Stats – 6 wins, 0 draw and lost. Goals for 19 and conceded 7. Czechoslovakia 4-1, England 1-0, Romania 3-2, Peru 4-2, Uruguay 3-1, Italy 4-1.

The final - Would the runners up have won? Italy, the reigning European Nation Cup Champion, packed with talented players in attacking full back captain Facchetti, midfield controller Mazzola, creative midfielder Rivera and attacking machine Riva, decided to rely on their traditional defensive system, the Catenaccio, to contest the world cup. It is a conservative door-bolt method with a deep lying sweeper in a 1-3-2-2-2 formation to lock up any attacking force and look for a quick counter attack. After a boring first round display with 1 win and two ties, scoring just 1 goal, the team finally woke up and scored 4 each in the next two games against Mexico and W. Germany. If only they showed more attacking flair as in those two games, they would have troubled the pathetic Brazilian defense more. The exhausting overtime game against W. Germany wore them out as their tight defensive wall was unable to stop Brazilians in the second half.

Another worthy winner: W. Germany had their own stars in Beckenbauer, Overath, Mueller and Seeler. They were the second most creative team in this world cup. They scored 17 goals but their leaky defense also conceded 10. The German's famous "coming back from behind" mentality was very much in evidence as they fell behind in four of their games and succeeded in coming back in three of them. The exhausting overtime win against England in the quarter final did not help them in the next overtime game vs Italy. The team would continue to flourish for their fighting spirit and endurance for many tournaments to come.



About the North American Lasallians

This newsletter is aimed at providing an electronic platform for communication & sharing among La Salle old boys in North America. It is not meant to be used as an instrument for promoting any personal agenda.

The editorial board reserves the rights to oversee and edit all submissions, to ensure all contents shall meet our publication standards, as well as appropriate for the newsletter's intended audience & global circulation. Our editorial board has the exclusive right to reject submissions deemed to be not in line, or incompatible with the purpose or spirit of this newsletter at our sole discretion.

Previous issues of the newsletter are available from the archive located at http://www.lscob-global.net/NALS.html

Previous issues of the newsletter are also available on HKOBA website at https://www.lscoba.com/north-american-lasallians-newsletter/

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The Chief editors appreciate Bill Wong (66) and Danny Leung (71) for their contribution to this issue.

John Jean (76)
Victor Leung (77)
Kevin Kwok (88)
Chris Fong (94)
Ambrose Lee (98)
Alex Tsoi (2016)
Kenny Fong (2017)
Josh Raphael (2018)
Edison Liem (2020)