news release

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MANDARIN ORIENTAL, HONG KONG PARTNERS WITH THE HONG KONG POLYTECHNIC UNIVERSITY TO LAUNCH "HOTEL OF THE FUTURE" COMPETITION

HONG KONG, 21 March 2013 – The year 2013 is a very special one for <u>Mandarin Oriental</u>, <u>Hong Kong</u> as this legendary hotel celebrates its 50th Anniversary. While it is commemorating the past, it is also embracing the future by joining hands with the Hong Kong Polytechnic University in organizing a "Hotel of the Future" competition.

From 25 March to 9 May 2013, a total of 39 Environment and Interior Design Year-Two students (Hong Kong's interior designers of the future) from the Hong Kong Polytechnic University will be set, as part of their thesis, a seven-week programme to design certain areas of Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong for the future, including "rooms and suites", "lobby and reception", "spa", "food and beverage outlets" and "function rooms". The students will be encouraged to incorporate the history of Hong Kong, the surrounding area and the design elements that the iconic hotel is famed for, in their design work, given that Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group believes in offering guests "a sense of place" within each of their outstanding hotels around the world.

All design work will be judged by a team of professors from the university, along with the management of the hotel, Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group's Head of Design and other representatives. The winning team will be announced at the School of Design's Annual Show at the university in June, with its designs being put on display in the Clipper Lounge between 1 July and 4 August 2013. The winning prize will be a three-night "Travelling Scholarship" to another Asian flagship of the group, Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok, where the team will submit a travelling report. Four other teams will also win prizes enabling them to savour the delicacies of the hotel's legendary restaurants, including Michelin-starred Pierre, Man Wah and the Clipper Lounge.



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About Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong

The iconic Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong is the epitome of contemporary luxury combined with Oriental heritage. Having delighted guests with award-winning service and impressive facilities for 50 fantastic years, it is the much-loved address for those seeking an exclusive sanctuary in the heart of this exciting city. The spacious rooms and suites offer magnificent views of the famous Victoria Harbour and city skyline. A collection of ten outstanding restaurants and bars, including two with Michelin stars, and a Shanghainese-inspired holistic spa, indoor pool and 24-hour fitness centre, make Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong the quintessential "home away from home" for discerning leisure and business travellers alike.

About Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong's 50 Fantastic Years

The iconic Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong has been delighting guests with its award-winning service and impressive facilities for 50 fantastic years and, after thorough renovations in 2006, offers guests 21st-century luxury combined with Oriental heritage. Throughout 2013, Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong will be celebrating its "50 Fantastic Years" with a host of special promotions to honour this milestone achievement. These year-long offerings will commemorate the famous hotel's 50–year history, as well as initiating the hotel's second 50 years in the heart and hearts of Hong Kong and its people.

During the year, Mandarin Oriental, Hong Kong will be introducing a series of special celebratory packages and three celebrity chefs will be welcomed, while Executive Chefs Uwe Opocensky and Pierre Gagnaire add their own artistic twists to a series of 1963 dishes. The Clipper Lounge will be host to an exhibition featuring classic photographs of the hotel, special port and whisky promotions will be offered in The Chinnery, and the Captain's Bar will not be left out of the celebrations either.



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Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group is the award-winning owner and operator of some of the world's most prestigious hotels and resorts. The Group now operates, or has under development, 44 hotels representing over 11,000 rooms in 27 countries, with 19 hotels in Asia, 12 in The Americas and 13 in Europe, Middle East and North Africa. In addition, the Group operates, or has under development, 14 *Residences at Mandarin Oriental* connected to its properties.

Photography of Mandarin Oriental is available to download, in high and low resolution, in the *Photo Library* of our *Media* section, at www.mandarinoriental.com. Please join us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/MandarinOriental) and Twitter (www.twitter.com/mo hotels)

Visit <u>Destination MO</u> (<u>www.destinationMO.info</u>), the online version of <u>Mandarin Oriental</u> <u>Hotel Group</u>'s bespoke publication, MO. News about our award-winning hotels, the best dining experiences, spa treatments, travel retreats and interviews with the Group's celebrity fans is now just a click away.

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