

Class : 4A

Name : Henry Chan

Topic : Hong Kong's Buskers

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my view on a recent article in your post, which deemed that Hong Kong's buskers are an embarrassment and they should be licensed and regulated through official policies. Although I believe that their music is pleasing to the ear, they still need to be licensed and curbed.

First of all, their performances add color to city life. Most of the performers are talented professionals. They have the courage to showcase their musical talents in public areas, such as Tsim Sha Tsui, Mong Kok, Causeway Bay, and so on. The ways they interpret pop songs are generally appreciated by pedestrians. Usually, people are willing to stop and enjoy their performances. For example, the famous band Red House is often being praised that their covers are so remarkable that they are better than the original ones. Obviously, they are not an embarrassment at all.

However, regulating buskers can avoid people's complaints. Sometimes, the buskers' music is so loud that it bothers others because of the deafening volume. Some buskers are always insulted by residents and pedestrians. As a matter of fact, the authorities receive tons of complaints about buskers and their thunderous music. Besides, some buskers report that the performance areas are "conquered" by some performers of desperately poor quality. As a result, some buskers lose the opportunity to display their masterpieces. No doubt, regulating buskers can not only stop buskers from harassing residents, but also help to develop the culture of busking in an orderly manner.

In my opinion, official policies are the most effective way to regulate street singers. I advocate that it is a good idea to set up a quality control team to assess whether their noise levels are appropriate or not. If they are too noisy, the team will alert them by giving out a warning letter. If the buskers refuse to address the problem, they will be prohibited from performing. Before that, the government should license buskers for easy identification and management. Besides, the government should draw up a timetable to arrange sufficient time for every busker who is eager to perform. In this way, the authorities can avoid confrontation and arguments with buskers.

All in all, buskers have become a distinctive icon and culture of our city. It is essential that everyone respects their efforts. By sending a quality control team and drawing up a timetable of performances, citizens can enjoy better performances by buskers. Although there is still room for improvement, I sincerely hope that the busking culture can continue to thrive.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Wong

