Hong Kong Creative Open Technology Association

2016-2017 Annual Report

HKCOTA

Executive Summary

Hong Kong Creative Open Technology Association (HKCOTA) is a non-profit tax-exempt organization / charity (Reg.# 91/13580) in Hong Kong founded in 2014. The aim of the HKCOTA is to promote Open Standards, Free and Open Source Software, Open Hardware, Free Culture Works, Open Content and Creative Commons.

This report covers the period between March 2016 – March 2017. During this year, we held two major conferences, namely Hong Kong Open Source Conference 2016 and PyCon.HK 2016. We also participated the annual IT Fest 2016 initiated by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer(OGCIO) as an event organiser. We also promote HKCOTA beyond Hong Kong by participating in a number of overseas conferences such as COSCUP 2016 and FOSSASIA 2017.

Together with the H.K.S.K.H. Lady MacLehose Centre, HKCOTA was also very grateful to be chosen as the recipient for the Hong Kong ICT Awards 2017 - Best Lifestyle (Learning & Living) Award and the Special Mention (Silver Power) – in the project Free Hong Kong Fonts.

The Hong Kong education bureau aggressively promotes STEM/STEAM education and HKCOTA supported the Tinyboy 3D Printer, a Hong Kong Open Hardware project for learning and holding 3D printer assembly class locally in the Po Leung Kuk Lo Kit Sing (1983) College during summer.

Finance

HKCOTA will continue to organise events to promote the Open Tehcnology. In additional, we are already funding(paying programmer to develop) a local Open Source Project - badgeprint. As the recipient of the ICT Award and the track record of organising the most successful Open Technology events for consecutive years in Hong Kong, HKCOTA make applications for funding a new priority in the coming year.

HKCOTA

WEB SITE : http://cota.hk/

In This Report

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The Hong Kong Open Source Conference 2016

Together with Open Source Hong Kong and Hong Kong Linux User Group, we co-organised the 4th Hong Kong Open Source Conference and extended it from 2 days to 3, Friday to Sunday at Cyberport.

The four themes are Internet of Things (IoT), Data, Cloud and DevOps. Together 37 individual sessions were held from 14 local and 23 overseas speakers on 24-26 June with a total of 355 participants. The official event web site is http://2016.opensource.hk .

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PyCon Hong Kong 2016

From FinTech, Big Data / Open Data, IoT and Web & Cloud, Python becomes an essential & open source programming language and tool to develop related applications. The 2nd PyCon Hong Kong was held in Cyberport on 29-30 Oct 2016, co-orgnaised with Open Source Hong Kong.

Four areas related to Python were covred, namely, Internet and Cloud, Data Analysis, Machine Learning and Education.
Together 17 individual sessions were held from 9 local and 11 overseas speakers with a total of 201 participants. The official event web site is http://pycon.hk/2016/ .

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IT Fest 2016

The Office of the Government Chief Information Officer, in collaboration with the local information and communications technology (ICT) industry, staged the International IT Fest 2016. HKCOTA was honoured to held one of the events within the IT Fest - Workshop in Making Free Hong Kong Fonts – together with H.K.S.K.H. Lady MacLehose Centre.

A group of elderly people created a new font of some 4 000 characters with open source software, contributed to free Hong Kong fonts. Their technique in font making was present in the workshop and most of the participants were younger than the presenters. This workshop demonstrated that elders can also be technical saavy and contribute to the society in the area of ICT.

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International Exchanges COSCUP and FOSSASIA

Members of Open Source Hong Kong and HKCOTA set up an exhibition at COSCUP 2016 to promote conferences in Hong Kong.

HKCOTA was invited to the FOSSASIA 2017 on 17-19 March 2017 to present on the developments of Open Technology in Hong Kong and set up an exhibition of the Open Technology devices and events in Hong Kong.

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ICT Award 2017
Free Hong Kong Fonts

"Free Hong Kong Fonts" is a collaborative project between H.K.S.K.H. Lady MacLehose Centre Dr. Lam Chik Suen District Elderly Community Centre and HKCOTA. The first set of Chinese font, "Free Hong Kong Kai", was created to match the research from EDB and the education community, "List of Graphemes of Commonly-used Chinese Characters (2007)". OSHK was responsible to build and host the official web site. We were very grateful to be chosen as the recipient for the Hong Kong ICT Awards 2017 - Best Lifestyle (Learning & Living) Award and the Special Mention (Silver Power).
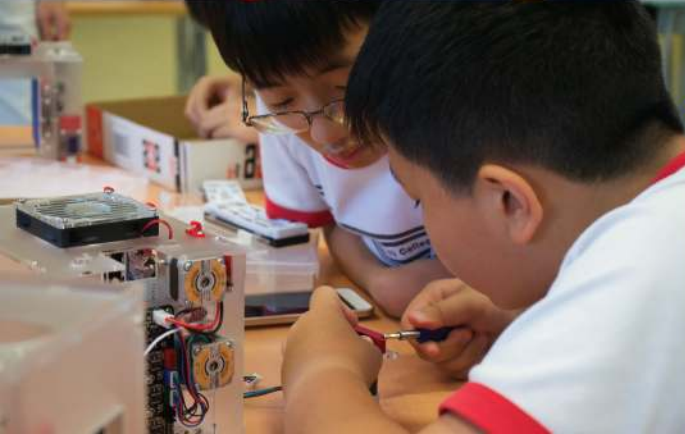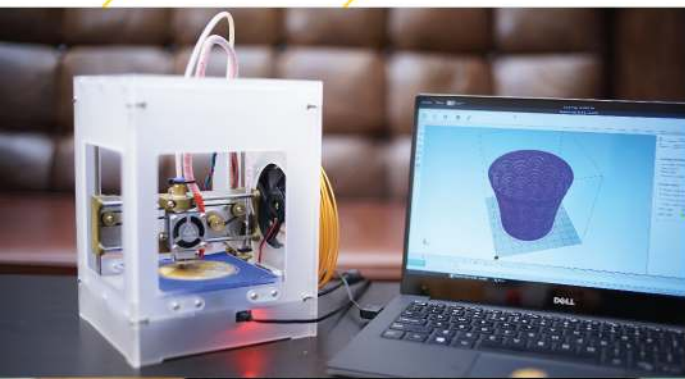
Bronze Award
銅獎

HONG KONG
ICT AWARDS
2017 香港資訊及
通訊科技獎

Special Mention
特別嘉許

HONG KONG
ICT AWARDS
2017 香港資訊及
通訊科技獎

自由香港字型
-楷書

歡迎加入

符合香港教育局標準

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STEM/STEAM Education

The Hong Kong education bureau aggressively promotes STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) education and a number of developed countries are already one step ahead by adding one more element – Arts – to become STEAM education.

HKCOTA supports Open Technology STEAM projects and is experienced in providing STEAM related course. The Tinyboy 3D printer is one of such example. In July 2016, HKCOTA provided an arduino and 3D printer assembly course to secondary students in Po Leung Kuk Lo Kit Sing (1983) College.
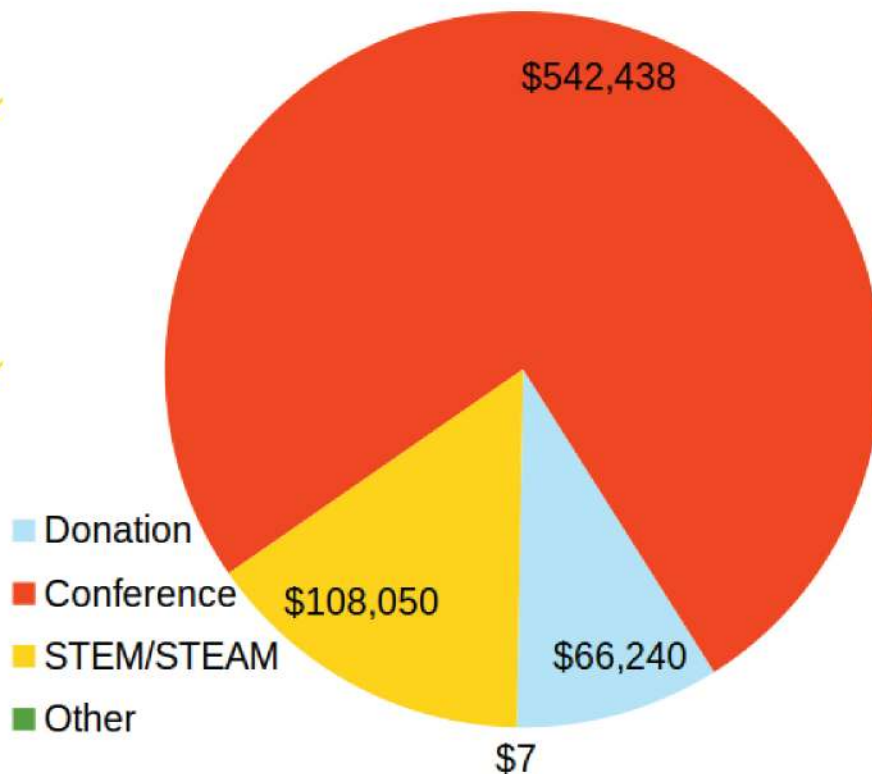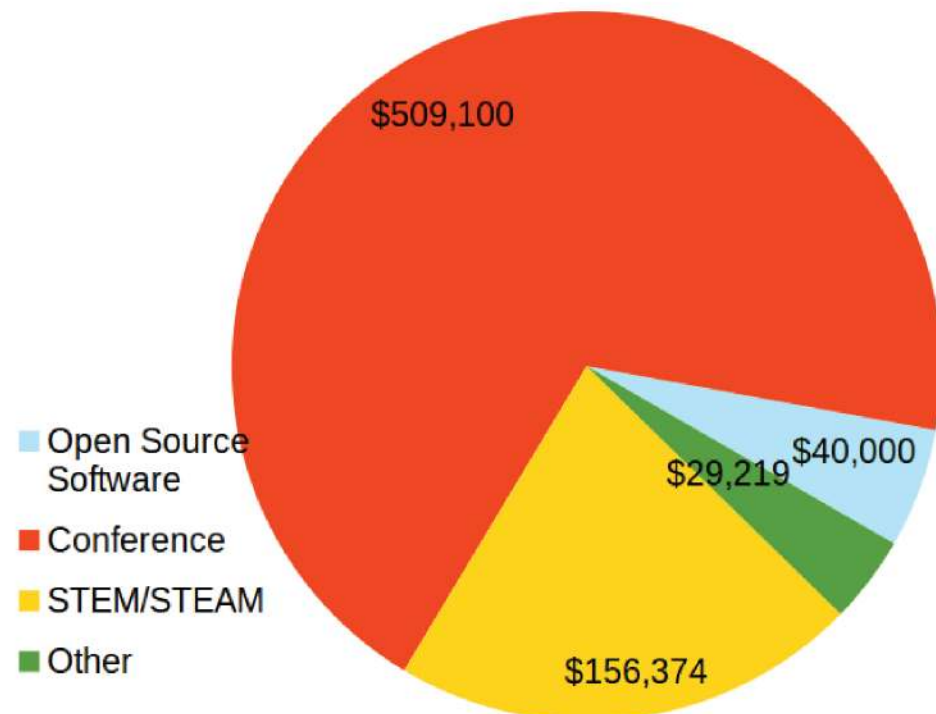
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Finances at a Glance

For the financial year ended 31 Mar 2017, the total Income was $716,735 and total expenses was $734,693. This contributed to a loss of $17,958. Cash at hand at the end of the year was HKD$124,691 due to previous surplus. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all our sponsors and volunteers, to make HKCOTA financially viable.

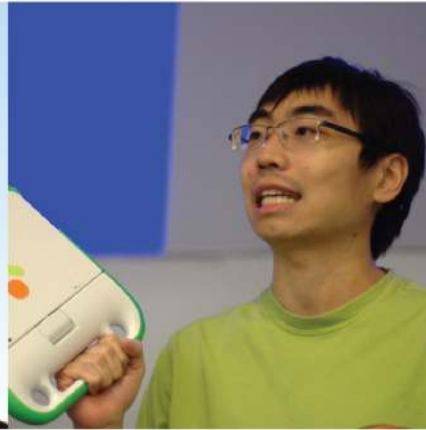**D**etail audit report can be obtained on our official web site.

Income

- Donation
- Conference
- STEM/STEAM
- Other

$542,438
$108,050
$66,240
$7

Expenses

- Open Source Software
- Conference
- STEM/STEAM
- Other

$509,100
$40,000
$29,219
$156,374

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Director News

HKCOTA was established in 29 Jan 2014 by 3 founding directors – So, Hau Heng Haggen, Fung, Chun Wah and Wong, Wan Leung.

Wong, Wan Leung stepped down on 25 Oct 2015 and replaced by Wong, Wan Chung, an I.T. professional keened in Open Technology.

Fung, Chun Wah stepped down on 7 Apr 2016 and replaced by Yeung, Shu Hung, a long time volunteer in Open Technology of Hong Kong.

We are thankful to the hard work that the two outgoing directors did to HKCOTA and the communities of Open Technology.

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New Directions

Sponsoring Open Source Software Project - **badgeprint**

Complementary to organising Open Technology event, HKCOTA would like to sponsor local Open Source projects that are beneficial to the community. badgeprint is a project the reduce the barrier to organising different conferences developed with the support from Open Source Hong Kong. HKCOTA as a tax-exempt charity, is in the perfect position to receive donation from a generous donor and fund badgeprint.

More information can be found at
https://sammy.hk/開源會議管理系統--badgeprint/

Application to Funding

Reviewing our current financial position, it is important for HKCOTA to seek new sources of revenue. With a good track record in organising ICT events and a recipient of ICT Award, an important direction in the coming years is to apply for public and private funding.

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