

Press Release For Immediate Release

9th 'Cyberport University Partnership Programme 2024' Graduation Ceremony and 'Cyberport Web3.0 Internship Programme 2024' Closing Ceremony Successfully Concluded

Gathering Nearly a Hundred University Students from Hong Kong and Overseas to Nurture New Talent for Web3.0

Hong Kong, 2 September 2024 - The 9th Cyberport University Partnership Programme 2024 (CUPP), hosted by Cyberport Academy, and the closing ceremony of the Cyberport Web3.0 Internship Programme 2024 were successfully held on 31st August and 30th August respectively. Nearly a hundred university students from Hong Kong and overseas participated in entrepreneurship training and summer internships, sharing their learning outcomes at the ceremony, which was attended by representatives from the Digital Policy Office of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government. This year's CUPP incorporated elements of Web3.0 for the first time to cultivate more innovative talents in this field. Over 40 students from 11 local universities formed 20 teams and were selected to attend the Web3.0 Entrepreneurship Boot Camp at Draper University in Silicon Valley, USA, where they showcased their innovative solutions to the Cyberport judging panel. The 10 winning teams, each received HK\$100,000 in seed funding from the Cyberport Creative Micro Fund (CCMF) to realise their entrepreneurial dreams. Concurrently, Cyberport launched the Cyberport Web3.0 Internship Programme 2024, matching 30 local and overseas students with 12 Cyberport Web3.0 companies for internships, nurturing new talent for the Web3.0 industry.

Daniel Cheung, JP, Deputy Commissioner (Digital Infrastructure) of the Digital Policy Office, said, "Web3.0's technical applications hold immense potential. The Government has allocated \$50 million to Cyberport to expedite the development of the Web3.0 ecosystem. This initiative will help the industry and enterprises stay at the forefront of innovation, promote cross-sectoral business cooperation, and provide training opportunities for young people. To sustain the thriving growth of the Web3.0 ecosystem, a steady influx of I&T talents and entrepreneurs is crucial. We will seize the opportunities brought by Web3.0 and actively expand innovation and technology, and economic development of Hong Kong. I am confident that with the concerted efforts of the Government, industry, academia, and our young talents, Hong Kong will become an international I&T hub, driving our economy and society towards high-quality development."

Simon Chan, Chairman of Cyberport, said, "Cyberport is committed to nurturing a new generation of innovative technology talents with global market insights. The 'Cyberport University Partnership Programme' is an entrepreneurial training programme that combines boot camps, mentorship, and competitions, aimed at discovering future fintech talents for Hong



Kong. Since its launch in 2015, over 530 local university students have participated in the training, and 97 teams have received the Cyberport Creative Micro Fund, embarking on their entrepreneurial journey. To align with the government's efforts in promoting the development of Hong Kong's Web3.0 ecosystem, this year's programme incorporated Web3.0 elements for the first time, cultivating more outstanding Web3.0 talents for Hong Kong and ensuring they remain at the forefront of the global technology wave, contributing to the city's innovation, technology, and economic development. Furthermore, we launched the first 'Web3.0 Internship Programme' this year, attracting participation from local, mainland, and overseas university students. They were matched with Cyberport Web3.0 companies, learning about Web3.0 technologies through internships and preparing themselves for careers in the innovative technology industry."

Cyberport University Partnership Programme 2024

The Cyberport University Partnership Programme is a key initiative of Cyberport Academy in nurturing youth entrepreneurship. This year's programme received honorary sponsorship from the Hong Kong Monetary Authority and support from the Securities and Futures Commission of Hong Kong. Industry partners, including the Hong Kong Fintech Association, Hong Kong Digital Asset Society, Certik, BitRush, Fund Kernel, and IIBAT, were also invited to participate. Cyberport expresses gratitude to all the organisations and institutions for their strong support, providing aspiring young entrepreneurs opportunities to showcase their talents.

Asra Nadeem, Chief Executive Officer of Draper University, CUPP Web3 2024 entrepreneurship boot camp partner, said, "We believe that the CUPP initiative represents one of the most innovative collaborations between public organisations and universities. We can directly see how the programme fosters talent and develops companies within the local startup ecosystem. Our team is very pleased to have played a part in the successful delivery of this year's programme. We are also excited to see the continued growth of this CUPP cohort beyond the programme ends. This year's programme has not only fostered innovation but also empowered young founders to build meaningful connections with industry leaders in Web3.0 and Silicon Valley, as well as with their peers in Hong Kong. Congratulations to all the founders who participated!"

Cyberport Web3.0 Internship Programme 2024

Additionally, the closing ceremony for the Cyberport Web3.0 Internship Programme 2024 was held at the end of August. Cyberport provided a maximum monthly subsidy of HK\$18,000 for full-time positions and a maximum hourly subsidy of HK\$100 for part-time positions in this internship programme. After completing the two-month internship, employers can consider converting the internship positions to part-time and extending the internship period until the end of December 2024 for local interns. The programme successfully matched 30 students



with 12 Web3.0 companies, including 6 international students from Stanford University and Zhejiang University, and 24 from local universities.

Flora Fang, a Malaysian student currently studying Business Economics at Zhejiang University, applied for an internship at the Cyberport community enterprise iSHANG, recognising the thriving Web3.0 ecosystem at Cyberport. The company primarily asists brands and enterprises in transitioning to the Web3.0 market. Flora used her economics background to participate in the company's venture capital efforts. She said, "iSHANG has given me ample room to showcase my skills, quite different from my previous internship experiences in other regions. The experience of interacting with investors has also been eye-opening. I hope to continue working and developing in Hong Kong in the future, experiencing the city's work culture and continuously exploring opportunities in the Web3.0 industry." **Samson Lee, Co-Founder and CEO of iSHANG Technology Limited**, said, "We are delighted to be a collaborating company in the Cyberport Web3.0 Internship Programme and provide internship opportunities for students. We look forward to offering more ambitious young talents room for development and jointly promoting the growth of Hong Kong's Web3.0 industry."

Allison Zhang, a Bioengineering student from Stanford University, interned at Gense Technologies, the Cyberport-incubated start-up focusing on innovation of the next-generation medical imaging device. The experience gave her a more comprehensive understanding of the biomedical market. She said, "Given Hong Kong's fascinating reputation as a centre for innovation and technology, as well as its historical significance as a meeting point between Eastern and Western cultures, I find this place exceptionally appealing. Cyberport, being the headquarters for innovation and technology in Hong Kong, provided tremendous support to all students in the internship programme. The programme worked hard to provide us with a rich and comprehensive experience, offering opportunities for holistic growth. We had activities outside of work almost every week, allowing us to learn about Web3.0 from the basics up. I am truly grateful for this experience and believe it will have a lasting impact on my future career and personal growth." **Justin Chan, Founding CEO of Gense Technologies Limited,** said, "These young interns are poised to inject fresh perspectives and vitality into the company. As part of the digital generation, their viewpoints differ significantly from those of the previous generation, enabling them to bring truly innovative ideas to the enterprise."

Web3Hub@Cyberport currently hosts over 250 technology companies focused on Web3.0, proactively providing valuable internship opportunities for university students from Hong Kong and beyond. These internships allow students to delve into the latest advancements in Web3.0 technology, work on significant projects, and witness the creation of innovative products.

For more details about the Cyberport University Partnership Programme 2024, please visit : <u>https://cyberport.hk/zh_tw/cyberport-university-partnership-programme</u>



Appendix:

List of Award-Winning Teams from the Cyberport University Partnership Programme Web3 2024 (alphabetically listed)	
 Catnip Earnet Finative GreenData Learnova 	 Meetalk membeefy Team Float WebFury Zcon Tech
List of Co-organising Universities for the Cyberport University Partnership Programme 2024 (alphabetically listed)	
 City University of Hong Kong Hong Kong Baptist University Hong Kong Metropolitan University Lingnan University Saint Francis University The Chinese University of Hong Kong 	 The Education University of Hong Kong The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong The Hong Kong Polytechnic University The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology The University of Hong Kong

For high-resolution photos, please download via this link.



Cyberport held the graduation ceremony for the 9th Cyberport University Partnership Programme on August 31.





Cyberport held the closing ceremony for the inaugural Cyberport Web3.0 Internship Programme 2024 on August 30



Daniel Cheung, JP, Deputy Commissioner (Digital Infrastructure), Digital Policy Office of the HKSAR Government, remarks that Web3.0's technical applications hold immense potential. The Government has allocated \$50 million to Cyberport to expedite the development of the Web3.0 ecosystem. This initiative will help the industry and enterprises stay at the forefront of innovation, promote cross-sectoral business cooperation, and provide training opportunities for young people.





Simon Chan, Chairman of Cyberport, says that Cyberport is committed to nurturing a new generation of innovative technology talents with global market insights. The 'Cyberport University Partnership Programme' is an entrepreneurship training program that combines boot camps, mentorship, and competitions, aimed at discovering future fintech talents for Hong Kong. Furthermore, we launch the first 'Web 3.0 Internship Programme' this year, attracting participation from local, mainland, and overseas university students. They are matched with Cyberport Web 3.0 companies, learning about Web 3.0 technologies through internships and preparing themselves for careers in the innovative technology industry.



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About Cyberport

Cyberport is Hong Kong's digital technology flagship and incubator for entrepreneurship with over 2,000 members including over 900 onsite and over 1,100 offsite start-ups and technology companies. It is managed by Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited, wholly owned by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, and committed to the vision to inject new impetus into digital economy and smart city development through innovation and technology, and to connect enterprises to Mainland China and overseas markets. Cyberport strives to nurture a vibrant tech ecosystem by cultivating talents, promoting entrepreneurship among the youth, supporting start-ups, fostering technology industry development by promoting strategic collaboration with local, Mainland Chinese and international partners, and integrating new and traditional economies by accelerating digital transformation in public and private sectors.

For more information, please visit www.cyberport.hk