

Press Release

**SJM Team Secures Top Three Places at
WorldSkills Macau Selection Competition**

Claims First, Second and Third Places in the Hotel Reception Category

(Macau, 21 July 2026) — The 48th WorldSkills Competition, jointly organised by WorldSkills International, the Ministry of Human Resources and the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security of the People's Republic of China, and the Shanghai Municipal People's Government, will take place in Shanghai from 22 to 27 September 2026.

At the Awards Presentation for the Macau, China Delegation to the 48th WorldSkills Competition, representatives from SJM Resorts, S.A. ("SJM") delivered exceptional results in the Hotel Reception category, claiming first, second and third places. SJM became the only integrated resort operator in Macau selected for the Macau, China team to this year's WorldSkills Competition.

The three SJM representatives are all members of the inaugural cohort of the SJM "Forge My Own Journey" Development Programme. Iaoiao Chan, a Front Office Trainee under Hotel Operations, secured first place and will represent Macau, China at the WorldSkills Competition in Shanghai. Meanwhile, Sandra Chan, who placed second, and Eric Liang, who placed third, were selected as reserve representatives.

Prior to the competition, first-place winner Iaoiao Chan and second-place winner Sandra Chan were given the opportunity to attend pre-competition Hotel Reception training and exchange programmes in Switzerland, alongside representatives from other countries and regions, enabling them to better prepare for the WorldSkills Competition.

The participants' outstanding achievements at the WorldSkills Macau Selection Competition not only demonstrates the effectiveness of the university-enterprise partnership model, but also reflect SJM's long-term commitment to talent development and youth empowerment. Their success underscores the Company's dedication to nurturing the next generation of hospitality professionals and supporting Macau's sustainable development as a World Centre of Tourism and Leisure.

University-Industry Collaboration Delivers Outstanding Results

The SJM "Forge My Own Journey" Development Programme is a flagship local youth talent development initiative jointly launched by SJM and the Macao University of Tourism, with the Labour Affairs Bureau and the Education and Youth Development Bureau as supporting units.

Through an innovative university-industry collaboration model, the four-year programme combines academic study with practical work experience. Participants can pursue professional studies free of charge while receiving paid on-the-job training, enabling them to gain valuable industry exposure and deepen their understanding of career development opportunities within the hospitality sector.

Since the programme's launch in 2025, it has received an enthusiastic response from local youth. The participants' success in securing the top three positions in the Hotel Reception category at the WorldSkills Macau Selection Competition demonstrates the programme's effectiveness in developing professional skills, service excellence and practical workplace competencies. Their impressive performance not only reflects their personal growth and learning achievements, but also showcases the professionalism and capabilities of Macau's young hospitality professionals, setting an exemplary benchmark for the local hotel and tourism service industries.

First-place winner Iaoiao Chan expressed that she felt deeply honoured to participate in the SJM "Forge My Own Journey" Development Programme. The opportunity to attend training and exchange programmes in Switzerland significantly enhanced both her professional skills and international perspective, enabling her to effectively integrate theory with practice. She hopes to make full use of the WorldSkills Competition platform to showcase the strength and potential of Macau's youth to the world.

Nurturing Local Talent for Sustainable Industry Development

The SJM "Forge My Own Journey" Development Programme continues to gain momentum. Following the successful completion of recruitment for its second cohort, the new intake will join the programme this August to embark on a structured journey of professional training and workplace practice.

At the same time, recruitment for the third cohort will officially commence in September, creating further diverse development opportunities for local youth. Through this ongoing, systematic talent development mechanism, SJM aims to cultivate more tourism and hospitality professionals with strong technical expertise and a global outlook, contributing to the long-term development of Macau's tourism and hotel industries.

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Representatives from SJM delivered exceptional results in the 48th WorldSkills Macau Selection Competition in Hotel Reception category, capturing gold, silver and bronze medals. SJM is also the only integrated resort operator in Macau selected for the Macau, China team to this year's WorldSkills Competition.



Iaio Chan will represent Macau, China at the 48th WorldSkills Competition in Shanghai.



Prior to the competition, first-place winner Iaoiao Chan (second row, second from right) and second-place winner Sandra Chan (second row, first from the right) were given the opportunity to attend pre-competition Hotel Reception training and exchange programmes in Switzerland, alongside representatives from other countries and regions