

## Awards Given to 27 Individuals and 36 Schools with Outstanding Performance in Promoting Scout Education

(Photo and Article by Jhang Jhih-hong, Division of Student Affairs and Campus Security)



### ▲A Group Photo of the Director-General with the Award-Winning Representatives

To implement the model of talent development in K-12 National Education and to nurture citizens of balanced merits of morality, wisdom, physical experience, cooperation, and aesthetics, the K-12 Education Administration of Ministry of Education (MOE) gives priority to promoting scout education. The administration awards individuals and schools with distinguished performance in promoting scouting annually in order to acknowledge the long-term efforts of scout leaders and outstanding schools at all levels. The Awards Ceremony was held at a hall in National Chia-Yi Industrial Vocational High School on March 3, 2015. Wu Ching-shan, Director-General of K-12 Education Administration of MOE, gave awards to 10 outstanding senior and vocational high schools, 4 junior high schools, 27 individuals and administration staff. A total of 59 awards were given.

Director-General Wu mentioned in the ceremony that this year was a year of innovative education. K-12 Education Administration would continue to encourage and promote scout education in all school levels, thereby stimulating students to do a good deed everyday.

Among the award winning individuals, Syu Siou-jie, Teacher of Taipei Municipal Lishan Junior High School, had been a girl scout since she studied in National Tainan Girls' Senior High School and later in National Taiwan Normal University. She devoted herself to be a teacher after graduation, and

had been wedded to scouting ever since then. She often says, "Once a scout, always a scout. Even without wearing a scout uniform, a scout shows the spirit of a scout." This is indeed the description of a scout who does good works quietly without seeking recognition and who embraces giving more willingly than receiving. Because of their life-long love and enthusiasm for this worldwide activity, many of them describe themselves as addicts who have a scout cancer that cannot be cured.

Among the award winning schools, all of the past principles of Mingdao High School are adult leaders in the Wood Badge training. Besides, they lead and serve scout troops in the World Scouts Jamboree. Mingdao High School considers scout education a significant starting point to promote character education, group education, and international education. Mingdao develops a curriculum guideline that puts scout education into practice. An investiture ceremony is held every year to welcome junior high school newcomers. Parents of the students put a scout neckerchief in token of honor and service on their children. Mingdao founded the one and only marching band as a token of scouts, Blue Cavalier. Blue Cavalier has been invited to perform in many important celebrations for several years, including this awards ceremony. Therefore, Mingdao is a model school that lives up to the slogan of "every class has a scout and everyone enjoys being a scout".



Among the award-winning representatives, the Affiliated Senior High School of National Tainan University has the best fields for both camping and high-low rope activities for adventure education. Under the leaderships of past principles of this university, these fields have now become one of the

most important venues for major scout training events and activities. Ciou Min-jie, Principle of the university, pointed out that scout training can help students not only pick up the skills that are taught in normal scouting, but also develop abilities that are not written in textbooks, such as expression ability, leadership, communication and coordination, people skills, and so on. It is hoped that students participating in the scout activities can learn to do a good deed for the day in real life, be motivated to strike for success, and be a good citizen.

Scout education is a diverse education program that integrates outdoor education, experiential education and character education. Since the "scout renaissance year" starting in 2014, K-12 Education Administration has actively promoted scout education. Many young learners have supported this program. It is hoped that the ideals of K-12 national education -- "talent development, balanced development in five aspects, and lifelong learning" -- can be materialized via programs of "high-quality curriculum design of outdoor education," "service and learning of real interpersonal interaction," "discovery of the spatiotemporal background of urban development and history, and "experience of cultural and creative life values."