

2016 Education Award: Role Models in Education

(Courtesy of Chang, Shu-Wei, Office of the Secretary)



The 2016 Education Award presentation ceremony was held at Chung-Hsing Hall in Nantou County at 10:00 am on June 15 (Wed.) with Huang, Zi-teng , Director-General of K-12 Education Administration, Ministry of Education, as the moderator. In an elegant and classical building full of rich culture and humanistic atmosphere, the award was presented to devoting educators, which gave special meaning to this event. Under the theme “Rich Legacy and Refined Innovation,” Jian, Jun-gan, Deputy Secretary-General of Taiwan Provincial Government, and Wu, Qing-shan, former Director-General of K-12 Education Administration, were invited in hopes of spreading the spirit into every corner of schools so that students in Taiwan would learn and grow in an environment of love and knowledge .

K-12 Education Administration restarted the List of Devoting Educators, which have been suspended for as long as 13 years, in 2014, and expanded it into an Award event. The achievements of excellent educators were compiled into a brochure, and an Award presentation ceremony was hosted to honor their contributions to education, which has enhanced the dignity of educators and thus won approval of the society.

For the Education Award this year, a total of 143 people who were recommended by schools, special municipality governments, and city and county governments. There were two preliminary evaluations, followed by two further reviews, and finally 83 of them were selected. Among them, 12 were from the high school group, 18 from the vocational school group, 13 from the junior high

school group, 27 from the elementary school group, one from the kindergarten group, five from the special education group, and seven from the team group. The awards were decided based on their innovation, touching stories, as well as great contributions of educators. This heartwarming event was held to pay tributes to the committed educators and to promote devotion for education.

Although the awardees this year were from diverse backgrounds, their love and patience towards education as well as their commitment to the work were something in common. For example, Xiao, Zun-ren, a secretary at Da Der Commercial and Technical Vocational School, committed his energy and time to the Lion Dance team of the school, so that the students in the remote area whose livelihood relies on the sea could study while learning some skills. He managed to let the students enjoy free board and room during the training while teaching them discipline. Students sometimes complained, yet that didn't affect his determination. For more than a decade, the Lion Dance team has won many medals both at home and abroad. Thanks to his great leadership, the team was invited by Tourism Bureau, ROC and has since become a professional arts performing troupe to cheer overseas compatriots, which has also been well-received by international friends.

Also, Wu, Shu-yuan, a teacher from Hsin-Kang junior high school in Chiayi, has managed to strengthen students' writing ability through reading. From presenting their works to exchanging their views, students' potential has gradually been unleashed. In this way, children in the countryside who benefited from her systematic and innovating teaching methods, have outshone others at every writing competition. She also loves writing, and her articles about interaction among teachers, parents, and children have been published in local bulletins, which has encouraged parents to share parenting issues with her and in turn, promoted family education.

At the 2016 Education Award Presentation Ceremony, guests were welcomed by taiko drum performance by National Chung-Shing Senior High School; also, the taiko drum team from Yang-Feng Elementary School in Nantou County was also invited to play the drum to keep off evil spirits. In addition, the affiliated kindergarten of Yang-Feng Elementary School in Nantou County was also invited to perform; the Taekwon-Do team from the sports association of Nantou County was there to put on a performance that incorporated Taekwon-Do and dance; Ying-Pei Junior High School of Nantou County put on a performance called "Glowing Dragon." Other shows included dance by the dance club of National Chung-Hsing Senior High School and music performance by the talented music class of Caotun Junior High School.