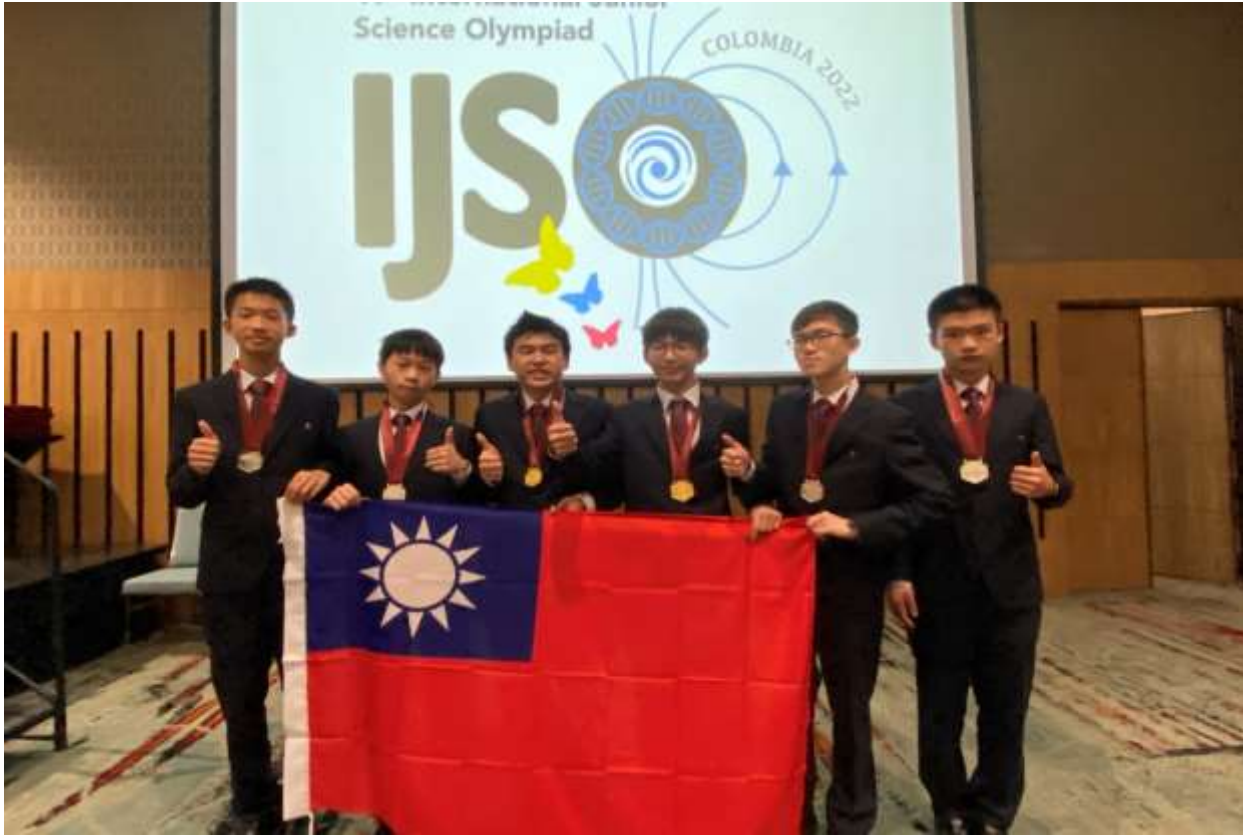


Taiwan junior high school students bring home two golds and four silvers in 2022 IJSO

(Courtesy of Chia-Hsin Li, Division of Junior High and Elementary Education)



Taiwan's students participated in the 19th International Junior Science Olympiad (IJSO) in 2022 on behalf of Taiwan, and a piece of good news spread back home in the early morning of December 12, 2022. This year's IJSO was hosted by Colombia. Among 203 participating students from 40 countries (regions), Taiwan's representatives won two gold and four silver medals, ranking fourth in the world (based on the participants' total scores). The two gold medalists are Ting-Cheng Hsu, Taipei Fuhsing Private School (Junior High School Division), and Kuan-Yu Wang, Da Cheng Junior High School. The four silver medalists are Jen-Yin Lu, Taichung Municipal Taichung First Senior High School, Kai-Tai, Tu, Ching Cheng High School, Cheng-Yu Ho, National Chiayi Senior High School, and Chun-Cheng Lin, Longhua Junior High School. Their performance is remarkable. Wen-Chung Pan, Minister of Education, sent a message of congratulation to the award-winning students on their outstanding performance and expressed appreciation for their endeavors to bring glory for Taiwan right after he learned of the good news.

The IJSO is an international competition that integrates science-related subjects, including mathematics, physics, chemistry, biology, and earth sciences, to cultivate young people's interest in science. Taiwan has participated in this competition since 2004, achieving an excellent performance over the years. So far, our country's participants have won 91 golds and 17 silvers in total.

We selected six students for this year's IJSO. After the participants received training from a team of teachers at the College of Science, National Taiwan Normal University, the coaching team, consisting of Pei-Hua Lo, an associate research fellow, Professor Kuo-Tung Lu, Professor Chia-Jung Lu, Professor Chih-Shen Tsai, and Pi-Chi Huang, a lecturer, led the students to Colombia to participate in the competition on November 30, 2022. The closing and awards ceremony was held in the afternoon of December 11, 2022 (in the morning of December 12, 2022, Taiwan time), and the delegation returned to Taiwan by plane on December 12, 2022.

The K-12 Education Administration stated that: to motivate students to actively participate in the International Mathematics or Science Olympiads and international science fairs, the Ministry of Education has formulated the Regulations Governing Academic Advancement Incentive Package for Students Who Compete and Perform Well in International Mathematics or Science Olympiads and International Science Fairs. Any gold, silver, or bronze medalist in this competition can be recommended to a senior high school or a five-year vocational school without a need to take an entrance exam. Meanwhile, each gold, silver, and bronze medalist will be awarded a scholarship of NT\$200,000, NT\$100,000, and NT\$50,000, respectively, by the Ministry of Education. The Ministry of Education will continue to select and train students to participate in such events to increase their experience in overseas competitions and broaden their international horizon, with the aim of increasing the opportunities for exchanges and collaboration between Taiwan and other countries in the development of science education.