

Microfilm *Calling for You* Helps Disabled Students Gain Acceptance and Care

(Photo and Article by Jhang Ting-ting, Division of Indigenous People and Special Education)



The freeze frame is set at the scene where a young student and a teacher work together painting a red brick wall through icy winds at the sunrise about 5 in the morning. Ministry of Education (MOE) unprecedentedly initiated the shot of *Calling for You*, a microfilm featuring special education. Now it has finished filming.

This is something that has not been done before; therefore, it is utterly unique and special. A production team of passionate new generation led the procedure with prudence in writing the film script, delivering the lines, and making the advertising placards. Director Hu Hao-siang, nicknamed as Ram, discussed the script with the teachers on the education scene again and again, showing that they fervently looked forward to using this film as the material to encourage viewers to accept the disabled students around them. He said agitatedly, "I did not expect that the filming would awaken the spirit of education in me, so that I could contribute something to special education."

The chance of filming special education microfilm came at a time when the system of K-12 National Education was in full operation in the school year of 2014. On the principles of diversified admission, MOE encouraged enrollment in a nearby school with appropriate placement. Therefore, all the students, including the disabled ones, would learn and grow up together. In class, the disabled will

be our students; in the classroom, they will be our classmates. Either on campus or in the society, they all have the equal rights to education and life just as the others do. To put into effect the "attitude" of zero rejection, and to promote integrated education that helps create a campus that is friendly to all learners, K-12 Education Administration of MOE sponsored National Tao-Yuan Agricultural and Industrial Vocational High School in the shooting of the special education microfilm, *Calling for You*. The filming is nearly completed and is set to make its debut in the Special Education Microfilm Premiere at a hall on the fifth floor of the main building of MOE at 2 p.m. on March 19.

Calling for You, a special education microfilm, is made into two versions; one is for students, and the other is for teachers. Each of the films lasts about 15 minutes. MOE brings a common education scene to the big screen. The film focuses on the interaction between a passionate teacher and a hard-of-hearing student. The latter has a talent in fine arts, but dislikes putting on hearing aid. Ram, the film director, and Shara Li, the gifted actress, happen to be the graduates from National Normal Taiwan University; this coincidence adds more icing on the cake of love for education. It could touch the hearts of the teachers who are committed to education.

Yao Pipi, a young actress of the new generation, and Liou Youci, a rising star in the field of stage play, take leading roles in the student version. The plot centers around the interaction between Jhang Jih-yu, a senior high school student who suffers from short-term hearing loss resulting from excessive stress of life, and Ye Zih-hao, her hard-of-hearing classmate. Yao Pipi, in real life, also once had a temporary hearing loss just as the role she plays in the film did. Hence, she renders her role very well. The purpose of this film is to deliver the message that we all have our dis-comfortable times. Only when we learn to empathize, accept and tolerate those who long to be viewed as the same as their peers, could the ripple of good and love begin to form. This is also the motif of this microfilm .

The premiere of this special education film, *Calling for You*, produced by MOE for the first time in the form of microfilm is set to be held at the



auditorium on the fifth floor of the main building of MOE at 2 on the afternoon of March 19. In addition to displaying the film, the chief administrators, the production team, and the leading actors are also invited to attend the premiere. Moreover, some disabled students who have completed the senior or vocational high school education in a friendly learning environment share the bits and pieces of their school life. It is an exciting event. After the premiere, the DVDs will be sent out to every public and private senior or vocational high school governed by K-12 Education Administration of MOE, as well as to schools for Taiwanese descendants overseas. It is hoped and prayed that the disabled students could be accepted and cared for by the release of this film.

The microfilm has been uploaded to YouTube. Please search with the key words "Calling for You". Everyone is welcome to watch.