

Mr CHAN Chun-yan (HKBU)

It is my honour to be awarded this Scholarship.

I would like to thank the Education Bureau and the selection panel for granting me this scholarship, and I would like to congratulate all the other awardees as well.

I consider myself a very fortunate student. Over the past six years, my teachers provided me abundant opportunities to demonstrate my abilities, and through such a process, I reckoned how a teacher could influence, if not shaped, a student's personality and subsequently their future. Therefore, like my teachers, I, too, hope to inspire the future generations.

I believe education should not be confined to the textbook, or classroom. It goes beyond that. An educator must be able to reach into a student's inner self and stand in their shoes to share their views of the problems they encounter in their lives, however big or small. An educator must be able to encourage students to step out of their comfort zones and try something new, even challenging, to truly experience what they are capable of. As teachers, we must open doors and avenues for the young people to learn and grow.

That was also what I experienced firsthand. If I had not stepped out of my comfort zone and taken on leadership roles in secondary school, I would not have discovered what I was capable of and how important it was to lead and inspire the younger generations.

Indeed, I hope this is something that I will remember when going forward. It is so easy for us to lose sight of our passion once we have conformed to the norms of our life. Moreover, in times of adversity, we must constantly remind ourselves that we are the privileged few who hold the power to change someone's life and change it for the better— something we should be grateful for.

In Aristotle's words, "Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all".

Mr HO Ching-nam (CUHK)

When I was small, I once chatted with my mother about my future occupation. Unlike those “tiger mothers” in Hong Kong possessing unrealistic expectations on their children, she simply told me to engage in an occupation that allows me to utilize my strengths. As an enthusiastic speaker and a sociable person, I soon confirmed my ideal occupation as a teacher. The reason why I chose to specialize in English is that it is a global language, which is essential for communication when we are living in this era as global citizens.

Teacher’s duties are doubtlessly meaningful. As a Chinese ideologist, Han Yu suggested, teachers’ duties include the passing down of knowledge, solving students’ problems and, most importantly, indoctrinating correct moral values. How a teacher treated one severely changes one’s life and attitude. As a famous quote suggested, “The heart of education is the education of heart.” Instead of simply passing down factual knowledge, what makes teachers’ job important is how they treasure and fertilize one’s heart.

This scholarship marks a start for all awardees’ journey of being an educator. I wish the scholarship can always remind us the most important component of education, and I sincerely wish all of you a pleasant journey in the university and, in the teaching career.

Ms LEE Cho-ying (EdUHK)

As a year1 student studying English Language Education, it is definitely my great pleasure and honor to receive the offer of this Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers (2020/21). I would like to express my sincere gratitude towards the Education Bureau.

Since I was small, I have long been waiting for an opportunity to become an English teacher and pass on knowledge to the next generation. Undeniably, English is a global language that is commonly used all around the world. While English is the second language in Hong Kong and the mostly used language when we communicate with foreigners around the world. Therefore, I sincerely hope that I could take a significant role of passing my knowledge and skills of English to the future pillar of Hong Kong—to become an English teacher in Hong Kong.

On top of that, upon receiving the scholarship, I would wisely use the funding in enriching and equipping myself as a prospective English teacher. I would make good use of the scholarship in actively participating in cultural activities at school and outside school. I hope that I could embrace the foreign culture and introduce unique Western cultures to Hong Kong. Facilitating the blend of Eastern and Western cultures in this cultural melting pot, I believe that cultural globalization can be boosted in this prosperous international city. After the pandemic, I would like to engage in cultural exchange and visit different Western countries where English is used as a primary language. By doing so, I can have a profound understanding of the comprehensive development of the countries and the language.

Once again, thank you so much for offering me such a precious opportunity to have the Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers. I promise that I would strive for my best in completing the undergraduate program and be well-equipped as a prospective English teacher.

Ms TSE Yan-wing, Vanessa (HKU)

It is with profound gratitude that the Scholarship for Prospective English Teachers was granted to me. I cannot be more grateful to be receiving it. The Scholarship is an inspiration for me to thrive on becoming a successful English teacher. With this gift from God, I aspire to strive harder to make my contribution upon graduation. The road to becoming a teacher has never been easier, particularly in this digital age of emerging technologies. I truly understand that being a teacher today has to evolve with the times by constantly updating my skills. I trust the teacher education at the University of Hong Kong would equip me with relevant, useful, and applicable pedagogies, not to mention language skills which enable me to prepare my students for all their future challenges in life, while spreading and sustaining the joy of learning English.

I also like to take this opportunity to thank all the teachers who have taught and nurtured me to become who I am today. They are my anchors and exemplary role models, whom I also aspire to become one for my students in the future. I pledge to give my absolute best in my undergraduate studies at university and make a humble mark to teach what I preach.

Teaching is not simply a job to me. It is my vocation and I am fully prepared to embrace the bumpy adventure of becoming a dedicated and impactful teacher with compassion, drive and stamina.