



## THE HONG KONG AWARD FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### 香港青年獎勵計劃

#### Press Release

#### **Take the Challenges, Live the Dreams**

#### **2005 Gold Award Presentation - The Hong Kong Award for Young People**

(Hong Kong, 14/06/2006) More than a hundred of teenagers with courage and spirit of taking challenges, received their gold award certificates of The Hong Kong Award for Young People from The Hon. Donald Tsang Yam Kuen, GBM, Chief Executive of HKSAR yesterday, and shared their happiness of completing different challenges successfully with all of the guests.

It just took 2 minutes of a recipient to appear on the stage, receive the certificate, take the group photos and back to the seat. But to attain the gold award, each recipient should spend at least 1 year to overcome and complete the challenges and tasks of 5 different sections. Participants should spend at least 100 hours on community services, complete 12 months skill training, finish 60 km expedition journey within 4 days and 3 nights, participate in one physical recreation activity for at least 18 weeks continuously and have a 5 days and 4 nights residential project with a group of teenagers. Some recipients even spent over 7 years to attain the gold award. Although their journey to gold award may be longer than the others, the perseverance and patience showed by them is no doubt glaring.

At the ceremony, Paul Fan, Chairman of The Hong Kong Award for Young People Council expressed that teenagers not only discover their hidden abilities through the award scheme, but also build up the sense of responsibility and endurance. "We believe that every gold recipient standing here tonight, is independent, creative and responsible."

The Hong Kong Award for Young People, was honored to invite Donald Tsang Yam Kuen, Chief Executive of HKSAR to present the gold award and hence succeeded the award tradition that the gold awards are presented by the head of government/state. Donald Tsang Yam Kuen, as the officiating guest of the Gold Award Presentation Ceremony, not only presented certificates to the recipients, but also presented certificates to the volunteers whose have served the award scheme for 10 years as appreciation and recognition.

Being the members of The International Award Scheme, The Hong Kong Award for Young People contains 3 award levels – Bronze, Silver and Gold, it serves the youngster aged 14 to 25. Today, over 580,000 young people from over 110 countries have been motivated to undertake the International Award Scheme. Since its introduction into Hong Kong in 1961, the current number of participants in Hong Kong steadily increased to 50,000. 2006 is the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of The Hong Kong Award for Young People. And there will be a series of celebration events throughout the whole year, please refer to our website for the most updated details.

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