

【For immediate release】

HKAGE Secondary Student and Parent Orientation 2018

(Hong Kong – 28 April 2018) The Hong Kong Academy for Gifted Education (HKAGE) held the Secondary Student and Parent Orientation 2018 at Chinese YMCA College today to welcome new secondary student members and their parents. HKAGE received 2,735 nominations this year and admitted 2,310 secondary students (including school nomination and self nomination) as preliminary members.

Professor Ng Tai Kai, Executive Director of HKAGE, hoped that the orientation could give new members and their parents an idea about the Academy's unique programmes and learning opportunities which were different from those provided in mainstream schools, so that members could make good use of those programmes to better understand themselves and bring their talent into full play. Ms Stella Chu, Student Services Manager, briefed new members on the services provided by the Student Services Team. Mr Albert Hong, Head of Academic Programme Development Division, Ms Melanie Cheung, Head of Affective Education Division, and Ms Shirley Kwok, Head of Advanced Learning Experiences Division, encouraged new members to participate actively in HKAGE programmes and activities to embark on a remarkable learning journey that would help unleash and develop their talent and potentials. In addition, Dr Eric Fung, Head of Research Division, shared with the attendees a recent research on 'Relationships amongst Life Satisfaction, Benefits Obtained, and Expectation'. Dr Fung encouraged the new student members to uphold a positive attitude towards the Academy programmes and experience a fruitful study journey.

Several secondary student members also shared with attendees their learning experiences at HKAGE. Ip Tsz Sum, a student member in Mathematics Domain, said that the demanding training for the China Girls Math Olympiad (CGMO) was the most unforgettable experience for her. The programme, which is the longest and strictest one she had joined in HKAGE, had enhanced her ability for solving Maths problems. Besides, she had become more mature and persevering after the training. Tsz Sum added that HKAGE programmes were different from regular programmes in school. They were more challenging and interactive in nature. Through the interesting learning activities, participants were inspired to think critically and were encouraged to advance together and face up to challenges with other gifted peers. These all helped cultivate a real spirit of learning among gifted students. Chiu Sin Chun, a student member in Sciences and Mathematics Domain, told the audience that the Academy's courses, which were lively and relevant to real life, were delivered at a quicker pace with more in-depth content compared to the regular school curriculum. He said the programme that impressed him most was 'Hong Kong Food Culture: Observation, Reading and Writing', during which he had learnt how to appreciate food and write on this specific theme. Trying different foods with classmates in a restaurant during the programme was also unforgettable for him.

Upon joining HKAGE, student members can choose from a variety of programmes in different domains according to their interests to acquire knowledge beyond textbooks. Some educational yet interesting programmes are recommended:

- Future Curator Training 2018 (HUMS1011):

The course is designed for secondary student members who want to know more about museums and are interested in history and culture. It is themed around significant stories of individuals from different cultural backgrounds and ethnic groups in early Hong Kong history to inspire students to reflect on the meaning of life.

- Intermediate Course in Virtual Reality (MULS2361):

Students will learn how to develop an original Virtual Reality (VR) application with related software, applying various compositions, lighting and shading skills.

- Numbers Around Our Life (MATS1411):

Numbers are everywhere in our daily life –We all have a telephone number, student number, HKID card number, and so on. Do you know the secrets behind these numbers? Do you know that numbers are involved, even if they do not explicitly appear, in cryptography or even in music, art and architecture? In this short course students will explore different kinds of numbers in our daily life.

After the ceremony, some parents joined the Programme Highlight and Experience Sharing Seminar organised by Affective Education Division, Academic Programme Development Division and Advanced Learning Experiences Division to find out more details of the Academy's programmes and services.

Key facts about HKAGE's Secondary School Nomination and Self Nomination for Secondary Students 2017/18 are attached in the Appendices.

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Around 1,000 new members and their parents attended the HKAGE orientation.



Professor Ng Tai Kai, Executive Director of HKAGE, delivered a welcoming speech in the ceremony.



HKAGE secondary student members shared their learning experiences with the attendees.

The Hong Kong Academy for Gifted Education, a subvented non-governmental organisation, was established in 2008. It aims at serving the education sector in Hong Kong, offering high quality information, support and appropriate learning opportunities to gifted students, their parents, teachers and other stakeholders engaged in gifted education. Most of its programmes are provided free-of-charge.

For media enquiries, please contact Ms Tammy Cheuk, Communications Officer of HKAGE (Phone: 3940 0118 / Email: tammycheuk@hkage.org.hk).

Appendix I: Key Facts about HKAGE's Secondary School Nomination 2017/18

1. Number of schools participating in the nomination and students nominated and admitted

	2016/17	2017/18
No. of schools making nominations	240	243
No. of students nominated	2,552	2,584
No. of students admitted	2,233	2,211

2. Breakdown of newly admitted students by learning domains

Domain	No. of Students	Percentage
Humanities	735	33.2%
Leadership	247	11.2%
Mathematics	618	28%
Sciences	611	27.6%
Total	2,211	100%

3. Gender ratio of newly admitted students

Gender	No. of Students	Percentage
Male	1,088	49.2%
Female	1,123	50.8%
Total	2,211	100%

4. Timeline for Secondary School Nomination 2017/18

Key Dates	Events
Nov 2017	Notifying schools on details of the nomination process and the online nomination platform
24 Nov 2017	Briefing session
24 Nov 2017 – 24 Jan 2018	Online nomination available
29 Mar 2018	Announcement of admission results
28 Apr 2018	Student and Parent Orientation

Appendix II: Key Facts about HKAGE's Self Nomination for Secondary Students 2017/18

1. Number of students nominated and admitted

	2016/17	2017/18
No. of students nominated	157	151
No. of students admitted	112	99

2. Breakdown of newly admitted students by learning domains

Domain	No. of Students	Percentage
Humanities	17	17.2%
Leadership	11	11.1%
Mathematics	30	30.3%
Sciences	41	41.4%
Total	99	100%

3. Gender ratio of newly admitted students

Gender	No. of Students	Percentage
Male	67	67.7%
Female	32	32.3%
Total	99	100%

4. Timeline for Self Nomination for Secondary Students 2017/18

Key Dates	Events
Nov 2017	Online announcement of details of the self nomination process and the online nomination platform
11 Jan 2018	Briefing session
25 Jan – 26 Feb 2018	Online nomination available
29 Mar 2018	Announcement of admission results
28 Apr 2018	Student and Parent Orientation