



培德中學贏得全美 中國文化常識比賽季、殿軍

Developing Virtue Schools Place Third and Fourth in National Chinese Culture Competition

培德中學提供 BY DEVELOPING VIRTUE SECONDARY SCHOOL STAFF

全美中國文化常識比賽自95年舉辦以來，對提升在美國長大的孩子之中文能力，及對中國歷史文化的瞭解，真的是發揮了它的功能。培德中學男女兩校學生，自五月份初賽後，取得北加州代表權；短短幾個月中學學習上的收穫，可能比學兩年中文的功效還大，所以這個比賽有其正面上的意義。

今年全美的比賽在紐澤西舉行，我們經過長達六個多小時的飛行，終於到達。次日一到會場，就有家長來問：「你們的學生為什麼看起來就不一樣？」他們對我們非常的好奇。

我們的學生所表現的氣質和風度，讓他們留下很深刻的印象。雖然地主隊拿了冠亞軍，我們的學生還是寫感謝卡給評審老師和會長，感謝他們的辛勞。比賽後實法師做了一場幻燈片展，介紹萬佛聖城和我們學校的宗旨，吸引了真正有興趣的人來參加。所以法師說：「很值得！」有位媽媽一直到處為她的女兒找一所合適的學校，她說：「這正是我要找的學校！」

校方經常鼓勵同學參與學術文化活動，一方面讓同學有增長見識的機會，另一方面，我們也可以從同學的表現中，檢視我們教育的得失，以便藉此幫助他們養成更完全的人格。此次東岸之行，男女校同學除了贏得全美比賽季軍、殿軍外，也贏得了「培德」的美稱。雖然如此，但我們仍有更長的路要走。最後，感恩大眾對教育的支持。

Ever since the National Chinese Culture Competition was first held in 1995, it has fulfilled its function of helping Chinese children in the United States increase their knowledge of the Chinese language and their understanding of Chinese history and culture. After the Boys and Girls Schools' teams won first and second place in the regional contest in May, thereby gaining the right to represent northern California in the National Competition, the team members learned more during several months' of intensive training than in two years of studying Chinese. Thus the Competition has its benefits.

This year the National Chinese Culture Competition was held in New Jersey. Our two teams traveled six hours by plane to get there. The next day, as soon as we arrived, some parents came over to ask, "Why is it that your students seem so different from the rest?" They were very curious and impressed by our students' demeanor and conduct. Even though the host teams (from New Jersey) won the first and second places, our students wrote thank-you cards to the judging teachers and the chairman, expressing gratitude for their hard work. After the contest, Dharma Master Sure presented a slideshow introducing the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas and the mission of our school, which attracted those who were really interested to learn more about us. Thus, the Dharma Master said, "It's worth it!" A mother who had been searching a suitable school for her daughter said, "This is the school I've been looking for!"

The Boys and Girls Schools have always encouraged students to participate in academic and cultural activities. On the one hand, students gain new experiences; on the other hand, teachers can evaluate their students' performances and thus reflect on their own success or failure in teaching and developing them to become "whole persons."

On this trip to the East Coast, the students not only won the third and fourth places, but also were praised for "developing their virtue." However, we still have a longer way to go. To conclude, we would like