

# A Milestone in Life Comes along When Bidding Farewell

## 驪歌聲中 迎來人生的里程碑

2015  
Developing  
Virtue Secondary School  
Boys Division Graduation  
培德中學男校  
2015年畢業典禮

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BODHI FIELD 菩提田

At 2:30 PM on June 5, 2015, seven young men — Weson Tsai, Hubert Liu, Jackson Chen, Riley Fong, Michael Lu, Jason Ong and Abhishek Datta — received their diplomas in the packed Dao Yuan Hall and graduated from Developing Virtue Boys School. The ceremony was a beautiful one, the atmosphere electric as a host of incredible personages filled the hall to speak, present awards, or observe these seven young men “leave the nest” as high school graduates.

High school core teacher Dharma Master Heng Shun was invited to present. Dharma Master Jin Fan and de facto Boys School principal Mr. Juan Gracia both gave short speeches filled with wisdom and gratitude, as well as acknowledgements of the graduates’ hard work over their high school careers. Dharma Master Jin Fan said, “Our schools provide students

2015年6月5日下午2時30分，男校應屆畢業生蔡歲承、劉承浩、陳俊傑、方國興、呂明賜、陳嘉晟、立志等七人，在坐滿觀禮人羣的道源堂領取高中文憑，正式自培德中學男校畢業。這項畢業典禮頗為隆重，特別是當名人演講、頒獎、以及大家見證七位年輕人「離巢」成為畢業生時，氣氛更為感人。

高中導師恒順法師應邀出席；代理校長葛親翰與近梵法師都作了簡短致辭，他們的談話充滿智慧與感謝，並肯定我們這羣畢業生在高中生涯裏的辛勤努力。近梵法師指出，本校給的是有限的知識和無盡的財富——一生受用不盡的經驗。代理校長葛親翰則感謝所有老師、家長與義工付出的心血，因為「培養出這麼優秀的年輕人，需要全村的人一起努力。」退休校長巴斯帝克先生

with limited knowledge and unlimited wealth, which are experiences benefitting your whole life.”

Mr. Gracia thanked all the teachers, parents and volunteers for their commitment and hard work because, “It takes a village to produce such fine young men.” The retired principal, Mr. Lewis Mack Bostick, presented the certificates promoting them to high school this year’s class of 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

Our alumni speaker, Justin Hu, gave a smooth, confidence-building speech assuring graduates that the skills and lessons we’ve learned in our time at the Boys School will make us knowledgeable, leading citizens in the outside world we are soon to enter.

Keynote speaker Carol Ruth Silver, a remarkable personality famous enough to be in our California history textbooks, gave a stirring address that instilled in us graduates a solid, enduring principle to follow for the rest of our lives: be compassionate, and have empathy for all humans and living beings.

Long-time dorm “momma” Mr. Roger Kellerman told embarrassing stories about a few boarding students, causing Dao Yuan Hall to rock with laughter. But, of course, the highlight of the ceremony was the seven speeches by the graduates themselves.

Michael Lu said heartfully, “It’s unbelievable how fast time flies, like a jet plane tailing a powerful wind current. A big thank you to all the teachers here who have built my character and my academic knowledge over the past few years. As for the students, I hope you all can pursue your passions, have faith in Buddhism, and stay optimistic. Let us all dream high!”

也出席，為八年級同學頒發初中畢業證書，他們將正式升上培德高中就讀。

我們的校友演講邀請的是胡明宇學長，他的演講十分流暢，幫助我們建立信心，告訴我們這羣畢業生：在男校所學的，保證會幫助我們知識豐富，並在我們即將進入的外面世界裏，引領羣倫。

畢業典禮主講人凱洛·露絲·思爾薇，她非常有名，因此成為加州歷史教科書裏的人物之一。她的演講很具啓發性，她將一項歷久彌新的原則灌輸給我們這羣畢業生，讓我們終身奉行：那就是對所有人，以及一切衆生都要慈悲。

代表所有家長致辭的是男生宿舍長期舍監凱勒曼先生，他談了幾位住宿學生的糗事，引起哄堂大笑。不過，畢業典禮的高潮當然是我們七位畢業生的致辭。

呂明賜由衷說：「難以相信時光如此迅速流逝，彷彿拖著強力氣流的噴射機。深深感謝所有老師過去數年間塑造我的人格，教導我知識。並希望所有的學生都能





Weson Tsai said in a dynamic way, “Find your passion in the world and go for it, utilize the skills you have learned here to lead a fulfilling life, and trust that your fellow boy schoolers will always have your back.”

Jackson Chen said with emotion, “I know that we cannot do anything to repay our parents, but all I could do now is say, I love you mom and dad, and thank you for all your hard work. I would also like to thank all my brothers in the dorm and in school for your support, care, and love.”

In my speech, given half in tears, I said, “I have so many questions, so many concerns, but so few answers. All I have is wishes and laments. But every lament is a love-song, and my love-song is for this school.”

Hubert’s spoken word poem humorously described students slipping into their uniform before rushing for the flag ceremony: “He steps in his shoes and out the door. With a determined look and walks with swift feet. Because all that thinking has made him late for flag ceremony.”

Abhishek’s reflections had a lot of quirky humor and insightful thoughts and he quoted Robert Frost’s line, “Two roads diverged in a wood, and I — I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference.”

Jason’s bright address was the perfect capstone to the seven speeches, “Hope is the inner strength that everyone has but has not discovered yet. All we need is the support of others, the ability to find hope within ourselves.”

Nearly the entire audience had tears in their eyes as we finished the ceremony in the only way that we could have: by thanking our parents. One by one, each graduate invited his parent or parents up to the stage, spoke a few words of love and gratitude, and, with an embrace, handed them a bouquet of flowers.

It was a meaningful and tear-jerking finale to a beautiful graduation ceremony for a graduating class. All of us graduates tossed our caps into the air, which symbolized that we each would go our own way. This fall we are going to Stanford, UC Berkeley, UCLA, UC Irvine, University of Southern California, Cal State East Bay, and Goergetown University, and we will pursue various majors, such as Electronic Engineering, Civil Engineering, Business Management, and Kinesiology. ❀

追尋理想熱情，對佛教有信心，保持樂觀。讓我們都懷抱遠大的夢想。」

蔡巖承則充滿活力地說：「在世上追尋你的熱情，運用你在這裏學到的技能過上充實的人生，並相信你在男校的同學永遠都是你的後盾。」

陳俊傑感性地說：「我知道再怎麼做也無法回報父母的恩情，我現在唯一能做的就是說：『爸媽，我愛你們，感謝你們辛勞的付出。』我也要感謝宿舍和學校裏的兄弟們，謝謝你們的支持、關懷與愛心。」

我自己的致辭有一半淹沒在淚水中。我說的是：「我有許多疑問與擔憂，但答案如此不足。我所有的只是祝福與感傷，但每一分感傷都是一首情歌，而我的情歌是獻給培德中學。」

劉承浩唸了他自己作的英文打油詩，幽默描述清晨趕去參加學校升旗典禮之前，還要忙著穿制服打領帶：「他穿上鞋子，臉上寫滿決心，出門疾行，因為這些念頭，已經害他升旗遲到。」

立志講了很多冷笑話，但也不乏頗有見地的想法，並引用佛洛斯特的詩：「林中有兩條叉路，我走上了人跡較少的道路，從此帶來完全不同的景象。」

陳嘉晟的談話充滿光明遠景，為畢業生的致辭劃下完美句點。他說：「我們每個人內心都有希望的力量，只是尚未發現。我們所需要的是別人給我們的支持，以及在我們自己身上尋找希望的能力。」

當我們以唯一能想到的方式：「感恩父母」，作為畢業典禮的結尾時，在座所有觀眾幾乎都熱淚盈眶。我們每位畢業生一一邀請我們的父母到臺上，聽我們抒發對他們的感恩與愛，然後擁抱他們，並獻上一束鮮花。

那是非常有意義又催淚的畢業典禮壓軸戲，之後，畢業生一起將畢業帽丟向半空，象徵著我們這一班即將各奔前程。今年秋天，我們將各自進入史丹福大學、柏克萊加大、洛杉磯加大、加大爾灣分校、南加大、加州州大東灣分校、喬治城大學深造，分別攻讀電機工程、土木工程、企業管理、人體運動學等不同的專業。❀

# 2015 Developing Virtue Secondary School Girls Division Graduation 培德中學女校 2015年畢業典禮

Written and translated by Peizhu Qian  
錢沛竹 文/譯

那一刻，帶著所有的光榮與自豪，她們畢業了！觀眾席上爆發出持續不斷的掌聲和喝采聲，人們不斷地獻上鮮花和最美好的祝福。2015年6月4日女校畢業典禮日，是永遠屬於2015年培德女中畢業班的日子。

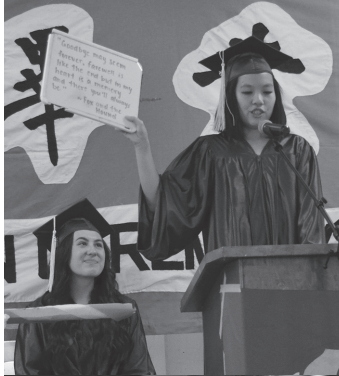
九位畢業生盧金書、朱迪、陳新鈺、顏文華、妙湘、林坤慧、李米娜、妙如、陳紫馨，與她們最親愛的家長、老師、朋友、以及妙語堂中的每一個人，一起分享了她們生命中這最重要的一刻。

從她們身上，我們看到宣公上人的重要遺願被實踐和傳承。正如今年畢業班的班主任老師

At that moment, they graduated! Surrounded by glory and pride, as the audience gave a warm round of applause, cheers, flowers, and their best wishes. The Girls' School graduation took place on June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2015, a day that now will forever belong to the class of 2015.

The nine graduates, Jessica Lu, Judy Zhu, June Tan, Lisa Tran, Marguerite O'Brian, Michele Lum, Minnah Le, Unica Yopez, Viola Zixin Chen, celebrated this most important moment with their beloved parents, teachers, friends, and everyone in Wonderful Words Hall. It was an honor and a blessing for all of us to join them in celebrating a significant milestone in the lives of our nine graduates.

They have carried on the remarkable legacy left by the Venerable Master. As their core teacher, Jin Kai Shr, said in her speech, "I think the Founder Venerable Master Hua would be very pleased, as we all are, knowing that these nine graduates are going out into our rapidly changing world, not only equipped with academic





近開法師致辭中所說：「我想宣公上人也會像我們在座的每一個人一樣欣慰。我們的畢業生即將走出校門，進入這個高速發展的世界。她們不僅以優秀的課業作為裝備，更擁有『孝悌忠信 禮義廉恥』這八德作為她們的鎧甲。」

女校校長近智法師分享了《華嚴經》中的幾句經文，告訴了我們一位好老師的重要性。

「善知識者，則是趣向一切智燈，令我得見夷險道故；  
善知識者，則是趣向一切智橋，令我得度險惡處故；  
善知識者，則是趣向一切智蓋，令我得生大慈涼故；  
善知識者，則是趣向一切智眼，令我得見法性門故；  
善知識者，則是趣向一切智潮，令我滿足大悲水故。」

畢業生妙如的母親艾莉西亞·耶培茲說：「別的地方找不到像培德女中的師長一樣，將我們的女兒當作他們自己的女兒看待。」

畢業生妙湘的母親珍妮佛·歐布萊恩告訴我們她的寶貴人生經驗，並在致辭最後說：「我在結束前一定要再次引用蘇斯博士（美國著名兒童文學家、教育家）的話：『向好地方前進！今天是屬於你的日子！你的那座山正在前方等著你。所以，出發吧！你會成功嗎？當然，你一定會！我有百分之九十八又四分之三的保證。孩子，你將成就一番移山倒海的事業！』」

九位畢業生已經寫下了她們生命中重要的一頁，並為她們的高中生活畫下了一個完美的句號。她們作為道德的種子，肩負著改善人類生存環境和傳播正能量的重任。

她們即將步入大學的校門，為迎接下一個生命中的挑戰而做好準備。加大戴維斯分校、加大爾灣分校、加大河濱分校、加大聖塔克魯茲分校、美國東岸、加拿大、德國、馬來西亞……無論身在何方，培德女中的畢業生們都將會信心滿滿地去迎接每一個挑戰，因為培德女中的精神已經在她們的靈魂中生根、發芽！✿

training par excellence, but safeguarded by the virtues of generosity and kindness, filial piety, respect, trustworthiness, fairness, citizenship, integrity, and humility.”

In her principal's speech, Jin Jr Shr shared a few lines from the *Avatamsaka Sutra* telling us about the importance of a good teacher— “A good advisor is a lamp that approaches omniscience, for he guides me to recognize safe and perilous paths. A good advisor is a bridge that approaches omniscience, for he takes me across treacherous and evil places. A good advisor is a canopy that approaches omniscience, for he guides me to produce the coolness of great kindness. A good advisor is a tide that approaches omniscience, for he fills me with the water of great compassion.”

Mrs. Alicia Yopez, parent of the graduate Unica Yopez, said that in no other place can you find teachers and mentors who would consider our daughters as their own.

Mrs. Jennifer O'Brien, parent of the graduate Marguerite O'Brien, told us her precious experience of life. “I cannot leave without a last Dr. Seuss quotation: ‘You're off to great places! Today is your day! Your mountain is waiting. So get on your way! And will you succeed? Yes! You will, indeed! (98 and  $\frac{3}{4}$  percent guaranteed) Kid, you'll move mountains!’”

The new graduates have written the close of a major page in their lives and a wonderful ending to their high school years. Exemplifying the virtues they have learned, DVGS graduates aspire to improve our living environment and to help spread proper energy in the world.

They are going to good colleges to get ready for their next challenges. UC Davis, UC Irvine, UC Riverside, UC Santa Cruz, Seton Hall University, Canada, Germany, Malaysia... DVGS graduates will be confident to face all the challenges no matter where they are because DVGS spirit has been planted and sprouts in their soul! ✿