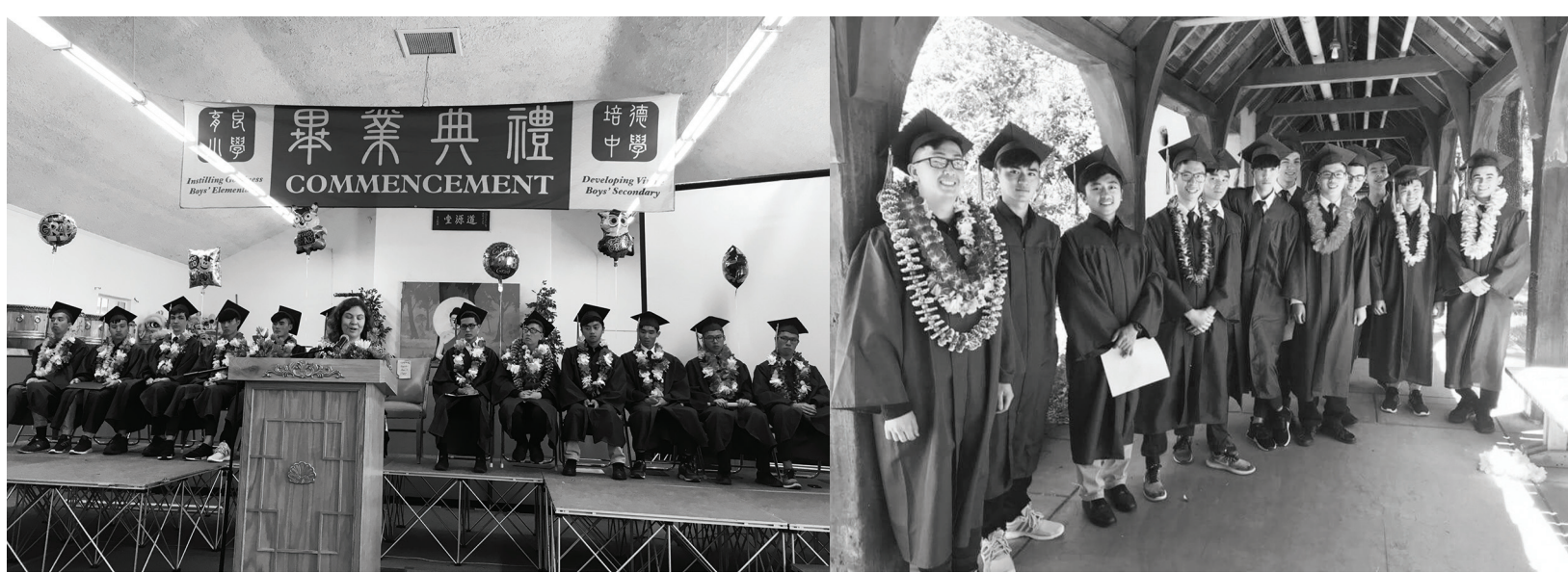


2018 Developing Virtue Boys School Graduation Ceremony

2018年培德中學男校畢業典禮

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This year the Boys' School Graduation Ceremony took place in the Dao Yuan Hall, at 1 pm, on Friday, June 8. The twelve Boys School graduates filed in one by one amidst thunderous applause and cheering, and took their seats on the stage.

Mr Gracia, Vice Principal of the Boys School, delivered the opening remarks. He quoted the Venerable Master, saying, "Education has no beginning and no end; there isn't a starting of classes, nor are there vacations and graduations."

Mr. Randall Peterson, core teacher of the Junior High, then presented the eighth graders with their diplomas. After that, Eric Seow and Alan Truong received the sportsman of the year awards. Dharma Master Shun presented the Jerry Huang award to Joshua Batres and Michael Zhao, and presidential awards to a majority of the class.

There were three parent speakers this year. Mr. Seow spoke first, stressing the importance of the basic principles that the school taught. He repeated the eight virtues which he said would act as a basic support system for all that the graduates did in life. Mrs. Transue praised the school for providing her son with an excellent

今年培德中學男校畢業典禮於6月8日週五下午一時在道源堂舉行，12位應屆畢業生在如雷的掌聲和歡呼聲中，魚貫步入會場，上台入座。

副校長葛親翰開場致辭，引用宣公上人的話說：「教育是無始無終的，沒有所謂開學，沒有所謂放假，也沒有所謂畢業。」

初中部導師皮果蓀居士為八年級同學頒發初中畢業證書；接著蕭弘軒和張明心獲頒年度運動員獎；恒順法師將黃任祥紀念獎學金頒給王親賢和趙亦朱，並頒總統獎給全班絕大多數同學。

今年有三位學生家長致辭。蕭育興首先發言，強調學校所教導的基本原則非常重要。他覆述八德，認為這八種德目將成為這群畢業生終身服膺的處世基礎。桃子的母親傅蘇太太稱讚學校為她的兒子提供傑出的學科教育、情緒掌控、以及修行。

「今年當我無法回答他有關離散數學的任何一個問題時，我驚訝極了。想當年我學的是生化專業，以



academic education, emotional awareness, and spiritual practice.

“I was immensely surprised this year when I, who graduated Magna Cum Laude in bio-chemistry, was unable to answer any of his questions from Discrete Math.” Mr. Batres then shared his experience with his son, Joshua. He said that he was very happy that Joshua was allowed to study at his own fast pace in the school, and that even he, a chemistry professor, was surprised by Joshua’s science fair project. He also expressed his gratitude that the school had instilled his sons with moral principles.

Dharma Master Heng Chih, the most senior monastic in the Dharma Realm Buddhist Association, gave the keynote speech. She centered her speech around duality, and the myriad choices our minds make on a daily and even a moment-to-moment basis. “We must make choices in life, and the karma from those actions will determine our future situation,” she said, “Therefore, we must decide whether we will lead a service-driven or self-driven life.” She went on to explain that even in the most self-driven livelihood, we could find a way to serve others.

Each senior also gave a short farewell speech. Miguel Gracia-Zhang talked about service to others, always learning, and feeling at home in the City of Ten Thousand Buddhas. “Sometimes, when I devote myself to serving others, my own problems melt away.”

“One thing that gave me certainty in my life, was the eleven of you guys,” said Joshua Batres-Wang. “I appreciate all my classmates, friends, and dorm buddies.”

“Once I got food poisoning,” said William Seng, “And in the ER, for the whole morning, Mr. Kellerman sat beside my bed. I was deeply touched.” William related how he used to be a very spoiled kid. He thanked all his teachers and many of his classmates who helped him change.

Kevin Vo shared one short memory he had of each senior.

極優異榮銜畢業。」巴特雷斯先生接著分享他兒子王親賢的經驗，他表示很开心王親賢在學校可按自己的快速進度學習，甚至連他身為化學教授，都為王親賢參加科學展的項目感到驚喜。他也很感謝學校以人格教育栽培他的兒子。

法界佛教總會最資深的比丘尼恒持法師應邀擔任演講嘉賓，她的演講重點在二元對立，以及我們的心每天、每時都在作的各種選擇。「人生中我們必須作出抉擇，由此所造的業將決定我們未來的處境；」她說：「因此我們得決定是否要過著以服務他人為主的人生，還是以自我為主的人生。」她接著解釋即使過著最以自我為主的人生，還是可以找到方法為人服務。

每位應屆畢業生都有機會簡短致辭。葛親孝談到服務他人、不斷學習、以及感覺萬佛聖城就是自己的家：「有時候，當我全心全意為人服務時，我自己的問題就消失了。」

「讓我還能相信人生的就是你們這十一個同學。」王親賢說：「我感謝所有的同班同學、朋友、還有宿舍伙伴們。」

「有一次我食物中毒，整個早上，柯果民老師都坐在急診室的病床旁，陪在我身邊；我非常感動。」成志緣講到自己從前曾是被寵壞的孩子，他感謝所有的老師和許多同學幫助他改變。

余尚明簡短分享了他對畢業班每位同學的回憶，並說：「雖然我對自己某些學業成績不無遺憾，但對我在這裡認識的人，以及在這裡留下的珍貴回憶，我可是絕無遺憾。」

（傳蘇）桃子講了一則往事，是他在十年級時，數

“Though I may regret some of my academic performance,” he said, “I definitely do not regret the people I met and the cherished memories I have from this place.”

Taos related a story of when he was doing poorly in math in tenth grade. “I began to blame every limit in the school, but I never blamed myself.” He explained that he finally took responsibility for his grades, and was able to take advantage of all the opportunities given to him.

“I. Love. You.” Said Alan Truong, in a touching tribute. He spoke about how much he loved and appreciated everyone in his life, particularly his classmates, teachers, and family.

“People say that senior year is hard. Psh. It was easy! Get on my level!” Ricques Nguyen, with his usual pushing-the-edge humor, delivered a hilarious senior speech that managed to both thank and tease, poke fun at the people who meant the most to him.

Eric Chuah said, “Experiences here cannot be found anywhere else: making Internet cables, operating the sound system, using the wood-chopper, etc.” He went on to thank all the teachers and friends who’d supported him for the last six years.

Austin recited his own poem, summing up his experiences in Developing Virtue Boys’ School. “The virtues that I have learned. Made my life take a turn.” To his classmates: “I’m honored to be your brother, even though I cooked for you like a mother.” To conclude: “Although it’s time to move on, these memories will last all my life long.”

“My first class was DM Tsung’s virtue class in fifth grade,” said Eric Seow. “I wondered if I’d make it through my first day in school. But now I can say that these have been the best eight years in my life.”

Michael Zhao, with his usual combination of scientific exactitude and quirky humor, first bucked the trend of feeling sad at graduation by roaring in forced laughter. Then, he gave some specific advice to the current students. “Juniors: write college applications during summer. Sophomores: take as many classes as possible, and join extracurricular activities.”

Tony Yap began by quoting Dr. Suess “Don’t cry because it’s over, smile because it happened.” He described the school as a perfect gathering of imperfect people. “When you want change, there will be people opposing you. You have to take that criticism and change it to drive and ambition.”

The graduates then each received their diplomas from Mr. Gracia and threw their caps into the air in celebration amidst music, cheers, and applause. In the fall, the graduates will attend their respective colleges and universities: Rose Hulman, Colgate, UC Irvine, UCLA, Princeton, University of Utah, Rochester University, Mendocino College, Oregon State, University of Reading, Xiamen University, and Taylor’s University. ❀

學成績很差：「我開始抱怨學校所有的限制，但從未抱怨自己。」他說後來他終於為自己的成績負責，也開始能充分掌握所有給予他的機會。

「我、愛、你們。」張明心以感人的言詞獻給大家。他談到對生命中每個人的愛和感恩有多深，特別是他的同學、老師和家人。

「人家都說高中最後一年很難熬，哼！其實非常容易。（你們）快趕上我的水平吧！」阮親義以他一貫遊走邊緣的幽默，發表了很搞笑的畢業感言。對他最具意義的那些人，他在感謝他們的同時，也不忘調侃一番。

蔡尚峰說：「這裡的經驗是別處得不到的：像是自製網路線、操作音響系統、使用鋸木機等。」他接著感謝所有在過去六年支持他的老師和朋友。

郭仁福朗誦了自己的詩作：「我所學到的道德，為我的人生帶來重大轉折。」其中寫給同學的詩句是：「成為你們的兄弟，我深感榮幸，雖然為你們做飯時，我就像你們的媽。」這首詩的結尾是：「雖是展開人生新頁的時候，但對這裡的回憶將伴隨我一生。」

蕭弘軒說：「五年級時上聰法師的道德課，是我在這裡的第一堂課。當時我真不知道自己是不是能熬過第一天上學日？不過現在我可要說，這八年是我生命中最棒的歲月。」

趙亦朱總是混合著科學精準和出人意表的幽默，在畢業典禮中打破傷感的傳統，硬是逼出一串大笑，並給學弟們忠告：「高三同學暑假就該填寫大學申請表；高二同學盡可能多修課，並多參加課外活動。」

葉頌一引用蘇斯博士的話展開他的畢業感言：「別為結束哭泣，要為曾經發生而微笑。」他將本校描述為一群不完美的人的完美組合，並說：「當你想要帶來改變時，總會有人反對。你必須接受批評，並化批評為雄心壯志。」

畢業生接著一一從副校長葛親翰手中接過他們的畢業證書，並在音樂聲、歡呼聲、和掌聲中，將他們的方帽子丟向空中。今年秋天，這群畢業生將各自進入羅斯賀門大學、科爾蓋特大學、加州大學爾灣分校、加州大學洛杉磯分校、普林斯頓大學、猶他大學、羅徹斯特大學、門多西諾學院、俄勒岡州立大學、瑞丁大學、廈門大學、泰勒大學等大學深造。❀