



POKFULAM ROAD  
HONG KONG  
CHINA  
中國香港  
薄扶林道

THE UNIVERSITY OF HONG KONG  
Faculty of Education  
香港大學教育學院

Ms Emily Cheung  
Tel: (852) 3917 4270  
Fax: (852) 2517 0075  
Email: emchy@hku.hk

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## **Press Release**

### **SDLS-MLN Student Award Scheme 2018 – Young STEM Pioneers' Party**

A joint school self-directed learning (SDL) in STEM contest, “SDLS-MLN Student Award Scheme 2018 – Young STEM Pioneers' Party”, was held on July 7, 2018 (Saturday) at Rayson Huang Theatre and Runme Shaw Building, The University of Hong Kong (HKU). The event was organized by the Centre for Information Technology in Education (CITE) within the Faculty of Education at HKU. It is a signature event of the “Multi-level Leadership Network for SDL Innovation to Advance STEM Development (SDLS-MLN)” University-School Support Programme.

The programme funded by the Education Bureau is a 19--month (2017-2019) project, aiming to enhance teachers’ understanding of the guiding and underlying principles of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education and self-directed learning in the upper primary (P4-6) and lower secondary (S1-3) levels in Hong Kong schools. The ultimate, overarching goal is to raise students’ awareness of and engagement in STEM-related activities, to improve their understanding of the links between the STEM-related areas and to enhance their entrepreneurial spirit. For details, please visit the website: <http://sdls-mln.cite.hku.hk/en/introduction/>.

The Students Award Scheme (the Scheme) was a signature event for students in our participating schools (both primary and secondary) to showcase and celebrate their wide range of achievements on SDL progress and outcome, and the learning outcomes in STEM-related areas. Apart from this, teachers, principals and parents also shared their practical experiences in their learning design, school implementation and parent’s support to serve as a hub for the promotion of SDL and STEM education among schools. There was also display of teaching and learning materials of STEM education.

There were 32 schools participated in this project this year and all were invited to attend the Scheme. A total of 13 schools, eight primary and five secondary, enrolled for this contest. About two hundred students from Primary 4 to Secondary 3 shared with the participants their self-directed STEM investigation which included the topic, the learning process, their findings as well as the products. The three teams of finalists gave a formal presentation in the Rayson Huang Theatre and answered questions from all judges and contestants, to compete for the Grand Award.

Principals, teachers, students and parents of the project schools were invited to this event. Various stakeholders in the field of Education were invited to be the judges and guests of honour.

Further details of the event can be found at:

<http://sdls-mln.cite.hku.hk/en/the-young-stem-pioneers-party/>.

For media enquiries, please contact Ms Emily Cheung, Senior Manager (Development and Communications), Faculty of Education, The University of Hong Kong (Tel: 3917 4270 / email: [emchy@hku.hk](mailto:emchy@hku.hk)). Please visit <http://web.edu.hku.hk/press> to view the e-version of the press release.

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