

諾貝爾獎 從小小科學家開始

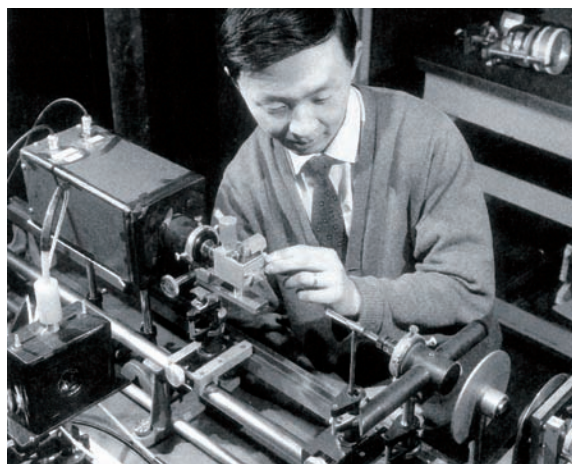
The Journey of a Thousand Miles begins with a Single Step

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於每年年底舉行的諾貝爾獎頒獎典禮，是科學界的國際盛事。諾貝爾獎的頒發，目的是要表揚一些對社會作出卓越貢獻，或在研究、發明或實驗方面有傑出表現的人士。

瑞典發明家阿爾弗雷德·諾貝爾於1895年成立諾貝爾基金；1901年，基金頒發第一個諾貝爾獎。到目前為止，歷屆的諾貝爾獎得獎者當中，共有十位華人，當中有八位都是科學家。這些擁有傑出成就的科學家，均是自小便已對科學產生濃厚的興趣，例如剛獲頒發諾貝爾物理學獎的高錕教授，他於其自傳「潮平岸闊」中亦提及，自己年幼時常於家中進行一些小研究及實驗，其中有些實驗還帶有相當危險性。這些年少時的興趣，令高錕教授成長後，仍鏗而不捨地繼續他的科學研究工作。由此可見，要成就一位偉大的科學家，從小的培育是很重要的。



高錕教授於1966年進行他的光纖研究
(圖片來源：高錕自傳「潮平岸闊」)。
Prof. Kao Kuen conducts fibre research in 1966.
Source: K. C. Kao, A Time And A Tide
(Autobiography of Charles K. Kao)

The Nobel Prize Award Ceremony is an important international Science event that takes place at the end of each year. These honors are presented to outstanding people including many great scientists who have made important contribution to the advancement of the human race.

In 1895 Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel set up the Nobel Prize Foundation and the first Nobel Prizes were awarded in 1901. There are altogether ten ethnic Chinese that have been conferred the award so far, eight of whom are scientists. All of these outstanding talents have cultivated strong interests in science since their childhood.

Prof. Charles Kao, the latest Nobel Prize winner in Physics, is one of them. He began to conduct research and experiments when he was still a child. Some of these experiments were rather dangerous. Despite the arduous challenges and difficulties, Prof. Kao continues his scientific research with a determined heart and achieves success in this field.

As the ancient Chinese saying goes 'the journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step', it is of great significance for our future scientists to start nurturing their interests in science at an early stage.

Encouragingly, our young people in Hong Kong have been proactively participating in a wide range of scientific activities, trying to lay a solid foundation for future growth.



朱凱鳴同學正向劉吳惠蘭局長示範他的新發明。
 Chu Hoi-ming, demonstrating his new invention to Mrs. Rita Lau, the Secretary for Commerce and Economic Development.

2009年有一件令我們感到十分鼓舞的事——我們帶領了迦密柏雨中學的朱凱鳴同學赴京參加第九屆「明天小小科學家」獎勵活動，他憑著在環境科學方面的研究「織與織尋——酒精篇」，勇奪「明天小小科學家」獎勵活動的總冠軍，在全國最頂尖的100名品學兼優及具有一定的科研成果的高三學生中脫穎而出，成績驕人！

是項賽事是全國最高層次的青少年科學比賽，旨在選拔和培養具科學潛質的青少年科技人才，更擁有中國青少年「諾貝爾獎」之美譽。

自2006年成立以來，位於西貢的「新一代科學創意中心」發掘及培育了不少科學人才，這批小小科學家分別於不同的國家級及國際級比賽中，獲得多個獎項及殊榮。另外，我們亦很高興看到一些於小學時期已開始參加本中心的「未來發明家培育計劃」的同學，他們升讀中學後，仍很熱衷地參與中心的科創活動，部份同學還成為了我們的「良師啟導計劃之未來科學家培育計劃」的優秀學員。這些初中生與教授一起研究的項目，例如人工智能機器或癌細胞研究等，都得到理想的成果。

我深信，只要我們給予同學們充足的創作空間，並不斷提供適當的平台和機會讓這些小小科學家發揮他們的科研夢想，2049年的諾貝爾科學獎得主極有可能是來自於西貢這個「科創後花園」！

Chu Hoi-ming, a student from Carmel Pak U Secondary School in Tai Po, amongst the top high school students in China became the overall champion of the 2009 National Little Scientist of Tomorrow Reward Scheme. The winning project was about the production of alcohol for electricity generation through glucose extracted from domestic trash. The competition is regarded as 'the Nobel Prize for Chinese Young Scientists', which aims at searching and nurturing young talents who possess the potential in science and technology.

We are also pleased to see that many the gifted students who attended our "Future Inventor Workshop" programme in the past few years when they were in primary school are now still engaged in other activities provided by our centre. Some of whom are now in secondary schools and have joined our "Mentorship Scheme for the Scientifically Gifted". These young scientists, under the mentorship of professors, have produced abundant research achievements, such as the cancer research and artificial intelligence engineering.

Since its establishment in 2006, the Hong Kong New Generation Cultural Association Science Innovation Centre in Sai Kung has nurtured a group of science talents. These scientists have won various prizes in different competitions home and abroad.

I deeply believe that as long as we provide students with sufficient opportunities to develop their talents and potential on innovation and scientific research, the Nobel Prize winner in 2049 may come from our Centre in Sai Kung - the "back garden of innovation"!

