## 84 students awarded for doing well in calligraphy contest

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KOTA KINABALU: Eightyfour students received awards for doing well in the Universiti Malaysia Sabah's (UMS) Confucius Institute's Youth Chinese Calligraphy Competition.

The awards given out during a ceremony held at the UMS Chancellery Building recently

include those for outstanding performance, honors and popularity which were presented according to the primary school, middle school and bumiputera categories.

According to Deputy Vice Chancellor (Student and Alumni Affairs) Associate Professor Dr Raman Noordin, the competition is important to highlight the Institute's collaboration with the Kota Kinabalu Chinese Calligraphy Association and the State Education Department.

"This competition is also one of the efforts to promote the art of Chinese calligraphy among primary and secondary school



Huang (third right) and other guests at the awards presentation ceremony.

students throughout Sabah," he said when officiating the ceremony.

The text of his speech was delivered by the director of the Center for Collaboration and Industry Engagement, Professor Dr Coswald Stephen Sipaut.

Meanwhile, UMS' Confucius Institute's Director, Professor Dr Low Kok On said the competition, which was held for the first time was aimed to foster a love for the art of Chinese calligraphy and improve Chinese language proficiency among school students.

"This will be an annual activity because the response has been very encouraging. Not only Chinese students participated in the competition this time, many bumiputera students as well," he said.

A total of 320 students representing 48 primary and secondary schools from all over Sabah took part in the competition.

Also present were the Republic of China's Consul General in Kota Kinabalu, Huang Shi Fang; chairman of the Kota Kinabalu Chinese Calligraphy Association, Cong Shau Lun and state Education Department's senior chief assistant of the planning and management department, Tham Yun Fook.