

Study UK

Alumni Awards

Hong Kong 2026

25 April





Study UK Alumni Awards

The Study UK Alumni Awards recognise the outstanding achievements of international UK alumni worldwide. These awards honour leaders who have leveraged their UK education to make significant contributions to their communities, industries, and countries.

Now in their 12th year, the Alumni Awards are a truly global award: more than 1,800 applications were received from alumni in more than 120 countries, representing over 140 UK universities.

Alumni are entered into global Alumni Awards, with additional national-level awards ceremonies taking place in 18 countries/territories in 2026: Bangladesh, Chinese mainland, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Ghana, Greece, Hong Kong SAR China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Turkey, UAE, USA, and Vietnam.

The finalists and winners of the global Alumni Awards will be announced online as part of a digital campaign to promote their stories in July and August 2026. The four global winners will be announced at the end of August and invited to visit the UK in 2027.

In future years we hope to continue to celebrate and share the inspirational stories of many more outstanding international UK alumni, showcasing the value and impact of a UK higher education.



Study UK Alumni Awards

British Council Hong Kong Director's Message



Ms Susannah Morley
Director Hong Kong
British Council

Warmest congratulations to all finalists and award winners of the Study UK Alumni Awards. Today, we celebrate the outstanding achievements of Hong Kong alumni who have carried their UK education forward, applying their talent, skills, and creativity to make meaningful economic and societal contributions across the city.

Your accomplishments reflect the breadth and depth of UK graduates' strengths, spanning Business and Innovation, Culture, Creativity and Sport, Science and Sustainability, and Social Action. A UK education equips students not only with knowledge, but with innovative thinking, global perspectives, and leadership qualities that empower them to thrive in an ever changing world.

The Study UK Alumni Awards serve as a vital platform for strengthening connections between the UK and global communities, fostering long term partnerships and shared opportunities. We proudly commend this year's winners for their dedication, resilience, and commitment to advancing their industries, supporting their communities, and contributing to Hong Kong's continued success.

We would also like to extend our sincere appreciation to the London Ball Foundation for featuring the Study UK Alumni Awards at the event tonight. Their generous partnership and steadfast support have been instrumental in elevating the Awards, and this celebration would not have been as successful without their contribution.

To all alumni: may you continue drawing on your UK learning and experience to drive innovation, spark creativity, and champion positive change in your communities. It is truly inspiring to see so many UK graduates emerging as global leaders and changemakers, and we look forward to witnessing the continued impact you will make in the years ahead.

Finalists



Business and Innovation Award

Yat Shan Lester Chan
Andy Moose Wan Fung Lee
Curtis Wong

Culture, Creativity and Sport Award

Po Lan Polly Chan
Yuet Kwan Carman Leung
Shi Qi Kay Tu

Science and Sustainability Award

Pui Chak Vincent Chow
Xueyu Yvonne He
Dr Felix Leung

Social Action Award

Kin Shing Cheng
Kai Kong Lee
Prof. Kevin W. H. Tai



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Business and Innovation Award finalist



Yat Shan Lester Chan
University College London,
Imperial College London

Lester Chan is the CEO and founder of Aura Labs, a PropTech company delivering people-centric smart building solutions across Greater China, Southeast Asia, and Australia. His work has enhanced the lives of hundreds of thousands of individuals by creating more intuitive and sustainable urban environments, earning more than 40 local and international awards.

Lester's education at University College London and Imperial College London cultivated his critical thinking, interdisciplinary collaboration skills, and research-driven approach to problem-solving—an experience that no other environment could have offered.

As an Adjunct Professor at City University of Hong Kong, Lester now inspires the next generation to reimagine the built world.



Andy Moose Wan Fung Lee
University of Glasgow,
University of Bath

Andy M. Lee is the Founder and CEO of Mamori.xyz, where he revolutionises blockchain security through machine-learning algorithms that address vulnerability detection as a two-step black-box optimisation problem. He has delivered his cutting-edge research at leading blockchain security conferences worldwide.

Andy credits his UK education with equipping him the concept of “transfer of learning”—the ability to apply rigorous econometric methodologies across disciplines. This interdisciplinary mindset, bridging economics, machine learning, and blockchain, enabled him to identify security gaps that traditional approaches often overlooked.

Through his work and collaborations with leading academic institutions, Andy demonstrates how interdisciplinary thinking drives breakthrough innovation, inspiring researchers to bridge the gap between academia and industry.



Curtis Wong
University of Exeter

Curtis Wong is the co-founder of DRESIO, Hong Kong's fastest-growing musculoskeletal health AI technology startup. His work focuses on easing the burden on the healthcare industry, by helping clinics, hospitals, insurance providers, and other partners save significant time and resources through DRESIO's innovative solutions.

Studying in the UK exposed Curtis to people from all around the world and presented challenges that strengthened his resilience. These experiences inspired him to create a better world for future generations through his area of expertise.

Curtis is now taking his work to new heights as he strives to make healthcare accessible worldwide.

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Culture, Creativity and Sport Award finalist



Chan Po Lan Polly
University of the West of
England (UWE Bristol)

Polly Chan is a travel content creator and wildlife storyteller who shares nature experiences with a wide online audience. Through her videos, she introduces people in Hong Kong and beyond to wildlife, conservation, and the beauty of the natural world, inspiring audiences to reconnect with nature.

During her study at the University of the West of England, Polly developed strong storytelling and filmmaking skills through hands-on wildlife filming and collaboration with international creatives, shaping her approach to environmental storytelling.

Polly hopes to continue producing impactful wildlife stories that deepen public awareness and appreciation of nature and conservation.



Yuet Kwan Carman Leung
The University of Sheffield

Carman Leung is the founder and creative director of Hariah Music House, an independent music label and production studio creating poetic, healing, borderless music for global diasporas, mental health advocates and LoFi listeners. Her songs and live performances spark conversations about grief, toxic relationships and creative autonomy within Hong Kong's Cantopop scene and beyond.

Carman's UK education in Journalism Studies at the University of Sheffield equipped her with critical media literacy, storytelling skills, and a solid foundation in media law, enabling her to reclaim her artistic rights, self-publish original music and curate bilingual, cross-cultural performances as Hariah 3.0.

Carman now uses Hariah Music House to connect international audiences, champion women's empowerment and wellbeing, and inspire young creatives across East Asia to build resilient, values driven careers after studying in the UK.



Shi Qi Tu
University College London

Kay Tu is a UK-registered architect and founder of Tu by Tu, a multidisciplinary design studio working across architecture, interior design, public art, and cultural projects. Her practice focuses on enhancing living quality by strengthening social connection, raising environmental awareness, and celebrating cultural identity.

Kay reflects that her study at The Bartlett, UCL, shaped her belief that design carries a social responsibility that extends beyond aesthetics, encouraging interdisciplinary exploration, experimentation, and engagement with cultural and environmental challenges.

She now applies these values in her work internationally, reconnecting people with nature and heritage while supporting more inclusive and sustainable ways of living.

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Science and Sustainability Award finalist



Pui Chak Vincent Chow
Cardiff University

Vincent Chow is a Chartered Civil Engineer responsible for maintaining and upgrading critical railway infrastructure and major road projects in Hong Kong, enhancing safety, reliability, and noise protection for hundreds of thousands of daily users.

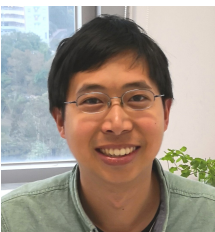
His education at Cardiff University combined rigorous analytical training with site-based and project-driven learning, alongside exposure to diverse perspectives, equipping him to solve complex engineering challenges within tight urban constraints and to lead multidisciplinary teams effectively.

Today, Vincent focus on advancing sustainable, resilient transport infrastructure across Hong Kong and the wider region, while continuing to mentor young engineers through his roles in professional institutions.



Yvonne Xueyu He
University of Cambridge,
London School of Economics
and Political Science (LSE)

Yvonne He specialises in sustainability strategy, with her expertise grounded in a distinctive UK education. At the LSE, she received rigorous ESG research training from her second year, building strong analytical foundations, while Cambridge's collegiate system further strengthened her ability to connect disciplines and communicate complex ideas. Today, she advances sustainable finance one report, one project, and one initiative at a time. Looking ahead, she remains committed to upholding a clear, evidence-based voice for ESG—continuing to turn uncertainty into decisive action.



Dr Felix Leung
Imperial College London,
University of Exeter

Dr Felix Leung, Head of Climate Education and Action at CUHK Jockey Club Museum of Climate Change, has designed programmes that translate scientific research into public engagement, reaching more than 1.9 million visitors. His work has informed government biodiversity policy and built UK-Hong Kong research partnerships that advance mangrove conservation across the Greater Bay Area.

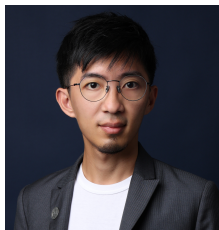
His UK studies immersed him in an academic culture where rigorous science meets creative communication and interdisciplinary collaboration. There, he learned not only to analyse complex environmental data but also to translate findings into actionable insights for policymakers, stakeholders, and communities.

Felix hopes to expand these cross-cultural partnerships—building new bridges between UK expertise and Hong Kong practice to drive innovative climate solutions.

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Social Action Award finalist



Kin Shing Cheng
King's College London

Kin Shing Cheng is the Programme Manager at Fullness Social Enterprises Society, where he leads social innovation and entrepreneurship initiatives aimed at alleviating poverty in Hong Kong. He has nurtured more than 130 projects and mobilised over HK\$90 million in cross-sector resources. He also serves on the Organising Committee of the Social Enterprise Summit International Symposium and as a Board Director at VolTra, promoting “glocal” action through volunteering and playful initiatives.

He reflects that studying at King's College London was transformative, equipping him with interdisciplinary skills, critical thinking, and a global outlook essential for tackling complex social challenges. He now applies these insights to foster innovation and inspire future changemakers through teaching and thought leadership.



Kai Kong Lee
King's College London

Kai Kong Lee completed the MSc in Psychology and Neuroscience of Mental Health at King's College London, where he developed a strong commitment to translating neuroscience research into social impact. His work focuses on autism spectrum disorder and the cognitive development of neurodiverse children.

Beyond academic research and professional consultation, Dr Lee actively serves the community through the Lions Club in Hong Kong, where he served as President and established a social service team supporting students with special educational needs through educational programme, family support, and outreach initiatives. His mission is to bridge science and community service to create greater opportunities for neurodiverse children and their families.



Prof. Kevin W. H. Tai
Newcastle University,
University of Oxford,
University College London

Prof. Kevin Tai is an Assistant Professor of Language and Literacy Education at The University of Hong Kong. His research on creating translanguaging spaces to advance social justice and knowledge creation is influential in the fields of Linguistics and Education. He has been recognised among the World's Top 2% Most-Cited Scientists by Stanford University and as a World's Top 1% Scholar by Clarivate Analytics.

Trained at Newcastle University, University of Oxford and University College London, his UK education refined his research approach, leading to a novel methodological framework for studying translanguaging.

He is currently exploring how AI, integrated with translanguaging, can promote students' critical language awareness.



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