



THE WINNERS: Ghani (left) and Foong with their awards yesterday.

Foong wins award for caring for others

PETALING JAYA, Sun. — Yvonne Foong may not be the smartest kid in town, the next supermodel or the most promising athlete.

In fact, Foong, 19, may not even be able to hear you because she is hearing-impaired. But her handicap has not stopped her championing issues.

Despite having neurofibromatosis (NF) — an incurable condition that causes tumours to grow on her spine, brain and nerves — Foong's commitment to social concerns like helping to raise funds for a home for the handicapped and setting up NF Malaysia to help other sufferers like her, have not gone unnoticed.

Her efforts were recognised when she was voted the "Most Outstanding Youth of the Year" at the inaugural "Asian Youth Ambassadors (AYA) Dream Malaysia Awards 2005" at a ho-

tel in Subang Jaya tonight.

The award honours young individuals who have overcome or are still overcoming obstacles in their lives to be where they are today.

Foong won a RM24,000 scholarship and two return tickets to an AirAsia destination and a plaque.

Groove Syndicate, a deejay training school, was adjudged the winner for the "Youth Friendly Company of the Year" award which recognises companies which believe and invest in the development of youths in the country.

The company's producers, Manissa Vangeyall and Ghani Rawi, better known as Syko G, received the award from AYA founder Kenneth Chin.

Ghani, 35, said Groove Syndicate championed the "clean clubbing" concept, without vices like cigarettes, drugs or alcohol.