



### Cover Story x Two Articles

## Cover story: Graduation Day at Junyi School

*The first 9th Grade graduation after The Alliance's involvement...*

The 9th Grade class of 2015 is the first group of middle school graduates since Master Hsing Yun of Fo Guang Shan Monastery entrusted The Alliance Cultural Foundation (ACF) Chairman, Stanley C. Yen, with Junyi School for Innovative Learning in December 2011. With their visions aligned, Yen takes a new approach to education by introducing experiential learning, bringing in global resources, and providing equal learning opportunities to underprivileged and indigenous youths from under-resourced rural communities, bringing new value to Taiwan's education. The graduates witnessed the school's most critical, yet exciting period of transition... [Read more](#)

## Good days of Dulan

It may be hard to imagine now but sugar was a major agricultural commodity in Taiwan just before and for years following World War II. By the late 1930s, sugar plantations covered nearly one-fifth of Taiwan's farmland and sugar refineries had been opened across most of the island. Sugar production hit a peak in 1950 and began to decline in the 1970s due to competition from other countries. As the refineries closed one by one, some were torn down but about a dozen were left to the elements and neglect. As Taiwan's economy began to improve and people began to have time and resources to spend on artistic and cultural activities, art and cultural spaces came into demand. Unused buildings, once considered an eyesore, were transformed into artist workshops, studios and exhibition space. This is what happened to the Xindong Brown Sugar Refinery, long a landmark of Dulan Village in Donghe Township of Taitung County. Although its original buildings and smokestack were left mostly intact, art production and exhibition spaces, as well as restaurants, shops and performance stage were developed more than a dozen years ago. It is now known as the Xindong Sugar Refinery Cultural Park or more commonly as the Dulan Sugar Refinery Artist Village...

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## Taiwan's Indigenous Youths attends 2015 National UNITY Conference, USA

As part of The Alliance Cultural Foundation's (ACF) effort to widen the horizons of indigenous youths of Taiwan globally, in collaboration with Vox Nativa Association, five indigenous youths – coincidentally from the Bunun Tribe, were sponsored to attend the 2015 National United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) Conference in Washington DC, USA. The 39th annual conference, held 10-15 July 2015, aimed to bring together indigenous youth leaders worldwide to learn and inspire, to participate in cultural exchange, workshops, activities, and more. To further horizons and exposure to the American culture, the Bunun youths extended their travel to San Francisco, residing in homestays, experiencing culture, and more... [Read more](#)

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