



Shih' s Story: Changing the Lives of Many

2013 was the year that ACF met Mr. Shih. After just two face-to-face encounters, Shih made a five-year commitment to Junyi School of Innovation donating funds which was intended to establish his own nonprofit organization in Taiwan to support its underprivileged youths. Five years on, his donation has changed the lives of over 100 youths from some of Taiwan's most remote communities in Huatung who because of his donation had the opportunity to receive a well-rounded education at Junyi. [Read more.](#)



ACF: Program the World Association X Junyi Wonderland Center for Teaching and Learning

26th December, Founder of Program the World Association (PTWA), Alvin Su, was invited to a panel at Junyi Wonderland Center for Teaching and Learning (JWCTL) with coding educators of Huatung. In the panel, Su introduced PTWA's "See your Hometown" project using drones with cameras for students to see a different side of their hometown through coding control.

A Hualien teacher shares his experience learning coding through PTWA, which led to him establishing the Tabila Bunun Maker Center with 40 Bunun tribe youths. To date, they have developed 100 teaching models.

One teacher at Taitung's Kid's Bookhouse, an afterschool program and affiliate trained by PTWA, began from learning coding with children. After one year, he now has the ability to teach a teacher inspiring many teachers who are new to the coding concept.

2019, collaboration between PTWA, JWCTL, and Taipei City Education Network Center, ACF will initiate a train the trainer program as well as be co-hosts for the 2019 National Robotics Competition which will take place in Taitung.



ACF: The 6th 2019 LUMA Overseas Study Tour pre-prep training workshop

In the sixth pre-prep training workshop, the 2019 LUMA team examined three perspectives that are often in disagreement – the law, family relationships and government policies. The group was shown a local film, *I Can't Live Without You* (不能沒有你), a documentary, *Small Talk* (日常對話) which shared views of lower income and minority families, as well as news clips in side of the law. The message was that if we could all stand in one another's shoes, perhaps the compassion and understanding can inspire a medium for positive change and growth.

The aim of the pre-prep training workshops are to inspire compassion, critical thinking and action.



ACF: Hualien Seven Kilometers to Happiness Project concludes its first phase

The Hualien Seven Kilometers to Happiness project was initiated after the February 2018 earthquake in Hualien by a group of psychologist, social workers, therapist, and alongside local shop owners, media workers, writers, artists. They partook in the mental health healing of survivors through a series of activities. In its first six months, 30 events took place serving over 800 survivors. Activities included workshops, lectures, DIY projects, reading clubs, and more. The initiative was sponsored by ACF board member T. H. Tung, Chair of Pegatron Corporation, who was born in Hualien.

After six months, the first phase of the project concludes, and welcomes the second phase where those who have received care will be trained to give care through developed listening skills to those who are in need. The second phase will be under the guidance and support from professionals who initiated the project.



Junyi School of Innovation: Winter Spiral

22nd December marks Junyi School of Innovation's 2018 Winter Spiral. The festival is unique to the Waldorf tradition. In a quiet darkened room, each student in turn takes a candle to the centre of the spiral and lights it. During the course, they give thanks and reflect the year, then welcome the year ahead.

On the same day, an appreciation dinner hosted by Junyi's middle school students for its donors, volunteers, and parents was held.



Taiwan Connection: Bringing classical music into elementary schools

30th November and 5th December, the Sen Trio d'anches – an oboe, bassoon and clarinet ensemble from the Taiwan Connection (TC) orchestra visited elementary schools in the remote Miaoli and Yunlin in hopes to bring classical music to its communities. Their first visit was to the Miaoli Wumei Elementary School, a school with a body of 79 students. Known for its saxophone talents, students were curious and eager to learn about the classical music genre. At the Dong Ron Elementary School in Yunlin, a total student body of 45 students, the Sen Trio d'anches were welcomed by familiar faces – teachers and students who attend the 2018 TC Music Festival in Chiayi. Students and teachers reinforced their music appreciation through the in-depth sharing.