



October 2016



Cover Story x 9 Articles



## 2016 Vocal Asia Festival in Taitung:

### Blending Old and New in Innovation

The 2016 Vocal Asia Festival (VAF), Asia's largest a cappella event, was held in Taitung from 17 to 20 August. Organized by Vocal Asia, the four-day festival welcomed 15 a cappella groups from Hong Kong, Japan, Macau, Philippines, China, Singapore, South Korea, and Taiwan. Performances and activities include the Sound of Asia Concert, Taitung Aca Day, Asian Cup A Cappella Competition, as well as the Sound of Taitung Concert which was a special feature with innovative rendition of traditional indigenous Taiwan music blended with modern a cappella influences. The event showcased the best of Taiwan's voices, and was a step forward for the island's indigenous music being recognized internationally...[more](#).

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## Waldorf preschool teacher training

Junyi Centre for Teaching & Learning

October 1<sup>st</sup> marks the beginning of the semester's Waldorf preschool teacher training. It starts by introducing the development of a child as well as sensory development in early childhood education. 30 parents and teachers practice and engage in Waldorf's circle time, an activity where children gather at the start of each school day in a circle to sing songs, recite verses, and stimulate senses through movement and finger play. The session was led by the founder of Ci-Xin Waldorf School, Su Chang, and teacher, Li Jia-Chun.



[Junyi Centre for Teaching & Learning | Website](#)

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## Journalism Club:

### Supporting social enterprise

Junyi Experimental High School

After being granted NT\$10,000 from admitting a winning proposal to the Social Enterprises Popcorn, Junyi's Grade 11 journalism club used the funds to organize an event promoting social entrepreneurship in Taitung. September 3<sup>rd</sup>, at the Tiehua Music Village, youths in education, agriculture, from the urban and rural came together to discuss the future of the city. From planning, promoting to executing, students learned the value of teamwork as well as responsible journalism.

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## New at Junyi:

### Visual & Performing Arts

Junyi Experimental High School

Junyi values liberal arts education. The 2016 school year invites National Taitung University Professor Wang You-Hui from the Graduate Institute of Children's Literature to lead the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Performing Arts class where Chinese and English literature are translated into performing arts. Junyi also appoints ACF Graphic Designer, Mary Lin to teach the 11<sup>th</sup> grade Graphic Design class covering the fundamentals of design.



[Junyi Experimental High School | Website](#)

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### Ecotourism Program:

#### Improving endurance

National Taitung University Affiliated Physical Education High School

2016 marks the program's 4<sup>th</sup> year running. With past emphasis on teaching optimal riding position, bicycle maintenance and repair, this year, the 7-week program adds a new focus – improving endurance. It teaches students to improve cycling endurance through breathing and building muscle strength.

[Ecotourism Program](#)

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## Hour of Code™ in Taitung!

### County-wide movement

After a series of family-focused events in August, ACF is moving the movement forward county-wide starting in Taitung. Separating the region into 4 areas – Chenggong, Guanshan, Dawu and Taitung City, ACF and the Education Department of Taitung County will co-host Hour of Code™ in Taitung events between September and December, focusing on one area per month, and collaborating with 8 schools per area of which “train the trainer” sessions are conducted. To date, 34 schools have registered which will involve 350 teachers and 600 students. Hour of Code™ in Taitung works with volunteer digital media students from National Taitung University, connecting and inspiring coding education across all age levels.



[Hour of Code™ in Taiwan | Website](#)

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## Student designed playground

Ci-Xin Waldorf School

At the Ci-Xin Waldorf School, students take charge of the design for the campus playground. 400 students partook the project, and with help from professionals, one winning proposal was selected and built for the new school year.

[Ci-Xin Waldorf School](#)

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## ACF Annual team building

The Alliance Cultural Foundation

September 21-23, marks the annual gathering of the ACF Taitung and Taipei team. Led by ACF Consultant Fan Shiping and ACF Chairman Stanley Yen, the ACF team strengthened its unity through personal, deeper-levelled sharing. Yen spoke the importance of understanding and appreciating each peer' s strengths and weaknesses; and additionally reinforced the ACF mindset of "what' s next?" for every project it undertakes.



[Website](#)

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## 2016 Learn-Think-Express Asia Conference

Taipei: December 10-11

The first ever conference, held at the National Taiwan University training center, brings together 280 educators from across Asia with key note speakers from Hong Kong, Singapore, and Malaysia. Sessions will include experience sharing from Learn-Think-Express (LTE) teachers, innovative teaching and learning methods. The event will be an opportunity for educators in Asia to connect and learn from each other to improve the education in Asia.

ACF values teacher education and provides the administrative support and resources for teachers like founder of LTE Zhang Hui-Cheng; and is the key coordinator for the conference.

[Learn-Think-Express](#)

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## 2016 Educational Tour:

### Taitung to Hawaii

October 2-12



In collaboration with the Brigham Young University – Hawaii and Polynesian Cultural Center, ACF supports 14 influencers of Taitung’s native communities – artists and government officers to Hawaii to learn its successes in tribal tourism and development and how it transforms its native culture into an experience. Taiwan is home to 16 officially recognized indigenous tribes, and is the origin of the Austronesian family.

#### Native Development



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