



## Junyi Graduate's Presentation: Inspiring Self-exploration

Since the summer of 2017, Junyi School of Innovation's junior and senior high school graduates are required to participate in the graduation presentation. The topic has no limits, and presentations are not graded. Similar to a TED talk, graduates present on topics they are passionate about in a span of a few minutes. The project was initiated in hopes that before graduation, students can take the time to reflect and learn deeper about oneself, to have the opportunity to work with oneself through the challenges, and most importantly to express and truly be oneself. In four days, a variety of topics from friendship, family relationships to cultural identity, the environment, social relationships, technology, bullying, future career and more were covered. While the majority of students presented using a PowerPoint presentation, others presented self-made videos, made cocktails, and even performed musical instruments. Each student shared bravely and engaged with the audience answering questions and listening to feedback and encouragement. This story features the presentations of four students, with their identities disguised. [Read more](#).



## The Alliance Cultural Foundation: 2019 Culinary Workshop

2019 marks the second consecutive year ACF has invited Swift Hospitality Consulting, LLC's Chef Daniel Swift and Dr. Alice Swift to Taitung. From 10<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> August, they led two workshops – the first for culinary professionals and students, the second for Junyi School of Innovation students. The workshops took place at National Taitung College and Junyi respectively. Besides teaching and localizing new recipes, they focused on inspiring ways to reduce food waste, and more importantly, mentored positive and professional attitudes in and outside of the kitchen.

With the success of the program last year, this year, culinary professionals and students came from not only Taitung, but from Hualien and Pingtung. Culinary students were also paired with professionals to simulate real-life situations and communication. For Junyi students, it was an opportunity to hone their life skills.



## The Alliance Cultural Foundation: Taiwan Connection

From 30<sup>th</sup> August to 1<sup>st</sup> September, Taiwan Connection (TC) performed three concerts at Kaohsiung, Taichung and Taipei. For the first time in TC history, the chamber orchestra invited international Principals to lead the horn, cello, flute and bass.

The conductorless orchestra challenged themselves with three pieces. The orchestra's young musicians opened each event with Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's Divertimento in D Major, K. 136, followed by musicians performing Felix Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto in E Minor, Op. 64 with TC Co-founder and Director Hu Naiyuan performing a solo; and concluding with Johannes Brahms's Symphony No. 2 in D Major, Op. 73.

It was Andrew Bain, renowned Principal Horn of the Los Angeles Philharmonic's, first visit to Taiwan, he said, "The level of playing is incredibly high, and then the collegiality within the colleague is wonderful. Everyone is wanting to produce the best result, work together, and share ideas. I think it is a perfect way to make music."

*In the three concerts, 570 students from 15 schools in the remote had the opportunity to attend a concert at a national concert hall, some for the first time in their lives. The students were sponsored by donations received to support TC and its initiatives to preserve and promote classical music across Taiwan. All concerts were nearly all sold-out.*



## Junyi School of Innovation: Encouraging Internships

Over the summer holidays, 12<sup>th</sup> graders-to-be were encouraged to take on internships. Junyi hoped for students to explore their interests, and that through real-life practice, they will improve on problem solving skills, grow confidence and courage. This summer, a total of ten students signed up. They interned at the Huatung Choir Camp, Huatung English Camp, Huatung Culinary Workshop, the Coconut Beach B&B, and ACF supporting the TC Music Festival.

After their month-long internships, students felt more assured of their directions. They were able to implement what they had learned in school into real-life and felt more confident in their future path.



## The Alliance Cultural Foundation: Teacher Lan's Train the Trainer Workshop

Since 2015, every summer and winter school holiday, Teacher Lan Weiyong conducts a Train the Trainer Workshop at the Junyi School of Innovation available to educators island-wide. From 12<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> August at Junyi's Wonderland Performing Arts Center, a total of 140 grades 1 to 12 teachers came together to co-design a curriculum learning roadmap as well as co-create thought provoking questions to ask in class. The group was led by Teacher Lan and her 30 coaches.

On the first day, they discussed the book, "Making Thinking Visible: How to Promote Engagement, Understanding, and Independence for All Learners." On the second day, participants learned to rearrange their lessons to include multi-disciplines – they deconstructed the original curriculum and reconstructed it whilst still achieving the Ministry of Education's learning requirements. They designed questioned together that encouraged conversation and thinking. On the final day, they put their makings into practice running through the steps and the how. Each workshop, Lan asks each teacher what their goal is in one year, and help them put to practice in the coming semester.