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Transforming lives with education: Knowledge is Power Program (KIPP)

The Alliance Cultural Foundation (ACF) is dedicated to driving change in the rural areas of Taiwan and changing the lives of students from financially underprivileged backgrounds, through education as a ground for nurturing talents and engineering social revolution. In doing so, ACF takes a leaf from one of the largest and most successful public charter school networks in the United States – the Knowledge is Power Program (KIPP). Since 2015, ACF and Cheng Zhi Education Foundation (誠致教育基金會) has supported the teachers and principals of rural schools to attend the annual KIPP School Summit (KSS), seeking inspiration for innovation in operating schools and effecting education. This July, led by the Chairman of Cheng Zhi Education Foundation, Fang Shin-Jou, 14 educators participated in the KSS 2016. [\(more\)](#)

Curriculum Design Workshop: Rethinking teaching

Junyi Centre for Teaching & Learning (JCTL)

Last summer, JCTL's first-ever Curriculum Design Workshop united high school teachers from across the island to the JCTL platform to rethink, brainstorm and co-design curriculum and plan for the year ahead. This summer, from August 7-8, the workshop united both the new and the returned to co-inspire and improve. New participants brought-in fresh perspectives, while return participants shared their challenges as well as feedback from their students.



[Junyi Centre for Teaching & Learning](#)



Learn-Think-Express Workshop

Junyi Centre for Teaching & Learning (JCTL)

Attracting 36 teachers, and led by founder and teacher of the Learn-Think-Express method Zhang Hui-Cheng and teacher Li Chong Jian, through the use of one image, the August 23-24 workshop concentrated on six points – to inspire memory as well as the student ability to understand, analyze, apply, evaluate, and create. In closing, Zhang put emphasis on the importance of expressing as a lifelong tool for communication, and the support the student needs from the teacher to encourage it.

[Junyi Centre for Teaching & Learning](#)

Junyi's a cappella group BTC awarded first prize

2016 Vocal Asia Festival (VAF)

Junyi Experimental High School's Be The Change (BTC) a cappella group wins first prize in the 2016 VAF student competition. 2016 VAF, one of Asia's largest music events, hosted the student competition in effort to encourage young a cappella singers to exchange and to gain inspiration from fellow singers.

Since 2011, VAF has been hosted around the globe, and was held this year in Taitung from August 17-20 with 15 a cappella groups competing from 10 countries.



[2016 Vocal Asia Festival](#)



Team building before the new school year

Junyi Experimental High School

Before the opening of the 2016 school year, the faculty and staff of Junyi unified on campus grounds to re-strengthen the goals of the school and its values. The workshop focused to inspire and encourage teaching innovatively, to reach unity through mutual communication, leadership, commitment in responsibilities, and to reflect on what Junyi means to each person. The topics of focus were led by the founder and teacher of the Learn-Think-Express method Zhang Hui-Cheng and teacher Li Chong Jian, ACF Consultant Fan Shiping, and ACF and Junyi Chairman Stanley Yen respectively.

[Junyi Experimental High School](#)

Hour of Code™

Taitung City: Family-focused event

In effort to reach 200,000 Hour of Code™ participants in Taiwan by the end of 2016, from August 20-21, four family-focused events were hosted simultaneously at Taitung City's Hsin Sheng Junior High School; the event attracted many with one family traveling from as far as Changbin. In its opening, a video was shown highlighting the common technologies of today that depend on coding and underlined the importance of technical literacy for generations to come and the urgency for the people of Taiwan to not fall behind in the world trend.



[Hour of Code™ in Taiwan](#)



Hour of Code™ in Taiwan

Nationwide movement, companywide movement

Over the summer holidays, in effort to extend the Hour of Code™ global movement nationwide, seven coding courses were offered in the different counties Taiwan; each attracting on average 20 elementary and middle school students.

In addition, companywide events were kicked-off at Kindom Yu San Education Foundation and USI Group; the staff were keen to introduce the free online learning website to their children and family. By the end of 2016, ACF and partners intend to organize companywide Hour of Code™ in Taiwan events in 35 companies.

[Hour of Code™ in Taiwan](#)

The Theory of Colour Workshop

Ci-Xin Waldorf School

This summer, Ci-Xin invited Australian-born artist Iris Sullivan to lead the Theory of Colour Workshop. Ci-Xin and Junyi Experimental High School teachers learned through a series of 12 pastel drawings with its inspiration taken from the classical medieval German book series – Parzival. Parzival, an important story covered in the 11th grade Waldorf curriculum, discusses the pursuit of success, joy, sorrow and speaks in the mind of the adolescence in self-discovery.



[Ci-Xin Waldorf School](#)



Preparing for the 2017 National UNITY Conference

Native Development

As part of ACF's native development plan, and in conjunction with Vox Nativa Association, eight prospective candidates to attend the 2017 National UNITY Conference (USA) withstood 10 days of intensive learning; among them, 12th grade and college students. The training session emphasized on strengthening presentation and stage performance skills, English conversation, international etiquette; and through seminars, the youths discussed native law, ethnicity, and identity; coming from different tribes, the students were able to share and learn different opinions. Final selection of candidates will take place in January 2017.

[Native Development Overseas](#)

Student-led classrooms

Taking a closer look at Khan Lab School

In sponsorship with Cheng Zhi Education Foundation, July 2016, 14 teachers, principals, and education reformers of Taiwan embarked on an educational tour to the United States. They attended the annual KIPP School Summit and visited unconventional schools which included the Khan Lab. It is a school that values students “taking ownership of their education”, and classes are led by students with teachers as their facilitators and mentors. This new form of education demonstrated a strong sense of belonging to what is being learned and was an eye-opener.



[Khan Lab School](#)



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