

Huatung Choir Camp sees most returning volunteers

"The Huatung Choir Camp has the highest rate of returning volunteers. We hope all of you will find the reason to why the choir camp is so full of love!" ACF CEO Angela Tsai told the volunteers at the commencement of training on March 18 held on the National Chiao Tung University campus. Out of the 45 volunteers this year, half of them are returning volunteers. The volunteers got to know each other through games and wrote down their expectations of the camp. Lead camp instructor Howard Cheung reminded the volunteers to treasure the opportunity to build friendships to create a memorable camp!



Capacity Building for Huatung English Camp volunteers

"You are not where you are from, but where you are going," said Amber, the leader of Huatung English Camp 2017 as training for volunteers commenced on March 19, encouraging everyone to learn to give and develop themselves in the process of English teaching. The selected volunteers as camp instructors hoped to bring more positive energy and attitudes to the children in the Huatung region this summer. After a round of ice-breakers, there was a film screening of *Wawa No Cidal* (Children of the Sun) set in Gangkou village, known as Makota' ay in Amis, which tells the story of the importance of sustainable land use through a local story about the rice terraces by the ocean. The film screening allowed volunteers to understand the needs and situation in Huatung. A heartfelt sharing session by senior volunteers and advisors followed, offering personal stories for the new batch of volunteers to prepare them for the camp in summer.

Junyi students as English volunteers at Taitung International Ironman Triathlon

As part of the life skill exploration course for Junyi Experimental High School's eleventh-graders, twenty students were selected as English volunteers for the Ironman 70.3 Taiwan International Ironman Triathlon held in Taitung. Only 25 senior high school and university students were selected to become part of the Taitung International Youth Group, organized by the Taitung County government. Volunteer roles were to welcome foreign guests as "ambassadors". The students wore working vests with the words "I speak English" on them and put their foreign language skills to good use at the event to assist international athletes in their registration and at the end point of the race. The students were professional, organized, meticulous and affable, as noted by their teacher-in-charge at Junyi, who also hoped that the service learning had inspired students to participate in triathlons in future.



Five youths to be selected for Vox Nativia overseas study program



Ten indigenous college youths have been selected from 42 registrants who signed up for the Vox Nativia overseas study program for indigenous youths. From last July to January, the ACF has prepared courses for indigenous cultures, issues and related knowledge and teamwork and interpersonal communication courses for these youths to strengthen their capabilities. Throughout the training period, observation and evaluation will be carried out to select five indigenous college youths and two mentors to go to the National United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) Conference in the United States this July, which will be an eye-opening opportunity for cultural exchange with native American youths, as well as form friendships with natives of different cultures.

Photography project for New Taipei district schools began in March

ACF's A New Vista for Children photography project, first initiated for the Huatung region in 2011, encourages people from across the country to donate their unused cameras to children from remote communities. It aims to foster the ability to observe their surrounding through the lens of a camera, and record their childhood. One of ACF's core values is to demonstrate; six years on, the project has been replicated in several different counties – most recently in New Taipei District in six schools.



Translating Code.org materials to reduce learning barriers

Last year, the Hour of Code by ACF and its partners were a success in introducing coding to schools. This year, the ACF is rolling out Hours of Translation, with National Taiwan University's Information Management and Electrical Engineering departments, through a module for service learning. Open to the public, it calls for volunteers to translate the teaching manuals for Code.org, which will be used as part of teaching curriculum for computer science class in Taiwan.



Through the joint gathering held with the Software Liberty Association of Taiwan (SLAT) monthly, volunteers take part in the translation in a joyful atmosphere. On 11 March during the first gathering, Chairman Frank of the SLAT shared that Scandinavian elementary schools began the use of free software for teaching and learning more than ten years ago. The volunteers expressed their excitement to be a part of the efforts in Taiwan, noting that the materials were more interesting than textbooks and would expose the students to more inspiring content and methods.

Registration for Volunteer Translators | Instructions for Manual Translation

Junyi Centre for Teaching & Learning's Co-preparation Workshop in Taitung

A teacher takes on many roles in the classroom, having to be a navigator, an architect, and sometimes even that of a docent. Often educators play the important role of leading and inspiring students to think progressively, to consider feasibility and adopting appropriate framework in solving problems. Teacher Lan Wei-ying held the Co-preparation Workshop in Taitung as the first activity of the new work year for Junyi Centre for Teaching & Learning. Through her sharing on the 4F model (Fact, Feeling, Findings and Future) and the ORID model for carrying out a focused discussion, educators who participated the workshop also benefitted from mini group discussions on curriculum design. Hailing from multiple fields, the participants enjoyed the exchange of experiences and mutual interaction and feedback.



Annual Work Conference Alliance Core Values

In its eighth year, the ACF held its annual work conference from 23 to 24 February to chart the course of its work for 2017. Chairman Yen recounted his thoughts on the founding of the ACF and the journey, especially with the participation of board members. Centering his speech on the concepts of "must to have" and "nice to have", he reminded co-workers of the need to distinguish between priorities and additional responsibilities. He highlighted that the ACF should be fully functional beyond his leadership. He encouraged everyone to examine the core values within and look after themselves and their families well, and remember the meaning behind the ACF's work in reforming education in Taiwan!

Ci-Xin Waldorf' s Eurhythmy: "Sleeping Beauty" Under the Moonlight

Eurhythmy, developed by Waldorf founder Rudolf Steiner, is a form of art and art therapy which uses the body to express speech and music. Movement activities are often conducted in circles for preschool children at the Ci-Xin Waldorf School. This year, the Moonlight Class comprising second-year students performed Sleeping Beauty. In the casting session, when the children were unhappy about roles, the teacher reminded them of self-consciousness and self-awareness. Then they started to help and comfort each other, and strive to perform well. Three days before the performance, the children had the chance to familiarize themselves with the stage. After morning poetry meditation for injecting positive energy, they began the rehearsal. During the performance, their clear and crisp voices were heard during each song. As the students displayed focus and dedication in their performance, audiences witnessed their growth.

