

ACF: 2018 Annual Induction Training for New Teachers



Between August 2-15, under the commission of Taiwan's Ministry of Education, ACF and the National Changhua University of Education co-constructed the 2018 Annual Induction Training for New Teachers covering four events in Taipei, Taichung, and Kaohsiung. 121 teachers, who are some of the most innovative in the nation's education community, were convened as panelists coaching 2,400 new teachers. The panel focused on topics of professional development and innovative teaching practices, and reinforced the purpose and responsibility of an educator. To provide ongoing support, the co-learning groups and initiatives will continue this year recruiting 288 experienced teachers. They will offer mentorship and guidance in challenges new teachers may experience in the classrooms throughout the year.

Junyi School of Innovation: Design Thinking Workshop

Design Thinking (DT), a teaching philosophy frequently promoted by Stanford University, develops the individual's observation, imagination, as well as problem solving skills. It is a method that provides a solution-based approach to solving problems. During the first weekend of the new academic year, ACF Chair Stanley Yen invited 17 Pacific American School's teachers and students to demonstrate the DT method. While engaging the workshop in English was challenging, Junyi students familiarized themselves with DT's five key stages: Empathize, Define, Ideate, Prototype, and Test. Through group exercises and repeated practices, they learned cooperation within the groups yielded maximum creativity.



Ci-Xin Waldorf School: Teen Leader Empowerment Camp

Mid-August, 52 teenagers from Waldorf schools nationwide came together at the Ci-Xin Waldorf School in Yilan. Under the tutelage of Group Dynamics Specialist Edgard Gouveia, Jr. skills of cooperation, communication, mutual support, and leadership were practiced through Cooperative Games and environmentalism. Activities encompassed students learning to reflect on each of the movements of their limbs, whether natural or socially influenced, and how such movements affect inter-personal relations. On the second day of the event, students participated in construction projects on a farm where they learned the power of mutual support. Their efforts and sincerity touched the farm owner.



Taiwan Connection: 2018 TC Music Festival Successfully Concluded

Between August 4th and September 2nd, TC toured six cities, giving nine performances. This year marks the first-ever TC performance on a festival-scale where the inaugural TC International Chamber Music Series, inviting six chamber music masters to perform, was introduced. Audiences expressed their memories of the orchestra; the bond with the audience, alike the one shared among musicians, is one that nurtures and represents TC. TC is a demonstration of a conductorless orchestra that has not only won over its audience, but holds the dedication of each musician echoed in each performance.



Sharestart: 2018 Teacher' s Empowerment Workshop

Sharestart' s senior teachers hosted its 2018 Teacher' s Empowerment Workshop from August 16-17. It began with Teacher Kuo and Ma' s Sharestart Teacher-Student Dialogue Workshop, where they coached and inspired participating teachers. In concluding, six senior teachers shared personal values and methods of leading the Sharestart teachers' community, as well as experiences in the classroom. Sharestart' s senior teachers come from across Taiwan, ranging from teaching preschool to post-secondary. They are the pioneers of implementing the Sharestart method, and providing mentorship to local teachers. Since 2017, ACF has supported three Sharestart summer camps in hopes that senior teachers will bring together more Sharestart teachers to practice their vision.

