



The Alliance Cultural Foundation: Huatung Cultural Sustainability Forum

The Huatung Cultural Sustainability Forum took place virtually on 7th June. It was the first forum hosted in 2021. Forum members who were participants of the Hawaii Cultural Sustainability Educational Tours and Asian Executive Management Program discussed how Covid-19 measures of working from home and homeschooling created the chance for them to explore Huatung's natural environment with their children as well as the opportunity to further learn tribal wisdoms, culture and language from village elders. They discussed the importance of education earned outside of school and were inspired to reconsider their roles as the educator in their children's lives.

At the forum, CEO of Yilan's Bulao Bulao Aboriginal Village Kwali and Founder of Lalauran's Cinunan Hunter School Sakinu Yalonglong shared the impact they experienced from the temporary closure of their organizations, how they handled it, and the restructuring of their sustainability plans. ACF Chair Stanley Yen encouraged forum members quoting Charles Dickens, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..." He urged forum members to cautiously face the challenges ahead before the recovery of Covid-19, and encouraged them to be the support for one another and to openly share experiences.



Junyi School of Innovation: Chao-Ming Chen's Masterclass

Junyi School of Innovation invites guest speakers to conduct its biweekly masterclass. Part of its high school's multiple elective courses, 8th May, they invited Chao-Ming Chen. Chen, who is a professional volleyball player, volleyball coach, Ming's Volley Club founder, an engineer, and YouTuber shared his journey from being a sports professional to becoming a slashie. He encouraged students to find their passion, to be persistent in their pursuit and to also nurture more than one interest. Chen believes that in developing more than one interest, it will create greater opportunity for students to sustain their lives doing what they are passionate about and interested in. Chen's success as a slashie stems from having this mindset. He hopes to inspire students to think in addition to what they are currently passionate about, what other interests and talents they have that they can develop to have more options for their future.



Junyi School of Innovation: Online Graduation Ceremony

Due to the rising numbers of Covid-19 cases in Taiwan, schools temporarily closed island-wide. 11th June, Junyi School of Innovation held its first-ever online graduation ceremony. The virtual ceremony began with blessings from Chair Stanley Yen, Principal Hsiu-Yun Huang and teachers. Creative superlative awards brought humour to the graduation. Slideshows and videos played back memories of the graduates, and the event closed with blessings from students and graduates' appreciation as well as a group photo.

A graduation is a new beginning, Junyi hopes that when students step out into the world, they will be able to contribute positively to the society.



The Alliance Cultural Foundation: A Dialogue between Chair Stanley Yen & Benson Yeh

25th June, Benson Yeh, Director of National Taiwan University's MOOC Program and a teacher turned entrepreneur, hosted a virtual talk interviewing Chair Stanley Yen. In the dialogue, Chair Yen shared his education philosophy as well as past experiences in hopes to bring positivity amid the pandemic and to inspire new directions. Chair Yen shared how when he first started his career, he would volunteer to do tasks that were unfavoured to take the opportunity to learn. When he was in the hotel industry, he had the mission to use the hotel as a platform for Taiwan to make friends with the world and to be seen by the world. In one question, Yeh asked, "What is the importance of having soft power in competitiveness and being recognized internationally?" Chair Yen responded taking inspiration from his strengths – humanistic literacy, observation and vision, and passion. He shared that in the information age, education's most fundamental mission should be to nurture good character, life competencies, work ethic and skills. He believes that when we start from education, it will allow our youths to be confident individuals who have depth, and who can share the Taiwan culture and thinking with grace.